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National Institutes of Health
Bethesda, Maryland 20892

www.nih.gov

Roger W. Jones Awards Selection Committee
SPA: Public Administration & Policy
4400 Massachusetts Avenue N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20016-8070

Dear Roger W. Jones Award Selection Committee:

It is my privilege and honor to nominate Alan S. Rabson, M.D., for the Roger W. Jones Award for Executive Leadership. Over his half-century of service at the National Institutes of Health (NIH) National Cancer Institute (NCI), Dr. Rabson has been a beneficent force responsible for catalyzing the world-class research that has come from our laboratories.

Dr. Rabson brought to the NCI a number of scientists who have gone on to become members of the National Academy of Sciences and one who mentored a Nobel laureate. His support of both fundamental and clinical research has resulted in numerous discoveries of fundamental biology that have been taken all the way to clinical trials of new treatments. Among the many breakthroughs emerging from the research supported by Dr. Rabson are anti-cancer immunotoxins and vaccines; antibodies that block the signals that stimulate cancer cell growth; and laser capture microdissection, a technology allowing the isolation and molecular characterization of individual cells from heterogeneous populations normally found in tissue samples. In addition, countless discoveries have been made at the level of fundamental biology Dr. Rabson supported that will impinge on cancer and a plethora of other diseases.

Dr. Rabson also has had a far-reaching impact on the continuity of leadership at the NCI and its sister institutes within the NIH. Those he mentored have gone on to major leadership positions themselves, such as the previous and current NIH Deputy Directors of Intramural Research (Lance Liotta and Michael Gottesman), at least two NIH Institute Directors (Steve Katz, National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases; Richard Hodes, National Institute on Aging), and one who became the Director of the Carnegie Institution (Maxine Singer). These are just a few of the many who have benefited from his wise counsel and perspectives on management.

I strongly recommend Dr. Rabson for this prestigious award for his many years of dedicated service to the Federal government and for setting an important example for current and future research leaders in biomedical research.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Francis S. Collins".

Francis S. Collins, M.D., Ph.D.
Director