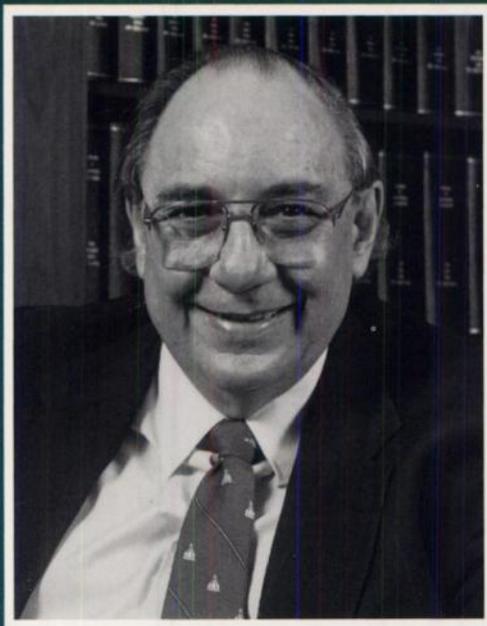




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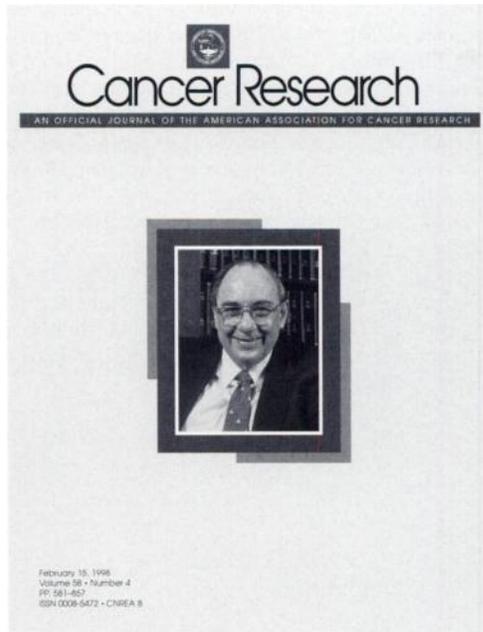


**LATE-BREAKING RESEARCH SESSION
AT THE AACR ANNUAL MEETING
Tuesday, March 31, 1998**

Time has been set aside for the presentation of a few definitive reports of highly significant and timely findings in the field. Criteria for the selection of these presentations and instructions for submission of abstracts are as follows:

INSTRUCTIONS FOR SUBMISSION OF LATE-BREAKING ABSTRACTS

1. The work to be presented must be of major novelty and significance, *e.g.*, the characterization of a new gene in familial cancer or the discovery of a new diagnostic marker, and should not have been previously published in a peer-reviewed scientific journal or presented at a national meeting.
2. The abstract must be sponsored by an AACR member in good standing (dues paid for 1998).
3. Each member in good standing may sponsor only **one** abstract for this session whether or not he or she sponsored an abstract last October for the regular annual meeting program. If an associate member is the **sponsor**, the abstract must also be **endorsed** by an active or corresponding member in good standing. In this case, the **endorser** does **not** forfeit the opportunity to **sponsor** a late-breaking abstract.
4. Abstracts must be typed on **one** side of **one** sheet of white paper.
5. All text on the page must fit within an area 6 1/2" wide and 9" high (16.5 cm X 22.9 cm) with margins of at least 1" (2.5 cm) on the top, bottom, and sides of the page.
6. Each abstract must be accompanied by a covering letter from the sponsor explaining why the work is novel and significant enough to be considered for this late-breaking research session and certifying that the findings became available **after** the annual meeting abstract deadline of October 28, 1997. This letter must contain the sponsor's complete mailing address, FAX number, and E-mail address (if available) so that we can communicate the scheduling decision of the Program Committee.
7. Abstracts and covering letters must be received in the AACR Office by 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time on **February 27, 1998**. FAX transmissions are **not** acceptable. Carrying envelopes should be clearly marked "Late-Breaking Abstract," and should be addressed to American Association for Cancer Research, Public Ledger Building, Suite 826, 150 South Independence Mall West, Philadelphia, PA 19106-3483. If you wish to receive acknowledgment of receipt of your abstract, enclose a self-addressed post card with appropriate postage affixed. Accepted abstracts will not be published since they will be received after the *Proceedings of the American Association for Cancer Research* has been printed; however, they will be distributed at the session in New Orleans.
8. A special subcommittee of the Program Committee appointed by President Donald S. Coffey will select the papers to be presented. Presenters of accepted papers will be notified via FAX no later than **March 16, 1998**.



Donald S. Coffey, President of the American Association for Cancer Research (AACR) (1997–98), has focused primarily on the following four major objectives for the AACR during his term: 1) to campaign vigorously for increased funding for cancer research during a time of federal tax cuts and major budget trimming; 2) to become more interactive and involved with advocacy groups and cancer coalitions in order to help establish unified support for more cancer research; 3) to increase the involvement of more AACR leaders in the strategic planning process of setting priorities for the rapidly growing Association; and 4) to appoint more new young scientific leaders into major positions within the AACR. These four goals are all continuations of past efforts that are under way in concert with the work of the standing AACR committees. The overall goals are to better serve the membership and to make the Association more proactive and a stronger, more effective voice for cancer research. Dr. Coffey stresses that the AACR's responsibility to the world is to respond to the urgent need to cure, control, or prevent cancer as soon as possible.

In the U.S., seven out of ten of the approved cancer grants submitted to the National Cancer Institute still go unfunded, and there is only limited funding to support new young independent investigators to enter the field. Recognizing this, Dr. Coffey has worked intensely with the Government Administration, Congress, and major political leaders and advocacy groups to assure that the activity and funding levels for all aspects of cancer research are increased markedly. In a past editorial, which appeared as the legend to the April 15, 1996 cover of *Cancer Research* marking the 25th Anniversary of the National Cancer Act, Dr. Coffey delineated his initial appeal for a "call to arms" to start a real national War on Cancer. He pointed out that scientists and the public both have mistakenly believed that there has already been a 25-year war effort against cancer, when in actual fact the past funding level has only been able to support a small skirmish of research activity. He believes that the magnitude of cancer deserves a manyfold increase in support, much like the U.S. space program received when it was a national effort. Instead, many have become complacent and seem to accept the present low level of current cancer research support from the Federal Government and applaud only a six or seven percent annual increase. He feels strongly that we must do better, because all good studies are certainly not being funded, and cancer continues to strike almost one-half of all men and one-third of all women in their lifetime. At the present rate, it will

ultimately kill one-quarter of the U.S. population. The devastation of cancer can only be conquered with research, and research deserves far more support than the present one penny out of each ten of our tax dollars (0.1%) spent in the U.S. If funding is increased, Dr. Coffey believes that the defeat of cancer will be expedited by major increases in the number of investigators as well as in the number of new concepts being studied. No one can predict from where or when the next breakthrough will come, but increased research intensity will certainly expedite this goal. Dr. Coffey has organized clear presentations of all these problems and opportunities and has effectively taken this campaign to many levels of government by working closely with the other members of the AACR Public Education Committee, chaired so effectively by Anna Barker, and with many of the advocacy groups and national leaders. He hopes that the recently proposed nationwide March, which will culminate in Washington, DC, on September 26, 1998, will result in the much needed mass grass roots public support that will be required to increase funding markedly. More information will be forthcoming as plans for "The March" develop under the leadership of Ellen L. Stovall, Executive Director of the National Coalition of Cancer Survivorship [e-mail: estovall@access.digex.net]. The March, which is open to everyone interested in conquering cancer, has received input from the AACR leadership, and Dr. Coffey believes the AACR membership should become actively involved in this important event.

Scientifically, Dr. Coffey is a major leader in both the field of prostate cancer research and the study of nuclear structure. In addition to being a pioneer in the study of androgen regulation of prostate growth, he has also focused much of his research attention on the molecular events that are involved in producing the aberrations in cell and nuclear structures that are the hallmark of all cancer diagnosis (see *Cancer Research* cover legend, June 15, 1996 issue). He believes understanding this process is essential since these changes in cellular structure are universal early events in all forms of cancer in humans and animals regardless of the type of carcinogen or DNA change. To resolve this, Dr. Coffey and his students and associates were the first to isolate the residual scaffolding network of the nucleus, and to term it the nuclear matrix and show its functions. They reported that the nuclear matrix contains the fixed site for DNA synthesis as well as for the nuclear binding site for steroid hormone receptors and active genes, and that the protein composition was tissue specific. The nuclear matrix is altered with cancer. The inert DNA code is decoded by cell structure involving in part the 3-dimensional organization of the DNA in a specific manner on the nuclear matrix. This involves the interactions of the nuclear matrix with the cytoskeleton to form an interlocking tissue matrix system that structurally links the peripheral extracellular matrix and receptors inwardly to the DNA. It is essential in the biology of cancer not only to have aberrations in the stability of the linear code of DNA, but also aberrations manifested in the decoder system through changes in the organization of the cell structure system. These interactions involving instabilities in both the DNA and cell structure produce the tumor cell heterogeneity and diversity of function that gives the cancer the plasticity to make the variety of clones that can resist all forms of medical, immunological, and radiotherapy. Dr. Coffey has consistently stressed the importance of the chemomechanical features of the cell structure, particularly in relation to cell organization and directional transfer of cellular information and how cell mechanics and dynamic structures are involved in cell motility and metastasis.

In addition to his leadership and scientific contributions, Dr. Coffey has also been a dedicated teacher, training many of the outstanding young leaders within the field of cancer research. He is presently a Triple Professor at The Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, where he is the Catherine Iola and J. Smith Michael Distinguished Professor of Urology, Professor of Pharmacology and Molecular Sciences, and Professor of Oncology. He is also on the principal staff of the Applied Physics Laboratory of The Johns Hopkins University.

Dr. Coffey has been the recipient of many honors and awards throughout his distinguished career, including the Outstanding Scientific Achievement and Leadership Award from the Sidney Kimmel Cancer Center (1997); the First Society of International Urology-Yamanouchi Award (1994); and the Eugene Fuller Prostate Award of the American Urological Society (1992). In addition, the Annual Donald S. Coffey Named Lectureship was established by the Society of Basic Urologic Research in 1992.

Dr. Coffey considers it a great honor to have been elected by the members of the AACR to serve as their President and is appreciative of the opportunity to work with Margaret Foti and her outstanding staff, as well as the opportunity to interact with the many talented leaders serving the AACR. He recognizes that the good news is, in the past 10 years, the AACR has grown tremendously in size and strength, to the point where it is now 14,000 members strong, it operates the premier journals and meetings on cancer research in the world, and it is a powerful voice in cancer research and cancer policy. In his many years as a loyal AACR member, Dr. Coffey has contributed to the organization's growth through his participation in a wide variety of Association activities. In addition to his terms as Vice President and President, he has served on the Board of Directors (1993-99) and the

following committees: Executive (1996-99), Education (Chairperson, 1995-96), Finance (1994-97), Science Education (1994-97), Public Education (1992-93; 1994-97), Maryland State Legislative (1989-), and Long-Range Planning (1987-93). He also assisted in the planning of three AACR Annual Meetings through participation on the Program Committee (1991; 1994; 1995), acting as Chairperson of the 1995 meeting in Toronto, Ontario, Canada. He is also a member of two new committees, the work of which dovetails with his initiatives for the Association: *Ad Hoc* Committee on Public Forum (1997, 1998) and the Steering Committee for the War on Cancer (1997-98). He has also been an Associate Editor for *Cancer Research* (1982-83; 1993-94), and he chaired one of the most successful AACR Special Conferences, "Basic and Clinical Aspects of Prostate Cancer," held in Rancho Mirage, CA, in 1994.

Dr. Coffey urges everyone to continue to work together to maintain the AACR as the leading voice in all aspects of cancer research. He believes that working together, and with increased funding, we can expedite the day when we conquer cancer, and that the AACR has been and will be the major force in this tough war.

Sidney Weinhouse