The Estate of Beatrice Steinhauser recently made a bequest to Einstein of approximately $689,000. In accordance with Mrs. Steinhauser’s wishes, part of the gift has been designated for cancer research. The funds will help support Einstein’s new shRNA genomics facility. Established with the support of Einstein Overseer Arthur Hershaft and his wife, Janet Hershaft, the facility offers investigators a technology for probing the genetic origins of cancer and autoimmune disorders.

The Irma T. Hirschl Trust, a longtime generous supporter of medical research at Einstein, has awarded a $175,000 grant to Antonio Di Cristofano, Ph.D., associate professor of developmental and molecular biology and of obstetrics & gynecology and women’s health, for his investigation into genetically altered tumor cells in mice that are sensitive to drugs that inhibit glycolysis (the breakdown of glucose by enzymes to release energy). Dr. Di Cristofano’s research is directed toward developing drugs to disrupt this pathway in cancer cells.

To learn more about supporting the work of the AECC, please contact:
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EVENTS
Einstein’s Cancer Research Advisory Board hosts events during the year that bring together people interested in supporting the work of the Albert Einstein Cancer Center with distinguished Einstein faculty members who share the latest developments in cancer research.

Last March in Florida, three special events were held for friends and supporters of the College of Medicine: Einstein Overseers Marilyn and Stanley M. Katz hosted a luncheon at the Palm Beach Country Club; Einstein Overseers Karen Mandelbaum and Sue-ann Friedman co-hosted a reception at Ms. Mandelbaum’s home in Jupiter; and Helen and Ronald Ross, M.D. ’60, hosted a reception at the Polo Club Boca Raton.

The events were part of “Einstein in Florida 2011,” a series of presentations by leading faculty members highlighting some of the latest research developments at Einstein. Steven K. Libutti, M.D., professor of surgery and of genetics, vice chair of the department of surgery and associate director of clinical services at the AECC, was a guest speaker along with Allen M. Spiegel, M.D., the Marilyn and Stanley M. Katz Dean, and Robert E. Michler, M.D., professor and chair, departments of surgery and of cardiovascular and thoracic surgery. Dr. Libutti’s research into new targeted cancer treatments is supported in part by a generous gift from Einstein Overseer Linda Altman and her husband, Earle Altman.

Joseph A. Sparano, M.D., professor of medicine and of obstetrics & gynecology and women’s health and director of the breast cancer program and clinical trials office of the AECC, was honored by the Einstein National Women’s Division at its 57th Annual Spirit of Achievement Luncheon at the Plaza Hotel on May 5. Proceeds will benefit the division’s $3 million initiative to support research on women’s cancers at the AECC.

Joining Dean Spiegel in presenting the 2011 Spirit of Achievement award to Dr. Sparano were Mary Jane Happy, a patient of Dr. Sparano, and her daughter, Emily Miller, an M.D./Ph.D. candidate at Einstein. In addition to 350-plus members and friends of the Women’s Division, the attendees included AECC Director I. David Goldman, M.D.; AECC Associate Director Susan Band Horwitz, Ph.D., a past Spirit Awardee; and AECC Associate Director Roman Perez-Soler, M.D.