



David M. Livingston

David Livingston is Deputy Director of the Dana-Farber/Harvard Cancer Center; Chief of the Charles A. Dana Division of Human Cancer Genetics, and the Emil Frei Professor of Genetics and Medicine at Harvard Medical School. From 1996 to 2000, he served as Chairman of the Executive Committee for Research at the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, leading the senior faculty group that oversees all aspects of the Institute's research program. He reassumed that post in 2005 and has been in it since that time. Dr. Livingston has been a Harvard faculty member continuously since 1973.

Dr. Livingston received an A.B. cum laude from Harvard College in 1961, an M.D., magna cum laude, from Tufts University School of Medicine in 1965, and served his internship and residency in internal medicine at the Peter Bent Brigham Hospital (now Brigham and Women's Hospital) in Boston. In 1967, he became a Research Associate at the National Cancer Institute (NCI) in molecular biology and biochemistry; he continued his work as a Research Fellow in Biological Chemistry at Harvard Medical School in 1969. Dr. Livingston returned to NCI in 1971 as a Senior Staff Fellow where he began his career in cancer research. He was recruited to Dana-Farber (then the Children's Cancer Research Foundation) in 1973.

Dr. Livingston is an internationally recognized expert on genes that regulate cell growth in the body -- genes that, when they go awry, can lead to cancer. These genes are called oncogenes and tumor suppressor genes. Through his research, Dr. Livingston has uncovered detailed biochemical steps required to initiate and maintain the transformation of these cells into tumor cells. His focus is on the regulatory controls of signal transduction -- the smooth and coordinated flow of special chemical signals from the surrounding environment to the cell, where it is transduced into specific commands that tell cells whether or not to grow -- and their role in cancer development. In recent years, his work has centered on those key molecular steps that trigger the development of breast and ovarian cancer.

Dr. Livingston is the recipient of numerous awards and honors. He has been elected to the Institute of Medicine of the National Academy of Sciences, the National Academy of Sciences, itself, and the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. He sits on multiple editorial boards, the science advisory boards of other research institutions, and is a member of the Association of American Physicians, the American Society for Clinical Investigation, the American Society for Microbiology, and the American Academy of Microbiology. He is also a Foreign Associate of the European Molecular Biology Organization and serves as Vice Chair of the Board of the Damon Runyan Cancer Research Foundation. Dr. Livingston has authored more than 195 scientific publications.