



MEMORANDUM

**To:** Donna E. Shalala, President

**From:** Richard L. Williamson  
Chair, Faculty Senate

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Richard L. Williamson'.

**Date:** October 11, 2011

**Subject:** Faculty Senate Legislation #2011-14(B) – Establishment of the Peggy and Harold Katz Family Drug Discovery Center at the University of Miami Miller School of Medicine

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At its September 21, 2011 meeting, the Faculty Senate unanimously approved the proposal to establish the Peggy and Harold Katz Family Drug Discovery Center at the University of Miami Miller School of Medicine for five years and any extensions thereafter.<sup>1</sup>

The supporting materials are enclosed for your reference.

This legislation is now forwarded to you for your action.

RW/rh

Enclosure

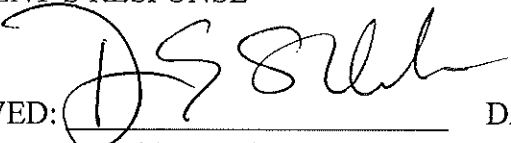
cc: Thomas LeBlanc, Executive Vice President and Provost  
Pascal Goldschmidt, Senior Vice President and Dean, Miller School of Medicine  
Jennifer McCafferty-Cepero, Presenter, Miller School of Medicine  
Jochen Reiser, Director, Peggy and Harold Katz Family Drug Discovery Center

<sup>1</sup> C18.2.2 Other NAMED or TITLED ACADEMIC UNITS [such as school-level Centers and Institutes] established under Bylaw 6.6 may be approved by the Faculty Senate and the President. For each such approved unit, the Executive Vice-President and Provost shall consult with the dean of the host school at five year intervals to determine whether the unit remains active and shall report to the Faculty Senate the names of those that should be disestablished.

C18.2.3 Periodic five year reviews may be conducted on all programs, centers, institutes and similar academic units as deemed appropriate by the Faculty Senate or the Executive Vice-President and Provost.

CAPSULE: Faculty Senate #2011-14(B) – Establishment of the Peggy and Harold Katz Family Drug Discovery Center at the University of Miami Miller School of Medicine

PRESIDENT'S RESPONSE

APPROVED:  DATE: Oct 19 2011  
(President's Signature)

OFFICE OR INDIVIDUAL TO IMPLEMENT: DEAN GOLDSCHMIDT

EFFECTIVE DATE OF LEGISLATION: IMMEDIATELY  
(if other than June 1 next following)

NOT APPROVED AND REFERRED TO: \_\_\_\_\_

REMARKS (IF NOT APPROVED): \_\_\_\_\_



## Proposal to Establish the Peggy and Harold Katz Family Drug Discovery Center at the University of Miami Miller School of Medicine

### Contents

Mission .....	1
Background.....	1
Research Programs .....	2
Annual Meeting .....	2
High-Throughput Chemical Screening Infrastructure.....	2
Program Support.....	3
Organization .....	3
Leadership.....	3
Organizational Chart.....	4
Steering Committee .....	4
Membership .....	5
Space.....	5
Funding Sources and Budget Projections .....	5

### Mission

The goal of the Peggy and Harold Katz Family Drug Discovery Center is to provide the infrastructure for researchers to use high-throughput screening (HTS) to identify novel drugs, drug leads, and chemical tools for translational research. The interdisciplinary Center will provide the expertise and laboratory resources that researchers need to identify compounds that can be developed into the next generation of therapeutics for treating a variety of diseases.

### Background

After receiving \$5 million from the Harold Katz Foundation in part to establish the Peggy and Harold Katz Family Drug Discovery Center, this proposal seeks to formally establish the Center. The gift was inspired when Peggy Katz, whose husband, Harold, is chairman of the board for H. Katz Capital Group and owner of the L.A. Weight Loss Franchise, was treated for polycystic kidney disease by Dr. David Roth, then Chief of Nephrology and Hypertension, and Dr. George Burke, who now directs kidney and pancreas transplantation.

Since the Center focuses on the discovery of therapeutic leads to treat a range of kidney diseases, an area in critical need of novel, selective, and improved drugs, its operations are based in the Division of

Nephrology and Hypertension in the Department of Medicine and the Miami Institute of Renal Medicine, a cutting-edge molecular research facility. The Division has internationally recognized physicians and has been featured for its excellence in research and patient care in the "Best Hospitals" survey of *U.S. News & World Report*.

In addition to sharing the expertise of the Division, the Center also builds upon the strengths of the Department, which has recently hired more than 100 new faculty, and its experience in treating nearly every major organ and physiological support system in the human body. As the keystone Department of the Miller School, it is dedicated to leading the discovery of new therapies and approaches with particular attention to our unique patient populations. The Center also benefits enormously from the support of recently recruited drug discovery leader Claes Wahlestedt, M.D., Ph.D. Dr. Wahlestedt is the Associate Dean for Therapeutic Innovations and Professor of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at the new Genomic Interdisciplinary Therapeutic Innovation Center, based at the John P. Hussman Institute for Human Genomics at the Miller School.

The Department's vision, to reach a preeminent position amongst academic medical centers, strategically complements establishing a hub for drug discovery, as many major academic institutions and medical schools in the U.S., including Harvard, Yale, Columbia, Johns Hopkins, Vanderbilt, Scripps, and Stanford have similar programs.

## **Research Programs**

The Peggy and Harold Katz Family Drug Discovery Center will develop research programs that use HTS to find new therapeutics for kidney diseases, inflammatory disorders, cancer, and cardiovascular diseases. Researchers will use robotics and imaging equipment to conduct HTS of chemical libraries. HTS facilitates the cost-effective, rapid, and broad exploration and identification of compounds, proteins, or gene functions that modulate biochemical pathways using optimized biological assays. It has emerged as a vital technique for early-stage discovery of disease targets and therapeutics and will uniquely position the Center to manage the three programs described below:

### **Annual Meeting**

The Center will host an annual meeting for Miller School researchers interested in HTS and drug discovery.

### **High-Throughput Chemical Screening Infrastructure**

The Center is already equipped with the state-of-the-art technologies required for HTS. The formal establishment of the Center will allow the creation of a central group of expert users (including Dr. Wahlestedt) to offer advice and support to all interested users. This is a significant strengthening of its infrastructure for managing and performing drug discovery screens. Experts will deliver lectures and training and the Center will advertise its services across campus.

## **Program Support**

The Center will continue to assist researchers with promising assays and research programs and help them secure peer-reviewed funding, which is critical for generating the preliminary data required to apply for more substantial external funding, including support from the National Institutes of Health Molecular Libraries and Imaging initiative, which enables academic researchers to perform HTS-based drug discovery on par with large pharmaceutical companies. Over time, we anticipate that limited support for pilot studies will become part of the Center's activities. These would be peer-reviewed and open to the Miller School research community.

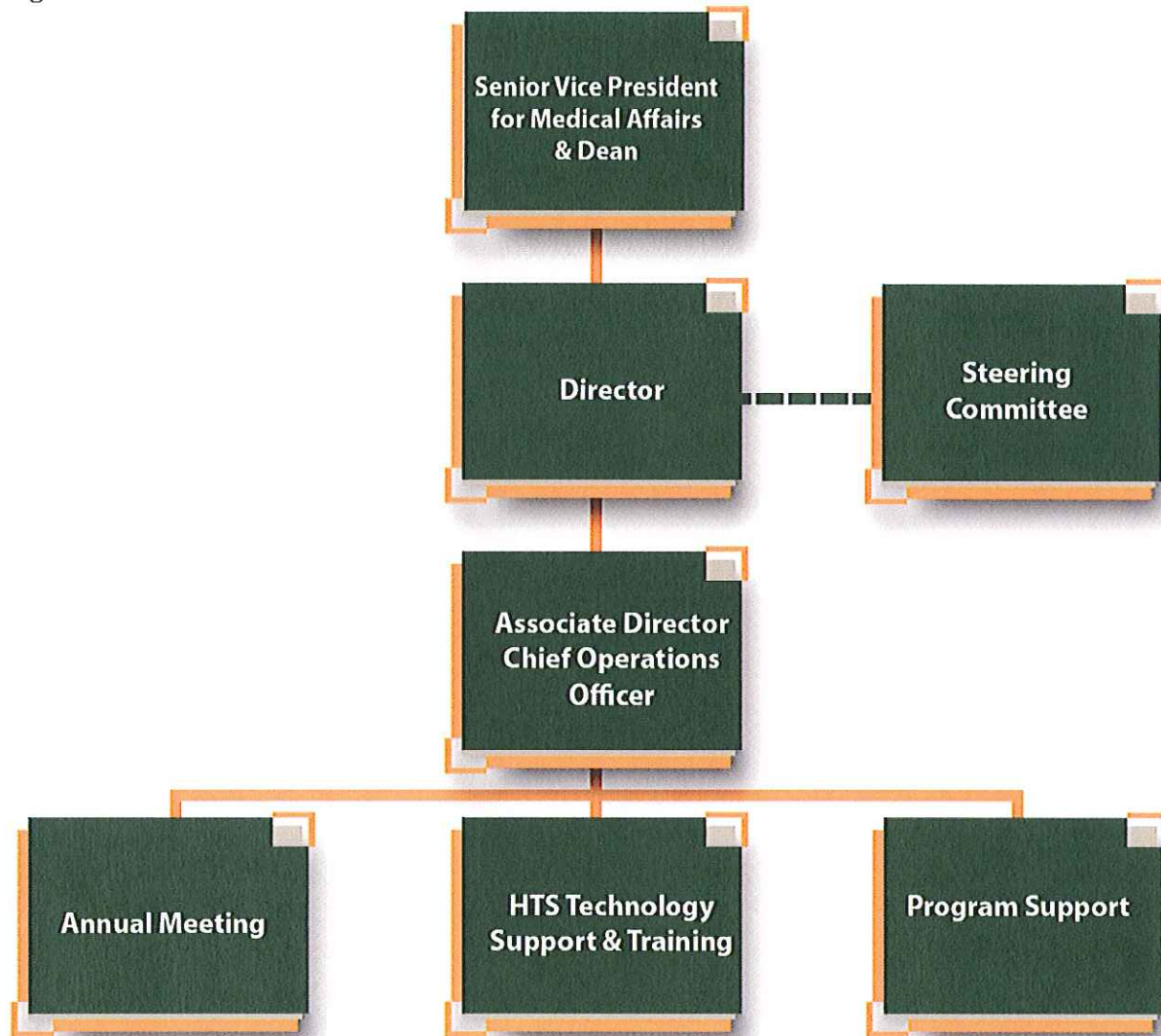
## **Organization**

### **Leadership**

Dr. Jochen Reiser, Professor of Medicine, Cell Biology and Anatomy; Vice Chair for Research, Department of Medicine; and Chief, Division of Nephrology and Hypertension, directs the Peggy and Harold Katz Family Drug Discovery Center with Dr. Vineet Gupta, Assistant Professor of Medicine and Biochemistry and Molecular Biology. Dr. Reiser is responsible for all of the clinical, operational, and research efforts of the Division. He works closely with Dr. Gupta, whose team has published extensively in peer-reviewed journals and presented its results at major national and international meetings. Dr. Gupta's group also has several existing collaborations across the Miller School on a number of drug discovery and screening efforts and both researchers have partnerships with large pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies.

The Center will be organized as per the chart on the following page.

## Organizational Chart



## Steering Committee

A Steering Committee will meet at least annually to advise the Director on the management, operations, and governance of the Center including project prioritization and allocation of resources. The Committee will be chaired by the Center Director and will include the Associate Director and University of Miami faculty who are demonstrated leaders in using HTS for drug discovery. The faculty members will be determined by a majority vote of the Committee and will serve for three year terms, which will be renewable at the discretion of the Committee.

The Committee will reflect the interdisciplinary nature of the Center and include representatives with expertise in kidney diseases, inflammatory disorders, cancer, and cardiovascular diseases. The Committee may allow other members of the University research community to attend the meetings.

### **Membership**

The Center openly seeks and supports research and activities related to its mission and does not have formal members. Per University of Miami policy all faculty and voluntary physicians are required to have an appointment through a Leonard M. Miller School of Medicine department. University faculty interested in affiliating with the Center can contact Dr. Reiser or Dr. Gupta.

### **Space**

The Center occupies the 6<sup>th</sup> floor of the Batchelor Children's Research Institute. No additional space is required for Center activities.

### **Funding Sources and Budget Projections**

The Center is funded through philanthropy and sponsored funding from its user base, which is expected to grow, and includes faculty from the Department of Medicine, the Division of Nephrology and Hypertension, and a mix of other disciplines. Initial funding was provided in part through the \$5 million gift from the Harold Katz Foundation. No additional funding is being requested.

## **Peggy and Harold Katz Family Drug Discovery Center Budget Projections**

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Budget information is deleted from the web version of this legislation.

Pascal J. Goldschmidt, M.D.  
*Senior Vice President for Medical Affairs and Dean  
Chief Executive Officer, University of Miami Health System*

## Memorandum

**To:** Robyn Hardeman  
Secretary of the Faculty Senate

**From:** Pascal J. Goldschmidt, M.D. PJS  
Senior Vice President for Medical Affairs and Dean  
Chief Executive Officer, University of Miami Health System

**Date:** July 25, 2011

**Subject:** Support for the Peggy and Harold Katz Family Drug Discovery Center

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This memo requests support from the Faculty Senate to formally establish the Peggy and Harold Katz Family Drug Discovery Center at the University of Miami Leonard M. Miller School of Medicine. The Center will provide the infrastructure for researchers to use high-throughput screening to identify novel drugs, drug-leads, and chemical tools for translational research. Contributing to the core mission of the Miller School and the University, the Center expands medical knowledge through research which will help to provide high-quality care to those who need it.

Jochen Reiser, M.D., Ph.D., Professor of Medicine, Cell Biology and Anatomy; Vice Chair for Research, Department of Medicine; and Chief, Division of Nephrology and Hypertension, directs the Center with Vineet Gupta, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Medicine and Biochemistry & Molecular Biology. Working collaboratively across the Miller School, they both also have partnerships with large pharmaceutical and biotech companies. The Center is funded through philanthropy, sponsored funding from its users (which is expected to grow), and the Division of Nephrology and Hypertension.

I fully endorse formally establishing the Peggy and Harold Katz Family Drug Discovery Center. It is a timely addition to the Miller School. The faculty and I are committed to its success in developing the next generation of therapeutics for treating a variety of diseases.

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## Memorandum

**To:** Robyn Hardeman  
*Secretary of the Faculty Senate*

**From:** Marc Lippman, M.D. *ML*  
*Kathleen and Stanley Glaser Professor and Chair of Medicine*

**Date:** July 25, 2011

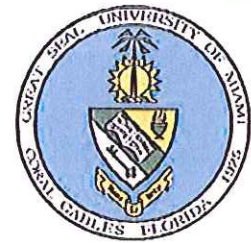
**Subject:** Support for the Peggy and Harold Katz Family Drug Discovery Center

As the Kathleen and Stanley Glaser Professor and Chair of the Department of Medicine at the University of Miami Leonard M. Miller School of Medicine, I am writing to support the proposal to formally establish the Peggy and Harold Katz Family Drug Discovery Center within the Department of Medicine. The Center's goal, to provide the infrastructure for researchers to use high-throughput screening to identify novel drugs, drug-leads, and chemical tools for translational research, strategically complements the Department's vision, to reach a preeminent position amongst academic medical centers.

As the keystone Department of the Miller School, we are dedicated to leading the discovery of new therapies and approaches with particular attention to our unique patient populations. The Center builds upon the strengths of the Department and its experience in treating nearly every major organ and physiological support system in the human body. In addition to sharing the expertise of the Department, the Center also benefits from its location within the Division of Nephrology and Hypertension and its cutting-edge molecular research facility.


The faculty of the Department enthusiastically supports formally establishing the Peggy and Harold Katz Family Drug Discovery Center. We are committed to its success in improving our knowledge of medicine and developing the next generation of therapeutics for treating a variety of diseases.

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## Memorandum

**To:** Robyn Hardeman  
*Secretary of the Faculty Senate*

**From:** Claes Wahlestedt, M.D., Ph.D  
*Associate Dean for Therapeutic Innovation* 

**Date:** August 2, 2011

**Subject:** Support for the Peggy and Harold Katz Family Drug Discovery Center

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I am very enthusiastic about the proposal to formally establish the Peggy and Harold Katz Family Drug Discovery Center within the Department of Medicine. I am honored to support this work in my new capacity as Associate Dean for Therapeutic Innovation, Professor, Vice Chair (Research) in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences, and Director of the new Center for Therapeutic Innovation at the John P. Hussman Institute for Human Genomics.

I am a pharmacologist, molecular biologist, genome researcher and medical doctor. In addition to my academic career, I have in the past held various R&D leadership positions in industry. The latter have involved a variety of drug discovery projects in all therapeutic areas. In academia, I have been a director of drug discovery both at the Karolinska Institute and at Scripps Florida. I am currently extending this work at the Center for Therapeutic Innovation and developing small molecules and biologics for various indications.

Through the generous gift of the Harold Katz Foundation, the Center will provide a framework for interdisciplinary translational research to develop the next generation of therapeutics for treating a variety of diseases. I am looking forward to utilizing the Center's high-throughput chemical screening for my National Institutes of Health (NIH)-funded research on drug discovery and functional genomics and building collaborations with other departments, clinicians, and researchers across the University.

The Center will be a fantastic resource for the Miller School and I am highly supportive of cultivating this important and promising part of our research infrastructure.

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## Memorandum

**To:** Robyn Hardeman  
*Secretary of the Faculty Senate*

**From:** W. Dalton Dietrich, Ph.D. *W. Dalton Dietrich*  
*Scientific Director, The Miami Project to Cure Paralysis*  
*Kinetic Concepts Distinguished Chair in Neurosurgery*  
*Senior Associate Dean for Discovery Science*  
*Professor of Neurological Surgery, Neurology and Cell Biology and Anatomy*

**Date:** August 29, 2011

**Subject:** Support for the Peggy and Harold Katz Family Drug Discovery Center

As the Scientific Director of The Miami Project at the University of Miami Leonard M. Miller School of Medicine, I am writing to give my full support to the establishment of the Peggy and Harold Katz Family Drug Discovery Center. Under the leadership of Drs. Vance Lemmon and John Bixby, the Miami Project has a long standing interest in drug discovery and an active core that utilizes the Cellomics VTI ArrayScan with a Thermo Fisher robot. The Center's goal of providing high-throughput screening infrastructure aligns with the Miami Project's strategic initiatives in drug discovery and small molecule screening. We are delighted to support the formalization of the Katz Center and look forward to growing our collaborative efforts.

The Center will be a fantastic resource for the Miller School and I am highly supportive of cultivating this important and promising part of our research infrastructure. Please feel free to contact me should you need additional information.



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## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Faculty Senate

**FROM:** Norman Altman, V.M.D.  
Speaker, Medical School Faculty Council

**DATE:** September 1, 2011

**RE:** To establish the Peggy & Harold Katz Family Drug Discovery Center  
And the Crohn's and Colitis Center

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This memorandum is in support of establishing the new Peggy and Harold Katz Family Drug Discovery Center and the Crohn's and Colitis Center.

On August 9, 2011, the Miller School of Medicine's Faculty Council met and reviewed the proposals to establish the Peggy & Harold Katz Family Drug Discovery Center and the Crohn's and Colitis Center. The proposals were presented by Dr. Jennifer McCafferty-Cepero, Deputy Executive Dean for Research and Research Training. The Medical School Faculty Council has approved both, the Crohn's and Colitis Center and the Peggy & Harold Katz Family Drug Discovery Center.

Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at 305-243-1635 or [naltman@med.miami.edu](mailto:naltman@med.miami.edu).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Norm Altman'.

Norman Altman, V.M.D.  
Speaker, Medical School Faculty Council