



## Leaders' Update

### A message from Director Gordon Ginder

Dear colleagues,

I am pleased to announce that we recently received the official award notice from the National Cancer Institute for our Cancer Center Support Grant, which provides Massey Cancer Center \$11 million through 2022 and effectively renews our designation as an NCI Cancer Center.

This renewal marks the 42<sup>nd</sup> year of NCI designation for Massey. Massey received a planning grant from the NCI in 1974 to establish a cancer center at VCU and has continuously retained its designation since it was originally earned in 1975.

Our goal to become an NCI Comprehensive Cancer Center – the top honor – remains, and we were encouraged in the grant review to apply for it when we submit our next application for CCSG renewal in five years. Obtaining NCI Comprehensive status would elevate our standing and support Massey in expanding and broadening our cancer research by attracting top talent, sponsored research funding, philanthropic donations and state funding.

The competition for NCI Comprehensiveness continually intensifies. NCI Comprehensive Cancer Centers must demonstrate an added depth and breadth of research as well as substantial transdisciplinary research and excellence in translation. New criteria include impact on major cancer problems in the catchment area, community engagement and leveraging professional cancer education to promote research training. I believe that Massey is well positioned to support these efforts and that if we continue on this upward trajectory, achieving Comprehensive status is within reach.

Thank you for all that you have contributed to help advance Massey Cancer Center and to warrant the best evaluation and largest level of funding that we have ever received at a competitive renewal. It is an honor to work with you toward a future without cancer.

Regards,

Gordon D. Ginder, M.D.  
Director