

TBBCF Scientific Advisory Board

The idea of funding breast cancer research requires technical expertise to analyze and develop funding mechanisms, a fluency in the sciences, and especially, a vision of the future: a gaze toward the novel therapies and people who might unravel the mysteries of breast cancer promoting therapies to combat the disease. The founding Scientific Advisory Board (SAB) volunteered to lead this mission while pursuing their own demanding careers as scientists, business leaders, and scientific researchers. In the past ten years, the SAB has awarded 3.7M in research dollars to fund new efforts to eradicate breast cancer.

In the process of granting these monies, they have reviewed over 250 formal proposals and interviewed numerous candidates. Their strategy is to continue to build name recognition in the area and build outward slowly.

The Board includes the following members: Chair, Nicholas Saccomano PhD, Chief Scientific Officer, Array BioPharma, Inc.; Co-chair, John LaMattina, PhD, former President, Pfizer Global Research and Development; and members; Michael Garabedian, PhD, Professor and Course Director, New York University Medical Center; Susan Logan, PhD, Associate Professor, New York University Medical Center; and Michael Morin, PhD, President and Chief Scientific Officer for Immunome.



Top (L-R) Dr. Michael Garabedian, Dr. John LaMattina Dr. Susan Logan
Bottom (L-R) Dr. Michael Morin and Dr. Nick Saccomano

SAB Chair, Dr. Nickolas Saccomano, believes what makes this virtual team so successful is everybody has had experience reviewing grants and they are entirely agreed on the parameters that they measure these by. He went on to say, "We are all old friends and we have all made our livings working virtually in the past. Most of the work is quiet reading and reflection as to the quality of the proposed scientific plans. We have been using a simple tool that employs a 1-6 rating on several parameters: relevance, quality, technical feasibility, institute/lab, and candidate interview." Sounds simple but it is not! We salute the SAB. Their efforts have been Herculean, mastered without complaint at the year-end deadlines. Dr. Saccomano's passion has achieved one of Norma Logan's great dreams that significant grant money be directed to young, ambitious breast cancer researchers. Thank you TBBCF Scientific Advisory Board.