

## **Chair of the Research Committee & Cure Cancer Board Member**

**Location:** Australia wide, required in Sydney for meetings 3-4 times a year

**Time commitment:** 4 Research Committee meetings per year, 6 Board meetings per year, 2-3 events per year

**Paid/Unpaid:** Unpaid, although a small travel budget will be provided for travel to meetings if your normal residence is outside of greater Sydney.

### **Overview**

Founded in 1967, Cure Cancer Australia Foundation (CCAF) is a national independent, not-for-profit that has funded Australia's brightest early-career researchers across all areas of cancer research. Our vision is to make this the last generation to die from cancer.

We estimate that in the last ten years, every dollar we have invested in research grants has resulted in an additional \$46 of funding for our researchers. The organisation is now 57 years old and has raised over \$99.6m to support over 567 lifesaving cancer research grants. We are proud that many of the rising stars funded are now at the forefront of medical research internationally.

### **Research Committee Objectives**

The Research Committee has been established to achieve the following objectives:

- 1) To provide expertise and involvement in the CCAF research grant framework and support the identification of suitable researchers for CCAF grants, within the cancer research space approved by the Board.
- 2) To support as required the funding environment for CCAF grants via interactions with major national funding bodies (such as NHMRC and Cancer Australia) and with more specialised funding bodies (LFA, NBCF, PCFA, CCNSW, Cure Brain Cancer Foundation, Bowel Cancer Australia, Rare Cancers Australia), in order to leverage CCAF funding.
- 3) To advocate on behalf of CCAF in the sector with a view to profile-raising of CCAF and, in particular, to increase the quantity and quality of grant applicants.
- 4) To increase funding opportunities for CCAF by exploring at least one non-operational idea (e.g. pharmaceutical involvement) for the benefit of CCAF and/or the research sector at each quarterly meeting.
- 5) To provide scientific advice to CCAF and to the Board as required.

### Committee Membership

Membership of the Research Committee should reflect:

- the breadth of the cancer research spectrum;
- a mix of experienced and senior researchers, including at least one early to mid- career researcher;
- consideration of a gender, institutional and geographic balance.

The Research Committee will consist of no fewer than four members:

- Chair who is a senior and experienced cancer researcher appointed by the Board from among Committee members.
- At least four members preferably drawn from states across Australia, and who shall collectively have relevant expertise, including:
- at least three members of the Research Committee must be currently engaged in cancer research post doc or post MBBS.
- at least two members who are Clinician Scientists, i.e. qualified medical practitioners who will be available to provide the Board with additional expertise as required.

With the exception of the CEO, the Research Committee members, including the Chair, commit to a three-year term with an option for a second term of three years.

### Current Members of the Research Committee

Members are appointed as individuals on the basis of their knowledge, qualities and experience and not as representatives of any organisation, group or opinion.

Name	Institute	Year joined Committee
Prof Roger Reddel	Director of CMRI, Co-Director of ProCan, and Head of the Cancer Research Unit, Children's Medical Research Institute  Sir Lorimer Dods Professor and Faculty of Medicine and Health Director, University of Sydney	2007
Prof Clare Scott (past Chair)	Professor of Gynaecological Cancer, University of Melbourne  Joint Head, Clinical Discovery & Translation and Laboratory Head, Walter and Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research  Medical Oncologist, Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre, Royal Melbourne and Royal Women's Hospitals	2010
Dr Nic Waddell	Group Leader, Medical Genomics QIMR Berghofer Medical Research Institute	2017
Nikki Kinloch	CEO, Cure Cancer Australia	2018

Prof Caroline Ford (Chair)	Group Leader, Gynaecological Cancer Research Group, University of New South Wales	2020
A/Prof Paul Beavis	Group Leader, Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre	2024

### Research Committee Responsibilities

The Research Committee has the following responsibilities:

- Provide advice or expertise on each year's grant process and provide input as required to the granting process throughout the year.
- Interact with our stakeholders: potential applicants, current grant holders, CCAF alumni, leading scientific research institutes, which receive CCAF funding for their researchers, increasing awareness of CCAF.
- Provide advice as required to the Board about scientific risk, and analysis of any funding proposals which fall outside the usual grant process.
- Contribute to identifying alternative funding opportunities for CCAF, outside the core grant application process, as required, together with the Board.
- Assist with the selection of the Researcher of the Year, assessing up to twenty nominations from recent grant recipients.
- Support the development of the program for the annual Symposium.
- Contribute if required to provide responses to queries and grant review as required throughout the year.

### Secretariat

Stephanie Scallion, Research Program Coordinator, who reports to the CEO, provides all secretariat functions for the Research Committee. This role includes coordination of the Research Committee and liaising with the Chair to coordinate meetings, prepare meeting materials, prepare meeting minutes, summaries or notes, and other meeting related tasks.

### Members of the Research Committee will:

- Act ethically, with honesty and integrity, in the best interests of Cure Cancer at all times.
- Contribute actively to the Research Committee, and the broader work of Cure Cancer.
- Make decisions fairly and impartially, and not make improper use of being a member to gain personal advantage.
- Not disclose official information or documents acquired through membership of the Research Committee.
- Declare any conflict of interest at every meeting and abstain from discussions where required.

## **Role Responsibilities for the Chair**

The Research Committee Chair is responsible for:

- Leadership of the Research Committee with key responsibility for the committee function, ensuring that all issues are explored and clear decisions made and recorded.
- Committing the time necessary to effectively discharge the role of Chair.
- Efficient conduct of the Committee meetings and facilitating the effective contribution of all members.
- Representing the collective views of Committee to CCAF Board.
- Providing expert advice to the CEO and Board to assist CCAF to develop and implement its Cancer Research Grants program.
- Approving variations to approved grants
- High level of commitment to the work of CCAF including where possible attending major Cure Cancer Australia research events.
- Fostering a positive working relationship with other Committee members and Cure Cancer Australia staff and participate in discussion and deliberations of the Committee.
- Participating in the selection processes for the appointment and re-appointment of members to the Committee.

## **Responsibilities for the Board**

As a CCAF Board member you will work collaboratively with the Chair and CEO to:

- Continue to drive the growth and expansion of the organisation, drawing actively on your current networks whilst developing new long term strategic relationships to benefit the organisation.
- Support, collaborate and work with the CEO and engage with the management team to achieve agreed objectives.
- Assist with supporting the delivery of the organisational strategic plan.
- Provide governance including encouraging positive change to assist with strengthening the board.
- Act as an ambassador for the organisation, prepared to seek support through your personal, commercial and government networks.

**Application Process**

Applicants should submit the following in support of their application;

1. Cover Letter outlining what you would bring to the role in response to the competencies and skills section of the position description.
2. Your current resume.

Please apply via email to [research@curecancer.com.au](mailto:research@curecancer.com.au)

Applications close 11.59pm AEST Sunday 28th April 2024.

Your application will be assessed on receipt and shortlisted candidates will be contacted for interview.