Update on the lectures under the purview of the SOM Lecture Committee (11/3/22)

1) Louis A. Bloomfield Memorial Lecture

“Provide lectures in Greater Cleveland by distinguished medical Scientists and scholars”

2022: The Bloomfield lecture fund was used to support a lecture and visit by Dr. Jeff Friedman from HHMI and The Rockefeller University on 9/21/22. Dr. Friedman is best known for the discovery of Leptin and the mechanism by which leptin regulates appetite. Dr. Friedman has been recognized by many awards including the Breakthrough Prize in Life Sciences, Wolf Prize in Medicine, Lasker Award, Harrington Prize for Innovation in Medicine, and Shaw Prize for Life Sciences and Medicine.

2023: The Bloomfield lecture fund will be used to support a lecture and visit by Dr. Tom Sudhof from HHMI and Stanford University on 3/13/23. Dr. Sudhof is best known for his work on neurotransmitter release and synaptic transmission for which he was awarded the Lasker Award and the Nobel Prize.

In addition to the lectures, the SOM Lecture Committee was able to reconnect with many members of the Bloomfield family, including 5 of the grandchildren of Louis Bloomfield. One member of the family was able to attend the 2022 lecture in person and other members were able to view the lecture via zoom. The date for the 2023 lecture has been shared with the family so that they can continue to attend future lectures and reinvigorate their relationship with CWRU.

2) H.M. Hanna Lecture Fund

Lecture from “distinguished foreign visitors so that they might be attracted here to give lectures in the medical sciences”

2022: The Hanna fund was used to support a zoom lecture by Dr. Benjamin Lewin on 2/9/22. Dr. Lewin founded the journal Cell and wrote a definitive textbook in the field of genetics titled GENES.

2023: Plans are in the works for a symposium focused on chemical biology.

1) Courtney Burton Frontiers of Medicine Lecture Fund

Support an annual lecture from “an outstanding individual who has achieved or been involved in the achievement of a significant advance in medicine or a closely related field”

2022: The Burton funds will be used to support a lecture by Dr. Geoffrey Greene from the University of Chicago. The 2022 lecture was postponed due to COVID given the preference for an in-person seminar. The lecture will now be held in April 2023. Dr Greene is best known for his studies into the mechanisms and therapeutics of breast and prostate cancer. Dr. Greene is a AAAS Fellow and has been recognized for his work by the Susan Komen foundation, the North American Menopausal Society, and the Endocrine Society.

2023: Plans are in the works for a symposium celebrating the 20th anniversary of the sequencing of the human genome. The symposium will be jointly hosted by CWRU and the Cleveland Museum of Natural History.

In addition to these lectures, funds were used from the Burton Fund to support a research symposium jointly organized by Drs. Mark Chance, Robert Kirsch, and Robert Bonomo. The symposium took place August 18-19, 2022 at CWRU. The focus of the symposium was Department of Defense Themed Biomedical Research. Matching funds were provided by the Center for Translational Science Collaborative and the Center for Proteomics and Bioinformatics.