



Department of Cancer Biology, School of Medicine
Abramson Family Cancer Research Institute at the
Abramson Cancer Center

Sandra W. Ryeom, PhD

April 21, 2010

Dear Scott, Heidi, Alex, Sabrina and supporters of the Garrett B. Smith Foundation,

As the annual Garrett event approaches, this allows us the opportunity to update all of you on our current research and express our gratitude for the generous and committed support by the GBS foundation.

As many of you are aware, in 2009 my lab moved down to the University of Pennsylvania Medical School and is part of the Abramson Cancer Center. My lab is continuing our research towards understanding how the growth of blood vessels (or angiogenesis) that nourish tumors is regulated. We have been particularly focused on 4 different genes located on chromosome 21. When these genes are expressed in 3 copies in Down syndrome individuals, they appear to offer protection against tumor angiogenesis and thus protect this population from solid tumors. Our ongoing research efforts include studies to determine whether any of these genes that we, and others, have shown to block blood vessel growth are “drug-able” targets for novel anti-cancer therapies. My lab utilizes both mouse models of Down syndrome and cells obtained from Down syndrome individuals to study and manipulate these genes in the lab.

We are looking forward to the renewed support from the Garrett B. Smith foundation for the 2010-2012 years and would like to take this opportunity to both thank you for the tremendous past and future support for my lab. I would like to also invite anyone interested in learning about what we do to come visit us at U. Penn in Philadelphia anytime.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sandra Ryeom".

Sandra W. Ryeom, Ph.D.