

SPRING BREAKFAST FORUM

The Cancer Treatment Revolution**Date:** Thursday, March 5, 2009**Time:** 7:30 – 8:00 a.m. Registration &
Breakfast Buffet
8:00 – 9:00 a.m. Program**Place:** Abby Aldrich Rockefeller Hall
York Avenue at 66th Street
The Rockefeller University**David G. Nathan, M.D.**President Emeritus, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute
Robert A. Stranahan Distinguished Professor of Pediatrics
Harvard Medical School

In the 1970s, the U.S. government famously declared a "war" on cancer. While this grand pronouncement may have created unrealistic expectations, it also launched a golden era of federally funded research that has vastly increased our knowledge of cancer's causes and characteristics. As a result, many significant battles have been won in the clinic.

The victories include "smart drugs" such as Gleevec and Herceptin. Designed to target precise features of specific tumors, the success of these treatments raises hope for a future with many smart drugs to fight the hundred or more distinct diseases that are classified as cancer.

The challenges of developing such drugs, both scientific and economic, are well known to **David G. Nathan, M.D.**, a renowned biomedical investigator, physician, educator, and leader. Dr. Nathan, president emeritus of the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, will discuss the latest breakthroughs in cancer research and treatment at the *Women & Science* Spring Breakfast Forum. His talk will reflect some of the themes presented in his 2007 book, *The Cancer Treatment Revolution*, which has won high praise for its lucid explanations of basic science and clinical research, as well as its uniquely humanistic approach. Instead of concentrating exclusively on the work of physicians and laboratory investigators, Dr. Nathan weaves a dramatic narrative using the stories of three patients whose lives are transformed—first by a cancer diagnosis, and then by experiences with new therapies.

Dr. Nathan is the Robert A. Stranahan Distinguished Professor of Pediatrics at Harvard Medical School. He is a recipient of the National Medal of Science and a member of the Institute of Medicine of the National Academy of Sciences. He is also a trustee emeritus of The Rockefeller University.

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