



UNC
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

THE UNIVERSITY
of NORTH CAROLINA
at CHAPEL HILL

DEPARTMENT OF PEDIATRICS
DIVISION OF HEMATOLOGY-ONCOLOGY
CAMPUS BOX 7220
CHAPEL HILL, NC 27599-7220

T 919.966.1178
P 919.966.4131
F 919.966.7629

February 3, 2010

Mr. Richard A. Montana
1824 Colonial Avenue
Greensboro, NC 27408

Dear Richard,

First, on behalf of the fellows in our program and from our entire medical team in Pediatric Hematology-Oncology, thank you for the \$27,000 your event contributed to the research in our area. Our Division has eight attending physicians, five nurse practitioners and we try to have two fellows per year, funding permitting. We offer a fully accredited three-year fellowship program, training young pediatricians in the art and science of treating pediatric hematology-oncology patients. The second and third years of fellowship are structured to maximize the fellow's experience in clinical or basic science research. Your funds from your May 2009 Reelin' for Research event have been used directly to help fund these fellowship positions to assist them in their research years. The fellow's project is highly individualized to suite their interests. Some of the projects being worked on now include studying palliative health care delivery in children in North Carolina and studies on how the brain functions after cancer treatments. There are many more. The choice of project may be bench research related, such as studying the molecular biology of the Ewing sarcoma family of tumors, or more clinically oriented, such getting an advanced degree from the school of public health to study the epidemiology of childhood cancers.

The fellowship program is critical to our mission. Training young physicians in our field is not only rewarding but incredibly important to the development of the next generations of cancer care givers. We try to shape the careers of these individuals so they will continue to contribute to improve the care of these children and help better understand the pathophysiology of childhood cancer – these are the only ways that we will improve survival and find a cure.

Next time you and any of your committee members and/or supporters come for a tour, I'd love to introduce you to some of our outstanding fellows, so you can meet them face to face. They would also be glad to share with you some of the research that is taking place and their advancements.

Thank you again Richard, for all you have done. I hope that one day I will have the courage to join one of your teams to fish, perhaps in calmer waters. After the stories from last year I'm a bit hesitant!

Sincerely, *Stuart*

Stuart Gold. MD
Professor, Pediatrics
Chief, Division of Pediatric Hematology/Oncology