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**Bladder Cancer Advocacy Network and Greenberg Bladder Cancer Institute
Announce 2017 Young Investigator Awards
*Call for Research Proposals***

BETHESDA, MD – The Bladder Cancer Advocacy Network (BCAN) and Johns Hopkins Greenberg Bladder Cancer Institute (GBCI) announce the availability of the 2017 Young Investigator Awards. The \$50,000, Young Investigator Awards will fund researchers in basic, translational, clinical, epidemiologic, bio-engineering or any other scientific or research field, who are working in a research environment capable of supporting transformational bladder cancer research.

“To date, BCAN has invested more than \$900,000 to fund Young Investigator Awards. This year, in addition to our Stephen Hale Gushée and JPB Foundation Young Investigator Awards, BCAN is pleased to partner with the GBCI at Johns Hopkins to support up to two additional awards, to be funded by the Johns Hopkins Greenberg Bladder Cancer Institute. Engaging early career investigators in bladder cancer research, is essential to continue to bring the best minds and science to improve the lives of our patients,” stated Andrea Maddox-Smith, CEO of BCAN.

“Erwin and Stephanie Greenberg’s generous philanthropic support serves as a catalyst for discovery in the field of bladder cancer through programs such as YIA 2017,” says Alan W. Partin, M.D., Ph.D., professor and chairman of the Department of Urology and Jakurski Family Director of The James Buchanan Brady Urological Institute at Johns Hopkins.

“The GBCI and BCAN are perfectly aligned in their efforts to produce major positive impact for patients with bladder cancer, and we at the GBCI want to do everything we can to coordinate our efforts both scientifically and financially with BCAN’s”, says David J. McConkey, Ph.D., Professor of Urology and Director of the Johns Hopkins Greenberg Bladder Cancer Institute. “BCAN’s Young Investigator Awards program benefits from exceptional peer review, and it has been highly successful in attracting the top young talent to our field. It was a “no brainer” for us to join forces and partner with BCAN to expand these efforts further.”

The application deadline is March 1, 2017. BCAN will notify the Young Investigator Award recipients of their selection in May of 2017. Qualified applicants can find more information at www.bcan.org or contact BCAN at 301-215-9099.

About the Bladder Cancer Advocacy Network

The Bladder Cancer Advocacy Network's (BCAN) mission is to increase public awareness about bladder cancer, advance bladder cancer research, and provide educational and support services for the bladder cancer community.

BCAN serves as the leading voice for bladder cancer in the U.S., providing resources to not only those diagnosed with the disease but their families, caregivers and the medical community united in support of people touched by the disease. The organization is setting the agenda for bladder cancer by promoting and funding collaborative and cutting-edge research programs and providing critical patient support and education services. Each year, it provides thousands of patients, caregivers and the medical community with the educational resources and support services they need to navigate their bladder cancer journey. BCAN works collaboratively with the medical and research professionals who are dedicated to the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of bladder cancer and empowers the patient community by allowing them to share experiences with others, and to participate in building awareness of the need for a cure. For more information go to www.bcan.org or call 1-888-901-BCAN (2226).

About the Johns Hopkins Greenberg Bladder Cancer Institute

The Johns Hopkins Greenberg Bladder Cancer Institute is the first medical institute in the world dedicated solely to the better understanding and treatment of bladder cancer. The Institute is part of a revolution in bladder cancer research and clinical discovery that is utilizing gene therapy, immunotherapy, targeted therapies, tumor sequencing, clinical trials, drug development and other innovations for the benefit of bladder cancer patients. The Institute's multispecialty team includes urologists, surgeons, oncologists, radiation oncologists, pathologists, nurses, research scientists and other experts, all working together to benefit bladder cancer patients. This collaboration includes experts from the James Buchanan Brady Urological Institute, the Johns Hopkins Kimmel Cancer Center, the Department of Pathology, and the Bloomberg ~ Kimmel Institute for Cancer Immunotherapy. The institute awards grants each year to doctors around the world to support research projects that advance the science and treatment of bladder cancer. Long considered the "invisible cancer," the eradication of bladder cancer is the Institute's sole mission and purpose.