Huntman Cancer Institute

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HCI Researcher Appointed to National Cancer Institute Board

June 2, 2009, Salt Lake City—Chris Ireland, Ph.D., professor and chair in the Department of Medicinal Chemistry at the University of Utah and an investigator at the U’s Huntsman Cancer Institute (HCI), has been appointed to the National Cancer Institute’s (NCI) Board of Scientific Counselors for Basic Sciences.

The NCI Board of Scientific Counselors for Basic Sciences is a group of 30 members who are knowledgeable in many fields, including laboratory, clinical, and biometric research; clinical cancer treatment; cancer etiology; and cancer prevention and control. Members are invited to serve overlapping terms of up to five years. The board advises the director of the Center for Cancer Research and the director and deputy director of the NCI on a wide variety of matters concerning scientific program policy, progress, and future direction of research programs in the areas of basic sciences.

Ireland’s research focuses on the discovery and development of new anticancer therapies from environmental niches in nature. He also screens natural products for their ability to target cancer cells, in the hopes of discovering new agents with potential for the treatment of human cancers.