



The Clarity Foundation's Laura Shawver honored as University of Iowa 2011 Distinguished Alumni

La Jolla, Calif., June 10, 2011 – The Clarity Foundation announced today that its founder, Laura Shawver, Ph.D., has received the University of Iowa Carver College of Medicine 2011 Distinguished Alumni Award for achievement, the highest honor bestowed on the college's graduates. The 13th annual award program recognized six outstanding alumni for their professional achievements, service and influence in the world of science and medicine.

Dr. Shawver was recognized for her contributions to advancing the field of oncology through cancer drug development and improving treatment options for patients. She earned a Ph.D. in Pharmacology in 1984 and a B.S. in Microbiology in 1979. The University of Iowa's Roy J. and Lucille A. Carver College of Medicine is a nationally ranked medical school whose students learn to become accomplished clinicians and top-flight researchers.

"I am honored to receive UI's Carver College of Medicine Distinguished Alumni Award. My curiosity about the biology of cancer was fueled by the faculty and advisors I studied with at The University of Iowa, and their guidance helped to advance my career and my personal desire to make meaningful contributions to healthcare," stated Dr. Shawver upon receiving the award.

Dr. Shawver is the founder of The Clarity Foundation, an organization that aims to bridge translational medicine and public service for ovarian cancer patients. An ovarian cancer survivor herself, Dr. Shawver learned that the outcomes for the disease had changed very little in over 40 years and the innovations of cancer research were not being applied to identifying the best treatment options for women with ovarian cancer. By providing recurrent ovarian cancer patients with access to molecular profiling and clinical trial options, Dr. Shawver is applying a personalized therapeutic approach to help patients today.

In addition to her work with The Clarity Foundation, Dr. Shawver serves as an Executive-in-Residence at 5AM Ventures, a venture capital firm dedicated to building and actively creating value in early-stage life science companies. She is Deputy Editor of *Molecular Cancer Therapeutics* and serves on other editorial boards. She is an active member in the American Association for Cancer Research currently serving on the Science Policy and Legislative Affairs committee and on the Scientific Advisory Committee for Hollywood's Stand Up 2 Cancer campaign. Previously, Dr. Shawver was CEO of Phenomix and President of SUGEN, which development the drug Sutent™ for renal cell cancers and gastrointestinal stromal tumors.

About The Clarity Foundation

The Clarity Foundation is the only 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to helping ovarian cancer patients make more informed treatment decisions with personalized diagnostic information. Every year, more than 14,000 women die of ovarian cancer and approximately 21,000 are newly-diagnosed. When a patient's ovarian cancer returns after standard chemotherapy, a chance for a cure is less than 15%, or less than 3% if she did not respond to initial treatment. Ovarian cancer survivor and scientist Laura

Shawver, Ph.D., established The Clarity Foundation to improve treatment options for ovarian cancer patients and change the one-size-fits-all approach. Visit www.clarityfoundation.org to learn how you can help ovarian cancer patients improve their quality of life and live longer.

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