THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE HEALTH SCIENCE CENTER

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Dear friends and colleagues,

As you know, Dr. Duane Miller moved to the University of Tennessee Health Science Center College of Pharmacy (UTCoP) to set up the medicinal chemistry program back in 1992, after over 20 years of a highly successful academic career at the Ohio State University College of Pharmacy. Under Duane's leadership and creativity, the medicinal chemistry program grew from its virtual non-existence at UTCoP to a nationally recognized program with multiple small molecule investigational new drugs, most notably, Enobosarm and Sabizabulin, advanced to multiple clinical trials. In addition to being a highly accomplished researcher, Duane has been a great mentor, collaborator, and friend to many of us, shaping the careers of numerous graduate students, postdoctoral researchers, research scientists, and junior faculty. He has impacted many during his career and we want to share with you an opportunity to honor his legacy.

Duane served as the Department Chair of Pharmaceutical Sciences at CoP from 2000-2015 and retired from CoP as a Professor Emeritus in 2015. However, as a true scientist with a strong passion for small molecule drug discovery, he returned to UTCoP on a part-time basis to continue drug discovery research. Not surprisingly, invention disclosures, new patents, newly licensed technologies, and new NIH grants continue to constantly flow out from his efforts.

To recognize Duane's unparalleled impact on UTCoP with his leadership and contributions to small molecule drug discovery and development, in 2023, the UTCoP Drug Discovery Center (UTCoP DDC) established the annual "Duane D. Miller Lectureship" to recognize an expert in small molecule drug discovery, with Duane being the inaugural awardee. The UTCoP DDC also established the "Duane D. Miller Award in Drug Discovery" to recognize a graduate student for outstanding achievements in small molecule drug discovery and development research. This is the first named student award in the UTCoP graduate program, and it carries a monetary award, generously provided by Duane himself for this inaugural year 2023.

To continue this named lectureship and graduate student award, I sincerely hope that you will consider joining me and my department chair, Dr. Bernd Meibohm, to support this newly created "Duane Miller Lectureship" endowment. Earnings from this endowment fund will solely be used to support the Duane Miller lectureship and the Duane Miller graduate student award. Because the University of Tennessee can only set up an endowment account AFTER we secure donations and pledges of a minimum of $25,000, we are writing this letter to ask for your generous support. Your contribution can be a one-time donation or can be spread over up to five years. You can make your donation and pledge at giving.uthsc.edu/miller.

We sincerely hope that we can count on your support to make this named lectureship and graduate student award permanent at UTCoP, to honor Duane whose work and mentorship have positively impacted the careers of many of us. Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Wei Li

Wei Li, PhD
UTHSC Distinguished Professor
Director of CoP Drug Discovery Center

Bernd Meibohm, PhD, FCP, FAAPS
UTHSC Distinguished Professor
Chair, Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences