



www.ndriresource.org
Philadelphia, PA

PRESIDENT

THE SEARCH

Founded in 1980, NDRI – the National Disease Research Interchange – changed the course of scientific research by fulfilling a bold, new vision: to provide reliable sources of all types of human biomaterials to scientists prepared precisely according to their research protocols. Before NDRI fundamentally changed the research landscape, laboratories were struggling to find the human tissues they needed, often stifling scientists’ study designs and abilities to innovate and discover.

NDRI – the beginning of a new paradigm for science – started with a mother’s hope for her child. Lee Ducat’s son was diagnosed with juvenile diabetes in 1966, an era in which the disease was misunderstood and virtually unknown. As a vital catalyst in revolutionizing diabetes research, Ms. Ducat founded the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation (JDRF) in 1970 and – in response to scientists’ research needs – founded NDRI ten years later. These organizations helped set forces in motion for a phenomenal surge of interest and support, garnering the resources and the talent to advance the progress of diabetes research and the search for the genetic links to a cure. Since their inception, NDRI has evolved into the leading source of continuous, reliable biomaterials for research in countless diseases and JDRF developed into one of the largest volunteer-based health organizations.

Today, NDRI’s profound impact continues to expand. Researchers from universities, medical centers and hospitals in just about every major U.S. city rely on NDRI to deliver the specimens they need to advance their studies. New findings from research studies using NDRI biomaterials are documented in over 100 publications each year, totaling several thousands in the past 30 years. With constant innovation to fuel cutting-edge research, NDRI benefits from the leadership and counsel of an esteemed Board of Directors and Advisory Boards, comprised of many nationally recognized scientific leaders.

After 30 years of Ms. Ducat’s leadership as president and the organization’s expansive achievements, Ms. Ducat and the Board envision an ambitious course for NDRI’s next era. Vital to this organizational vision is the selection of a dynamic leader to serve as NDRI’s next president. Guided by NDRI’s mission and values, the new President will strategically increase and expand NDRI’s resources and scope of activities to best serve the research community.

The President is the highly-visible advocate and leader for NDRI. As such, he or she will effectively articulate NDRI’s vision and its program objectives to diverse constituencies to expand awareness and increase financial support. Reporting to the Board of Directors, the President is responsible for overseeing the implementation of NDRI’s mission, strategic planning, and programmatic, financial, and management operations. In conjunction with the Board and Advisory Committees, he or she will further articulate NDRI’s long-term vision, while creating a plan to achieve ambitious financial and operational goals. The

successful candidate will bring an established track record of inspired organizational leadership, designing and implementing strategic plans, and securing support from diverse sources. He or she will have the stature and experience to inspire the confidence of internal and external constituencies, and the proven ability to creatively engage and motivate staff, high-caliber volunteers, esteemed scientific leaders, donors and prospects. The President will be a proven leader with experience in and knowledge of the not-for-profit, business, medical, or public sectors. He or she will have excellent communication skills and intellectual agility. Moreover, the President will have a passion for discovery, a belief in the promise of basic and clinical research, and a deep commitment to the mission of NDRI.

NDRI has retained [Freeman Philanthropic Services, LLC \(FPS\)](#) to conduct this important recruitment.

NDRI

NDRI – a not-for-profit, federally-funded organization – advances the procurement, preservation, and distribution of human cells, tissues, and organs for research. Thanks to NDRI, over 300,000 human biomaterials that once were trashed or incinerated became a national resource for researchers on the cutting edge, developing new treatments for diseases that affect millions of people around the world. Today, researchers from [universities, medical centers and hospitals](#) in just about every major U.S. city rely on NDRI to deliver the specimens they need to advance their studies. Genetic studies are provided with DNA and data on valuable, well-characterized families. In addition, NDRI annually provides over 15,000 human organs and tissues to researchers in dozens of the USA’s [pharmaceutical and biotechnology](#) companies, providing critical support for R&D and drug discovery.

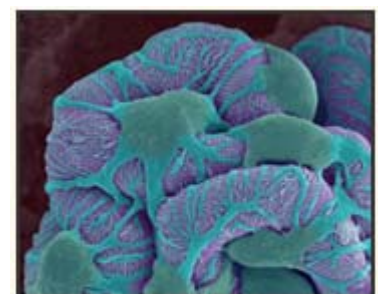


Human red blood cells in hypotonic solution (0.65% NaCl).

NDRI's Board of Directors consists of nationally known scientists. Members of the board include: the chairman Meenhard Herlyn, D.V.M, D.Sc., Professor and Program Leader, Molecular and Cellular Oncogenesis Program, Director, Center for Melanoma Research, The Wistar Institute; the chairmen emeriti Hal E. Broxmeyer, Ph.D., the Mary Margaret Walther Professor of Medicine at the Walther Oncology Center, Indiana University School of Medicine and D. Walter Cohen, D.D.S., Chancellor Emeritus, Drexel University College of Medicine; Arthur H. Rubenstein, MBBCh, Professor of Medicine, Department of Medicine, Division of Endocrinology, Diabetes, and Metabolism, University of Pennsylvania; Lou Philipson, M.D., Ph.D., FACP, Professor, Departments of Medicine and Pediatrics, Section of Endocrinology, Diabetes, and Metabolism, Director of the Kovler Diabetes Center, University of Chicago; Michael White, President, R.B. White, Inc., and JDRF Board of Chancellors; Lee Ducat, Founder and President, NDRI; and Paul Meltzer, M.D., Ph.D., Advisor to the Board, Senior Investigator and Chief of Genetics Branch, National Cancer Institute, National Institutes of Health.

Over 60 scientific leaders in the science of collecting human tissues and organs participate on NDRI's Advisory Committees, including:

- [NDRI Feasibility Review Committee](#)
- [HBDI Steering Committee/Type 1 Diabetes Genetic Resource](#)
- [Thyroid Disease Genetic Research](#)
- [Rare Disease Steering Committee](#)
- [Stem Cell Advisory Committee](#)
- [Islet Cell Isolation and Transplant Advisory Board](#)
- [Tissue Array Committee](#)



Kidney glomerulus (podocytes and capillaries of the renal corpuscle).

Learn more about [NDRI on the web](#) and [watch a video](#) about the organization's evolution and impact.

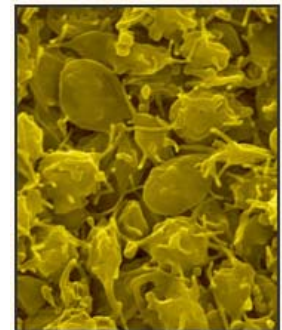
PROGRAMS

As the national leader providing human tissues and organs to NIH-funded and university-based investigators, NDRI is offered some 40,000 biomaterials each year and has developed systems to distribute more than 15,000 biomaterials, tissues, and organs annually to 500 researchers. Researchers continue to recognize NDRI as an invaluable partner as the need for human biomaterials grows. In response, NDRI has developed specialized programs targeted to increase the supply of human tissues and organs for specific areas of research with the highest demand for more resources. NDRI has an established network of 240 human tissue collection sites nationally, including hospitals, eye banks, tissues banks, and organ procurement organizations.



NDRI's core competency is in the building of donor and researcher registries, especially for rare and infectious disease. NDRI's three divisions are described below:

- **HTOR – the Human Tissues and Organs for Research** – began in 1987 with funding from the NIH, with core support from NCCR, the National Center for Research Resources. Over the years, additional support has been added from: NIAID, the National Institute for Allergy and Infectious Diseases; NEI, the National Eye Institute; NIDDK, the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases; NIAMS, the National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases; NHLBI, the National Heart Lung and Blood Institute; ORDR, the Office of Rare Disease Research; NIMH, the National Institute of Mental Health; NCI, the National Cancer Institute; OD, the Office of the Director of NIH; and, NHGRI, the National Human Genome Research Institute. HTOR focuses on supplying scientists with tissues and organs from autopsies and surgical procedures as well as tissue specimens donated through eye and tissue banks. NDRI recovers virtually every tissue of the human body, both diseased and normal, including heart, kidney, lung, brain, liver, eyes, bones and joints. Specialized programs include the HIV Program and the Rare Disease Initiative.



Activated platelets with channels of the open canalicular system (OCS).

- **HBDI – Human Biological Data Interchange** – represents the prototype collection of families for use in epidemiologic and genetic studies. This resource is a paradigm for selection and recruitment, blood collection, DNA isolation and immortalization of cell lines from families with type I diabetes for use in genetic research. The HBDI information center contains family and medical history information from more than 100,000 individuals in 6,700 families. Additionally, the HBDI repository holds sera, beta-lymphoblastoid cell lines and DNA from over 660 families with type 1 diabetes. Researchers may request a catalog of pedigrees detailing these families, from which DNA and immortalized cell lines are available, as well as anonymized information on family and medical histories.



- **Odyssey Special Initiatives Division** develops strategies to meet new and emerging needs for human biomaterials in research. Examples include networks to increase the supply of islet cells for diabetes research, cancer tissue arrays for research, collection of malignant tumors and normal adjacent tissues for cancer research and the provision of bone marrow and cord blood and cellular derivatives for stem cell research. Odyssey Special Initiatives Division is the home of NDRI's Partners Program. This program offers the pharmaceutical and biotechnology industries an opportunity to utilize NDRI's specialized biomaterials for research and development, including toxicology and preclinical evaluation of potential new therapies.



INITIATIVES

Each year, there are over 100 publications in peer-reviewed journals based on NDRI provided tissue. Moreover, 90-percent of advances produced through the NDRI program are in translational research. The need for human tissue continues to grow. Over 80-percent of NDRI's researchers report a need for more tissues for their studies. Increasingly, the demand is for specialized normal and diseased tissues that are particularly difficult to procure. There is also a very significant trend towards a need for tissues suitable for molecular investigation, such as proteomics and nucleic acid analyses. This creates considerable challenges and requires a paradigm shift in the tissue procurement models currently employed. NDRI has developed the following special initiatives:

- [National Rare Disease Biospecimen Initiative](#) constructs donor and research registries, recruits scientists, and provides biospecimens for studies.
- [Pharma Partners Collaboration](#) Corporate partners design customized programs with NDRI to support research and development and toxicology programs.
- [Islet Cells](#) NDRI provides isolated islet cells from normal and type 1 and type 2 diabetes donors to approved researchers for diabetes initiatives.
- [Stem Cell Research](#) NDRI is committed to collecting cord blood, other birth tissues, and adult bone marrow for scientists studying stem cell growth and proliferation to develop therapies for a host of common diseases.
- [Tissue MicroArrays](#) TMAs provide investigators information to explore molecular targets at the DNA, RNA or protein-level in hundreds of tissue specimens simultaneously.
- [Cancer Research](#) NDRI continues to provide cancer tumors of all kinds for the development of cancer cell lines and for DNA and RNA research.
- [HIV Research Program](#) The HIV Program provides scientists with organ and tissue samples from HIV positive donors. These tissues are used in various research studies to find ways to develop new treatments that may eradicate the virus.
- [Private Donor Program](#) is a unique system provided by NDRI, which coordinates post-mortem recovery for various research initiatives.



FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

Since its inception in 1980 when Lee Ducat secured \$3 million in funding from Pew Memorial Trust to design and build NDRI, the organization has benefited from diverse sources of support. NDRI receives support from the NIH, National Institutes of Health, including funding from: NCRR, the National Center for Research Resources; NIAID, the National Institute for Allergy and Infectious Diseases; NEI, the National Eye Institute; NIDDK, the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases; NIAMS, the National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases; NHLBI, the National Heart Lung and Blood Institute; ORDR, the Office of Rare Disease Research; NIMH, the National Institute of Mental Health; NCI, the National Cancer Institute; OD, the Office of the Director of NIH; and, NHGRI, the National Human Genome Research Institute. Additional support comes from voluntary health organizations and from corporate and individual donors.

In 2011, NDRI will end the year with total revenues of \$8 million. In September 2010, NDRI was funded an additional subcontract from the Office of the Director of NIH for the GTE_x Genotype-Tissue Expression program at a level of \$3.6 million to January 2013.

IMPORTANT RELATIONSHIPS

The President will report to and work closely with the Board of Directors to formulate organizational policy, develop long-term strategy, raise funds, and implement programs. With NDRI's research staff, the President will work with the 60 expert scientific and clinical advisors serving on NDRI's Advisory Committees.

The President will provide leadership for NDRI's operations, including 50 staff. The President's senior staff (and direct reports) are: the Director of the Tissue Collection Center Network; the Director of Research; the Vice President of Operations; and the Director of Odyssey Division. He or she will also work closely with the Controller, the Director of IT, and the Laboratory Director.

The President will build and maintain strong relationships with senior staff, the Board of Directors, NDRI staff, and Advisory Committees, leveraging the existing culture of cooperation and passionate commitment to the mission. Externally, the President will build and maintain strong connections with the NIH, voluntary health organizations, the Tissue Collection Network affiliates, Congress, research professional organizations, various disease-specific organizations, and donors, and establish partnerships, coalitions, and collaborations with external organizations and groups, as appropriate.

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

The President will lead NDRI into its next era of success. Key challenges include, but are not limited to:

- Lead the NDRI senior staff and the Board in administering operations of NDRI's various divisions, developing and executing the strategic plan and vision for the organization that builds on its successes;
- Serve as the lead representative, chief spokesperson and advocate for NDRI in promoting its mission and programs thereby increasing public awareness and visibility regarding its impact;
- Lead the funding efforts of the organization, which include solicitation of grants and contracts from foundations, individuals, and corporations, as well as maintaining and growing funding from U.S. government agencies;
- Identify and cultivate new sources of funding to further expand and diversify NDRI's funding base, while preserving long-term alliances with current donors;
- Provide leadership to senior staff to assist them in formulating policy, developing strategy, raising funds and implementing programs;
- Oversee all NDRI's programs, analyze bottom-line results to ensure effectiveness in achieving the strategic objectives of the organization;
- Provide leadership and guidance to the senior staff on all financial operations and development matters, and make sound and timely decisions on all matters of management and administration;
- Work with the senior staff to ensure the proper and effective quality assurance controls, updated technology, and administrative and reporting procedures and systems in place to effectively meet the needs of the operations in accordance with all regulatory and legal requirements and best practices;
- Manage, mentor, develop, and evaluate the staff to address challenges that will face the organization in the future and encourage leadership potential and training to enhance skills and retain talent;

- Lead the efforts in building partnerships, coalitions, and collaborations with external organizations and groups;
- Work to collaborate with Board on matters of governance, policy, mission, and strategic objectives; and ensure that participation is meaningful and productive, while coordinating Board meetings and Board activities;
- Effectively track Advisory Committees to cull advice for NDRI initiatives;
- Assist the Board with the identification and recruitment of new Board members who will add diversity to the Board and whose skills, interests and financial commitment will help to further NDRI's mission.

IDEAL EXPERIENCE & QUALITIES

NDRI seeks a dynamic, experienced leader to build upon its success and strategically grow the organization. He or she will have the proven ability and the demonstrated track record to respond effectively to the opportunities and challenges listed above. The ideal candidate will be an inspirational leader and will possess the following experience and attributes:

- Passion, energy and commitment for the mission and work of NDRI;
- Stature and authenticity to gain the trust and confidence of the Board and Advisory Committees, staff, donors, prospects, and diverse constituencies;
- Proven track record of sound, effective leadership – ideally in both not-for-profit and business environments – with evidence of successful organizational development skills;
- Successful track record of raising funds from foundations, corporations, individual donors, and government sources;
- Ability to lead and influence by articulating a clear vision that will motivate and inspire the staff, Board members, donors, tissue collection centers, pharma, and various other constituencies;
- Demonstrated decisiveness and experience in applying an entrepreneurial approach to not-for-profit management, particularly by energizing the organization and making tough decisions while maintaining openness to innovation and examining all possibilities for the organization's future success;
- Excellent communication skills (both written and oral); ability to eloquently articulate NDRI's mission in a manner that motivates constituents and generates enthusiasm;
- Intellectual agility: the ability to solicit, understand, and synthesize complex scientific and medical information;
- Agile, goal-oriented, team-focused, and well organized leadership style;
- Management experience, including the proven ability to effectively build, recruit, and mentor staff;
- Ability to strategically and effectively lead change;

- Strategic thinker who sees the big picture, but is also sufficiently detail-minded to develop the necessary building blocks to reach the desired goal;
- Accessible and collaborative leader who will inspire confidence with both internal and external audiences;
- Advanced degree (M.B.A., M.D., or Ph.D.) preferred.

COMPENSATION

The compensation and benefits package will be competitive and commensurate with the successful candidate's background and experience.

FREEMAN PHILANTHROPIC SERVICES, LLC

FPS is a national leader in executive recruitment for the not-for-profit sector and brings a proven track record of recruiting top talent to diverse organizations. Please visit our [website](#) and [Linked In](#) page for more information about this recruitment and our work.

APPLICATIONS & NOMINATIONS

Confidential inquiries, applications, and nominations should be sent to FPS via NDRI@glfreeman.com. All applications must include (1) an up-to-date resume and (2) a formal letter of interest expressing the specific experiences that best prepare the applicant for this role and why this leadership role at NDRI is a logical continuation of her/his career.