Janet D. Rowley, MD, 1925-2013
Former ASHG President and Allan Award Winner

A pioneer in connecting the development of cancer with genetic abnormalities, Janet D. Rowley, MD, the Blum-Riese Distinguished Service Professor of Medicine, Molecular Genetics & Cell Biology and Human Genetics at the University of Chicago, died from complications of ovarian cancer on December 17, 2013, at her home. She was 88.

According to a statement from the University of Chicago, “before Rowley, few scientists suspected that chromosomal aberrations caused cancer. Beginning in the 1970s, however, she made a series of fundamental discoveries demonstrating that specific chromosomal changes caused certain types of leukemia.”

Dr. Rowley was ASHG president in 1993 and shared the 1991 William Allan Award with Alfred Knudson, Jr. According to ASHG past-president Mary-Claire King, PhD, “Dr. Rowley also was an inspiration to a generation of women in human genetics, including the five of us who have been ASHG president in the 20 years since she led the society.”

For more information about the life and scientific contributions of Janet Rowley, see the full statement from the University of Chicago: [http://www.uchospitals.edu/news/2013/20131217-rowley.html](http://www.uchospitals.edu/news/2013/20131217-rowley.html)