

## Quotes

### *The Duchossois Family Institute: Harnessing the Microbiome and Immunity for Human Health*

#### **THE DUCHOSSOIS FAMILY**

“We are motivated by a long history of partnership with the university and enthusiasm for scientific breakthroughs. The world class partnerships, entrepreneurial spirit and performance expectations of the researchers and clinicians represent a business profile we understand. The team has a strategy, business plan and a governance structure that will provide innovative and proactive strategies for enhanced health and wellness. We are honored to be a part of this team.”

#### ***Craig J. Duchossois***

*Chairman and CEO of The Duchossois Group Inc. and Treasurer of The Duchossois Family Foundation*

“We have had a deep and fulfilling commitment to the University of Chicago Medicine, and a great sense of pride in what we have achieved through that partnership. The opportunity we have had over the past year to work with the incredible faculty here, focusing all our discussion and planning on wellness and fostering health, is remarkable. And the idea to embed the Polsky Center for Entrepreneurship and Innovation will not only offer the business community a boost, it will speed the dissemination of our discoveries. We anticipate the work of this Institute will touch the lives of so many.”

#### ***Janet J. Duchossois***

*Secretary of The Duchossois Family Foundation*

“When we established a new strategic direction for The Duchossois Family Foundation two years ago, we explored opportunities to have a transformational impact in education and health and wellness. Our family chose very deliberately to establish a new approach to health care. The goal is for the knowledge we generate here to enable people to foster health and wellness within their own bodies, instead of responding to a diagnosis of illness. Our relationship with the University of Chicago and its uniquely collaborative approach made it a superb place to make a transformational investment and continue that partnership.”

#### ***Ashley D. Joyce***

*President of The Duchossois Family Foundation*

“We are delighted to have the opportunity that society has given us, to give something back. I hope this Institute will bring us one major step closer to finding a cause and a cure for diseases like cancer, as Dr. Salk did in wiping out polio. There’s nothing that can’t be done if you do it right. That’s how we built our company, and we are still believers.”

#### ***Richard L. Duchossois***

*Founder and Chairman Emeritus of The Duchossois Group Inc. and Director of The Duchossois Family Foundation*

“I have experienced far too many friends, family and loved ones struggling against serious and protracted disease and have long wished we had the knowledge and ability to keep our bodies healthy in the first place. In the past several years, motivated by breakthroughs in medical treatments such as cancer immunotherapy, I was inspired to imagine the possibility of this ‘new science.’ When we shared these aspirations with the scientists at the University of Chicago, they confirmed for us the possibilities in our future. As a family, the opportunity to spur collaboration and create an institute that drives discovery by joining disciplines and engaging the Polsky Center to ensure more entrepreneurial and expedient application of research, is a privilege beyond our dreams.”

#### ***Kimberly T. Duchossois***

*Chairman of The Duchossois Family Foundation*

“This extraordinary venture brings to mind the excitement of the first moon walk in 1969, when humankind was reaching beyond its furthest limits. Now through the vision and brilliance of the men and women from diverse disciplines at the University of Chicago, we can look inward with a determination to unlock the benefits of the microbiome and a focus on our own immune system’s untapped power to promote health.”

**Dayle Duchossois Fortino**

*Director of The Duchossois Family Foundation*

“As an active participant in the organic farming movement, I appreciate the connectivity between the health of the soil, animals, and people. As a mom, I have been looking for holistic approaches to health and wellness for my children and children everywhere. I am inspired by the possibility that The Duchossois Family Institute will shift the paradigm toward health, to prolong and encourage wellness to complement our existing approaches of responding to illness.”

**Jessica Swoyer Green**

*Vice President of The Duchossois Family Foundation*

“It is both compelling and humbling to think of our bodies as ecosystems, part of a larger natural environment that affects who we are and how we live. I hope that a deeper understanding of this microecology through The Duchossois Family Institute will uncover new implications for disease prevention and early intervention.”

**Ilaria Woodward**

*Director of The Duchossois Family Foundation*

“It has been a privilege to watch the thoughtful and dynamic process that members of The Duchossois Family Foundation and the brilliant faculty and leadership at the University of Chicago Medicine have undertaken over the past year to bring this dream to fruition. The Duchossois family’s 30-plus year relationship and deep trust with the University of Chicago is remarkable and a terrific foundation upon which they will together innovate to give individuals the opportunity to reach their greatest health potential in an increasingly complex world.”

**Mary Ann Roeser**

*Executive Director of The Duchossois Family Foundation*

#### **UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO LEADERSHIP**

“The Duchossois Family Institute will draw on the creativity and skill of university researchers across many fields in bringing new perspectives to medical science, oriented toward making an impact that greatly benefits human lives. We are grateful for the Duchossois family’s remarkable level of engagement in establishing this innovative alliance between medical experts and entrepreneurs.”

**Robert J. Zimmer**

*President of the University of Chicago*

“We are honored and privileged to be the beneficiary of such enormous generosity and are excited by what the science can accomplish. The gift invests in a core strength of UChicago Medicine: our basic science research and our ability to quickly translate that research for the benefit of patients.”

**Kenneth S. Polonsky, MD**

*Richard T. Crane Distinguished Service Professor of Medicine, Dean of the Division of the Biological Sciences and Pritzker School of Medicine, and Executive Vice President for Medical Affairs*

“The family recognized the university’s and medical center’s leadership in genomics, the human immune system, data analytics and the microbiome. The new institute will integrate these areas into this new science focused on longstanding health and the body’s natural ability to maintain wellness.”

**T. Conrad Gilliam, PhD**

*Marjorie I. and Bernard A. Mitchell Professor of Human Genetics and Dean for Basic Science*

“We are already seeing the life-changing effects that microbiome research can have on society. The institute enables us to provide dedicated entrepreneurial resources for our scientists to help them advance their early stage discoveries and interventions that have potential for significant positive social and economic impact. That means their research can be quickly developed and deployed into treatments dedicated to improving human health.”

**John Flavin**

*Associate Vice President of the Polsky Center for Entrepreneurship and Innovation*

### **UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO FACULTY**

“We’re learning that living microorganisms that chronically inhabit our skin, lungs and gut are increasingly important to our overall health. However, as human progress continues to present us with more and more agents that treat infections, make our foods safer and our lives longer, we are witnessing newer and more perplexing human health problems. Microbiome science seeks to analyze and understand how our microbial partners can drive a healthy versus a diseased state and use that information to develop novel strategies to maintain health.”

**John Alverdy, MD**

*Sara and Harold Lincoln Thompson Professor and Executive Vice-Chair of Surgery*

“The subtleties between individuals are what make unwinding microbial effects challenging. No one else is doing this —and this will define The Duchossois Family Institute and the field.”

**Eugene Chang, MD**

*Martin Boyer Professor of Medicine and Associate Chief for Research in the Section of Gastroenterology, Hepatology, and Nutrition*

“Innovation will start at the bedside. Affording time and resources to clinicians taking care of the most complex patients will provide the clinical context, and relevant biological samples, that underpin all subsequent investigations. Partnership with clinical scientists is critical and the generosity of this gift will ensure this partnership is highly successful and meaningful.”

**Marcus Clark, MD**

*Professor of Medicine, Chief of the Section of Rheumatology, and Co-director of the Knapp Center for Lupus and Immunology Research*

“This generous gift will help us study many more babies – and analyze their microbiomes more deeply – so we can understand the function of their microbiome communities as well as the composition. We hope this allows us to improve the overall health trajectories for these vulnerable infants. Health begins in infancy. It’s when we have the greatest opportunity to establish or compromise beneficial microbial patterns for a lifetime.”

**Erika Claud, MD**

*Associate Professor of Pediatrics*

“Over the last few years we have seen a groundswell of momentum in microbiome and immune research programs at the University of Chicago through The Microbiome Center. This institute will help researchers and clinicians to realize the potential of this collaborative core, building our faculty and our technical capacity to create truly transformative research that will have a profound impact on patient health care both in the clinic and at home.”

**Jack Gilbert, PhD**

*Professor of Surgery and Faculty Director of The Microbiome Center*

“The originality of our approach lies in how The Duchossois Family Institute will focus on supporting healthy longevity.”

**Bana Jabri, MD, PhD**

*Professor of Medicine*

“We’ve already worked with the Polsky Center to create a new startup company, which is developing novel microbiome-modulating approaches to prevent or treat food allergies. The new resources and platforms provided by The Duchossois Family Institute will greatly facilitate additional drug discovery and enhance our ability to attract investors to take potentially life-saving drugs all the way from the bench to clinical trials.”

**Cathryn Nagler, PhD**

*Bunning Food Allergy Professor of Pathology, Medicine and Pediatrics*

“There’s never been a more exciting time to be at the intersection of big data, medicine and biology. The University of Chicago is perfectly positioned to make discoveries through its ability to collect, store and analyze enormous amounts of clinical and genomic data. As health care moves from the old ways of disease treatment to the paradigm of fostering and maintaining health, the University of Chicago will continue to make great contributions to understanding how big data can be leveraged to make discoveries.”

**Samuel Volchenbom, MD, PhD,**

*Associate Professor of Pediatrics, Associate Chief Research Informatics Officer and Director of the Center for Research Informatics*