



CANCER PREVENTION &
RESEARCH INSTITUTE OF TEXAS

December 10, 2012

Oversight Committee Members
Cancer Prevention and Research Institute of Texas

Cancer will only be cured with imagination, ingenuity and bold actions. I came to CPRIT almost four years ago because I believe, and still do, that CPRIT presents the chance of a lifetime for Texans. If successful, history books will applaud what we do. Now is the time for the Institute to shoot for the stars, or at least the moon! Bold initiatives such as the MD Anderson “Moon Shot” effort are exactly what are needed in the cancer field – and they are by no means alone. I have had the privilege to travel the State, visiting academic institutions, community organizations and private companies that all have the same fire in their hearts. The people in Texas – from Lubbock to Laredo, El Paso to Lufkin, and those beyond our borders, deserve lifesaving therapies. We must explore all means to deliver those products as quickly as possible – complacency is not an option.

In the world of government, CPRIT is in its infancy – many times we have been compared to the National Cancer Institute which has been doing what it does for 75 years. Our Institute, starting from nothing with a handful of extremely dedicated employees, is now positioned to dramatically change the face of cancer prevention, treatment and care. In creating a game changing organization from nothing, certainly a few mistakes were made. New mistakes will undoubtedly be made but the Institute will go on and must be shaped by a vision of what can be ... not what is.

However, to be clear, the 427 grants CPRIT has funded to date constitute the best cancer prevention, research and company investments in the World today! We have tried to do more, faster with the only goal of getting lifesaving therapies to cancer patients in Texas in time to make a difference.

To a person, the Institute employees have put their hearts and souls into the cause to cure cancer. Their dreams of accomplishing this lofty goal lie within CPRIT. Among them are cancer survivors who see CPRIT as the best hope for their fellow Texans with cancer – one million new cases of cancer in Texas over the 10 years of the Institute.

The last 8 months have been extremely difficult for those at CPRIT – during this time they have not been able to do their jobs due to wasted efforts expended in low value activities that do nothing to advance cures for cancer. Unfortunately, I have also been placed in a situation where I feel I can longer be effective. After considerable thought, and in the hope that my fellow CPRIT workers will finally be able to get back to what is important, I hereby tender my resignation as CPRIT Executive Director. In order to ensure a smooth transition for the Institute, I am willing to remain until our next Oversight Committee meeting January 17, 2013.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "W Gimson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a prominent initial "W" and a long, sweeping tail.

William (Bill) Gimson
Executive Director