Congratulations to George Stancel on his retirement! We honor him as a leader, mentor, colleague, friend, and especially, an influential contributor and visionary who was deeply engaged in the growth of the Keck Center (now in its 29th year) and Gulf Coast Consortia (now in its 18th year).

George was the Program Director of the Pharmacoinformatics Training Program, which started in 2005 and trained more than 40 graduate students and postdoctoral fellows in the five years it was funded under a special opportunity of the NIH Roadmap. He was involved in every aspect of this training – having lunch meetings with trainees and faculty, engaging in frequent discussions on trainee progress, and even regularly attending Friday Keck Seminars! So devoted to and interested in the training of the next generation of young scientists was he that George went on to help develop the next training grant in Pharmacological Sciences, and he was a tireless proponent of the development of two other training grants focused on Interdisciplinary Pharmacology Scientists and on Gene-Environment Interactions, all three of which were or are now under the Keck Center umbrella.

But George did more than contribute to making extraordinary things happen. He was, and has continued to be, a constant source of information, support, wisdom, encouragement, friendship, knowledge and hope for trainees, faculty, and Keck Center/GCC staff, an icon of caring leadership and exemplary mentoring and a visionary educator. For this we are forever grateful.

We wish George and his family all good things as they delve into the next great adventure – retirement!