

Welcome and Program Overview

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Ms. Diane Johnson

Good morning and welcome. We are so glad to have you here. My husband died 12 years ago from prostate cancer, and I have been a full-time advocate just about ever since. I am proud to be part of The Prostate Net team and am so glad you are all here. Our host is Allen McFarland, Assistant Vice President for Student Diversity in the Division of Student Affairs here at NYU.

Mr. Allen McFarlane

I wanted to give you a brief background about why this is important to me and why it is important to NYU. I served in the United States Air Force, stationed at Langley Air Force Base, and I worked four years in the Air Force base hospital, and so, I have a really strong connection with health care and the importance of health care and all the challenges and resources and what is important in terms of health care as we work with our communities. I have unique perspective that I know that the work that you are doing and what Virgil is doing is fantastic. Here at the University, we have five hallmarks: learning, diversity, community, quality service, and wellness. Wellness is really big for us because we use it as a tool to help our students thrive and excel at the campus. You should know that we also have a unit called The Wellness Exchange, which is a combination of a student health center as well as NYU Medical Center. We try to communicate with each other about what we can do to bring health services to the students here at NYU. I shared with them that you are here today, and they send their greetings in terms of your interest and your work related to prostate cancer. They also applaud the work of Virgil and all those who are involved with today's program. I hope

you have a very productive day. Welcome to NYU. Thank you for choosing us to have Prostate Net again for another year.

Mr. John Andrews

The Prostate Net has done a series of symposia like this around the country. This is our seventh this year, and we hope to do about 11 next year. Thank you for attending today. I think you are going to find the information very useful.

At all our symposia, we like to get the audience involved and participating in the meeting. We will give you the opportunity to do that during the course of the day today. Every time you see a question mark appear on the screen, the next series of slides will be questions that we would like you to respond to. We use this information to help us gauge the type of information we want to put forth in our next series of events. We get some very interesting information from you all so we can change content to make it more specific to the audience. We will go through several sample ARS questions.

Also, we tape all of our events. We will develop a transcript and executive summary of today's symposium. A couple weeks after this event, on The Prostate Net website, we will have the results of this symposium along with all the speakers' presentations, and an executive summary broken down to explain what each of the speakers spoke about. This will give you an opportunity to go back and refresh your knowledge about the event, and to share the website with your colleagues and friends.

Because we record this session, we find it important to capture not just what the presenters talk about but also what questions you folks may have. If you have a question, please go up to the microphone to ensure that we are able to capture your question just as it was asked, and we are hoping that other people may be able to benefit from not only your question but also from the response that is given.

Mr. Virgil Simons

Let me extend my welcome to all of you for attending today. This is the seventh in our series of our worldwide educational symposia, having also recently visited Poland and Australia. We have grown from one symposium last year to seven this year, which is a very good progression, and we thank all of you for helping us achieve. Next year, we hope to probably have at least ten symposia.

I would like to thank our sponsors; their names are in the programs and information. Without them, we would not have been able to make this possible. They do a lot of good things in terms of helping us with the drugs, medications, protocols, and education that we need.