



Dr. Bradley Cairns received his B.S. (Honors) in Chemistry from Lewis and Clark College in Portland, Oregon in 1987. He conducted his graduate work at Stanford with Nobel Laureate Roger Kornberg PhD on both signal transduction and chromatin remodeling (changes in chromosome structures affecting gene expression), where he was the first to purify a chromatin remodeling complex (SWI/SNF complex). He received his PhD in Cell Biology from Stanford in 1996, and also conducted an early phase of postdoctoral training (funding from the American Cancer Society) at Stanford. Dr. Cairns then received formal postdoctoral training with Fred Winston PhD in the Department of Genetics at Harvard Medical School (funding from the Leukemia Society of America), where he continued to study chromatin remodeling complexes, including the complexes RSC and SWI/SNF.

In 1998, he joined the faculty of the Department of Oncological Sciences and the Huntsman Cancer Institute. In 2000, he was appointed as an Investigator with the Howard Hughes Medical Institute. He is now Professor and Chair of the Department of Oncological Sciences at the University of Utah, School of Medicine. He is also the Jon and Karen Huntsman Presidential Professor of Cancer Research, and the Senior Director of Basic Science at the Huntsman Cancer Institute, at the University of Utah. His laboratory has pioneered chromatin remodeling mechanisms, revealed germline and early embryo transcriptional drivers, and chromatin misregulation in cancers - and has received and served as contact PI on multiple grants from the National Institutes of Health, the National Cancer Institute, and multiple foundations. He was elected to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences in 2017.