

February 3, 2012

## Announcements

### Yale Cancer Center Scientific Retreat

Please Save the Date for our annual retreat on Tuesday, May 15th from 7:30 AM - 5:00 PM at Waterview in Monroe, CT. Our retreat is an important event for the Cancer Center, giving us the opportunity to learn from the seven Research Programs and network with one another. I hope you will reserve this time on your calendar and join the Yale Cancer Center leadership and membership for the day. A full agenda and additional details will follow in the coming months.

### Shared Resources Survey

Yale Cancer Center is in the process of reviewing our Shared Resources and evaluating their usage and the needs of our members. Please take a few minutes to answer a few questions about your use of the Shared Resources through the survey link below. Your responses will help us to determine our priorities for the coming years.

[Take Survey >>](#)

## Smilow Update

### Smilow Cancer Hospital Resource Center Receives Grant

*Team Continuum* has awarded the department of social work a grant to enable the Resource Center to be staffed 8 hours a week by Social Work. [Team Continuum](#) funds and supports cancer patients and programs through participation in endurance sports that mirror the challenges, commitment, hope and strength required to endure living with cancer.

The position will be shared by Michele Ryan, LCSW and Steven Hoffler, LCSW. Both have experience in Oncology Social Work and are skilled clinicians in both individual and group interventions. The focus of their work will be to facilitate support groups and lead educational classes, as well as providing connections for patients and families.

from the desk of

**Thomas J. Lynch, Jr., MD**

Director, Yale Cancer Center

Physician-in-Chief Smilow Cancer

Hospital at Yale-New Haven



## Countdown to the CCSG Submission

# 235 days

until our CCSG  
grant is due on  
September 25, 2012.

Join Yale Cancer  
Center on Facebook

Like us on Facebook 

## Notables

**Narendra Wajapeyee, PhD**, Assistant Professor of Pathology and a member of the Yale Cancer Center Signal Transduction Research Program, has received a grant award from the **Elsa U. Pardee Foundation** for \$100,000 for one year to support his project entitled, "Pre-Clinical Evaluation of IGFBP7 as a Lung Cancer Therapeutic."

Cathy Lyons has announced the promotion of **Maureen McGlennon, RN** to Patient Services Manager, Smilow Cancer Hospital, NP 7. Maureen will have operational responsibility for the Hematology/BMT clinics, the NP 7 Infusion Center, and the Day Hospital, as well as management of the BMT coordinators.

Michelle Wilson has hired two new staff members for the Clinical Operations Team at Smilow Cancer Hospital. **Lisa McGuinness** has accepted a position as a Front Desk Receptionist on Smilow 7 and **Thelma Maldonado** has joined the Prostate and Urologic Cancers Program as a Clinical Secretary.

## Development Update

**Jeremiah Bogert**, of Bedford Hills, NY, recently joined the Yale Cancer Center Director's Advisory Board. A 1962 graduate of Yale, Jerry is a managing director and portfolio manager of equity and fixed-income portfolios at Silvercrest Asset Management in New York City. He was previously chair and CEO of James C. Edwards Asset Management. Jerry is also chair of the Milbank Foundation for Rehabilitation, vice president of the JM Foundation, board member of the National Foundation for Facial Reconstruction, and former board member at the International Center for the Disabled and the Bermuda Institute of Ocean Sciences. As an undergraduate, Jerry was a resident of Davenport College and majored in English. He was also a member of the Yale Political Union and edited a student publication called Moderator Magazine. Jerry and his wife Margot are also Yale parents. Their son Jeremiah, Jr., graduated in 1989.

## Employee Profile: David Vinas

*The Employee Profile recognizes the diverse contributions made by Yale Cancer Center and Smilow Cancer Hospital staff have to meet our patient care, research, education, and*

---

### Inside yalecancercenter.org

#### Cardio Oncology Program at Smilow Cancer Hospital

[Learn More >>](#)

#### Smoking Cessation Program

[Learn More >>](#)

#### Research in Progress

Video presentations from Yale Cancer Center faculty on current research projects are now available online.

[Learn More >>](#)

#### In the News

Read recent articles featuring experts from Yale Cancer Center.

[Read More >>](#)

#### Subscribe to Yale Cancer Center Answers on iTunes

Yale Cancer Center's weekly radio program on CT Public Radio is ranked number 2 in the world for cancer programs on iTunes. Subscribe to the show.

[Learn More >>](#)

#### Yale Cancer Center Grand Rounds

Video presentations from Yale Cancer Center members are now available online.

[Learn More >>](#)

#### DirectConnect Archives

[Learn More >>](#)

---

### Events

February 5; 6:00 PM

outreach goals. The staff profiled are examples of the great work being done here, and the dedication and values we possess. To suggest someone to be profiled, please contact [Emily Fenton](#).



When Smilow Cancer Hospital officially opened in October of 2009, the smooth transition for patients and their families was due in large part to David Vinas, Manager of Operations for Smilow Cancer Hospital at Yale-New Haven. He was responsible for all of the logistics and operations that went into the opening of

Smilow and he continues to be the point person for facilities and operations issues.

"After being in the hospital industry for over 10 years, I had the unique opportunity to be a part of the creation of a new care model with Smilow, soon to be one of the foremost centers in the country," said David. "And I continue to work to maintain that level of excellence every day."

Most recently, David was a member of the team that was responsible for the integration of the Smilow Cancer Hospital Cancer Care Centers, where community doctors joined the Smilow team in order to bring the full expertise of cancer care into the community. Planning for this initiative began over a year and a half ago and to make sure everything was executed in an organized fashion, David opened and led a command center to handle any issues in an efficient and timely manner. This command center resolved over 500 open issues in a 2 week period, ensuring a smooth transition in a very complex process.

David also oversees The Boutique at Smilow Cancer Hospital, the Patient Resource Center, and the Complementary Services Program, among other things. He leads initiatives to improve patient throughput and makes sure everything is running smoothly so that patients have an exceptional experience.

Catherine Lyons, RN, MS, Clinical Program Director of Smilow Cancer Hospital, commented, "David Vinas has a largely "behind the scenes" job where most of the time people are coming to him with issues that need to be resolved and problems that need to be solved. He does an outstanding job of handling these situations so that there is little disruption to the physicians, staff or the patients. You cannot have great organizations without people like him."

Abe Lopman, Vice President and Executive Director of Smilow

#### **Yale Cancer Center Answers**

WNPR

The Bone Marrow Transplant Unit

Iris Isufi, MD

[Learn More >>](#)

#### **February 7; 12:00 PM Yale Cancer Center Grand Rounds**

55 Park Street

*Mass Spectrometry Analysis: a new era in the diagnosis of*

*Spitz nevi and Spitzoid*

*Malignant Melanoma*

Rossitza Lazova, MD

*Cancer Therapy-Induced Bone*

*Disease: A Smilow Cancer*

*Hospital Approach?*

John Wysolmerski, MD

[Learn More >>](#) (PDF)

#### **February 8; 7:00 AM Research in Progress Meeting**

SCH 4-101A

*Post-transplantation*

*Lymphoproliferative Disorders*

*(PTLD) Management in Solid*

*Organ Transplantation (SOT)*

*Recipients*

Nikolai Podoltsev, MD

[Learn More >>](#) (PDF)

#### **February 8; 11:00 AM Radiobiology and Radiotherapy Research Program Seminar**

SHM I-304

*DNA Polymerase Beta is Critical*

*for Cell Survival and Genomic*

*Stability in Mice*

Alireza Senejani, PhD

[Learn More >>](#) (PDF)

#### **February 9; 12:00 PM Schwartz Center Rounds**

55 Park Street

*Parenting at a Challenging*

*Time: A Bereaved Spouse*

*Reflects*

A Panel of Guests

[Learn More >>](#) (PDF)

#### **February 10; 1:00 PM Molecular Virology Research Program Seminar**

SHM I-116

Cancer Hospital, also commented, "David represents the best in Smilow leadership. He is tireless in his efforts to assure a positive experience for our patients, visitors and staff."

---

## Yale Pink Zones

Yale Women's Basketball, Gymnastics, and Squash teams are holding their sixth annual "Yale Pink Zones" fundraiser on Saturday and Sunday, February 11-12 to benefit the [Closer to Free](#) Fund and breast cancer research and treatment. Each game will serve as a "zone" promoting the cause "Bulldogs Fighting Against Breast Cancer." T-shirts specially designed for this event are being sold at each game during the weekend. All funds raised will go to support research and treatment of breast cancer at Yale Cancer Center and Smilow Cancer Hospital.

The weekend begins at 1PM with the Gymnastics team hosting the Bulldog Invitational with Bridgeport, Rhode Island College and Springfield in Payne Whitney Gym. At 7PM, Women's Basketball hosts Columbia in the John Lee Amphitheater. Dr. Anees Chagpar, Director of the Breast Center at Smilow Cancer Hospital will be the featured half-time guest. Sunday, at 1PM both Women's and Men's Squash teams host Harvard in the Lanman Center. Attendees wearing pink to any game will gain free admission.

[Learn More >>](#)

---

## Funding Opportunities

### Samuel Waxman Cancer Research Foundation Grants - Re-Programming the Cancer Cell

Applications are being accepted for the 2012 Grants from the Samuel Waxman Cancer Research Foundation. Yale Cancer Center can send one application for review. If interested, please send a copy of your CV and a two-page description of your proposed project on the topic "Reprogramming the Cancer Cell" by email to [Jan Zulkowski](#) in Dr. Daniel DiMaio's office by 5:00 PM on Friday, February 24.

[Learn More >>](#)

### Department of Defense Breast Cancer Research Program Grants

**Clinical Translational Research Award**

*Distinct Roles of Innate Immune Sensors in Rhinovirus Infection*  
Ellen Foxman, MD, PhD  
[Learn More >>](#) (PDF)

### February 12; 6:00 PM Yale Cancer Center Answers

WNPR  
*The Truth About Tanning*  
Susan Mayne, PhD, David Leffell, MD, and Leah Ferrucci, PhD  
[Learn More >>](#)

### February 14; 12:00 PM Yale Cancer Center Grand Rounds

55 Park Street  
TBD  
Greg Friberg, MD  
*An Interdisciplinary Approach Toward Sexuality, Intimacy, Menopause, and Cancer Survivorship*  
Elena Ratner, MD

---

### New Faculty Recruits (May 2009 - Present)

**Alexander Au**  
*Plastic Surgery*

**Anees Chagpar**  
*Surgical Oncology*

**Sandy Chang**  
*Lab Medicine*

**Anne Chiang**  
*Medical Oncology*

**Lieping Chen**  
*Immunobiology*

**Deborah Chirnomas**  
*Pediatric Oncology*

**Joseph Contessa**  
*Therapeutic Radiology*

**Shari Damast**  
*Therapeutic Radiology*

**Suzanne Evans**  
*Therapeutic Radiology*

**Leonard Farber**  
*Medical Oncology*

Eligibility: Investigators at or above the level of Assistant Professor (or equivalent).

Key Mechanism Elements:

- Supports the acceleration of research with a high potential for direct clinical translation that will result in significant improvements over current approaches to breast cancer prevention and/or therapy.
- Applications will be supported in two stages. Stage I will enable completion of preclinical translational studies and Food and Drug Administration approvals (if needed). Stage II will initiate and execute the prospective clinical trial.
- Preliminary data are required.
- Preproposal is required; application submission is by invitation only.
- Maximum funding of \$12M for direct costs (plus indirect costs).
- Period of performance not to exceed 5 years.

#### **Era of Hope Scholar Award**

Eligibility: Independent, non-mentored investigators within 6 years of their last mentored position as of the application submission deadline.

Key Mechanism Elements:

- Supports exceptionally talented, creative early-career scientists who have demonstrated that they are the "best and brightest" in their fields.
- Individuals should exhibit strong potential for leadership in the breast cancer community.
- Maximum funding of \$2.5M for direct costs (plus indirect costs).
- Period of performance not to exceed 5 years.

#### **Idea Award**

Eligibility: Investigators at all academic levels (or equivalent).

Key Mechanism Elements:

- Supports innovative, high-risk/high-reward research ideas that have extraordinary potential to yield highly impactful data.
- Innovation and Impact are the most important review criteria.
- Preliminary data are allowed, but not required.
- Partnering Principal Investigator (PI) Option supports combining expertise of two PIs to more effectively address a research question.
- Preproposal is required; limit of one preproposal per PI; application submission is by invitation only.
- Maximum funding of \$375K for direct costs (plus

#### **Bonnie Gould Rothberg**

*Medical Oncology*

#### **Valentina Greco**

*Genetics*

#### **Stephanie Halene**

*Hematology*

#### **Roy Herbst**

*Medical Oncology*

#### **Howard Hochster**

*Medical Oncology*

#### **Erin Hofstatter**

*Medical Oncology*

#### **Nina Horowitz**

*Surgical Oncology*

#### **Michael Hurwitz**

*Medical Oncology*

#### **Iris Isufi**

*Hematology*

#### **Benjamin Judson**

*Otolaryngology*

#### **Jennifer Kapo**

*Geriatrics*

#### **Peter Koo**

*Medical Oncology*

#### **Alfred Lee**

*Hematology*

#### **Arthur Levy**

*Medical Oncology*

#### **Miguel Materin**

*Ophthalmology*

#### **Daniel Morgensztern**

*Medical Oncology*

#### **Don Nguyen**

*Pathology*

#### **Abhijit Patel**

*Therapeutic Radiology*

#### **Nikolai Podoltsev**

*Hematology*

#### **Katie Politi**

*Pathology*

#### **Tara Sanft**

*Medical Oncology*

indirect costs).

- Period of performance not to exceed 2 years.

### **Impact Award**

Eligibility: Investigators at or above the level of Assistant Professor (or equivalent).

Key Mechanism Elements:

- Supports unique research projects that focus on scientific and clinical breast cancer issues, which, if successfully addressed, could ultimately have a major impact on the understanding, prevention, and/or treatment of breast cancer.
- Preproposal is required; application submission is by invitation only.
- Maximum funding of \$2M for direct costs (plus indirect costs).
- Period of performance not to exceed 5 years.

### **Innovator Award**

Eligibility: Associate Professor or above (or equivalent).

Key Mechanism Elements:

- Supports visionary individuals who have demonstrated creativity, innovative work, and leadership in any field.
- Provides opportunity to pursue novel, visionary, high-risk ideas that could ultimately lead to the end of breast cancer.
- Nomination is required and self-nominations are accepted; application submission is by invitation only.
- Maximum funding of \$5M for direct costs (plus indirect costs).
- Period of performance not to exceed 5 years.

### **Postdoctoral Fellowship Award**

Eligibility: Principal Investigator: Doctoral graduates (Ph.D. or M.D.). Clinical investigators are eligible to apply. Must have no more than 2 years experience in the proposed research setting and no more than 4 years of postdoctoral research experience as of the application deadline.

Mentor or formal co-mentor must have breast cancer research experience, including current funding and publications.

Key Mechanism Elements:

- Supports the training of exceptionally talented recent doctoral graduates.
- Individualized training program and mentorship should prepare the PI for an independent career at the forefront of breast cancer research.
- Proposed research should address a critical problem in breast cancer research.
- Maximum funding of \$300K for direct costs (\$100K per

**Peter Schulam**  
*Urology*

**Fatma Shebl**  
*Epidemiology*

**Stacey Stein**  
*Medical Oncology*

**Matthew Strout**  
*Hematology*

**Narendra Wajapeyee**  
*Pathology*

**Qin Yan**  
*Pathology*

---

## **Submissions**

Please submit your recent publication and grant announcements to:

**Renee Gaudette**  
Director, Public Affairs and Marketing

[renee.gaudette@yale.edu](mailto:renee.gaudette@yale.edu)

 Forward to a Friend

- year; plus indirect costs).
- Period of performance not to exceed 3 years.

#### **Transformative Vision Award**

Eligibility: Independent investigators at any academic level (or equivalent).

Key Mechanism Elements:

- Supports a research effort to realize a vision for dramatically affecting the prevention or treatment of breast cancer as quickly as possible.
- Teams must include consumer advocates who will be integrated into the planning and implementation of the research project.
- Applications with multiple PIs are allowed; however, PIs should have demonstrated experience in successfully leading large, focused projects.
- Preproposal is required; application submission is by invitation only.
- Period of performance not to exceed 5 years.
- Maximum funding of \$12M for direct costs (plus indirect costs).

[Learn More >>](#)

#### **PCF-Honorable A. David Mazzone Special Challenge Award Research Program 2012**

Proposals must be from teams capable of providing unique scientific expertise to the solution of a significant problem in prostate cancer research. A team may be assembled from one institution, or several institutions, from across the globe. These awards focus on funding Treatment Sciences: Investigations of new ideas in man or laboratory support of a high impact clinical investigation.

Treatment Sciences research with a high probability of near-term patient benefit is required in the following topic areas:

- 1) Translational research in metabolism/adiposity/nutrition/survivorship
- 2) Molecular imaging in both primary and metastatic disease
- 3) Co-targeting tumor microenvironment
- 4) First-in-field research on new targets in metastatic disease systemic treatment
- 5) Mechanisms of resistance to new treatments for advanced prostate cancer
- 6) Diagnostics and biomarkers that differentiate indolent from metastatic prostate cancer

**Application Deadline: March 16, 2012**

[Learn More >>](#)

#### **Call for Abstracts**

The Virtual Physiological Human Network of Excellence  
Integrative Approaches to Computational Biomedicine

Conference to be held in London, September 18-20, 2012

Deadline for Submission: February 29, 2012

[Learn More >>](#)

---

## Recent Publications

### **Unmet Challenges in the Use of Novel Agents in Locally Advanced Non-Small-Cell Lung Cancer.**

Decker RH, Lynch TJ.

J Clin Oncol. 2012 Jan 23.

[Read More >>](#)

### **An analysis, systematic review, and meta-analysis of the perioperative mortality after neoadjuvant therapy and pneumonectomy for non-small cell lung cancer.**

Kim AW, Boffa DJ, Wang Z, Detterbeck FC.

J Thorac Cardiovasc Surg. 2012 Jan;143(1):55-63.

[Read More >>](#)

### **Opinion: a personal note--40 years after the signing of the Cancer Act.**

DeVita VT Jr.

Nat Rev Clin Oncol. 2011 Nov 1;8(12):693-4.

[Read More >>](#)

### **Thoroughness of mediastinal staging in stage IIIA non-small cell lung cancer.**

Vest MT, Tanoue L, Soulos PR, Kim AW, Detterbeck F, Morgensztern D, Gross CP.

J Thorac Oncol. 2012 Jan;7(1):188-95.

[Read More >>](#)

### **Novel delivery strategies for glioblastoma.**

Zhou J, Atsina KB, Himes BT, Strohschein GW, Saltzman WM.

Cancer J. 2012 Jan;18(1):89-99.

[Read More >>](#)

### **Oncolytic virus therapy for glioblastoma multiforme: concepts and candidates.**

Wollmann G, Ozduman K, van den Pol AN.

Cancer J. 2012 Jan;18(1):69-81.

[Read More >>](#)

### **Status Quo-Standard-of-Care Medical and Radiation Therapy for Glioblastoma.**

Becker KP, Yu J.

Cancer J. 2012 Jan;18(1):12-9.

[Read More >>](#)

### **Insular thyroid cancer: A population-level analysis of patient characteristics and predictors of survival.**

Kazaure HS, Roman SA, Sosa JA.



Cancer. 2012 Jan 17.

[Read More >>](#)

**Clinical utility of vandetanib in the treatment of patients with advanced medullary thyroid cancer.**

Deshpande H, Marler V, Sosa JA.

Onco Targets Ther. 2011;4:209-15.

[Read More >>](#)

**Neurosurgical approach.**

Moliterno JA, Patel TR, Piepmeier JM.

Cancer J. 2012 Jan;18(1):20-5.

[Read More >>](#)

**Glioblastoma multiforme-new approaches to therapy.**

Baehring JM.

Cancer J. 2012 Jan;18(1):11.

[Read More >>](#)

**Dendritic cell-mediated activation-induced cytidine deaminase (AID)-dependent induction of genomic instability in human myeloma.**

Koduru S, Wong E, Strowig T, Sundaram R, Zhang L, Strout MP, Flavell RA, Schatz DG, Dhodapkar KM, Dhodapkar MV.

Blood. 2012 Jan 10.

[Read More >>](#)

**B Cell-Derived IL-10 Does Not Regulate Spontaneous Systemic Autoimmunity in MRL.Fas<sup>lpr</sup> Mice.**

Teichmann LL, Kashgarian M, Weaver CT, Roers A, Müller W, Shlomchik MJ.

J Immunol. 2012 Jan 15;188(2):678-85.

[Read More >>](#)