

# DirectConnect

Inside Yale Cancer Center

February 15, 2013

## Announcements

The last two weeks have proved incredibly challenging and rewarding for all us at Yale Cancer Center and Smilow Hospital, and I couldn't be more proud of the way all of our faculty and staff worked together to meet the challenges we faced, and supersede them!

We started with the transition to Epic on Friday, February 1, and while the transition has slowed clinical operations and patient care at Smilow, we are quickly learning how to chart using Epic and use it as a tool that will benefit patient care. Clinicians are helping one another, and teams are becoming stronger. Please continue to rely on the Epic superusers in your area for additional assistance when you need it. The process will get easier as the weeks go on, and we will all benefit from complete information in the EMR during patient appointments.

The next week we hosted the site visit team for our National Cancer Institute Cancer Center Support Grant renewal application. The presentations by the Yale Cancer Center leadership were a culmination of many months of preparations and practice sessions, all of which paid off in an excellent day. Our programs were all presented succinctly and flawlessly highlighted the wonderful science and patient care that represents our Comprehensive Cancer Center status.

We finished the week with Blizzard Nemo dropping 35 inches of snow in our area and severely crippling access to New Haven and our clinical operations. Once again, our staff worked tirelessly to ensure that patient care remained a priority and was not compromised. Patients were rescheduled when possible, and available clinicians and staff covered appointments.

I sincerely appreciate all of the extra time, effort, and dedication that each of our faculty and staff members put in, often unasked, to make Yale Cancer Center and Smilow Cancer Hospital the successful community that we have built. Thank you for all of your help over these last two weeks during

*from the desk of*

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

Director, Yale Cancer Center

Physician-in-Chief Smilow Cancer

Hospital at Yale-New Haven



Join Yale Cancer  
Center on Facebook

Like us on Facebook 

Closer to Free

*give*  
**closer to free**

Help advance cancer research and enhance patient care.

Links of Interest

**CV Library**

The CV library is a new resource available to our members, with CVs of post-docs and others looking for positions at Yale. Please browse the listings if you have openings, and send the

challenging circumstances.

### **Yale Cancer Center Pilot Grant Deadline Extended**

Due to the recent storm closures, the deadline for submitting applications for the Yale Cancer Center Pilot and Co-Pilot Grants have been extended to Monday, February 18th at 4 PM.

Grant instructions and applications can be downloaded [here](#). Please contact [Dan DiMaio](#) or [Jan Zulkeski](#) if you have any questions regarding the pilot grant application process.

### **CME Oncology Symposium - Breast Cancer**

Yale Cancer Center and Smilow Cancer Hospital at Yale-New Haven are holding our next Evening Oncology Series, highlighting *Breast Cancer and BRCA Positive Patients* on Tuesday, March 5, 2013 at Smilow Cancer Hospital. This is the second of a 5-part series. Mark your calendar for the third symposium on June 5, 2013 on Head and Neck Cancers.

[Learn More >>](#)

## **Notables**

**Vanna Dest, MSN, APRN** has been appointed to the position of **Manager, Advanced Practice Providers in Smilow Cancer Hospital**. Vanna is well known to many of the YNHH and YSN community. She has extensive experience in Oncology Nursing, having started her career in 1984 at the Hospital of St. Raphael. Since 2003, she has been the Oncology APRN in Radiation Oncology at the St. Raphael's campus, along with numerous other leadership and program coordination responsibilities in the Fr. McGivney Center.

Vanna is a Clinical Nurse Specialist as well as a Nurse Practitioner and is a Clinical Lecturer at the Yale School of Nursing. Her newly created position will meet the needs of our growing Advanced Practice Practitioner (APP) community and will provide our Smilow APPs with leadership, opportunities for practice enhancement, and professional development.

The **St. Baldrick's Foundation** recently announced that **Nina Kadan-Lottick, MD** has been named the TeamBrent-St. Baldrick's Scholar. The \$230,000 award will support Dr. Kadan-Lottick's research focusing on survivorship and her studies on how cancer therapy affects a child's growing brain and learning.

[Learn More >>](#)

## **Closer to Free Fund**

CVs you receive to share.

[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 >>](#)

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## **Events**

### **February 15; 12:00 PM YCC Research in Progress Meeting**

WWW 208

*Towards Identifying Tumor-, Germline-, and Lifestyle-Based Determinants of Long-Term Survival in Stage II/III Cutaneous Melanoma*

Bonnie Gould Rothberg, MD, PhD, MPH

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

### **February 15; 1:00 PM Developmental Therapeutics Research Program**

SHM I - 116

*Academia-BioPharmaceutical Partnerships: Bridging the Valley*

Michael S. Kinch, MD

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

### **February 17; 6:00 PM Yale Cancer Center Answers**

WNPR

*Dermatologic Side Effects from*

The **Closer to Free Fund** benefits from many events organized by patients, families, and friends. Each event is inspired by a personal experience with cancer and intended to support research and patient care at Smilow Cancer Hospital and Yale Cancer Center. Most recently, a woman who was celebrating her 50<sup>th</sup> birthday asked her family and friends to make donations to **Closer to Free** to honor a sister who is receiving care at Smilow Cancer Hospital. A first-time golf outing organized last year to benefit **Closer to Free** helped to fund part of a research project led by Harriet Kluger and will be held again this May. Cut-athons, walk-athons, and many other fun and creative events were held during 2012 with the net proceeds donated to **Closer to Free**. Every event, large or small, has a positive impact - not only to Closer to Free, but to patients, families and friends who wish to make a difference. Information about organizing an event is available on the [website](#) or by contacting [Susan Frankenbach](#).

## Employee Profile: Julie Klein

*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 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](#).*

In the 32 years that Julie Klein has been a Financial Assistant in the Department of Therapeutic, she has seen many changes, and has watched the department grow tremendously. When she first started there were only two people in her department covering all the clinical accounts and hospital accounts for Therapeutic Radiology; they did not even have a computer.

Julie has since gone to working part-time for the department reviewing accounts, managing maintenance contracts, and entering any changes or new physician appointments into the Business Management System (BMS). She orders cell phones for new faculty, makes sure all the laboratory equipment receives regular maintenance, and reviews accounts to make sure that everything is accurate and charged correctly.

"When I started we were in a tiny office and there were only two of us and we handled everything. Now there are more machines, more staff, and more space. It is amazing to see how it has grown," said Julie. The reward for her has been seeing the department grow, and the work that has been done, and is currently being done. She commented that being able to see cancer patients come in and be treated with better, more effective therapies, has made her proud of her work, and

*Cancer Treatment*  
Jennifer Choi, MD  
[Learn More >>](#)

### **February 19; 12:00 PM** **Yale Cancer Center Grand Rounds**

Park Street Auditorium  
*In Search of a Man Eater: Using Imaging and Genomics to Identify Aggressive Prostate Cancer*  
Ashutosh Tewari, MB, BS  
[Learn More >> \(PDF\)](#)

### **February 20; 11:00 AM** **YCC Radiobiology and Radiotherapy Research Program**

SHM-1304  
*Carcinogenic Bacterial Pathogen Helicobacter Pylori Triggers DNA Double-Strand Breaks and Homologous-Dependent Repair in Host Cells*  
Dawit Kidane, PhD  
[Learn More >> \(PDF\)](#)

### **February 20; 3:00 PM** **Office of Research Compliance and Education Funding/Grantsmanship Training Programs**

Hope Building, Room 110  
*Developing a Funded Research Program*  
Lori Post, PhD  
[Learn More >>](#)

### **February 21; 9:00 AM** **Therapeutic Radiology Grand Rounds**

Smilow, Lower Level, Room E  
*Title TBD*  
Joseph Contessa, MD, PhD  
[Learn More >>](#)

### **February 21; 12:30 PM** **Pathology Grand Rounds**

Fitkin Amphitheatre, LMP 1094  
*Critical Questions in HER2 Testing in Breast Cancer: Can We Finally Get This Right?*  
Allen Gown, MD  
[Learn More >>](#)

### **February 22; 8:30 AM**

the work being done at Yale.

Sara Rockwell, PhD, FASTRO, Professor of Therapeutic Radiology and of Pharmacology, commented, "We are very fortunate to have Julie in our group. She is a warm and caring person, who always does her best to take care of our faculty, staff, and students, so they can concentrate on their research and clinical activities. Her coworkers affectionately call her 'our bulldog' because when someone has a problem Julie will research the issues and follow up with the right people until that problem is solved."

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## NCDB Participant User File Access

The National Cancer Data Base (NCDB) is pleased to announce its first Request for Applications (RFA) for its Participant User Files (PUFs). The application period runs through Friday, March 29, 2013, and is open to any investigator from a CoC-accredited cancer program.

The NCDB PUF is a Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) compliant data file containing cases submitted to the Commission on Cancer's (CoC) NCDB and complies with the terms of the Business Associate Agreement between the American College of Surgeons and cancer programs accredited by the CoC. The PUF contains de-identified patient level data and is designed to provide investigators at CoC-accredited cancer programs with a data resource they can use to review and advance the quality of care delivered to cancer patients through analyses of cases reported to the NCDB.

[Learn More >>](#)

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## Funding Opportunities

### Yale Cancer Center Translational-Targeted Area of Research Excellence (T-TARE) Awards

These grants will support research with a significant translational potential/clinical component for groups of between three and five investigators headed by a member of the Cancer Center. The major review criteria for this award are translational potential, scientific excellence, and the likelihood that the proposed program will result in submission of multi-investigator grant applications, such as a P01 or P50 application, at the conclusion of the T-TARE funding.

**Award Amounts:** Up to \$200,000 for one year commencing July 1, 2013.

**Purpose:** To provide seed money to members of the Yale Comprehensive Cancer Center to support studies on the same

### Office of Research Compliance and Education Training Programs Supporting the Administration of Sponsored Projects

47 College St

*Introduction to Sponsored Projects Administration*

[Learn More >>](#)

### February 22; 12:00 PM YCC Research in Progress Meeting

WWW 208

*Title TBD*

Susan Mayne, PhD

[Learn More >>](#)

### February 22; 1:00 PM YCC Genetics and Genomics Research Program

SHM I -116

*Lineage Switching in Hematopoiesis*

Sherman Weissman, MD

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

### February 24; 6:00 PM Yale Cancer Center Answers

WNPR

*Radiation Therapy in the Treatment of Breast Cancer*

Meena Moran, MD

[Learn More >>](#)

### February 26; 12:00 PM Yale Cancer Center Grand Rounds/Paul Calabresi Memorial Lectureship

Park Street Auditorium

*Title TBA*

Eric Winer, MD

[Learn More >>](#)

### February 27; 11:00 AM YCC Radiobiology and Radiotherapy Research Program

SHM I-304

*Filling in the Black Box:*

*Mechanism of HPV16 Infection*

Alex Lipovsky

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

### February 28; 9:00 AM Therapeutic Radiology Grand

general topic with a significant translational research component by three or more faculty members, to generate preliminary data or evidence of collaboration for a new, multi-investigator grant application to the National Cancer Institute, such as a Program Project grant or SPORE grant.

**Eligibility:** Members of the YCCC or faculty who have applied for membership are eligible to serve as P.I. Each application shall include between three and five projects led by different faculty members. In addition to the P.I. and project leaders, each project should include collaboration with a biostatistician and allocate a portion of the budgeted funds to support this effort.

**Application Deadline: April 26, 2013**

[Learn More and Download Applications >>](#)

#### **Samuel Waxman Cancer Research Foundation Grants**

Applications are being accepted for the 2013 Individual 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 by email to Jan Zulkowski in Dr. Daniel DiMaio's office by 5:00 PM on Friday, February 22.

[Learn More >>](#)

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## **Recent Publications**

### **Advances in targeting cell surface signaling molecules for immune modulation.**

Yao S, Zhu Y, Chen L.

*Nat Rev Drug Discov.* 2013 Feb 1;12(2):130-46. doi: 10.1038/nrd3877.

[Read More >>](#)

### **The promise of clinical interventions for hepatocellular carcinoma from the west to mainland China.**

Bai M, Reynolds NR, McCorkle R.

*Palliat Support Care.* 2013 Feb 11:1-20.

[Read More >>](#)

### **Evolution and Impact of Subclonal Mutations in Chronic Lymphocytic Leukemia**

Landau DA...Wu C.

*Cell.* 2013 Feb 14.

[Read More >>](#)

### **Breast imaging of the pregnant and lactating patient: physiologic changes and common benign entities.**

Vashi R, Hooley R, Butler R, Geisel J, Philpotts L. *AJR Am J Roentgenol.* 2013 Feb;200(2):329-36.

[Read More >>](#)

#### **Rounds**

Smilow, Lower Level, Room E  
*An Update on Progress in the Management of Pancreatic Cancer*

Bryan Chang, MD

[Learn More >>](#)

#### **February 28; 10:00 AM**

**Office of Research Compliance and Education Training Programs**

**Supporting the Administration of Sponsored Projects**

47 College St

*Allowability & Allocation of Costs*

[Learn More >>](#)

#### **March 1; 12:00 PM**

**YCC Research in Progress**

**Meeting**

WWW 208

*Title TBD*

Daniel Petrylak

[Learn More >>](#)

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## **Employment Opportunities**

We seek your assistance in the recruitment of qualified Oncology Research Nurses to join the Cancer Center for full time research opportunities. Positions traditionally require a minimum of BSN and 4 years of research nursing experience with a strong preference within oncology. In lieu of research experience, trained oncology nurses with little or no research experience are considered for positions of the same level. Should you know of any potential candidates, please encourage them to go on-line to [www.yale.edu/jobs](http://www.yale.edu/jobs) and navigate to the STARS employment website in search of positions 18343BR and 18943BR, upload the resume and apply. They may also contact [Sandra Greer](#) for further information.

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## **Submissions**

Please submit your recent



**Prostate cancer: Interpreting cost-utility analysis of prostate cancer treatment.**

Yu JB.

Nat Rev Urol. 2013 Feb 12.

[Read More >>](#)

**Durable Cancer Regression Off-Treatment and Effective Reinduction Therapy with an Anti-PD-1 Antibody.**

Lipson EJ, Sharfman WH, Drake CG, Wollner I, Taube JM, Anders RA, Xu H, Yao S, Pons A, Chen L, Pardoll DM, Brahmer JR, Topalian SL.

Clin **Cancer Res**. 2013 Jan 15;19(2):462-8.

[Read More >>](#)

**Chloroethylating and methylating dual function antineoplastic agents display superior cytotoxicity against repair proficient tumor cells.**

Zhu R, Baumann RP, Patridge E, Penketh PG, Shyam K, Ishiguro K, Sartorelli AC.

Bioorg Med Chem Lett. 2013 Jan 11

[Read More >>](#)

**Fenbendazole as a potential anticancer drug.**

Duan Q, Liu Y, Rockwell S.

Anticancer Res. 2013 Feb;33(2):355-62.

[Read More >>](#)

**Single-cell protein secretomic signatures as potential correlates to tumor cell lineage evolution and cell-cell interaction.**

Kwak M, Mu L, Lu Y, Chen JJ, Brower K, Fan R.

Front Oncol. 2013;3:10.

[Read More >>](#)

**Critical residues in the PMEL/Pmel17 N-terminus direct the hierarchical assembly of melanosomal fibrils.**

Leonhardt RM, Vigneron N, Hee JS, Graham M, Cresswell P.

Mol Biol Cell. 2013 Feb 6.

[Read More >>](#)

**Adaptive resistance: a tumor strategy to evade immune attack.**

Yao S, Chen L.

Eur J Immunol. 2013 Feb 4.

[Read More >>](#)

**Functional Impairments as Symptoms in the Symptom Cluster Analysis of Patients Newly Diagnosed With Advanced Cancer.**

Fodeh SJ, Lazenby M, Bai M, Ercolano E, Murphy T, McCorkle R.

J Pain Symptom Manage. 2013 Feb 1.

[Read More >>](#)

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

**The Hematopoietic Stem Cell Regulatory Gene Latexin  
has Tumor Suppressive Properties in Malignant  
Melanoma.**

Muthusamy V, Premi S, Soper C, Platt J, Bosenberg M.  
J Invest Dermatol. 2013 Jan 30.

[Read More >>](#)