March 23, 2018

Announcements

Yale Center for Immuno-Oncology (YCIO)
In a partnership between Yale Cancer Center and the department of immunobiology, we are proud to launch the Yale Center for Immuno-Oncology. The new center will build on our international leadership in immunobiology, cancer immunology, and the development of novel cancer immunotherapies and will effectively broaden our translational research infrastructure. “This new center gives us the chance to work more collaboratively and efficiently with our world renowned scientists and faculty to address scientific questions in Immuno-Oncology,” said Roy S. Herbst, MD, PhD, Chief of Medical Oncology at YCC, and Interim Director of YCIO.

Please join me in thanking Dr. Roy Herbst for his insight and leadership of the inaugural Center as we lead a national search for the director of the YCIO. Learn More >>

Paul Calabresi Career Development Award
I am pleased to announce that Yale Cancer Center has been funded by the National Cancer Institute for a K12 Award to create an Immuno-Oncology Training Program (IOTP) for both PhD and MD or MD/PhD Scholars in immuno-oncology and translational immunology. Led by Dr. Harriet Kluger, Associate Director for Education and Training, and principal investigator of the grant, the newly developed two-year curriculum will include courses on basic immunology, cancer immunology and immunotherapy-specific clinical trial design. Scholars will also complete a two-year translational...
immuno-oncology research project encompassing both laboratory and clinical research. A panel of mentors including both a basic and clinical faculty member will be appointed for each Program Scholar. Junior faculty within five years of appointment at Yale School of Medicine will be eligible to apply to the IOTP, with up to five Scholars appointed at any one time. We look forward to beginning the IOTP later this year.

**Multidisciplinary Head & Neck Cancers Clinic at PAMC**

The first Head & Neck Cancers multidisciplinary clinic in Fairfield County is now available for patients at Park Avenue Medical Center. The clinic enables patients to meet with multiple, highly-skilled Smilow Cancer Hospital specialists in a single appointment, including Dr. Heather Osborn, a head and neck surgeon, Dr. Kirtesh Patel, a radiation oncologist, Dr. Hal Tara, a medical oncologist, and physical and speech therapists, nutritionists, advanced practice nurses, and social workers.

Earlier this week, the team held their first joint patient consultation and the feedback was overwhelmingly positive, both from the providers and from the patient and her family. "We are committed to expanding the expertise and multidisciplinary collaboration, which are Smilow's signature care, to our patients' communities. We congratulate the Head/Neck Cancer Program at Smilow Park Avenue for this important accomplishment," said Rogerio Lilenbaum, MD, Chief Medical Officer at Smilow Cancer Hospital. Special thanks to the entire Head and Neck team who partnered together to bring their multidisciplinary care to our Trumbull location, and to Lisa Shomsky and the team at PAMC for their support of the endeavor.

**CTO Leadership**

Rhoda Arzoomanian, Director of our Clinical Trials Office (CTO), has announced that she has accepted a position with the Yale Center for Clinical Investigation (YCCI) and will transition to full time at YCCI in the coming months. Rhoda's leadership over the last several years has helped to build a clinical trials infrastructure and team that supports our unique and complex clinical trial operation. Most recently, Rhoda and her team of
dedicated staff recently completed our re-
competition of the NCI Cancer Center Support
Grant with a score of "outstanding" for our clinical
research areas, and I am grateful for her leadership
and support throughout.

Yale Cancer Center will begin a national search for
a new Director of the CTO, in addition to the search
we have launched for an Associate Director for
Clinical Research Services. I am confident that we
will identify a leadership team to meet our growing
clinical research needs at Smilow Cancer Hospital
and our Care Centers. In the interim, I appreciate
Rhoda's continued leadership of the CTO during the
search process.

Impact of HPV CME Symposium
Please join our Waterford Care Center for a CME
Symposium on the Impact of HPV on Head and
Neck and Cervical Cancers on Thursday, April 26,
at Lawrence + Memorial Hospital. Yale Cancer
Center's Dr. Barbara Burtness and Dr. Elena Ratner
will present at the dinner course, hosted by Dr. Jane
Kanowitz.
Learn More >>

STAT News March Madness
STAT News is running a bracket-style tournament
to find the best innovations in science and medicine.
The bracket began with 64 research innovations
and is now down to the final 4; one Yale Cancer
Center publication is competing to move on to the
finals needs your support! It takes a minute to vote,
and no registration or email is required. Please
support Skyler Johnson, James Yu, Cary Gross,
and Henry Park's publication in the Journal of the
National Cancer Institute on the Use of Alternative
Medicine and its Impact on Survival, which is in
competition against East Carolina University.
Vote Now!

Notables

Nicole Deziel, PhD, Assistant Professor of
Epidemiology, received an honorable mention for
her poster,
Exposure to Organophosphate Flame Retardants and Risk of Thyroid Cancer in Women, with co-authors Huangdi Yi, Heather M. Stapleton, Huang Huang, Nan Zhao, and Yawei Zhang, in the poster competition at the American Society for Preventive Oncology meeting. Her research project was funded through the YCC IRG and the ACS Mentored Research Scholar Grant.

Congratulations to Hiba Ahmad and Serena Chew, oncology pharmacy residents, whose projects were selected as two of the Top 10 Trainee Research Posters for the 2018 Hematology Oncology Pharmacy Association (HOPA) Annual Conference.

Hiba presented, Vaccination Rates in Post-Transplant HSCT Patients: Where Do We Stand?

Serena presented, Thromboprophylaxis in Patients with Newly Diagnosed Multiple Myeloma Treated with Lenalidomide.

Employee Profile: Courtney Frederick

Courtney Frederick, RN, BSN, Clinical Trials Research Nurse for The Breast Center, began her nursing career at Smilow eight years ago. For the last three and a half years, she has been working closely with clinical and research staff to navigate and support patients through clinical trials. From making sure patients meet eligibility criteria to monitoring for any adverse events, Courtney is with patients for the duration of a trial.

Vote to help our groundbreaking study in #statmadness2018 reach the finals in the best of science March Madness competition.

Join us for a free presentation discussion on the Impact of HPV on cervical cancer and head and neck cancers on April 26 at Lawrence + Memorial Hospital in New London.
Courtney works with research staff and the entire care team to make sure that patients are tolerating the treatments and that the research data collected is accurate and correctly reported. A large aspect of her work is educating patients on what a trial entails, and how it can benefit them. There are often cultural barriers and stigmas that need to be overcome before a patient will consider taking part in a trial.

"There are so many options for patients, and we are on the forefront of providing cutting-edge care. Being involved with these drugs that can save or better a patient's life is very rewarding, and to be able to help other women during a vulnerable time is wonderful," commented Courtney.

Karen Forman, Assistant Director for Clinical Trial Operations, Clinical Research, commented, "Courtney is dedicated to providing the best experience for patients and works with providers, Smilow clinical staff and our research teams to meet the needs of complex protocols. It has been a pleasure getting to know and working with Courtney for the past three and a half years."

Funding Opportunities
P30 CCSG to Stimulate Research in Non-AIDS Defining Cancers (NADCs) in Aging Populations

Yale Cancer Center is pleased to announce a pilot award competition for one grant at $200,000 total costs per year for two years, for a specific project headed by a member of Yale Cancer Center.

**Deadline for Submission:**
March 29, 2018
Learn More >>

Hecht Global Health Faculty Network Award

Designed to promote new research and programs in global health at Yale undertaken by faculty networks who do not otherwise have the resources to initiate the work.

**Deadline for Submission:** March 30, 2018
Learn More >>

Vera and Joseph Dresner Foundation Invites LOIs for Myelodysplastic Syndromes Research Fund

The foundation’s MDS Research Fund seeks to advance the understanding and treatment of Myelodysplastic Syndromes and related blood disorders.

**Application Deadline:** March 30, 2018
Learn More >>

YCC Trainee Colloquium Call for Abstracts

Postdoctoral fellows engaging in cancer research and graduates of the Cancer Biology Training Program are invited to submit abstracts describing their work.

**Application Deadline:** April 2, 2018
Grant guidelines and electronic application instructions can be obtained on [Submittable](https://www.vidz.org/submittable).

For scientific questions, please contact Joann.sweasy@yale.edu. All other inquiries, Christine.holmberg@yale.edu.

The Pancreatic Cancer Detection Consortium (U01)

“I love the water. I’ve been boating 32 years,” said James, a 73-year old retired Bridgeport detective. “I was getting ready to sell the boat, thinking I wasn’t going to use it anymore. But then I said, why give up?”

After finding a lump on his throat a few years ago, James was diagnosed with tongue cancer, a form of head and neck cancer. Radiation and chemotherapy didn’t work, and as James said, “It looked like I was on my way out.” His team at Smilow suggested immunotherapy, a new, rapidly advancing kind of cancer treatment—and James is still here today because of it.

Follow Yale Cancer Center on Twitter

**LATEST TWEETS:**

- Too much of a good thing? #Cancer experts debate whether there’s a glut of immunotherapy trials. @DrRoyHerbstYale says The trials have to be smarter #clinicaltrials via @sciencemagazine
- Our Cancer Screening and Prevention Program is busy providing life saving information to .@Yale's Hospitality team #cancer#screening #earlydetection #Yale #coloncancerawarenessmonth
This FOA invites applications from multidisciplinary teams of researchers and clinicians to establish the Pancreatic Cancer Detection Consortium (PCDC).

**Application Deadline:** April 6, 2018
[Learn More >>](#)

### V Foundation's 2018 Cancer Research Program

Yale Cancer Center is pleased to announce a competition for the 2018 Translational Award of the V Foundation's 2018 Cancer Research Program. YCC will nominate ONE candidate for this $600,000 award.

**Internal Deadline:** April 9, 2018, 11:59pm EST
[Learn More >>](#)

### Research on the Health of Women of Understudied, Underrepresented and Underreported (U3) Populations

The ORWH announces the availability of administrative supplements to support interdisciplinary, transdisciplinary and multidisciplinary research focused on the effect of sex/gender influences at the intersection of a number of social determinants.

**Application Deadline:** April 16, 2018
[Learn More >>](#)

### SPORE in Lung Cancer Program Awards Developmental Research Program

To provide seed money to investigators to support studies with a strong translational component that have the potential to evolve into, or be incorporated into, a full Yale SPORE in Lung Cancer project.

**Career Development Program:** To educate the next generation of investigators committed to translational research in lung cancer.

**Application Timeline:** Letters of intent are due no later than 5:00 PM, April 27, 2018
[Learn More >>](#)

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**Support this breakthrough #cancer research by voting for it in the #statmadness bracket to reach the #FinalFour today! #alternativemedicine .@YaleMed .@YNHH .@YaleSPH .@sky__john .@cpgYALE

**Join physicians from Smilow Cancer hospital's Liver Cancer Program for a free webinar tonight at 6pm on the management of #livercancer with the American Liver Foundation.**

**Take a minute to learn about .@sky__john's #STATMadness highlighted research via @statnews and support their groundbreaking research in alternative medicine and cancer.**

**Check out our recent work deciphering how size and shape properties of #nanoparticles can impact drug delivery in models of #PancreaticCancer. @kochinstitute@YaleMed@YaleCancer.**

**Vote to help our groundbreaking study in #statmadness2018 reach the #finalfour in the best of #science#MarchMadness competition.**

**Today on Yale Cancer Answers Dr. Amer Zeidan will discuss #leukemia and #mds Tune in at 7:30pm.**

**Excited to share the cover of Molecular Cancer Research @AACR with @SaltzmanLab, the future of nanoparticle DNA repair inhibitors is now! @YaleCancer.**

**Congrats to YCC's @DrRoyHerbstYale for being honored by @ASCO as a Fellow of the American Society of Clinical Oncology (FASCO). This distinction recognizes ASCO members for their extraordinary volunteer service, dedication, and commitment to ASCO.**

**Join us for a free #CME dinner and discussion on the Impact of #HPV on #cervicalcancer and #HeadAndNeckCancer on April 26 at Lawrence+Memorial Hospital in New London.**
Elsa U. Pardee Foundation
The Foundation encourages grant applications for a one year period which will allow establishment of capabilities of new cancer researchers, or new cancer approaches by established cancer researchers.

**Application Deadline:** April 30, 2018
[Learn More >>](#)

Rivkin Center for Ovarian Cancer Bridge Funding Award
Bridge Funding allows researchers to produce data needed to substantiate their proposal resubmission to federal funding agencies for a promising new research project.

**Application Deadline:** May 10, 2018
[Learn More >>](#)

Brain Tumor Funders’ Collaborative Funding Opportunity: Immunootherapy for Primary Human Brain Tumors
The BTFC is requesting proposals on the role of the neuro-immune system in the origin and progression of the immune responses in primary human brain tumors with the hope of developing immunotherapies for treatment of these tumors in patients.

**Application Deadline:** May 11, 2018
[Learn More >>](#)

Recent Publications

**Differences in Nanoparticle Uptake in Transplanted and Autochthonous Models of Pancreatic Cancer.**
[Read More >>](#)

Calendar of Events

**March 23; 12:30PM**
**Pharmacology Seminar Series**
Brady Auditorium
Postoperative Chemoradiation in High-Risk Cutaneous Squamous Cell Carcinoma of the Head and Neck.
Bhatia AK, Burtness BA, Decker RH. J Clin Oncol. 2018 Mar 16;JCO2018777987.
Read More >>

HIV-1 Env trimer opens through an asymmetric intermediate in which individual protomers adopt distinct conformations.
Read More >>

Advancing the Quality of Care for Newly Diagnosed Prostate Cancer Patients: Novel Uses of Patient-Reported Outcomes.
Read More >>

An assessment of neuronal calcium sensor-1 and response to neoadjuvant chemotherapy in breast cancer patients.
Read More >>

Active Coping and Perceived Social Support Mediate the Relationship Between Physical Health and Resilience in Liver Transplant Candidates.
Read More >>

Structural Studies of Macromolecules Using Electron Cryo-microscopy (cryo-EM)
Jean Paul Armache, PhD
March 25; 7:30PM
Yale Cancer Answers
WNPR
Breast Reconstruction for Women with Breast Cancer
Tomer Avraham, MD
Read More >>

March 27; 9:30AM
Pathology Research in Progress
TAC N-107
Therapeutic Targeting of PPM1D Mutations in DIPGs
Nathan Fons
TBA
Mohammed Khan
Read More >>

March 27; 12PM
CC Grand Rounds/Joseph R. Bove, MD Memorial Lectureship
55 Park Street
Tumor and Host Factors Regulating Anti-Tumor Immunity
Thomas F. Gajewski, MD, PhD
Read More >>

March 27; 5PM
Digestive Diseases Research Seminar Series
TAC S-247
Overcoming Resistance to Immune Checkpoint Inhibitors in Melanoma and Pancreatic Cancer
Christina Twyman-Saint Victor, MD, MTR
Read More >>

March 28; 12PM
Cancer Prevention and Control Research Seminar
FMP 340
Safety and Efficacy of Pembrolizumab Monotherapy in Patients With Previously Treated Advanced Gastric and Gastroesophageal Junction Cancer: Phase 2 Clinical KEYNOTE-059 Trial.
JAMA Oncol. 2018 Mar 15.
Read More >>

Development and validation of a claims-based approach to proxy ECOG performance status across ten tumor groups.
Read More >>

In Vivo Short-Term Topical Application of BAY 11-7082 Prevents the Acidic Bile-Induced mRNA and miRNA Oncogenic Phenotypes in Exposed Murine Hypopharyngeal Mucosa.
Sasaki CT, Doukas SG, Vageli DP.
Read More >>

Do All Positive Margins in Breast Cancer Patients Undergoing a Partial Mastectomy Need to Be Resected?
Chagpar AB, Tsangaris TN, Lannin DR.
Read More >>

New Paradigms for Low Risk Prostate Cancer: Can Better Predictions Lead to Better Outcomes
Michael S Leapman, MD
Read More >>

March 29; 11AM
Smilow Screening & Prevention Informational Table
Saint Raphael Campus
Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month Event
Read More >>

March 29; 12:30PM
Pathology Grand Rounds
LMP 1094
Engineering Human Tissues for Regenerative Medicine and Study of Disease
Gordana Vunjak-Novakovic, PhD
Read More >>

March 30; 11AM
Smilow Cancer Genetics and Prevention Program Seminar
YNHH, Cafeteria
Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month Event
Read More >>

April 1; 7:30PM
Yale Cancer Answers
WNPR 90.5
Project ECHO
Sanjeev Arora, MD, FACP, MACP
Read More >>

April 3; 11:30
Genetics Department Seminar Series
TAC N107
New frontiers in functional genomics using high-throughput genome engineering
Neville Sanjana, PhD
Read More >>

April 3; 12PM
YCC Grand Rounds
55 Park Street
Humanized Mice for the Study of Human Cancer
Richard Flavell, PhD, FRS
PET Imaging of Breast Cancer Using 89Zr-labeled Antibodies
Bernadette Marquez-Nostra, PhD, DSc, FRS
Read More >>

April 5; 10:30AM
Immunobiology and MCDB Joint Seminar
TAC N107
Engineering Smart Nanotechnologies for Immuno-Oncology
John T. Wilson, PhD
Read more >>

April 5; 12PM
Cancer Prevention and Control Research Seminar
SPH, 216
Physician-volume and Cancer Outcomes: Moving Beyond the Surgical Setting
Scott F Huntington, MD, MPH, MSc
Read More >>

April 5; 12:30PM
Pathology Grand Rounds
LMP 1094
MIF Signaling Pathway as a Pathogenic Driver and Potential Target in Pancreatic Cancer
S. Perwez Hussain, MS, PhD
Read More >>

April 5; 2:30PM
Smilow Cancer Genetics and Prevention Program Seminar
SRC, suites 107-109
Read More >>
Biostatistics Shared Resource (BSR)
Drop-In Office Hours - WWW213

Biostatistics
Dr. Wei Wei
Thursdays - 9am-1pm
Fridays - 9am-5pm

Bioinformatics
Drs. Yong Kong and Ying Zhu
Fridays - 1pm-5pm

Submissions

Please submit your recent publication and grant announcements to:

Renee Gaudette
Director, Public Affairs and Communications
renee.gaudette@yale.edu