September 21, 2018

Announcements

I am looking forward to hosting U.S. Senator Richard Blumenthal and U.S. Senator Chris Murphy this afternoon at our Biden Cancer Community Summit at 2pm in the Smilow Auditorium. Drs. Roy Herbst, Akiko Iwasaki, Craig Crews, and Ranjit Bindra will join us for a panel discussion on cancer drug development, team science, federal funding, the cost of care, and other important topics. If you are not already registered to attend, please watch live online through zoom or listen by phone at 646-876-9923 #356 458 855; the event will also be streamed and archived on the Smilow Cancer Hospital Facebook page.

Celebrating Abe Lopman
It was an honor to join so many members of our leadership and staff yesterday in celebration of both the remarkable impact Abe has had on Smilow Cancer Hospital over the last 10 years, and our friendship with him. Abe begins his retirement today and we wish him and Suzanne much happiness in their new home in Florida. His presence in Smilow will truly be missed, but his vision will continue to leave an impression on us as we continue our mission to provide Smilow quality care for cancer patients throughout Connecticut.

**New Oncology Pharmacy Opens**

Earlier this month, our oncology pharmacy at Smilow reopened on NP8 and was celebrated with a ribbon cutting ceremony. The pharmacy was built to exceed all cleanliness and safety standards and uses innovative technologies, including a Kiro Oncology robot. The robot compounds chemotherapy utilizing the safety of bar code technology, digital photography, and gravimetric validation. Smilow is the only oncology hospital in the United States to use this robotic technology.
Reminder to Update Disclosures

I would like to reiterate to all faculty the importance of full disclosure in all activities. Yale University’s Conflict of Interest Office requires all outside activities and financial interests to be disclosed on a web-based disclosure form, even if they do not constitute a conflict of interest or conflict of commitment. Please ensure your disclosures are updated on an annual basis, and that any new external activities or financial interests are added in a timely manner.

In addition, when submitting applications for grants and manuscripts for publication, please remember to include full disclosure statements for transactional review. This is vitally important to the integrity of our research endeavors. Thank you for your attention and cooperation.

Yale Hematology Retreat

I would like to thank the hematology faculty and research scientists for joining me on September 12 at Mercy by the Sea in Madison for a productive retreat and day of planning. The brainstorming, program building ideas, and discussions that evolved throughout the day will help to plan and shape the section as we plan for 2019 and beyond. As always, I would like feedback from our faculty at any time, and hope we can continue the dialogue launched at the retreat.
Yale Chemical Biology Fall Retreat
Please plan to attend a fall retreat highlighting research from scientists from the Yale Chemical Biology Institute on Friday, November 9 at Yale's West Campus. Michelle Arkin, PhD, Co-Director of the Small Molecule Discovery Center at the University of California, San Francisco. Learn More >>

Nominations for YCC Annual Awards
Yale Cancer Center is pleased to announce our call for nominations for our annual awards in the areas of excellence in research and clinical care. Each award will be announced at the Yale Cancer Center Conclave in January. The nomination deadline for all awards is Friday, October 26th.

Yale Cancer Center Research Prizes: Research Prizes will be awarded in support of excellence in the areas of basic science, clinical research, translational research, and cancer prevention and control. Awards will be chosen in each area to recognize a paper that is considered to have had the greatest impact on the field this year. The applicant must be a current member of the Cancer Center and science in the publication must be cancer-focused. Please submit a PDF of your best publication (publication date from October 2017 to October 2018). To be eligible you must be either the first or last author of the publication. Email your publication to Anna Raso.

Yale Cancer Center Award for Clinical Excellence: This award will be given to the physician who best exemplifies excellence in clinical care including super clinical skills, use of a patient- and family-centered approach to care, and inclusion of a multi-disciplinary care model. Nominee must be a current member of Yale Cancer Center. Please nominate yourself or a peer and send a brief nomination letter (one-page maximum) to Anna Raso.

Yale Cancer Center Lifetime Achievement Award: Yale Cancer Center recognizes the achievements of one of our Yale Cancer Center recently put a spotlight on Erica Carbone, a Regulatory Assistant in the Clinical Trials Office. Erica stepped in for a colleague on unexpected leave, adding additional responsibilities to her own work. Erica's hard work and dedication did not go unnoticed. We are thankful for your commitment and all you do, Erica!

The National Comprehensive Cancer Network(NCCN) recently released a new list of guidelines for women with uterine cancer. Uterine cancer is the most prevalent gynecological cancer in women, and the new guidelines provide more patient-friendly content to help women better understand the disease and treatment decisions they have available. Smilow Cancer Hospital is a member of the NCCN.
senior members through our annual Lifetime Achievement award. Please send nomination suggestions for the award to Anna Raso.

**Ruth McCorkle Oncology Advanced Practice Provider Award:** This annual award from Yale Cancer Center/Smilow Cancer Hospital recognizes the contributions of our Nurse Practitioner and Physician Assistant colleagues who contribute so much to oncology patient care. Please consider nominating yourself or a colleague for this award. Nominations are due for the Ruth McCorkle Award to Cathy Lyons by November 30.

**Notables**

**Joan Steitz, PhD,** a member of Yale Cancer Center, Sterling Professor of Biophysics and Biochemistry at Yale School of Medicine, and mentor to generations of women scientists, is the recipient of the **2018 Lasker-Koshland Special Achievement Award in Medical Science.**

The Lasker Foundation cited Steitz’s pioneering role in expanding our understanding of RNA biology and her lifelong advocacy for inclusion of women in the sciences in its announcement. Steitz is a member of Yale Cancer Center’s Virus and Other Infection-associated Cancers (VOIC) Research Program.

**The Cancer Immunology Research Program** is proud to welcome **Juan Vasquez, MD, MHS.** Dr. Vasquez is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Pediatrics (Pediatric Hematology & Oncology). He cares for children with a variety of malignancies and benign hematologic conditions, with a focus on bone and soft tissue sarcomas.

September is Gynecological Cancer Awareness Month. According to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention, every year, more than 95,000 women in the United States are told they have a gynecologic cancer. At Smilow Cancer Hospital, our team of gynecologic oncologists are dedicated to the research, diagnosis, and treatment of all gynecological cancers and are available to support women in need of care.

We are excited to announce a new program for patients - Meaning-Centered Psychotherapy. This program helps patients who are
Dr. Vasquez's research activities are focused on the development of immunotherapies for pediatric malignancies. For the past two years, he trained in the laboratory setting under the mentorship of Dr. Kavita Dhodapkar. During this time, he learned cell culturing, T-cell stimulation, and flow cytometry. To fund this preliminary research, he was awarded a St. Baldrick's Fellow Research Grant, which provided him with salary support to continue his mentored research training as an Instructor.

Karla Neugebauer, PhD, has been appointed the new Director of the Yale Center for RNA Science and Medicine. Dr. Neugebauer is Acting Chair and Professor of Molecular Biophysics and Biochemistry, as well as a Professor of Cell Biology. She is also a member of Yale Cancer Center's Genomics, Genetics and Epigenetics Research Program.

Elena Ratner, MD, Co-Chief of the Section of Gynecologic Oncology, joined colleagues and the Tell Every Amazing Lady (TEAL) Organization at the Greenwich, CT Town Hall earlier this week for a Proclamation Ceremony declaring September Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month in Greenwich, CT.

Employee Profile: Thom Kolesar

Working valet for Smilow Cancer Hospital is a fast-paced, and often hectic job, but Thom Kolesar manages to keep it light-hearted and upbeat. When patients arrive for chemotherapy or radiation treatments, Thom is the first person they encounter, and he ensures that they make it safely into the hospital and then takes care of their vehicle for them, all while directing both foot and vehicle traffic in and out of the rotunda. There are fourteen dedicated spots that Thom manages, and he works to accommodate everyone coming and going.
At the start of every day, Thom receives a list of patients that will be coming for treatment. He identifies those that will need special assistance, such as a wheelchair, and makes sure they are taken care of as soon as they pull up. Patients know to look for him too, and that he can help with or handle any situation that is thrown his way. Recently, Thom noticed a woman pull up that was having a medical issue. Without hesitating, he moved her to the passenger seat and drove her to the Emergency Department and got help. It turns out she was having a heart attack and Thom likely saved her life. Although he commented, "I only got her to the right people to save her life."

"I am humbled to be able to work here and interact with such amazing people. I have been blessed with good health my entire life, and working here has really changed my perspective," said Thom. "The tenacity and courage that I see on a daily basis is truly inspiring. I am very thankful."

Thom’s hard work and consideration for every patient does not go unnoticed by patients and staff alike. He was recently recognized by two Ambulatory Care Assistants on Smilow 8 who commented, "Thom’s patient encounters are beyond compare. He is thoughtful, kind, hardworking, and truly a caring person. He is delightful and makes all those around him smile; whether it is a fellow employee, patient, doctor, or just a passerby. Thom is a life changer!"

Funding Opportunities

Secondary Analysis and Integration of Existing Data to Elucidate the Genetic Architecture of Cancer Risk and Related Outcomes (R01)

This FOA encourages applications that propose to conduct secondary data analysis and integration of existing datasets and database resources, with the ultimate aim to elucidate the genetic architecture of cancer risk and related outcomes.

Application Deadline: October 5, 2018

Learn More >>

Rare Diseases Clinical Research Consortia (RDCRC) for Rare Diseases Clinical Research Network (U54 Clinical Trials Optional)

The purpose of this FOA is to invite new and renewal applications for the Rare Diseases Clinical Research Consortia (RDCRC) that comprise the Rare Diseases Clinical Research Network (RDCRN). The RDCRCs are intended to advance the

Follow Yale Cancer Center on Twitter

Dr. Anne Ciang discussing innovation in Connecticut and the future of cancer care at @ACSCANCT forum.

Watch Dr. Elena Ratner on @WTNH talk to @jocelynmaminta about new screening guidelines for CervicalCancer.

Join us for a patient and family program on the multidisciplinary care of patients with
diagnosis, management, and treatment of rare diseases with a focus on clinical trial readiness.

**Application Deadline:** October 9, 2018

Learn More >>

Administrative Supplements for Research on Dietary Supplements

This FOA announces the availability of administrative supplements to support research in which the supplemental funding would investigate the role of dietary supplements and/or their ingredients in health maintenance and disease prevention.

**Application Deadline:** October 15, 2018

Learn More >>

Administrative Supplements for Validation Studies of Analytical Methods for Dietary Supplement Constituents

This FOA builds on existing NIH awards to support the performance and publication of formal single-laboratory validation studies of quantitative analytical methods.

**Application Deadline:** October 15, 2018

Learn More >>

NCI RFI: Input on Development of an NCI Cancer Biomarker Data Aggregator

The NCI is soliciting suggestions and opinions regarding the scope, use cases, clinical needs, and priority areas that the pilot CBAG should focus on to accelerate the development of biomarkers and tests for risk assessment and early detection of cancer.

**Submission Deadline:** October 20, 2018

Learn More >>

Electronic Nicotine Delivery Systems (ENDS): Basic Mechanisms of Health Effects (R01/R21)

The purpose of this FOA is to support basic research examining how Electronic Nicotine Delivery Systems (ENDS) aerosols affect normal and disease states relevant to human cells, tissues and organs.

**Application Deadline:** October 24, 2018

R01 Learn More >>

R21 Learn More >>

#neuroendocrine tumors
#letstalkaboutnets - Oct 3 at 5pm.

Join us as we host @SenBlumenthal@ChrisMurphyCT for a @BidenCancer Community Summit on Friday, Sept 21 at 2pm at Smilow Cancer Hospital.

We did it again! Yale Cancer Center receives renewal as an NCI-Designated Comprehensive Cancer Center. The only one in #Connecticut.

BIG congratulations to @SteitzLab!!! Dr. Joan Steitz received the Lasker-Koshland Award for Special Achievement in Medical Science. @LaskerFDN are among the nation’s most prestigious prizes in #medicine.

Read new research in @OUPAcademic by Dr. Lajos Pusztai! It's one of the largest studies so far to examine how the #immune microenvironment of #metastaticbreast cancer differs from primary #breastcancer.

Dr. Hari Deshpande will discuss advances and #clinicaltrials for the treatment of sarcomas today on Yale Cancer Answers. Tune in at 7:30pm @wnpr or download through our #podcast on @iTunes.

Our amazing riders passing by Smilow for the #smilowsalute on their way out for the #closetofreeride this morning. Good luck to all of them and thank you!

Calendar

YCC Seminar

The purpose of this FOA is to support studies on electronic nicotine delivery systems (ENDS) that examine population-based, clinical and applied prevention of disease, including etiology of use, epidemiology of use, potential risks, benefits and impacts on other tobacco use behavior among different populations.

Application Deadline: October 24, 2018

R01 Learn More >>
R21 Learn More >>

NCCN/Eli Lilly and Company Quality of Care in Gastric Cancer Request for Proposals

NCCN® and Eli Lilly are collaborating to offer a new opportunity seeking proposals to bridge the gaps in care for gastric and gastroesophageal junction (GEJ) cancer patients in the United States.

Letter of Intent Due: October 24, 2018

Learn More >>

Women’s Health Research at Yale Pilot Project Grants

On behalf of Dr. Carolyn M. Mazure and WHRY, we are pleased to announce the availability of Pilot Project Grants with awards starting July 1, 2019. All Yale Ladder Faculty are eligible to apply. Investigators outside the Yale community are invited to collaborate with Yale or Yale-affiliated principal investigators.

Letter of Intent Due: October 25, 2018

Learn More >>

Human Health Exposure Analysis Resource: Targeted Exposure Analysis Laboratories

This FOA solicits Laboratories (Lab Hubs) providing a comprehensive suite of targeted analytical services for biological samples derived from extant or ongoing human health studies in the NIH extramural research community.

Application Deadline: October 29, 2018

Learn More >>

September 21; 11AM
FMB 115
Androgen Receptor as a Target for Triple Negative Breast Cancer
Tiffany A. Traina, MD
Learn More >>

Biden Cancer Community Summit
September 21; 2PM
Park Street Auditorium
A Community Town Hall
Hosted by U.S. Senator Richard Blumenthal, U.S. Senator Chris Murphy, and Charles S. Fuchs, MD, MPH
Learn More >>

Smilow Screening & Prevention Informational Table
September 23; 12PM
Sterling Divinity Quadrangle
2018 Yale University Multicultural Block Party
Learn More >>

Yale Cancer Answers
September 23; 7:30PM
WNPR
Gynecologic Oncology: Options for Women
Gloria Huang, MD, FACOG
Learn More >>

Schwartz Center Rounds
September 25; 12PM
Park Street Auditorium
Challenging Interpersonal Communication - When Professionals Disagree
Steven Gore, MD, Stacey Stein, MD, and Melissa Gambaccini, APRN
Learn More >>

SCH/YCC Free Prostate Cancer Screening
This FOA solicits Laboratories (Lab Hubs) that can provide comprehensive measurement of the exposome using untargeted approaches (such as metabolomics using libraries enriched for environmental exposure biomarkers) for biological samples derived from extant or ongoing human health studies in the NIH extramural research community.

**Application Deadline:** October 29, 2018

**Learn More >>**

**Tobacco Use and HIV in Low and Middle Income Countries (R01)**

The purpose of this FOA is to encourage research focused on tobacco use and HIV infection in low and middle income countries.

**Application Deadline:** November 1, 2018

**Learn More >>**

**NCI Outstanding Investigator Award (R35 Clinical Trial Not Allowed)**

This FOA invites grant applications for the Outstanding Investigator Award (R35) in any area of cancer research.

**Application Deadline:** November 2, 2018

**Learn More >>**

**YCC K12 Calabresi Immuno-Oncology Training Program (IOTP) Scholar Awards**

We are pleased to solicit applications for the Yale Cancer Center K12 Calabresi Immuno-Oncology Training Program (IOTP) Scholar Awards for junior faculty to enhance research skills beyond the training provided during graduate and postgraduate training. Successful applicants are required to demonstrate a strong commitment to a career in cancer immunology. The two-year IOTP curriculum includes didactic and practical training in basic, translational and clinical aspects of cancer immunology research. The program also includes a required research component (either clinical or bench research, or a combination thereof). Applicants are required to identify a mentor and provide a research and mentorship proposal.

**Application Deadline:** December 1, 2018

**Learn More >>**

**Instructions to Apply >>**

**Recent Publications**

**September 25; 3:30PM**

**Bridgeport Hospital, MedEase Unit**

**Learn More >>**

**Human and Translational Immunology Program**

**September 25; 4PM**

**TAC N-203**

The Biology and Clinical Application of Human Regulatory T Cells

Megan Levings, PhD

**Learn More >>**

**Grand Rounds for Non-Clinicians**

**September 26; 12PM**

**Park Street Auditorium**

Beam On: Radiation Oncology 101

**Learn More >>**

**Seminars in Surgical Research**

**September 26; 12PM**

**Prostate Specific Membrane Antigen (PSMA): More Than Just a Biomarker**

Leslie Caromile, PhD

**Learn More >>**

**State Sleep Conference**

**September 26; 2PM**

The Art of Sleeping Better after Cancer

Eric Zhou, PhD

**Learn More >>**

**State Chest Conference**

**September 26; 3PM**

LMP 1094

Immunotherapy for Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer

Mark Godfrey, MD

**Learn More >>**

**YWCA Greenwich Women's Health & Wellness Series**

**September 26; 6:30PM**
Survival Rates after Thermal Ablation versus Stereotactic Radiation Therapy for Stage 1 Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer: A National Cancer Database Study.
Uhlig J, Ludwig JM, Goldberg SB, Chiang A, Blasberg JD, Kim HS.
Read More >>

Genomic mutations and histopathologic biomarkers in Y90 radioembolization for chemorefractory colorectal liver metastases.
Dendy MS, Ludwig JM, Kokabi N, Stein SM, Lacy J, Hochster HS, Kim HS.
Read More >>

Advance Care Planning in Cognitively Impaired Older Adults
Thomas JD, Sanchez-Reilly S, Bernacki R, O'Neill L, Morrison Lj, Kapo J, Periyakoil VS, Carey EC
Read More >>

Role of alternative splicing in hematopoietic stem cells during development.
Gao Y, Vasic R, Halene S.
Read More >>

Patterns of failure in high-metastatic node number human papillomavirus-positive oropharyngeal carcinoma.
Lee NCJ, Kelly JR, Park HS, An Y, Judson BL, Burtness BA, Husain ZA.
Read More >>

Perceptions of Prostate MRI and Fusion Biopsy of Radiation Oncologists and Urologists for Patients Diagnosed with Prostate Cancer: Results from a National Survey.
Eur Urol Focus. 2018 Sep 12.
Read More >>

YWCA Greenwich
How to Prevent and Survive Ovarian Cancer
Elena Ratner, MD
Learn More >>

Immunobiology Seminar Series
September 27; 10:30AM
TAC N-107
Mechanisms of Resistance to Cancer Immunotherapy
Kai Wucherpfennig, MD, PhD
Learn More >>

Smilow Screening & Prevention Program Informational Table
September 27; 11AM
Saint Raphael Campus
National Prostate Cancer Awareness Month
Learn More >>

Pathology Grand Rounds
September 27; 12:30PM
LMP1094
Update of Thyroid Tumors and Epithelial to Mesenchymal Transition in Thyroid Tumors
Ricardo Lloyd, MD, PhD
Learn More >>

Smilow Cancer Genetics and Prevention Program Seminar
September 27; 2:30PM
Orchard Medical Center, Suite 107-109
A Dominantly Inherited 5' UTR Variant Causing Methylation-Association Silencing of BRCA1 as a Cause of Breast and Ovarian Cancer
Amy Killie, CGC
Learn More >>

Smilow Screening & Prevention Program Informational Table
September 27; 11AM
Oncologist Volume and Outcomes in Older Adults Diagnosed With Diffuse Large B Cell Lymphoma.
Cancer. 2018 Sep 14.

Disease site as a prognostic factor for mycosis fungoides: an analysis of 2428 cases from the US National Cancer Database.

Correlating nuclear morphometric patterns with estrogen receptor status in breast cancer pathologic specimens.
Rawat RR, Ruderman D, Macklin P, Rimm DL, Agus DB.
NPJ Breast Cancer. 2018 Sep 4;4:32.

An update of lanreotide acetate for treatment of adults with carcinoid syndrome.
Guadelupe E, Deshpande HA, Stein SM.

Immunological differences between primary and metastatic breast cancer.

Prophylactic Cranial Irradiation Versus Surveillance: Physician Bias and Patient-centered Decision-making.
Johnson SB, Decker RH.
Glutathione de novo synthesis but not recycling process coordinates with glutamine catabolism to control redox homeostasis and directs murine T cell differentiation.
Elife. 2018 Sep 10;7.
Read More >>

Heparan Sulfate and Heparan Sulfate Proteoglycans in Cancer Initiation and Progression.
Nagarajan A, Malvi P, Wajapeyee N.
Read More >>

Development and psychometric validation of a novel measure of sensory expectancies associated with E-cigarette use.
Addict Behav. 2018 Aug 31.
Read More >>

Positive surgical margins in parotid malignancies: Institutional variation and survival association.
Morse E, Fujiwara RJT, Judson B, Prasad ML, Mehra S.
Laryngoscope. 2018 Sep 7.
Read More >>

Jeffrey Townsend, PhD and Scott Gettinger, MD
Read More >>

Yale School of Public Health Seminar
October 3; 9AM
YPH
Olive Oil and Health: New Frontiers and Partnerships for Research and Education
Vasilis Vasiliou, PhD and Tassos Kyriakides, PhD
Read More >>

SCH/YCC Event
October 3; 5PM
Park Street Seminar Room
A Thoughtful Approach to the Multidisciplinary Care of Patients with Neuroendocrine Tumors
Jill Lacy, MD, John Kunstman, MD, MHS, BSc (Hon), Jeremy Kortmansky, MD, Kevin Kim, MD, Lawrence Saperstein, MD, and Stacey Stein, MD
Read More >>

Dean’s Symposium / Yale Center for Immuno-Oncology
October 4; 8:30AM
Harkness Auditorium
Bringing Cancer Immunology into the Mainstream: Advancements in Immuno-Oncology
Roy S. Herbst, MD, PhD and Nikhil Joshi, PhD
Read More >>

Pathology Grand Rounds
October 4; 12:30PM
LMP 1094
Novel NO-modulating Pathways in Cardiovascular Injury and Protection
Hua Linda Cai, MD, PhD
Read More >>
Smilow Cancer Genetics and Prevention Program Seminar
October 4; 2:30PM
Orchard Medical Center, Suite 107-109
Learn More >>

Submissions
Please submit your recent publication and grant announcements to:

Renee Gaudette
Director, Public Affairs and Communications