Dr. Alfred Lee Awarded David J. Leffell Prize for Clinical Excellence

Congratulations to Alfred I. Lee, MD, PhD, winner of The David J. Leffell Prize for Clinical Excellence. This annual award was established by David J. Leffell, MD, and Cindy Leffell in 2008 to recognize the Yale Medicine faculty member who best exemplifies clinical expertise, a commitment to teaching, and the highest standards of care and compassion for patients. Since arriving at Yale, Dr. Lee has been known as a "go-to" hematologist throughout the Yale system, maintaining a very busy clinical practice and a deep commitment to his educational role. Dr. Lee’s passion for education and excellence in teaching have been continually recognized through numerous awards and recognitions.

Learn More >>

Three Smilow Physicians Honored by Yale Medicine

The Yale Medicine Distinguished Clinical Career Award was created this year to...
recognize and honor the careers of physicians marked by significant accomplishments, exemplary dedication, and important contributions in advancing Yale Medicine, the overall medical profession, and the community. Of the five inaugural recipients, three are celebrated and accomplished physicians from Yale Cancer Center/Smilow Cancer Hospital.

Congratulations to **Jean L. Bolognia, MD**, Professor of Dermatology and Vice Chair for Clinical Affairs, Department of Dermatology; **Peter E. Schwartz, MD**, John Slade Ely Professor of Obstetrics, Gynecology, & Reproductive Sciences and Vice Chair for Gynecology in the Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology & Reproductive Sciences; and **Karl L. Insogna, MD**, Ensign Professor of Medicine (Endocrinology) and Director of the Yale Bone Center.

Learn More >>

Jean L. Bolognia, MD, Peter E. Schwartz, MD, Karl L. Insogna, MD
Peter Kim, MD, Appointed to Neuro-Oncology
We are pleased to announce that Dr. Peter Kim will join the Smilow Cancer Hospital Brain Tumor Center on July 1 as an Assistant Professor of Neurology (Neuro-Oncology), having completed his fellowship in Neuro-Oncology at Yale. Dr. Kim received his medical degree from Drexel University College of Medicine and completed his residency at Yale New Haven Hospital. He earned his MA in Physiology from Georgetown University.

Will Chemo Cause Heart Failure? A New Test May Have Answers
Read More >>

Repurposed Drug Shows Promise for Treating COVID-19 Inflammation
Read More >>

Join Smilow Cancer Hospital on Facebook

Latest Posts:
Smilow Cancer Hospital's Screening and Prevention Program connected with New Haven's Hill North Community Management Team, Mask for CT, the Jewish Federation, and Yale University to distribute over 21,000 face masks in the New Haven's Hill neighborhood over the weekend. Thank you for coming together for our local community!
Please welcome Margaret Gilshannon, MHA, as Interim Director of Finance and Administration for Yale Cancer Center. Margaret joins the Cancer Center while continuing her role with the Department of Pathology, where her leadership skills, strategic planning experience, and effective projection for both faculty and staff have yielded strong results for the Department over the last four years. Prior to her work with Pathology, Margaret also served in similar roles for the Departments of Orthopedics and Rehabilitation and Emergency Medicine at Yale School of Medicine. Before joining Yale, Margaret spent 14 years in administrator and clinical leadership roles at the University of Washington School of Medicine in Seattle.

Secure and Private Zoom Meetings
In response to security and privacy concerns with the Zoom application, Yale and YNHHS IT have taken action to automatically secure sessions. Take advantage of the recommended...
actions and Zoom features in order to fully ensure your Zoom meeting is secure and private.

Learn More through Yale >>
Learn More through YNHHS >>

Notables

Kathryn Miller-Jensen, PhD, Associate Professor of Biomedical Engineering and Molecular, Cellular, and Developmental Biology, along with Marcus Bosenberg, MD, PhD, Interim Director of the Yale Center for Immuno-Oncology (YCIO) and Professor of Dermatology, Pathology, and Immunobiology, were awarded a $2.8 million Cancer Systems Immunology Grant from the National Cancer Institute to evaluate and model cytokine signaling related to immunotherapy for cancer. In addition to research funding, the award will establish Miller-Jensen and Bosenberg as members of the Cancer Systems Biology Consortium (CSBC), a science network founded by the National Cancer Institute (NCI) devoted to enhancing the role of systems biology approaches to cancer research.

Learn More >>

At this year's graduation, The David S. Fischer, MD Annual Award for Outstanding Teaching and Mentoring of Fellows in Medical Oncology was presented to Sarah Goldberg, MD, and to Jill Lacy, MD. The David S. Fischer, MD Annual Award for Outstanding Teaching and Mentoring of Fellows in Hematology was presented to Natalia Neparidze, MD. Ranjan Pathak, MBBS, MHS, and Alexander Pine, MD, PhD, received the Fellows' Research Awards in Medical Oncology and Hematology, respectively.

ASCO will recognize Anne C. Chiang, MD, PhD, FASCO, Associate Professor of Medicine (Medical Oncology) and Chief Network Officer,

Smilow Cancer Hospital and Yale New Haven Children’s Hospital have once again been recognized as one of the top centers in the nation for pediatric cancer treatment and care in the U.S. News and World Report 2020-21 Best Children’s Hospitals rankings.

Read More >>

Please join us on July 2 at 10am for the start of a six-week, virtual art therapy program: Collage Book Club! Through art therapy, participants in this group will learn how to create a beautiful book for emotional and artistic expression.

Read More >>
with the **Joseph V. Simone Award and Lecture for Excellence in Quality and Safety in the Care of Patients With Cancer**. Dr. Chiang will be presented with the award at the 2020 ASCO Quality Care Symposium, taking place October 9-10.

**Jeremy Kortmansky, MD**, Associate Clinical Professor of Medicine (Medical Oncology), Deputy Chief Network Officer, Care Centers, has been appointed to serve as a member of **ASCO's Gastrointestinal Cancer Guideline Advisory Group** (GAG). The four-year term began on June 3, 2020. GAGs make recommendations to the Clinical Practice Guidelines Committee (CPGC) on identifying and prioritizing topics for guideline development.

The **National Palliative Care Research Center** has awarded **Prasanna Ananth, MD**, Assistant Professor of Pediatrics (Hematology/Oncology) with a two-year **Kornfeld Scholar Grant** to establish benchmarks for high-quality end-of-life care for pediatric cancer patients.

**Xavier Llor, MD, PhD**, Professor of Medicine (Digestive Diseases) and Medical Director, Cancer Screening and Prevention Program, has been awarded an **R01 Grant** from the **National Cancer Institute** to study early onset colorectal cancer.

**Grace Kong, PhD**, Assistant Professor of Psychiatry, has received an **R01 Grant** from the **National Institute on Drug Abuse** (NIDA) and U.S. Food and Drug Administration Center for Tobacco Products to examine youth-accessible information on YouTube regarding how e-cigarettes are modified and "hacked."

**Darryl Martin, PhD**, Research Scientist in the Department of Urology and member of Yale Cancer Center's Cancer Signaling Networks

Our Hematology-Medical Oncology Fellowship Program graduated nine fellows in an online graduation on Friday, and celebrated again through a socially distanced event in the parking lot of our Smilow Cancer Hospital Care Center in North Haven on Saturday morning. Congratulations to these stellar physicians, and good luck to each of them on the next step in their careers!

Maura Harrigan discusses what cancer survivorship means to her, and how it has impacted how she cares for patients. View our full archive of videos in celebration of Cancer Survivorship.

Get to know Dr. Kelsey Martin, Assistant Professor of Clinical Medicine (Hematology) at our Smilow Cancer Hospital Care Center in Orange, and hear why she chose to pursue cancer care, in this recent interview.
Research Program, has been awarded an **Idea Development Award** from the **Department of Defense**. In this interdisciplinary collaborative project, Dr. Martin will serve as the PI and work with Co-PIs, James Yu, MD, MHS, Preston Sprenkle, MD, Peter Humphrey, MD, PhD, and John Onofrey, PhD, to use therapeutic response genomic signatures and machine learning to predict treatment intervention. **Dr. Martin** has also been awarded a **Career Development Award** from the **Department of Defense Peer Reviewed Cancer Research Program**. Dr. Martin's research aims to understand the impact of the tumor immune microenvironment on bladder cancer progression. This 3-year award will begin on July 1, 2020. Dr. Alfred Bothwell, PhD, Professor, Department of Immunobiology will serve as mentor on this award.

**Employee Profile: Susanne Lee-Baldassini**

Congratulations to Roy S. Herbst, MD, PhD, Chief of Medical Oncology, on his appointment to the American Association for Cancer Research (AACR) Board of Directors for a three-year term for his outstanding contributions to lung cancer research and treatment.

Tristen Park, MD, Assistant Professor of Surgery (Oncology), will share the latest information on surgical options for breast cancer on Yale Cancer Answers. Tune in to hear her interview live, or download our podcast.
Susanne Lee-Baldassini, LCSW, has been a clinical social worker for 28 years, and recently celebrated 14 years with Yale New Haven Health. She currently supports patients and families at the Smilow Cancer Hospital Care Center in Guilford.

Throughout her social work career, Susanne’s goal has always been to be focused and present for both the patient and their families. "I really enjoy the challenges and rewards of working at a Care Center where every day is an opportunity to make a difference. I feel passionate about my work and helping those facing various challenges on their often difficult journey," said Susanne.

Susanne is currently working on an initiative to bring her focus of Meaning-Centered Psychotherapy to COVID-19 survivors. Meaning-Centered Psychotherapy is an evidence-based intervention that helps people connect to meaning in their lives amidst the grief and loss they have through iTunes

Follow Yale Cancer Center on Twitter

Congratulations @DrRoyHerbstYale on receiving the @AACR Distinguished Public Service Award for his outstanding leadership in #cancer science policy.

Today in @nresearchnews @tz4st @Aaronmring reveal a "jamming signal" that blocks IL-18 from reaching tumors to fight #cancer and share a newly created IL-18 version that cannot be jammed and significantly reduced tumors.

Log in to virtual #AACR20 today at 2:15pm!

@DrRoyHerbstYale leads a presentation highlighting combination strategies with IO Agents.
experienced as of late. She is hoping to reach those in need of extra support to process the experience of the illness.

"The hope is that group members will use teaching, group discussion, and experiential exercises to focus on themes of meaning while being a COVID-19 survivor," said Susanne. "My biggest challenge currently is adjusting to working remotely. I really enjoy spending time with patients, families, and my teams!"

Before her recent retirement, Bonnie Indeck, LCSW, commented, "Susanne has provided social work services to a number of areas during her tenure here. Her clinical skills are sharp and her patients and families benefit from her expertise. I look forward to her continued great work and innovative projects. Susanne has been exemplary in working remotely and continuing to provide the best of care during the COVID-19 crisis."

Recent Publications


Altered RNA Splicing by Mutant p53 Activates Oncogenic RAS Signaling in Pancreatic Cancer.

*Cancer cell*, S1535-6108(20)30260-9. Advance online publication.

Read More >>


Scheduled for 9:50am at #AACR20 @tz4st will present research w/@aaronmring showing IL-18 immunotherapy is effective against checkpoint-immunotherapy refractory tumors by promoting the increase of NK cells.

Thank you to Dr. Chen Liu @yalepathology for presenting at our virtual Grand Rounds today on #Immunotherapy for Hepatocellular Carcinoma

New research in a poster presentation at ACCR20 led by Wan Ying Tan and @vasilisyale shows the role of aldehyde dehydrogenase 1B1 in #coloncancer in a newly developed mouse model.

"The increase in colorectal cancer in young people is puzzling. It's imperative to find development pathways so we can screen and treat for this disease" - Dr. Xavier Llor.

Log on to virtual #AACR20 today at 1:15pm for @politikatenna's insight on incorporating translational research into #clinicaltrials of targeted agents.

Dr. Irvin Modlin is senior author on a study scheduled to be presented this morning at 10:05am at #AACR20 showing a multi-gene #prostatecancer liquid biopsy with 92% better accuracy than #PSA

Elena Bonazzoli and Dr. Alessandro Santin show in a poster presentation at #AACR20 potential for a new therapeutic option for #cervicalcancer using the novel BET bromodomain inhibitor GS-626510.

Eunice Cho led research with Hua Lou and Dr. Benjamin Turk in a poster presentation at #AACR20 showing PPP6C regulation of ERK signaling in #melanoma.
Special considerations in the management of adult patients with acute leukaemias and myeloid neoplasms in the COVID-19 era: recommendations from a panel of international experts.
*The Lancet. Haematology*, S2352-3026(20)30205-2. Advance online publication. Read More >>

Response Criteria for Intratumoral Immunotherapy in Solid Tumors: iRECIST.
*Journal of clinical oncology : official journal of the American Society of Clinical Oncology*, JCO1902985. Advance online publication. Read More >>

Tumor Tissue-Specific Biomarkers of Colorectal Cancer by Anatomic Location and Stage.
*Metabolites*, 10(6), E257. Read More >>

IL-18BP is a secreted immune checkpoint and barrier to IL-18 immunotherapy.
*Nature*, 10.1038/s41586-020-2422-6. Advance online publication. Read More >>

Lee, V., Jairam, V., Yu, J. B., & Park, H. S.
Nationwide patterns of hemorrhagic stroke among patients hospitalized with brain
**metastases: influence of primary cancer diagnosis and anticoagulation.**
*Scientific reports*, 10(1), 10084.
**Read More >>**

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**Read More >>**

Yoon, E., Wilson, P., Zuo, T., Pinto, M., Cole, K., & Harigopal, M. **High Frequency of Triple Negative Breast Cancers Co-express p16 and SOX10 But Do Not Express AR.** *Human pathology*, S0046-8177(20)30119-2. Advance online publication.
**Read More >>**

**Read More >>**

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**Coming up in a poster presentation at #AACR20 tomorrow, Dr. Patricia LoRusso shares results from a phase 1b study of xentuzumab and abemaciclib to treat #NSCLS**

**@Zhigui_Li and @GloriaHuangMD present a poster presentation tomorrow at #AACR20 showing the combination of letrozole plus abemaciclib is synergistic and suppresses tumor growth in #ovariancancer and #endometrialcancer**

**So grateful for all of the @YaleCancer fellows and APPs who were mobilized to our @SmilowCancer inpatient services during the #COVID19 pandemic. It has been a large team effort, and we are so thankful for your dedication!**

**Promising new #pancreaticcancerresearch! A study @cellpressnews led by Dr. Luisa Escobar-Hoyos uncovers a link between certain mutations & the mechanism that regulates cell activity that could help develop new treatments.**

**Let's do it again! We're getting ready for #AACR20 Virtual Meeting II. @YaleCancer @SmilowCancer scientists are presenting the latest developments in cancer research including #lungcancer #headandneckcancer and #immunotherapy**

**Congratulations to . @PJAnanthMD! Dr. Ananth received a 2020 National #PalliativeCare Research Center grant to help establish high quality end-of-life care in children with #pediatriccancer**

**@EllenFoxman discusses her work investigating immune responses to respiratory viruses, including #Covid19 during a recent @YaleCancer Grand Rounds**

**Dr. Lajos Pusztai shares information on #translational research for #breastcancer and how to predict which patients will respond to**

Youngblood, M. W., & Günel, M. *Molecular genetics of meningiomas.* *Handbook of clinical neurology*, 169, 101-119. [Read More >>](#)


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**Funding Opportunities**

**Fund to Retain Clinical Scientists at the Yale School of Medicine (FRCS)**

We are announcing a request for applications for support from the Fund to Retain Clinical Scientists at the Yale School of Medicine (FRCS), made possible by a grant from the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation. The FRCS program provides supplemental research support to early-career physician-scientists who face significant caregiving demands. **Application Deadline: July 13, 2020** [Learn More >>](#)

**FY20 Ovarian Cancer Research Program Proteogenomics Research Award**

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**Calendar**

**Building Against Burnout: Tools, Shortcuts, & Pearls for Physicians & APPs**

June 26; 12:15 PM [Learn More >>](#)

**Phone Meditation hosted by Smilow Integrative Medicine**

June 26; 1:00 PM [Learn More >>](#)

**Yale Cancer Answers**

June 28; 7:30 PM NPR

*Deep Learning and Cancer Outcomes*
Sanjay Aneja, MD [Learn More >>](#)

**Yale Summer Workshop in Clinical Trials**

June 29-June 30; 8:30 AM [Learn More >>](#)

**Guided Imagery Meditation with Michele Grand LMT hosted by Smilow Integrative Medicine**

June 29; 10:30 AM [Learn More >>](#)

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**Congrats. @Annechiangmd honored w/the prestigious @ASCO 2020 Joseph V. Simone Award! "Anne's commitment to quality cancer care has contributed to the creation of quality-focused initiatives enhancing how care is delivered.”**

**Dr. Tristen Park. @YaleSurgery will share the latest information on surgical options for #breastcancer on Yale Cancer Answers today at 7:30pm on @wnpr**

**@YaleCancer autoimmune disease expert Dr. Eric Meffre talked to @jocelynaminta & @WTNH about antibody research he's leading to help treat patients severely affected w/ #COVID19 & diminish the length & severity of their disease.**
This Research Award supports the use of proteomics and/or genomics to explore new concepts or theories in ovarian cancer. The award is intended to support the genomic and/or transcriptomic and/or proteomic analysis of currently available clinical specimens with a focus on answering biologic and pathophysiologic questions of clinical relevance in ovarian cancer.  

**Letter of Intent Due:** July 16, 2020  
[Learn More >>]

**DeLuca Pilot Award Grants**
Five pilot awards will be awarded to support investigators participating in Hematology research for the purpose of establishing research collaborations between scientists/researchers at Yale and primary Hematology faculty and to generate preliminary data and evidence of collaboration for new NCI/NIH grant applications. The research should seek to advance our knowledge in hematologic disorders and to improve patient care, therapies, and outcomes.  

**Application Deadline:** July 20, 2020  
[Learn More >>]

**Serological Sciences Network (SeroNet) RFAs**
- Research Projects in SARS-CoV-2 Serological Sciences (U01)
- SARS-CoV-2 Serological Sciences Centers of Excellence (U54)

Funding for these RFAs was provided through Congressional appropriation enacted in response to the COVID-19 pandemic to NCI “to develop, validate, improve, and implement serological testing and associated technologies.” In response, NCI intends to use this emergency appropriation in part to establish a Serological Sciences Network to which these RFAs correspond.  

**Application Deadlines:** July 22, 2020  
[Learn More >>]
Breast Cancer Alliance Young Investigator Grant
To encourage a commitment to breast cancer research, Breast Cancer Alliance invites clinical doctors and research scientists whose primary focus is breast cancer and who are in the early stages of their careers, to apply for funding for the Young Investigator Grant.
**Application Deadline:** July 24, 2020
[Learn More >>](#)

Strengthening Institutional Capacity to Conduct Global Cancer Research in Low- and Middle-Income Countries (D43)
The purpose of this FOA is to establish an institutional program for mentored training in global cancer research.
**Application Deadline:** July 24, 2020
[Learn More >>](#)

2020 Yale Cancer Center Internal Pilot Grant Competition
These grants will support all potential areas of innovative cancer research including basic, clinical, computational, population and epidemiology, prevention/control, implementation science and translational cancer research.
**Application Deadline:** August 1, 2020
[Learn More >>](#)

DoD FY20 Kidney Cancer Research Program
The KCRP focuses on the issues regarding prevention, detection, treatment, and the long-term effects of treatment for kidney cancer for Service Members, Veterans, their families, and the American public.
**Early Career Investigator Award** - Letter of Intent Due: August 5, 2020
**Concept Award** - Letter of Intent Due: July 15, 2020
**Translational Research Partnership Award** - Letter of Intent Due: August 5, 2020

A Collage Book Club: Storytelling Through Art
July 2; 10:00 AM
[Learn More >>](#)

Guided Imagery Meditation with Michele Grand LMT hosted by Smilow Integrative Medicine
July 2; 1:30 PM
[Learn More >>](#)

Cancer Genetics and Prevention Program Seminar
July 2; 2:30 PM
[Learn More >>](#)

Phone Meditation hosted by Smilow Integrative Medicine
July 3; 1:00 PM
[Learn More >>](#)

Virtual T'ai Chi/Qigong hosted by Smilow Integrative Medicine
July 6; 3:00 PM
[Learn More >>](#)

Bereavement Seminar
July 7; 9:30 AM
COVID-19: Coping with the Loss of Your Loved One
[Learn More >>](#)

Phone Meditation hosted by Smilow Integrative Medicine
July 7; 12:30 PM
[Learn More >>](#)

Zumba Gold hosted by Smilow Integrative Medicine
July 7; 1:00 PM
[Learn More >>](#)

Restorative Yoga with Ellen McNaught hosted by Smilow Integrative Medicine
July 7; 3:00 PM
[Learn More >>](#)

Virtual T'ai Chi/Qigong hosted by Smilow Integrative Medicine
July 8; 2:00 PM
[Learn More >>](#)

Phone Meditation hosted by Phil Levine, Mindfulness Meditation Coach
July 8; 4:00 PM
[Learn More >>](#)
Emergency Awards: RADx-UP Coordination and Data Collection Center (CDCC) (U24)
This emergency cooperative agreement FOA from the NIH provides an expedited funding mechanism as part of the Rapid Acceleration of Diagnostics-Underserved Populations (RADx-UP) initiative, a consortium of community-engaged research projects to understand factors that have led to disproportionate burden of the pandemic on the underserved and/or vulnerable populations so that interventions can be implemented to decrease these disparities.

**Application Deadline:** August 7, 2020

Learn More >>

NIH Support for Conferences and Scientific Meetings (Parent R13)
The purpose of the NIH Research Conference Grant (R13) is to support high quality scientific conferences that are relevant to the NIH’s mission and to the public health.

**Application Deadline:** August 12, 2020

Learn More >>

NCCN Pfizer Axitinib Request for Proposals (RFP)
NCCN and Pfizer are collaborating to offer a new grant opportunity seeking proposals to support NCCN Member Institution faculty utilizing axitinib. The overall aim is to develop innovative trials that will evaluate the role of axitinib in the treatment of melanoma, hepatocellular carcinoma, and colorectal cancer.

**Application Deadline:** August 12, 2020

Learn More >>

Lasker Clinical Research Scholars Program (Si2/R00)

Submissions
Please submit your recent publication and grant announcements to:

**Renee Gaudette**
Director, Public Affairs and Communications
This FOA encourages applications for the Lasker Clinical Research Scholars Program for the purpose of supporting the research activities during the early stage careers of independent clinical researchers. 

**Application Deadline:** August 28, 2020

[Learn More >>](#)

**Community Interventions to Address the Consequences of the COVID-19 Pandemic among Health Disparity and Vulnerable Populations (R01)**

This FOA encourages applications to implement and evaluate community interventions testing 1) the impacts of mitigation strategies to prevent COVID-19 transmission in NIH-designated health disparity populations and other vulnerable groups; and 2) already implemented, new, or adapted interventions to address the adverse psychosocial, behavioral, and socioeconomic consequences of the pandemic on the health of these groups.

**Application Deadline:** August 28, 2020

[Learn More >>](#)