January 11, 2019

Announcements

Yale Cancer Center Conclave

It was a pleasure to see so many members of the Yale Cancer Center and Smilow Cancer Hospital community on Monday evening at our annual Conclave. We have so much to be proud of over the last year, and much more to look forward to in the coming year as we look ahead to the 10th anniversary of Smilow Cancer Hospital! I am especially pleased to announce the winners of our annual awards. Individual awards were presented to recognize outstanding achievement in research and clinical care during 2018. Please join me in congratulating the following:

I. George Miller, Jr., MD, was presented with the Yale Cancer Center Lifetime Achievement Award by Daniel DiMaio, MD. Dr. Miller joined Yale School of Medicine in 1969 and was the first ever to show a virus could cause cancer in primates by injecting EBV into marmosets and subsequently causing lymphoma. He is the recipient of three NIH Merit Awards, a Scholar Award from the American Cancer Society, and is a member of the National Academy of Sciences. In 2006, Dr. Miller was recognized for his teaching and mentoring by Yale School of Medicine during the annual Commencement. Dr. Miller accepted the Lifetime Achievement Award and shared his research career, while focusing on the students at Yale and trainees in the labs, "because of the students at Yale, we’re able to make discoveries and progress. Please engage with the students and get them to think about how to solve problems."

Learn More >>
The Yale Cancer Center Awards for Excellence in Clinical Care were presented by Dr. Harriet Kluger to two outstanding physicians at Smilow Cancer Hospital. Dr. Kluger first recognized Dr. Andrea Silber for her longstanding outreach work and efforts in community engagement, and for her mentorship. Dr. Silber accepted the award as a "tribute to all of the patients I've taken care of over the years." Dr. Veronica Chiang also received the award in recognition of her exceptional patient care and her trailblazing efforts to create the first ever tumor board in the United States to review cases and develop treatment plans for patients with metastases to the brain.

Yale Cancer Center Scientists Advise Caution in Immunotherapy Research
Read More >>

A Dream of Sustainable Surgery in Uganda
Read more >>

Join Smilow Cancer Hospital on Facebook

Latest Posts:
Fighting the flu or having issues with taste or smell while undergoing cancer treatment? Here's a recipe for Homemade Chicken Soup suggested by our nutrition team at Smilow Cancer Hospital.
The Ruth McCorkle Advanced Practice Provider Award was presented by Vanna Dest, APRN, winner of the award in 2017, and Ruth McCorkle, PhD, RN. Dr. McCorkle recognized Julie Baker, MSN, APRN, for her compassionate care for her patients and as a pivotal member of the Hematology Program at Smilow Cancer Hospital, stating, "Julie is a true leader and role model, and an unsung hero within the disease team." Julie accepted the award with a few comments, "To have this award presented by Ruth McCorkle is..."
overwhelming...Anyone who accepts an award like this, always accepts on behalf of a team. I accept on behalf of our entire team and thank Stuart Seropian, Erin Medoff, Vanna Dest for all of their support.

The Class of ’61 Research Prize was awarded to Katerina Politi, PhD. with introductory remarks by Dr. Roy Herbst. Dr. Herbst recognized Dr. Politi’s incredible ability to understand both the basic science and clinical aspects of lung cancer, and to bridge the gap between the lab and clinic to succeed in research. He also highlighted her 9 NCI Awards, 70+ publications, and her 2017 Cotran Award from the American Society for Investigative Pathology. Dr. Politi accepted the award stating that “being part of the lung team at Yale is amazing and I can’t think of a better place to have started by independent research career.”

In a breakthrough study, Yale Cancer Center (YCC) researchers have defined the genetic characteristics of primary, metastatic and recurrent ovarian tumors and evaluated new targeted therapies to treat the disease.

"We have identified striking genetic similarities between primary and metastatic ovarian tumors as well as ovarian tumors arising simultaneously on both ovaries," said senior author of the study Alessandro Santin, MD. "These genetic results obtained in matched tumor samples from the same patient provide support to the view that spreading to the abdominal cavity takes place very early during the natural history of ovarian cancer."
Alessandro Santin, MD, received the Yale Cancer Center Clinical Science Research Prize, presented by Peter Schwartz, MD, for his paper, Randomized Phase II Trial of Carboplatin-Paclitaxel Versus Carboplatin-Paclitaxel-Trastuzumab in Uterine Serous Carcinomas That Overexpress Human Epidermal Growth Factor Receptor 2/neu, in the Journal of Clinical Oncology.

We are pleased to welcome Dr. Kelsey Martin to the Smilow Cancer Hospital Care Center in Orange, CT. Dr. Martin's clinical interests are in hematology, hematologic disorders in pregnancy, chemoprevention, the role of nutrition, obesity, and the environment in cancer, and geriatric oncology. Prior to joining Yale, Dr. Martin was a clinical instructor at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai and an attending physician at Lenox Hill Hospital in New York City, where she completed her fellowship in Hematology and Medical Oncology. She received her Medical Degree from the Royal College of Surgeons in Dublin, Ireland and completed her residency in Internal Medicine at the Jacobi Medical Center/Albert Einstein College of Medicine in New York, NY.

Thank you to Gunny, and all of the visitors who came to bring cheer to our patients at Smilow on Christmas morning!
Rachel Perry, PhD, received the Yale Cancer Center Translational Science Research Prize, presented by Nita Ahuja, MD, MBA, for her paper, Uncoupling Hepatic Oxidative Phosphorylation Reduces Tumor Growth in Two Murine Models of Colon Cancer, in *Cell Reports*.

In addition, Mark Lemmon, PhD, received the Yale Cancer Center Basic Science Research Prize, accepted on his behalf by David Stern, PhD, for his paper, EGFR Ligands Differentially Stabilize Receptor Dimers to Specify Signaling Kinetics, in *Cell*. Nina Kadan-Lottick, MD, received the Yale Cancer Center Cancer Prevention and Control Research Prize, accepted on her behalf by Melinda Irwin, PhD, MPH, for her paper, Randomized Trial of the Impact of Empowering Childhood Cancer Survivors With Survivorship Care Plans, in the *Journal of the National Cancer Institute*.

Liver Cancer Symposium
Please join colleagues from the Smilow Cancer Hospital Liver Cancer Program for a CME Symposium on Friday, March 1, 2019 at the Yale West Campus Conference Center to discuss the changing landscape
of hepatocellular carcinoma. The program is free, but registration is required.

Learn More >>

NCCN Conference
Registration for the NCCN 2019 Annual Conference: Improving the Quality, Effectiveness, and Efficiency of Cancer Care is waived for NCCN Member Institution junior faculty (with a title of Assistant Professor or below), fellows, and residents. The Annual Conference will be held in Orlando, Florida beginning on Thursday, March 21, 2019. Contact Liz Rieder to register.

Learn More >>

Notables
Craig Crews, PhD, the Lewis B. Cullman Professor of Molecular, Cellular, and Developmental Biology and Professor of Chemistry, has been awarded the 2019 Pharmacia-ASPET Award for Experimental Therapeutics from the American Society for Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics (ASPET). The award was established in 1969 to recognize and stimulate outstanding research that has had, or potentially will have, a major impact on the pharmacological treatment of disease. Dr. Crews was nominated by Dr. John S. Lazo of the University of Virginia, who wrote: "His laboratory interests are quite broad, spanning from total chemical synthesis and development of novel chemical probes, to the generation of knockout mouse models, and the study of the mechanisms of biological responses to unfolded proteins. Most recently, his work on induced protein degradation is being hailed by many as a new paradigm for drug discovery and development and will almost certainly lead to novel therapeutics."

Learn More >>

Thank you to the physicians, caregivers, and staff at the Smilow Cancer Hospital Care Center in Trumbull at the Park Avenue Medical Center who rallied together to give 6 patients a better holiday season this year! Together, they selected patients who needed extra help and purchased gifts for the patients and their families. A special surprise came when a generous, anonymous patient donated $1,000 in Stop & Shop gift cards for holiday meals for the families.

Dr. Hari Deshpande and colleagues recently published results of a trial using Sorafenib to treat Desmoid Tumors in @NEJM and found improved response for patients.

In a new @PNASnews study led by Dr. Alessandro Santin, researchers find #genetic explanations that can help treat patients with #ovariancancer.

Dr. Electra Paskett @THEohiostateuni discusses #cancer#disparities in Appalachia with a focus on #cervicalcancer with our @YaleCancer faculty.

New research from .@bcmhouston shows the potential benefit for the patient with #livercancer treated in a multidisciplinary environment https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/30070392 our Liver Cancer Program at #Smilow Cancer Hospital includes a dedicated group of specialists

A new study @CellPressNews by Dr. Lieping Chen cautions scientists about the growth of #cancer#immunotherapy research.

Research results presented by @DrRoyHerbstYale@myESMO in Geneva shows encouraging new treatment for patients with advanced #NSCLC.

Calendar
Genetics Lab Interaction Hour
January 11; 4PM
Hope 216
Noonan Lab

Virus and Other Infection-associated Cancers Research Program
January 11; 1PM
SHM I-304
Host Genetic Control of HIV
Richard Sutton, MD/PhD
Thank you for sharing and supporting our patients during the holiday season!

Dr. Michael DiGiovanna, Associate Professor of Medicine (Medical Oncology) and Pharmacology, was co-author of the KATHERINE Trial presented at the San Antonio Breast Cancer Symposium last month and published in the New England Journal of Medicine, Trastuzumab Emtansine for Residual Invasive HER2-Positive Breast Cancer.

Vincent T. DeVita, Jr., MD, the Amy and Joseph Perella Professor of Medicine, has published the 11th edition of Cancer: Principles and Practices of Oncology, along with Theodore Lawrence and Steven Rosenberg. The first edition of the book was published 37 years ago.

We are grateful to the family and friends of Kathryn Louloudis for their funding to support Lung Cancer Research at Yale Cancer Center. Ms. Louloudis was cared for by Dr. Harold Tara at the Smilow Cancer Hospital Care Center in Trumbull.

The Radiobiology and Radiotherapy Research Program is proud to welcome Jason Cai, PhD, to its program. Dr. Cai is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Radiology and Biomedical Imaging. In collaboration with BMS, Dr. Cai's lab validated two novel PD-L1 PET ligands, which have been translated and used in clinical trials to study the predictive power of PD-L1 expression for therapeutic effects of nivolumab combined with ipilimumab in patients with treatment-naïve Stage IV or recurrent NSCLC (NCT03001882). His lab is currently developing a new generation of small molecule PD-L1 targeted PET imaging agents. They are also collaborating with Drs. Lolis and Foss to develop a CXCR5 targeted PET imaging agent for future clinical trial evaluation.
The Cancer Immunology Research Program welcomes Xiaolei Su, PhD, to its program. Dr. Su is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Cell Biology. He has a long-term interest in understanding signaling pathways mediating immune responses and in leveraging that knowledge to the engineering of T cells for cancer immunotherapy. As a postdoctoral fellow in Ron Vale's Lab at UCSF, Dr. Su attempted to understand how T cell microclusters regulate the T cell receptor signaling, a question remained in the field for almost two decades. His work revealed that phase separation, an emerging important principle for organizing cellular structures, could promote the T cell receptor signaling.

At Yale, Dr. Su is focused on understanding the physiological consequences of phase separation in T cell activation. His lab implemented cell engineering tools to manipulate phase separation and control T cell signaling output. They are also exploring the signaling pathway that mediates the activation of chimeric antigen receptor (CAR), which showed unexpected difference compared to native TCR.

Employee Profile: Mandeep Smith

As the Oncology Service Line Educator for seven of the Smilow Cancer Hospital Care Centers for the last seven years, Mandeep Smith is often considered a jack of all trades. Her work and impact extend well beyond what is written in her job description, but that's what she loves most.

Mandeep has helped more than 300 nurses renew their oncology-specific competencies annually. She is a big believer in academic growth and advancement, supporting nurses in their desire for professional development and higher education.
As more community practices were integrated into the Smilow Network around the state, Mandeep traveled to each location, providing staff training and supporting each office with workflow in EPIC for the nursing staff, ACAs, and providers.

"My job is constantly changing and that is one of the aspects I enjoy most," Mandeep said. "New things are constantly emerging and it is exciting to have the autonomy to do what we need to do to support our staff in providing safe quality care to our patients."

Her manager, Lisa Barbarotta, Program Manager, Oncology Nursing Education and Practice with Smilow Cancer Hospital, agreed, "Mandeep is a highly committed and passionate educator who works tirelessly to support our staff throughout the Smilow Network. She is the ultimate team player who embodies the Smilow vision and mission each and every day!"

#OOTBThanks!

YCC #OUTOFTHEBLUETHANKS recently recognized Joni Jones, CPCS, the Credentialing Manager for Yale Medicine Administration, for her amazing assistance to a provider who was having an issue with a pharmacy. Joni diligently made several calls to different agencies, including long wait times and multiple follow-ups, to make sure this provider’s issue was resolved as soon as possible. The provider was extremely grateful to have Joni’s dedicated support during this stressful situation. Thank you, Joni!

January 22; 2PM  
Fitkin Auditorium  
Maintaining Genome Stability: Nuclear and Mitochondrial  
Agnel Sfeir, PhD  
Learn More >>

Grand Rounds for Non Clinicians  
January 23; 12PM  
Park Street Auditorium  
CAR-T Cell Therapy  
Lisa Barbarotta, MSN, APRN-BC, AOCNS  
Learn More >>

Smilow Screening and Prevention Program Information Table  
January 24; 11AM  
Saint Raphael Campus  
Cervical Health Awareness Month  
Learn More >>

Pathology Grand Rounds  
January 24; 12:30PM  
Fitkin Auditorium  
Jorge Reis-Filho, MD, PhD  
Learn More >>

Healing Touch  
January 24; 2PM  
Greenwich Hospital  
Spa and Eyebrow Clinic  
Heidi Malin, RTT  
Learn More >>

Cancer Genetics and Prevention Program Seminar  
January 24; 2:30PM  
Orchard Medical Center 107-109  
Learn More >>

Surgery Grand Rounds  
January 25; 7:30AM  
Fitkin Auditorium  
Charles Fuchs, MD, MPH
Yale Cancer Center's #OUTOFTHEBLUETHANKS program is a staff recognition initiative to show appreciation to employees who have exemplified an above-and-beyond effort or an outstanding contribution to the team. All nominations should be submitted to the Director's Office c/o Anna Raso.

Funding Opportunities

The Melanoma Research Alliance and the American Cancer Society Understanding and Managing Metastasis in Melanoma and Other Cancers Award

The ACS and the Melanoma Research Alliance MRA have partnered to support research. They are requesting grant applications to fund research projects that involve interdisciplinary teams about "Understanding and Managing Metastasis of Melanoma and Other Types of Cancer."

**Application Deadline:** January 16, 2019

Learn More >>

Jane Coffin Childs Memorial Fund for Medical Research-Research Fellowship

The JCC Fund will support the funding of three-year postdoctoral Fellowships, selected by its Board of Scientific Advisers from among the best young scientists. The JCC Fund supports between twenty-five and thirty new three-year Fellowships each year.

**Application deadline:** February 1, 2019

Learn More >>

Core Infrastructure and Methodological Research for Cancer Epidemiology Cohorts (U01)

This FOA encourages grant applications for support of the core functions of Cancer Epidemiology Cohorts (CECs), as well as methodological research.

**Application Deadline:** February 5, 2019

Learn More >>
Immuno-Oncology Translation Network (IOTN): Cancer Immunoprevention Research Projects (U01)
This FOA is associated with the Beau Biden Cancer MoonshotSM Initiative that is intended to accelerate cancer research. The purpose of this specific FOA is to expand Cancer Immunoprevention Research Projects as components of IOTN, which also includes Cancer Immunotherapy Research Projects.

**Application Deadline:** February 8, 2019
[Learn More >>](#)

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**Immuno-Oncology Translation Network (IOTN): Cancer Immunotherapy Research Projects (U01)**
This FOA is associated with the Beau Biden Cancer MoonshotSM Initiative that is intended to accelerate cancer research. The purpose of this FOA is to expand organ site-specific Cancer Immunotherapy Research Projects as components of IOTN.

**Application Deadline:** February 8, 2019
[Learn More >>](#)

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**Accelerating Colorectal Cancer Screening and follow-up through Implementation Science**
The purpose of this FOA is to promote research in colorectal cancer screening, follow-up, and referral-to-care in regions of the United States where screening rates are below national standards.

**Application Deadline:** February 11, 2019
[Learn More >>](#)

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**Utilizing the PLCO Biospecimens Resource to Bridge Gaps in Cancer Etiology and Early Detection Research**
This FOA encourages the submission of applications that propose to advance research in cancer etiology and early detection biomarkers, utilizing the advantages of the unique biorepository resources of the NCI-sponsored Prostate, Lung, Colorectal, and Ovarian Cancer (PLCO) Screening Trial.

**Application Deadline:** February 11, 2019
[Learn More >>](#)
**Immuno-Oncology Translation Network (IOTN): Cancer Immunoprevention Research Projects**

This FOA is associated with the Beau Biden Cancer MoonshotSM Initiative that is intended to accelerate cancer research. Specifically, this FOA intends to create a translational science network devoted exclusively to immunotherapy approaches to treat and prevent adult cancers.

**Application Deadline:** February 11, 2019

[Learn More >>](#)

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**Immuno-Oncology Translation Network (IOTN): Immuno-engineering to Improve Immunotherapy (i3) Centers**

This FOA is associated with the Beau Biden Cancer MoonshotSM Initiative that is intended to accelerate cancer research. The purpose of this FOA is to develop Immuno-engineering to Improve Immunotherapy (i3) Centers, as new components of the Immuno-Oncology Translation Network (IOTN).

**Application Deadline:** February 11, 2019

[Learn More >>](#)

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**The NCI Predoctoral to Postdoctoral Fellow Transition Award**

The purpose of the NCI Predoctoral to Postdoctoral Fellow Transition Award (F99/K00) is to encourage and retain outstanding graduate students recognized by their institutions for their high potential and strong interest in pursuing careers as independent cancer researchers.

**Application Deadline:** February 22, 2019

[Learn More >>](#)

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**Recent Publications**

**Palbociclib and Fulvestrant Act in Synergy to Modulate Central Carbon Metabolism in Breast Cancer Cells.**


*Metabolites*. 2019 Jan 2;9(1).

[Read More >>](#)
NASH and HCC Are Driven by Different Signaling Pathways with a Common Regulator.
Mehal W.
Read More >>

Clinicopathological features, treatment patterns, and prognosis of squamous cell carcinoma of the breast: an NCDB analysis.
Zhu L, Chen K.
Read More >>

Multiplex quantitative analysis of tumor-infiltrating lymphocytes and immunotherapy outcome in metastatic melanoma.
Read More >>

Are We There Yet?: Understanding Differences in Rates of Resection of Clinical Stage I Lung Cancer.
Detterbeck FC.
Read More >>

Racial Differences in Health Care Transitions and Hospice Use at the End of Life.
Wang SY, Hsu SH, Aldridge MD, Cherlin E, Bradley E.
Read More >>

Targeting Her2/neu in uterine serous carcinoma: A paradigm shift in management.
Lopez S, Zeybek B, Santin AD.
Read More >>
Paraneoplastic neurological syndromes: a single institution 10-year case series.
Chan AM, Baehring JM.
Read More >>

What's Lost in What's Missing: A Thoughtful Approach to Missing Data in the National Cancer Database.
Boffa DJ.
Read More >>

Review and current state of radiation therapy for locally advanced pancreatic adenocarcinoma.
Blakaj A, Stein SM, Khan SA, Johung KL.
J Gastrointest Oncol. 2018 Dec;9(6):1027-1036.
Read More >>

Chemoradiation after FOLFIRINOX for borderline resectable or locally advanced pancreatic cancer.
Mancini BR, Stein S, Lloyd S, Rutter CE, James E, Chang BW, Lacy J, Johung KL.
J Gastrointest Oncol. 2018 Dec;9(6):982-988.
Read More >>

Caveat Emptor: Let Our Acclaim of the Apotheosis of PRRT Not Blind Us to the Error of Prometheus.
Bodei L, Herrmann K, Baum RP, Kidd M, Malczewska A, Modlin IM.
Read More >>

Ten-Year Comparison Study of Type 1 and 2 Endometrial Cancers: Risk Factors and Outcomes.
**Hepatosplenic T-Cell Lymphomas.**
Gowda L, Foss F.
[Read More >>](#)

**Cardiovascular and Cancer Risk: The Role of Cardio-oncology.**
Coviello JS.
[Read More >>](#)

**Mutational landscape of primary, metastatic, and recurrent ovarian cancer reveals c-MYC gains as potential target for BET inhibitors.**
[Read More >>](#)

**Adult epiglottitis: Trends and predictors of mortality in over 30 thousand cases from 2007 to 2014.**
Hanna J, Brauer PR, Berson E, Mehra S.
[Read More >>](#)