June 1, 2018

**Announcements**

I am looking forward to seeing many of you at the American Society of Clinical Oncology Annual Meeting beginning today in Chicago. If you are attending the meeting, please support your colleagues at their presentations and poster sessions. A link to the list of Yale participation is below. In addition, we are hosting a Dessert Reception on Sunday evening at 8:30pm at the Hilton Chicago. Please plan on joining us.

[Yale at ASCO >>]
[Reception >>]

**Smilow Rocks Project**
Please join us for the kick-off of the Smilow Rocks Project on June 12 between 9am - 3pm in the Healing Garden on the 7th floor of Smilow Cancer Hospital. Over 1,000 hand painted rocks have been collected to spread kindness and encouragement to our patients, caregivers, and staff at Smilow.

Learn More >>

**Notables**

**Lieping Chen, MD, PhD**, United Technologies Professor in Cancer Research and Professor of Immunobiology, Dermatology, and Medicine (Medical Oncology) was honored by OncLive last night as one of 21 Giants of Cancer Care for his research and discoveries in Immuno-Oncology.

Read More >>

---

National Report Shows Cancer Death Rates Continue to Decline
Read More >>

Could Better Predictions Improve End-of-Life Care?
Read More >>

Anti-PD-1 Agents Rapidly Adopted in Clinical Practice Following Approval
Read More >>

Oncology Extended Care Clinic Reduced Urgent Cancer-Related ED Visits
Read More >>
Drs. Tom Lynch, Anees Chagpar, Lieping Chen, and Roy Herbst at last night’s ceremony in Chicago.

Congratulations to Akiko Iwasaki, PhD, Waldemar Von Zedtwitz Professor of Immunobiology and Molecular, Cellular, and Developmental Biology, and a member of Yale Cancer Center’s Virus and Other Infection-associated Cancers Research Program. Dr. Iwasaki received the Charles W. Bohmfalk Prize for teaching in the basic sciences at Yale School of Medicine’s graduation ceremonies.

Roy S. Herbst, MD, PhD, Chief of Medical Oncology and Ensign Professor of Medicine (Medical Oncology), has been selected to represent SWOG on the National Cancer Institute’s Thoracic Malignancy Steering Committee.

#OOTB Thanks Tamara Ballintyn

Yale Cancer Center #OUTOFTHEBLUETHANKS recently recognized Tamara Ballintyn CCRP, a Clinical Research Coordinator in the Clinical Trials Office at our St. Francis Care Center. Tamara recently received excellent feedback on her outstanding work during a recent routine external audit. Tamara worked diligently, collaborating with staff at our main campus in New Haven, to review patient records and study data to ensure the audit ran smoothly. Described as exceptionally hard working, Tamara is always willing to help and shows a true dedication to providing the best quality research to our patients. Thank you, Tamara!

Join Yale Cancer Center on Facebook

Latest Posts:

Angioimmunoblastic T-cell lymphoma (AITL) is a rare, fast-growing cancer typically diagnosed at an advanced stage with a poor prognosis and survival rate. Two scientists at Yale are working to change that outcome. Francine Foss, MD, and Elias Lolis, PhD, are looking for ways to subvert and defeat AITL.

Tune into Yale Cancer Answers on iTunes to hear Dr. Prasanna Ananth’s research on access and use of medical marijuana for pediatric patients with cancer.

Dr. Nita Ahuja recently became Chair of the
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

Employee Profile: Lee Tremback

An Oncology Social Worker, Lee Tremback works with the adult outpatient population at the Smilow Cancer Hospital at Saint Francis. She has been a social worker for more than 30 years, and has worked at many hospitals across Connecticut, shifting to oncology social work in 1995. New to the Yale New Haven Health System in the last year, she says of Smilow, "It's an incredible place to work."

As one of two oncology social workers at Saint Francis, Lee's day varies based on patient needs, but she frequently works to help her patients gain access to Department of Surgery at Yale. Learn more about her goals for the department, her focus on cancer research, specifically for pancreatic cancer, and her patient care philosophy.

A recent presentation by Vanna Dest, APRN and Maureen Raucci, APRN at the Oncology Nursing Society Annual Meeting shared that the launch of our Extended Care Clinic at Smilow Cancer Hospital reduced the number of visits to the Emergency Department by 12%

Congratulations to the winners of the 2018 Patient Care Associate Educational Grants, Margaret Lewis and Delilah Lewis! Margaret is a PCA at the Smilow Cancer Hospital Care Center in Derby and is described as the "rock" of the Derby practice keeping everything running smoothly. Delilah is a PCA in the women's center on the
vital resources. From finding financial grants that can assist with bills to arranging for transportation to and from the hospital—often patients just don't know what is available to them, and this assistance can help alleviate the stresses that come during the adjustment to their new life with cancer.

Lee also facilitates two support groups at Saint Francis—one for cancer patients and another for cancer caregivers. Of the patient support group, Lee says, “Patients should not deal with their cancer in isolation, and in a support group setting, they can learn from the experiences of other patients and share their distress without judgement.” And similarly for caregivers, she stresses the importance of being able to learn from each other, especially when it comes to sharing ideas for coping.

Working in oncology, Lee also recognizes the importance of self-care, and she maintains an active routine of Zumba and yoga at a local fitness center, as well as with her local church.

Being based in Hartford and away from the patient resources found on-site at Smilow in New Haven, Lee appreciates the strong relationship between the two locations and the emphasis on the same values—providing patient-centric, compassionate care.

Funding Opportunities

The Mark Foundation for Cancer Research Emerging Leader Awards
These signature three-year academic grants totaling $750,000 will provide support to early career investigators conducting high-risk, high-impact cancer research.  
Letters of Intent Due: June 4, 2018  
Learn More >>

Pew-Stewart Scholars Program for Cancer Research
Yale Cancer Center is pleased to announce the internal competition for the Pew-Stewart Scholars for Cancer Research Program. The Program supports assistant professors of outstanding promise in science relevant to the advancement of a cure for cancer.  
Deadline for Applications: June 5, 2018  
Learn More >>

NIH Food Specific Molecular Profiles and Biomarkers of Food and Nutrient Intake, and Dietary Exposure-R01
The purpose of this FOA is to promote research on food specific molecular signatures and biomarkers of dietary consumption and to


In 2017, volunteers at Smilow Cancer Hospital and its Care Centers logged a grand total of 25,893 hours! Read about our amazing volunteers who dedicate their time, effort, and energy in service to Smilow's patients and staff in Centerpoint Magazine.

Follow Yale Cancer Center on Twitter
promote collaborative interactions among NIH and the USDA-NIFA supported nutrition researchers.

**Application Deadline:** June 11, 2018

[Learn More >>]

---

**Gabrielle’s Angel Foundation for Cancer Research Grants**

The Foundation funds cutting-edge research in the fields of leukemia, lymphoma, and related cancers of the blood. Funds support promising scientists who are applying novel and state-of-the-art techniques to address fundamental problems in their genesis and treatment.

**Internal Deadline:** June 11, 2018

[Learn More >>]

---

**Alex’s Lemonade Stand Psychosocial Grants**

ALSF is committed to addressing the psychosocial and behavioral health outcomes for children diagnosed with cancer and their families. These Grants fill a direct need for research funding by supporting studies that aim to explain and/or improve psychosocial outcomes of those affected by childhood cancer.

**Letters of Intent Due:** June 11, 2018

[Learn More >>]

---

**U.S. Tobacco Control Policies to Reduce Health Disparities - R21 and R01**

The purpose of this FOA is to support observational or intervention research focused on reducing health disparities in tobacco use in the United States.

**Application Deadline:** June 13, 2018

[Learn More >>]

---

**Epidemiologic Research on Emerging Risk Factors and Liver Cancer Susceptibility - R21**

The purpose of this FOA is to promote epidemiologic research investigating novel and innovative hypotheses on emerging risk factors and their interplay with established risk factors associated with the development of liver cancer in the United States.

**Application Deadline:** June 16, 2018

[Learn More >>]

---

**NIH Exploratory Grants in Cancer Epidemiology and Genomics Research-R21**
This FOA invites applications for research on cancer epidemiology, genomics, and risk assessment.

**Application Deadline:** June 16, 2018

Learn More >>

**NIH Diet and Physical Activity Assessment Methodology-R21**

This Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) encourages innovative research to enhance the quality of measurements of dietary intake and physical activity.

**Application Deadline:** June 16, 2018

Learn More >>

**NIH Exploratory Grant Award to Promote Workforce Diversity in Basic Cancer Research-R21**

This FOA represents the continuation of an NCI program to enhance the diversity of the pool of the cancer research workforce.

**Application Deadline:** June 19, 2018

Learn More >>

**PREVENT Cancer Preclinical Drug Development Program RFP**

The NCI has issued a RFP to support the PREVENT Cancer Preclinical Drug Development Program: Preclinical Services for Biopharmaceutical Product Development and Manufacturing, Toxicology and Pharmacology Testing. The overall objective of the current acquisition is to provide a structured approach to drug and vaccine development, from discovery to the clinic.

**Application Deadline:** June 21, 2018

Read More >>

**Research Answers to NCI's Provocative Questions - R21 and R01**

The purpose of this FOA is to support research projects designed to solve specific problems and paradoxes in cancer research identified by the NCI Provocative Questions initiative.

**Application Deadline:** June 29, 2018

Learn More >>

**Robert E. Leet and Clara Guthrie Patterson Trust Mentored Research Award: Clinical, Health Services and Policy Research**

Two-year Awards of $90,000 ($45,000 per year) will be awarded to applicants working in Connecticut, New Jersey and Rhode Island.

**Application Deadline:** July 3, 2018

In honor of #BrainTumorAwarenessMonth, meet Kaitlin, a brain cancer survivor with an incredible story who says that Dr. Moliterno Gunel at @YaleCancer saw her "as a person, not a cancer patient" & helped her "continue being a mother to my daughter."

81% of the NIH funds in CT are supporting exciting research at @Yale@YaleMed, including $24 million in cancer research funding @YaleCancer.

Brand new @NCIcancerstats concerning mortality rates. Our director @CharlesFuchsMD calls the report "encouraging!"

Urologist Dr. Preston Sprenkle was the featured presenter during a recent @YaleSurgery Grand Rounds, where he discussed the evolution of #prostatecancer surgery.

Remembering John Murren @YaleCancer@YNHH today at Grand Rounds. Remarkable progress in lung cancer therapy in the last decade

Today's Yale Cancer Answers will highlight May's #BrainTumorAwarenessMonth with an interview with Dr. Jennifer Moliterno Gunel discussing the latest advances in brain tumor
Learn More >

Damon Runyon-Rachleff Innovation Award
Designed to provide support for the next generation of exceptionally creative thinkers with "high-risk/high-reward" ideas that have the potential to significantly impact our understanding of and/or approaches to the prevention, diagnosis or treatment of cancer.

**Application Deadline:** July 6, 2018

Learn More >

Program in Innovative Therapeutics for Connecticut's Health (PITCH)
With a grant from the State of Connecticut's Bioscience Innovation Fund, this three-year, $10 million-dollar program, provides translational research resources to generate prototype therapeutics that address unmet clinical needs. Contact francine.carland@yale.edu for more information.

**Application Deadline:** July 15, 2018

Learn More >

Recent Publications

**Healthy Sisters: A Feasibility study of a health behavior intervention for women of color breast cancer survivors.**
Knobf MT, Erdos D, Jeon S.
J Psychosoc Oncol. 2018 May 30:1-12

Read More >

**Post-treatment neutrophil-to-lymphocyte ratio predicts for overall survival in brain metastases treated with stereotactic radiosurgery.**

Read More >

**Adjuvant Hormonal Therapy for Low-Grade Endometrial Stromal Sarcoma.**

Read More >

Calendar

**Yale Cancer Answers**
June 3; 7:30PM
WNPR

**Advances for CTCL and Skin Cancer**
Michael Girardi, MD, FAAD

Learn More >>

Join Yale at ASCO
June 3, 8:30PM
Hilton Chicago

**Reception in Celebration of the 54th Annual Meeting**
Charles Fuchs, MD, MPH, Roy S. Herbst, MD, PhD, and Rogerio Lilenbaum, MD

Learn More >>

**Radiobiology and Radiotherapy Research Program**
June 4; 11AM
BCMM 206/208

**Death by Deoxymab: DNA Repair Avengers Assemble**
Zahra Rattray, PhD

Learn More >>

**Epigenetics Interest Group Seminar Series**
June 4; 12PM
BCMM 206/208
Increasing Industry Involvement in Otolaryngology: Insights from 3 Years of the Open Payments Database.
Morse E, Fujiwara RJT, Mehra S.
Otolaryngol Head Neck Surg. 2018 May 1;194599818778502.
Read More >>

Long-term Quality of Life in Survivors of Brain Metastases: A Roller Coaster of Perspective.
Read More >>

Real-world Treatment Patterns Among Patients With Colorectal Cancer Treated With Trifluridine/Tipiracil and Regorafenib.
Patel AK, Duh MS, Barghout V, Yenikomshian MA, Xiao Y, Wynant W, Tabesh M, Fuchs CS.
Read More >>

Gettinger S, Hellmann MD, Chow LQM, Borghaei H, Antonia S, Brahmer JR, Goldman JW, Gerber DE, Juergens RA, Shepherd FA, Laurie SA, Young TC, Li X, Geese WJ, Rizvi N.
J Thorac Oncol. 2018 May 23.
Read More >>

Defining and Understanding Adaptive Resistance in Cancer Immunotherapy.
Kim TK, Herbst RS, Chen L.
Read More >>

When good operations go bad: The additive effect of comorbidity and postoperative complications on readmission after pulmonary lobectomy.
Jean RA, Chiu AS, Boffa DJ, Detterbeck FC, Blasberg JD, Kim AW.
Read More >>
Association of Human Papillomavirus Status at Head and Neck Carcinoma Subsites With Overall Survival.
Read More >>

Association of Facility and System Factors With Survival Among Pediatric Patients With Surgically Treated Head and Neck Sarcomas.
Read More >>

Phase 0 Trial of AZD1775 in First-Recurrence Glioblastoma Patients.
Read More >>

Giant Duodenal Lipoma: a Rare Cause of Vomiting, Anorexia, Unintentional Weight Loss, and Duodenal Intussusception.
Read More >>

June 10; 7AM
Tunxis Plantation Country Club
Learn More >>

Yale Cancer Answers
June 10; 7:30PM
WNPR
Advances in Multiple Myeloma
Terri Parker, MD
Learn More >>

D3: Data Discovery Day at Yale
June 11; 8:30AM
55 Park Street Auditorium
Learn More >>

Smilow Rocks Kick-off Event
June 12; 9AM
NP7, Healing Garden
Learn More >>

Pathology Research in Progress Talks
June 12; 9:30AM
TAC N-107
TBA
Learn More >>

YCC Grand Rounds
June 12; 12PM
55 Park Street
TBA
Tobias Carling, MD, PhD and Beth Jones, PhD, MPH
Learn More >>

Yale Tobacco Center of Regulatory Science Seminar
June 12; 1PM
CT Mental Health Center
Implementing the Tobacco Control Act: Is this a Tobacco Product or Medical Product Investigation
Priscilla Callahan-Lyon, MD
Learn More >>

Medical Grand Rounds/2018
Iva Dostanic Award Lecture
June 14; 8:30AM
LMP 1094
Electronic Cigarettes: The End of Smoking or a Deadly New Addiction?
Stephen Baldassarri, MD
Learn More >>

YCC Hematology Special Seminar
June 14; 12PM
SHM B-201
The Prime Time to Interferon Myeloproliferative Disease
Ghaith Abu Zeinah, MD
Learn More >>

Smilow Cancer Genetics and Prevention Program Seminar
June 14; 2:30PM
SRC, suites 107-109
Learn More >>

Yale ASCO® Review 2018
June 15; 7AM
New Haven Lawn Club
Highlights of the Annual Meeting
Bruce E. Johnson MD
Learn More >>

Submissions
Please submit your recent publication and grant announcements to:

Renee Gaudette