Announcements

Abe Lopman Announces Retirement

After 10 years as Senior Vice President of Yale New Haven Hospital and Executive Director of Smilow Cancer Hospital, our dear friend and colleague, Abe Lopman, will retire in October. As you know, Abe's accomplishments on behalf of Smilow Cancer Hospital over the past decade are remarkable.

I first met Abe in 2009, when construction workers were fitting and installing the steel girders that would ultimately become Smilow Cancer Hospital. Nonetheless, on that day in 2009, without a building in place, Abe conveyed a vision for an extraordinary, state-of-the-art facility that would provide cutting-edge care and would soon become a world-class model of cancer care and cancer research. Indeed, Abe was truly the architect of our great Center. And through it all, Abe brought his good humor, his keen insight, and his commitment to collaboration and innovation to help us to achieve our mission.

Abe's leadership and vision was also instrumental in the development and expansion of our Smilow Cancer Hospital Care Center Network, beginning with the first integration of six sites and 18 oncologists in 2012, and expanding to the 12 locations and 48 providers we have available today to cancer patients and their families throughout Connecticut. Our ability to bring Smilow quality care closer to patients throughout Connecticut will continue to flourish based on Abe's foresight and planning and with the continued support of our leadership team.
Over the coming months, we will have several opportunities to celebrate Abe’s successes and express our great appreciation for his leadership and support of Smilow Cancer Hospital. Please join me in thanking Abe for his dedicated leadership and friendship during his tenure at Smilow.

Yale Cancer Center Retreat
Please join us for the 2018 Yale Cancer Center Annual Scientific Retreat: A Shared Vision Toward the Conquest of Cancer on Wednesday, May 16th, 2018. This full day event will be held at Yale's West Campus Conference Center, with a keynote address by Dr. Richard Flavell, as well as a Disease Aligned Research Team (DART) networking session. Please coordinate your schedule to plan to attend from 8am to 4pm.

Medical Oncology Retreat
Our faculty from the section of medical oncology recently gathered at the Saybrook Point Inn for two days of presentations and discussion. Thank you to the entire team for your time and candid feedback during our two days together. Roy and I will continue to follow up on the action items presented throughout the year, and look forward to continued discussion and input from each of our faculty members.

Notables
Akiko Iwasaki, PhD, Haifan Lin, PhD, and David G. Schatz, PhD, have been elected to the National Academy of Sciences (NAS), for their outstanding research achievements. Dr. Iwasaki is Waldemar Von Zedwitz Professor of Immunobiology and Molecular, Cellular and Developmental Biology; and a Howard Hughes Medical Institute investigator. Her research focuses on the mechanisms of immune defense against viruses at mucosal surfaces. Dr. Lin is Eugene
Higgins Professor of Cell Biology and professor of genetics and of obstetrics, gynecology, and reproductive sciences. He joined Yale in 2006 as the founding director of the Yale Stem Cell Center. Dr. Schatz is Waldemar Von Zedtwitz Professor of Immunobiology, professor of molecular biophysics and biochemistry, and chair of the Department of Immunobiology.

Susan Baserga, MD, PhD, a member of Yale Cancer Center’s Genetics, Genomics, and Epigenetics Research Program, was one of 50 state women honored at the 14th annual Connecticut Technology Council Women of Innovation® Awards dinner March 28. Dr. Baserga, Professor of Molecular Biophysics and Biochemistry, Genetics and Therapeutic Radiology, was one of two winners of the Research Innovation and Leadership category. She was recognized for her investigation of the molecular basis for the formation of ribosomes, the cell's protein-making machinery - and origins of human diseases known as ribosomopathies.

Yale had an outstanding presence at the Combined Otolaryngology Spring Meetings (COSM), including awards for Best Papers of American Head and Neck Society 2018 by Tejas Sathe and Elliot Morse and Best Poster for work on HPV+ HNSCC by Drew Sewell. In addition, Dr. Eiji Yanagisawa received a special recognition award from the American Laryngological Association.

Poster presentations included:

- **National variations in salivary gland cancers and the role of institutional volume on costs and complication rates** by Rance Fujiwara
- **Positive Surgical Margins in Major Salivary Gland Cancer** by Elliot Morse
- **Treatment Delays in Oropharyngeal Cancer Treated with Primary Radiation: Establishment of National Benchmarks and Association with Survival** by Elliot Morse
- **Going Global: Interest in Global Health among US Otolaryngology Residents** by Julia Toman

The following oral presentations were made:

- **National variations in fibula free flaps and the role of institutional volume on costs and complication rates** by Rance Fujiwara
- **Patterns of Loss of Venous Flow in Head and Neck Microvascular Surgery with Double Venous Anastomoses** by Elliot Morse
- **The addition of chemotherapy to the adjuvant therapy of late-stage salivary squamous cell carcinoma is associated with improved patient survival** by Shayan Cheraghli
- **Delays During Treatment for Laryngeal Squamous Cell Carcinoma: An Analysis of the National Cancer Database** by Elliot Morse

May is Brain Tumor Awareness Month. In 2018, there will be almost 24,000 new cases of brain cancer in the United States, with an estimated 16,000 deaths from this disease, but with greater awareness and research, there is hope that we will find better treatments, and ultimately a cure.

In honor of Brain Tumor Awareness Month, meet Kaitlin, a brain cancer survivor. Soon after her daughter was born, Kaitlin noticed she had a lack of energy, headaches, and other abnormal symptoms, and an MRI found that she had a tumor the size of an orange in her brain. She was immediately referred to Dr. Jennifer Moliterno Gunel, a neurosurgeon who specializes in the surgical treatment of brain tumors at Smilow Cancer Hospital.
The role of TRAF3/CYLD mutations in the etiology of human papillomavirus-driven cancers of the head and neck by **Tejas Sathe**

Treatment Delays in Primarily-Resected Oropharyngeal Squamous Cell Carcinoma: An Analysis of the National Cancer Database by **Elliot Morse**

Mandibular Reconstruction with the Tip of Scapula Free Flap by **Jeff Blumberg, MD**

Anatomic Considerations for a Posterior Endoscopic Approach to the Cricoarytenoid Joint by **Michael Lerner, MD**

#OOTB Thanks Barbara Lumpkin

YCC #OUTOFTHEBLUETHANKS recently recognized senior administrative assistant Barbara Lumpkin after she sprang into action to cover for her colleagues who were unexpectedly out of the office one recent morning. Barbara juggled numerous guests for multiple meetings, making sure everyone got where they needed to go. She did a phenomenal job managing a very hectic morning. Thank you, Barbara, for your valued efforts!

Nearly 9,500 people in the United States are diagnosed with skin cancer every day, and an estimated 1 in 5 Americans will develop skin cancer in the lifetime. However, the five-year survival rate for melanoma when detected and treated in its early stages is 98%.

That's why the Smilow Cancer Hospital Care Center in Waterford is hosting Melanoma Monday Free Skin Cancer Screenings, on Monday, May 7th from 5:00-7:30pm.

Calling all potential young cancer fighters- apply to the CROY (Cancer Research Opportunities for Youth) program at Yale Cancer Center! CROY is a new initiative meant to provide aspiring young scientists from the New Haven community an opportunity to embed themselves within research teams engaged in all aspects of cancer research over the course of two summers. This is a unique opportunity to take advantage of a world class research institution in your own backyard!
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: Alison Tray

As one of nine Advanced Practice Providers (APP) on her team, Alison Tray serves as the Lead Inpatient APP on the hematology and oncology floors at Smilow. Acting as a “team captain” for her fellow APPs, she serves as an advocate and leader for her group.

Beginning in January, Alison organized a multidisciplinary monthly teaching series open to nurses, PCAs, residents, interns and other APPs covering topics on how to facilitate end-of-life conversations, how to manage side effects of immunotherapy, as well as self-care techniques for providers and caregivers. Alison is currently working with the pharmacy department on a weekly teaching series on chemotherapy and biotherapy set to begin next month on North Pavilion 12 (NP12).

Alison’s manager, Vanna Dest, MSN, APRN, BC, AOCN, applauds her leadership abilities, “Alison was appointed to the Lead APP position on her team in April 2017, and has provided support and leadership to her colleagues while fostering team building. She is a great asset to Smilow, her team, and the patients she cares for.”

When Alison first joined Smilow as an oncology nurse, she knew she wanted to take the next step and become a nurse practitioner. She attended the Yale School of Nursing through their accelerated program and graduated with her Master’s degree. During her time in this program, she worked in thoracic surgery, but missed medical oncology and she returned to NP 12.

In addition to leading her inpatient team, establishing learning opportunities for her colleagues in the North Pavilion, and acting as a clinical instructor for students, patients remain the central part of Alison’s day. Working 12-hour shifts, relationships are easily formed...
with the patients on the floors she covers (11, 12, 14, 15). She performs procedures, facilitates family meetings, coordinates with palliative care, and attends to the day-to-day needs of the inpatient population. In the inpatient setting she has the privilege of working with individuals who are in all stages of their cancer journey from newly diagnosed, to those getting treatment, to patients who are transitioning to hospice care. But, as Alison says, it is the best part of her job.

"You get to have a high impact in a short but often critical period of time," she says. "Everyone who enters that patient's room makes a difference in that patient's experience, from the attending to the nurse to the PCA to the environmental service worker. With the sea of white coats and uniforms that float through, we know that a patient may not remember all our names, but we hope they remember how we made them feel; cared for and supported."

**Funding Opportunities**

**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: Immunotherapy 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 >>](#)

**Yale Cancer Innovation Awards**

YCC is requesting individual or team proposals for projects that have direct relevance to cancer research. This program is designed to support projects with the potential to significantly impact our understanding of and/or approaches to the prevention, diagnosis, or treatment of cancer.

**Notification of Intent:** May 21, 2018

**Application Deadline:** June 18, 2018

[Learn More >>](#)
Multiple Myeloma Research Foundation Research Fellow Award Program
The MMRF seeks proposals for the 2018 Research Fellow Award Program, an initiative supporting researchers at the post-doctorate/medical fellow or junior faculty levels working under the supervision or guidance of a research mentor in the multiple myeloma field.

**Application Deadline:** May 25, 2018
[Learn More >>]

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 >>]

Epidemiologic Research on Emerging Risk Factors and Liver Cancer Susceptibility - R01
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 5, 2018
[Learn More >>]

**NIH Integration of Imaging and Fluid-Based Tumor Monitoring in Cancer Therapy-R01**
This FOA seeks research project (R01) grant applications describing projects that integrate imaging and fluid-based tumor monitoring (liquid biopsy) assays during cancer therapy in patients to determine the optimal use of those modalities.

**Application Deadline:** June 5, 2018
[Learn More >>]
NIH End-of-Life and Palliative Care Health Literacy: Improving Outcomes in Serious, Advanced Illness-R01/R21
This FOA seeks to stimulate research focused on identification of the key barriers to effective end-of-life and palliative care (EOLPC) health literacy in diverse settings and populations. Application Deadline: June 5, 2018
Learn More >>

NIH Biology of Lung, and Head and Neck Preneoplasias-R01/R21
This Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) seeks applications investigating mechanistic and biological aspects of preneoplasia leading to lung, and head and neck (HN) cancers. Application Deadline: 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 promote collaborative interactions among NIH and the USDA-NIFA supported nutrition researchers. Application Deadline: 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 >>

Cancer Immunology Program at Yale Cancer Center. Dr. Chen has been selected as one of this year’s Giants in Cancer Care by OncLive for advancing the field of oncology!

In a @nytimes article debating the use of #Immunotherapy on patients dying of cancer, @DanielPetrylak asks, “how can you ethically deny this to patients?”

It’s Testicular Cancer Awareness Month: Testicular cancer is the most common cancer among men, ages 15-34, but it’s also highly treatable. Brian Shuch, MD, shares some tips on how to stay ahead of it.

Dr. Charles Fuchs, @politikaterina, and Mr. Richard Gelb at @AACR and @AACI_Cancer Hill Day today in DC advocating for #cancer research and support from our legislature.

Dr. Francine Foss from @YaleCancer will be at the @UKCLG annual meeting, 3 May in Newcastle Upon Tyne to discuss #Tcell#lymphomas.

Calendar

Yale Climate Day
May 4; 9AM
Peabody Museum
A Campuswide Climate Summit
Learn More >>

Pathology Special Seminar
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 >>](#)

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
[Learn More >>](#)

**Recent Publications**

Therapeutic Potential of Gene-Modified Regulatory T Cells: From
Automated diagnosis of colon cancer using hyperspectral sensing.

Treatment with epigenetic agents profoundly inhibits tumor growth in leiomyosarcoma

A multi-center Phase 1 trial of ipilimumab in myelodysplastic syndrome patients following hypomethylating agent failure.

Spontaneous regionalization of esophageal cancer surgery: an analysis of the National CancerDatabase.

Factors associated with falls in older adults with cancer: a validated model from the Cancer and Aging Research Group.

Clustering multilayer omics data using MuNCut.
Chiu AS, Arnold BN, Hoag JR, Herrin J, Kim CH, Salazar MC, Monsalve AF, Jean RA, Blasberg JD, Detterbeck FC, Gross CP, Boffa DJ.
Read More >>

Treatment of refractory germ cell tumors in children with paclitaxel, ifosfamide, and carboplatin: A report from the Children's Oncology Group AGCT0521 study.
Pashankar F, Frazier AL, Krailo M, Xia C, Pappo AS, Malogolowkin M, Olson TA, Rodriguez-Galindo C.
Read More >>

Physician peer group characteristics and timeliness of breast cancer surgery.
Bachand J, Soulos PR, Herrin J, Pollack CE, Xu X, Ma X, Gross CP.
Read More >>

Pediatric Salivary Cancer: Epidemiology, Treatment Trends, and Association of Treatment Modality with Survival.
Morse E, Fujiwara RJT, Husain Z, Judson B, Mehra S.
Read More >>

Hypomethylating agents in relapsed and refractory AML: outcomes and their predictors in a large international patient cohort.
Read More >>

Neutral theory and the somatic evolution of cancer.
Cannataro VL, Townsend JP.
Read More >>
Leukemic Optic Nerve Infiltration Responds to Radiation and Blinatumomab.
Verter E, Yang A, Lim RP.
Read More >>

The Future of Immunotherapy: Reprogramming the Tumor Microenvironment
Laurie H. Glimcher, MD
Learn More >>

Surgery Grand Rounds
May 11; 7:30AM
FMP1094
Update on The Management of Prostate Cancer
Preston Sprenkle, MD
Learn More >>

Clinical Neuroscience Grand Rounds
May 11; 8AM
Cohen Auditorium
From Genomics to Care for Brain Tumor
Gelareh Zadeh, MD, PhD, FRCS
Learn More >>

Clinical Neuroscience Grand Rounds
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2nd Biennial Conference of the China Health Policy and Management Society (CHPAMS)/Day 1
May 11; 8:30
YSFH
Advances in Health Policy and Healthcare: The Road Ahead
Learn More >>

Hematology Research Seminar
May 11; 12PM
Brady Auditorium
Myeloma Clinical Trial Experience at Yale: Past, Present, and Future
Terri Parker, MD
Learn More >>

SCH/YCC Free Head and Neck Cancer Screenings
May 11; 3PM
YNHH, cafe
Learn More >>

Spring Concert of the Yale Medical Symphony Orchestra
May 11; 7PM
Harkness Auditorium
Learn More >>

2nd Biennial Conference of the China Health Policy and Management Society (CHPAMS)/Day 2
May 12; 8:30
Henry R. Luce Hall
Advances in Health Policy and Healthcare: The Road Ahead
Learn More >>

Smilow Screening & Prevention Informational Table
May 12; 10AM
Stetson Branch Library
2018 Yale SNMA-LMSA Community Health Fair
Learn More >>

Yale Cancer Answers
May 13; 7:30PM
WNPR
Skin Safety and Melanoma Treatment
Dale Han, MD
Learn More >>
Yale PET Center Seminar
May 14; 3PM
Brady Auditorium
ImmunoPET: Engineered antibodies for non-invasive profiling of tumors and immune responses
Anna M Wu, PhD
Learn More >>

MB&B Seminar
May 14; 4PM
Hope 110
Resolution of Topoisomerase 2 DNA-protein Crosslinks
Scott Williams, PhD
Learn More >>

Pathology Research in Progress Talks
May 15; 9:30AM
TAC N-107
Learn More >>

YCC Grand Rounds/Schnog Lecture
May 15; 12PM
55 Park Street
Targeting Cancer-Specific Vulnerabilities
Ronald DePinho, MD
Learn More >>

YCC Annual Retreat
May 16; 8AM
Yale’s West Campus
A Shared Vision Towards the Conquest of Cancer
Richard A Flavell, PhD, FRS
Learn More >>

Rheumatology Grand Rounds
May 16; 8AM
TAC N-203
Immune-related Adverse Events of Oncologic Immunotherapy: Checkpoint and Checkmate
David N Podell, MD, PhD, MACP, FACR
Learn More >>

2018 Medical Education (Med Ed) Day at Yale
May 16; 12PM
TAC N-107
Evolving Concepts in Learner Assessment: An Evidence Based Approach
Edward M. Hundert, MD
Learn More >>

Smilow Screening & Prevention Informational Table
May 17; 9AM
New Haven City Hall
City of New Haven Employee Health and Wellness Fair
Learn More >>

Pathology Grand Rounds
May 17; 12:30PM
LMP 1094
Learn More >>

Pharmacology Seminar Series
May 17; 12:30PM
Brady Auditorium
Found in Translation: How Preclinical Studies are Guiding Clinical Development of the BCL-2 Inhibitor Venetoclax
Joel Leverson, PhD
Learn More >>

Smilow Cancer Genetics and Prevention Program Seminar
May 17; 2:30PM
Cellular & Molecular Physiology Seminar Series
May 17; 4PM
SHM B-145
Cancer-Induced Thrombosis and Cardiovascular Disease: Leads to New Mechanisms
Katya Ravid, PhD

Smilow Wellness Workshop
May 17; 5:30PM
55 Park Street
Sound Therapy—Music of the mind and body
Beth Patella

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

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