October 16, 2020

**Announcements**

**Dr. George Yavorek**
**Practicing at L+M**

George Yavorek, MD, Instructor (Clinical) of Surgery, is now caring for patients with gastrointestinal cancers at the Smilow Cancer Hospital Care Center at Waterford and performing surgery at Lawrence + Memorial Hospital. Dr. Yavorek has over 25 years of experience in colorectal surgery, providing surgical and nonsurgical care to our patients. He received his medical degree from Jefferson College and completed his residency at Monmouth Medical Center. He went on to complete his fellowship at Grant Medical Center.

Dr. Yavorek specializes in benign and malignant diseases of the colon, rectum, and anus and has a special interest in robotic surgery for colon and rectal cancers. Dr. Yavorek will partner with Dr. Stephen Lattanzi (medical oncology) and Dr. Krishan Jethwa (radiation oncology) in Waterford to care for our patients with GI cancers.

**Dr. Mitchell Clark at Waterford Care Center**

Dr. Mitchell Clark was recently appointed an Assistant Professor of Obstetrics, Gynecology & Reproductive Sciences and partners with Elena Ratner, MD, Associate Professor of Obstetrics, Gynecology & Reproductive Sciences and Co-Chief for the Section of Gynecologic Oncology, to care for women with gynecological malignancies at the Waterford Care Center.

**News Center**

**Dr. Mehra Golshan on the Need for Breast Cancer Screening and Warning Signs of the Disease**

**Watch Now**

Breast Cancer Treatments Less ‘Radical,’ More Effective than Ever, Doctors Say
Dr. Clark received his medical degree from American University of the Caribbean School of Medicine and completed his residency in Obstetrics and Gynecology at Yale. He recently completed his fellowship as part of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology at the University of Toronto where he was also a Sub-Investigator in the Canadian Cancer Trials Group at Princess Margaret Cancer Centre. In 2017, he received an Award of Excellence in Minimally Invasive Gynecology from the American Association of Gynecologic Laparoscopists. His clinical focus is on high-risk ovarian cancer patients and sex and intimacy after a cancer diagnosis.

**Center for Community Engagement and Health Equity Survey**
The NCI has increasingly emphasized the importance of community outreach and engagement for funded Cancer Centers and we have invested in the creation of the Center for Community Engagement and Health Equity to support this priority area. Please help the Center for Community Engagement and Health Equity to build programs that are responsive to member needs by providing your input through participation in this survey.

*Survey Link*

**RR-DT Retreat a Success**
Thank you to the leadership of our Radiotherapy and Radiobiology Research Program (Megan King, PhD, and Joseph Contessa, MD, PhD) and our Developmental Therapeutics Research Program (Karen Anderson, PhD, and Barbara Burtness, MD) for leading an outstanding joint retreat on Wednesday afternoon. Discussion evolved from presentations by both RR and DT members, and a guest presentation by Katherine Nathanson, MD, Deputy Director of the Abramson Cancer Center, on *DNA Damage and Immunological Features in BRCA1/2 Mutant cancers*.

**Geriatric Oncology Survey**
Please take a moment to complete a survey on utilization of ASCO Geriatric Assessment tools from the Community Outreach and Engagement team. This survey is open to physicians and fellows at Smilow Cancer Hospital and our Care Centers.

*Survey Link*

**Luminary Award Nominations**
Last year, we launched the Smilow Luminary Awards to recognize staff or teams that have gone beyond the call to advance the various missions of YCC and SCH. We are pleased to announce a request for nominations for the 2020 Smilow Luminary Awards. Please take time to submit a nomination for a deserving colleague or team member who has made a significant impact on our organization and the broader healthcare community.

*Survey Link*
nominations for the 2020 Smilow Luminary Awards. Please take time to recognize and nominate your colleagues who consistently exceed performance expectations and deliver high quality cancer care for our patients, families, and the health system through community service, optimization and innovative solutions, patient experience, leadership, and research initiatives. The deadline for nominations is October 30.

Submit a Nomination

Holiday Party
Please save the date to join us on Wednesday, December 9 at 5pm for a virtual party to celebrate the holiday season with Smilow Cancer Hospital and Yale Cancer Center faculty, nurses, scientists, and staff. Families are welcome! To help celebrate the holiday season, we are compiling 10-15 second video messages that we can play during the festivities to share well wishes with the YCC & SCH team! If you are interested in recording a video message with your clinic or lab colleagues, please contact Anna Raso for more information.

Learn More

Notables

Craig Crews, PhD, John C. Malone Professor of Molecular, Cellular and Developmental Biology and Professor of Chemistry and Pharmacology and of Management, has been awarded the 2020 Heinrich Wieland Prize from the Boehringer Ingelheim Foundation in recognition of his research on PROTACS and proteasome inhibitor therapies.

Learn More

Sidi Chen, PhD, Assistant Professor of Genetics at Yale School of Medicine, and a member of the Yale West Campus Systems Biology Institute, has been awarded a $500,000 research grant from Alliance for Cancer Gene Therapy (ACGT) to advance Multiplexed Activation of Endogenous Genes as an Immunotherapy or MAEGI technology.

Learn More

The National Institutes of Health has awarded a Research Project Cooperative Agreement Grant to Yale Cancer Center. The 2-year, $1.4 million U01 award, led by Stephanie Halene, MD, PhD, Associate Professor of Medicine (Hematology) and Interim Chief of Hematology, and Rong Fan, PhD, Professor of Biomedical Engineering, will fund immuno-serological assays for monitoring COVID-19 in patients with hematologic malignancies.

Learn More

Robert Legare, MD, Associate Clinical Professor of Medicine (Medical Oncology) and Medical Director of the Smilow Cancer Hospital Care Centers in Westerly and Waterford, has been selected as the recipient of the 2020 Dr. Joseph DiMase Memorial Healthcare Professional Award. Dr. Joseph DiMase was the founder of Screening Colonoscopies for Uninsured Persons (SCUP) program in Rhode Island, which served hundreds of uninsured Rhode Islanders, ultimately saved lives, and will continue to screen those at risk for colorectal cancer. Dr. Legare has always been a champion for...
The Yale Surgery Citizen Awards Committee has named **Nina Horowitz, MD**, Assistant Professor of Surgery (Oncology), the inaugural recipient of **The Dr. Walter E. Longo MD Award**.

**Learn More**

Megan C. King, PhD, Associate Professor of Cell Biology and of Molecular, Cellular and Development Biology, has been named an **Allen Distinguished Investigator** by the Paul G. Allen Frontiers Group, a division of the Allen Institute. Dr. King is a co-leader of a project receiving $1.5 million for a three-year period to study the physical and molecular forces that maintain the correct size of our cells’ largest organelle, the nucleus, which maintains a consistent volume in healthy cells, but whose size maintenance is often thrown out of whack in such diseases as cancer.

**Learn More**

Timil Patel, MD, hematology/oncology fellow, was selected for the **2020/2021 FDA-AACR Oncology Educational Fellowship**. The educational fellowship increases familiarity and experience with oncology drug development and the regulatory review process.

Michael DiGiovanna, MD, PhD, and Michael Hurwitz, MD, PhD, were both promoted to **Associate Professor of Medicine (Medical Oncology)**.

We are proud to announce that the **Norma Pfriem Breast Center** has been reaccredited by the **National Accreditation Program for Breast Centers** at all three of its locations: Fairfield, Bridgeport and Trumbull.

The **Yale SPORE in Lung Cancer** has awarded the **2020 Career Enhancement Program** and **Developmental Research Program Awards**. These awards aim to educate the next generation of investigators committed to translational research in lung cancer and support studies with a strong translational component. Awardees are as follows:

**Career Enhancement Program:**

Sanjay Aneja, MD, Assistant Professor of Therapeutic Radiology | **Deriving Imaging Based Biomarkers for Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer using Deep Learning**

Mentors: Harlan Krumholz, Roy S. Herbst

Luisa Escobar-Hoyos, PhD, MSc, Assistant Professor of Therapeutic Radiology | **RNA splicing as a novel therapeutic target in lung cancers with mutant p53**

Mentors: Katerina Politi, Sarah Goldberg

Michael Hurwitz, PhD, MD, Assistant Professor of Medicine (Medical Oncology) | **Expansion and Activation of TIL from NSCLC**

Mentors: Scott Gettinger, Diane Krauss

**Read More**
Rachel Perry, PhD, BS, Assistant Professor, Medicine/Endocrinology and Cellular & Molecular Physiology | Defining the Mechanism by which Obesity May Protect Against Lung Cancer
Mentors: Katerina Politi, Nikhil Joshi

Sarah Weiss, MD, Assistant Professor (Medical Oncology) | Overcoming resistance to immune checkpoint inhibition by co-targeting the innate and adaptive immune systems in NSCLC
Mentor: Scott Gettinger

Developmental Research Program
Barbara Burtness, MD, Professor of Medicine (Medical Oncology) | Combined AURKA and WEE1 targeting inhibits a druggable effector pathway in KRAS mutant lung carcinoma

Anne Chiang, MD, PhD, Associate Professor of Medicine (Medical Oncology); Chief Network Officer and Deputy Chief Medical Officer, Smilow Cancer Network and Katerina Politi, PhD, Associate Professor of Pathology | Exploring defects in MHC I antigen presentation in SCLC with acquired resistance to immunotherapy

Nikhil Joshi, PhD, Assistant Professor of Immunobiology and Joseph Craft, MD, Paul B. Beeson Professor of Medicine (Rheumatology) and Professor of Immunobiology | Investigating T and B cell responses against lung cancer in genetically-engineered animal models

Carla Rothlin, PhD, Dorys McConnell Duberg Professor of Immunobiology and Professor of Pharmacology and Sourav Ghosh, PhD, Associate Professor of Neurology and Pharmacology | Target validation and proof-of-concept for MERTK inhibition in preclinical models of lung cancer

Jeff Townsend, PhD, Elihu Professor of Biostatistics and Professor of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology and Karen Anderson, PhD, Professor of Pharmacology and of Molecular Biophysics and Biochemistry | Probing the Role of the Supermutator, APOBEC3B, in Lung Cancer

NCCN Updates

As an institutional member of the National Comprehensive Cancer Network (NCCN), all of our faculty and staff are eligible for free access to NCCN Content on NCCN.org including the NCCN Clinical Practice Guidelines in Oncology (NCCN Guidelines®) and the NCCN Guidelines for Patients® with website registration.

Additional resources include:
- NCCN Drugs & Biologics Compendium
- NCCN Biomarkers Compendium®
- NCCN Imaging Appropriate Use Criteria
- NCCN Radiation Therapy Compendium™
- NCCN Chemotherapy Order Templates

Follow Yale Cancer Center on Twitter

Follow us on twitter

Congratulations to @CraigMCrews awarded the 2020 Heinrich Wieland Prize for his work on #PROTACS and targeted protein degradation.

Register to join us next Tuesday for a #CME #BrainTumor Management Update for Community Providers. Presenters include @ranjitbindra @NicholasBlondin, Dr. Jennifer Moliterno, and Dr. Antonio Omuro

Join us at Noon today for @YaleCancer virtual Grand Rounds presented by Dr. Daniel Boffa. "New safety & effectiveness of care..."
Employee Profile: Anthony Harris

When a delivery comes in to the loading dock at Yale New Haven Hospital, chances are Anthony Harris, Supervisor for Materials Services, played a role in its safe arrival and subsequent redistribution to the correct location. Anything from napkins to OR equipment passes through the warehouse where Anthony is also a Manager. Currently wearing two hats, the work load for Anthony never slows and varies from day to day.

Over his 42 years at Yale, Anthony has held many different positions and has seen a lot of growth and changes. “When you stop and think about it, it’s amazing how much we have grown. But my main goal has always remained the same, and that is to accommodate the patient and make their stay here just a little better if I can,” said Anthony. He often finds himself tracking down orders when a package has been mislabeled, or a name misspelled. Whether it is a flower delivery or important medical records being delivered, what matters to Anthony is making sure it gets to the right person without delay.

Carolyn Truini, Coordinator for Smilow Cancer Hospital’s Department of Operations, commented, “Anthony always responds quickly, understands what I don’t understand about the process, and makes sure necessary items for our teams are found and quickly brought to the appropriate units. He is a great team member!”

Eric Warmoth, Material Services Manager at Yale New Haven Hospital said, “Anthony’s hard work and dedication to YNHH over the past forty-two years has been nothing short of amazing. Anthony’s customer service skills are a model to us all. When the time comes for Anthony to retire he will truly be irreplaceable.”

Recent Publications

Impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on telehealth research in cancer prevention and care: A call to sustain telehealth advances.
Cancer, 10.1002/cncr.33227. Advance online publication.


Funding and Award Opportunities

Nominations for Annual YCC Awards
Yale Cancer Center is pleased to announce our call for nominations for our annual awards in the areas of excellence in research, teaching, mentorship, and clinical care. Each award will be announced at the Yale Cancer Center Conclave in January. The nomination deadline for all awards (unless otherwise noted) is Monday, November 2nd.

Learn More

Women's Health Research at Yale (WHRY) Pilot Project Grants: Studying Women and the Influence of Sex & Gender on Health
- General Annual Pilot Project Award: research designed to meet a clear need in advancing women’s health.
- Area-specific Pilot Project Award: research in the areas of depression, Alzheimer’s disease, and other brain-based conditions such as autism spectrum disorder; cancers, especially endometrial cancer; or autoimmune disorders, particularly thyroid disease.
- Wendy U. & Thomas C. Naratil Pioneer Award: new and highly inventive research designed to achieve a breakthrough or ongoing research where funding is needed to achieve its aims of discovery.

Letter of Intents Due: October 22, 2020

Learn More

Aging, Cancer-Initiating Cells, and Cancer Development (U01)
Through this FOA, the NCI and National Institute on Aging will promote research to advance the understanding of the mechanistic factors and cellular interactions during aging that contribute to cancer initiation.

Application Deadline: October 27, 2020

Learn More

Visualization Methods and Tools Development for Enhancing Cancer Moonshot Data (R33 Clinical Trial Not Allowed)
The purpose of this FOA is to stimulate the development of new cancer data visualization methods and tools that have the potential to make data aligned with the Cancer Moonshot more explorable and interpretable by the broader cancer research community.

Application Deadline: October 30, 2020

Learn More

Translational-Targeted Area of Research Excellence (T-TARE)
The purpose of the T-TARE is to provide seed money in support of cancer related studies—such as investigator-initiated trials (IITs) and multi-investigator programs—that are fundamentally translational, as the term is defined by the National Cancer Institute, and can be expected to result in (a) the advancement of a novel therapeutic or therapeutic strategy from early phase investigation to more advanced clinical study and/or (b) the submission of a multi-investigator grant application, such as a multi-investigator R01, P01 or SPORE.

Learn More
Cancer Research Institute Cancer Immunotherapy Translational Research Grant
- This grant will support basic, pre-clinical, and translational research that will provide information that can be directly applied to optimizing cancer immunotherapy in the clinic.
**Letter of Intent Due:** November 1, 2020
**Read More**

Innovative Research in Cancer Nanotechnology (IRCN) (R01 Clinical Trial Not Allowed)
- This FOA encourages applications promoting transformative discoveries in cancer biology and/or oncology through the use of nanotechnology.
**Application Deadline:** November 4, 2020
**Read More**

NCI Outstanding Investigator Award (R35)
- The objective of the NCI OIA is to provide long-term support to accomplished investigators with outstanding records of cancer research productivity who propose to conduct exceptional research.
**Application Deadline:** November 6, 2020
**Read More**

NCI Pediatric In Vivo Testing Program (U01)
- This FOA is for Research Teams to form the NCI Pediatric in Vivo Testing Program (henceforth termed the Ped-In Vivo-TP).
**Application Deadline:** November 9, 2020
**Read More**

Pershing Square Sohn Prize for Young Investigators in Cancer Research
- The Pershing Square Sohn Prize for Young Investigators in Cancer Research provides greater New York City area-based early career scientists the freedom to take risks and pursue their boldest research at a stage when traditional funding is lacking.
**Letter of Intent Due:** November 9, 2020
**Read More**

3D Technologies to Accelerate HTAN Atlas Building Efforts (UH2)
- Through this FOA, the NCI, as a part of its Beau Biden Cancer Moonshot Initiative, invites submission of applications requesting support for projects that will accelerate cancer research.
**Application Deadline:** November 9, 2020
**Read More**

Tobacco Control Policies to Promote Health Equity (R01 and R21)
- The purpose of these FOAs are to support observational or intervention research focused on reducing disparities in tobacco use and secondhand smoke (SHS) exposure in the U.S.
**Application Deadline:** November 12, 2020
**Read More**
Genomic Data Analysis Network: Genomic Data Center (U24)
This FOA is designed to support genomic programs managed by the Center for Cancer Genomics (CCG). The overall goal of all CCG programs is to help elucidate the mechanisms of cancer initiation and evolution, as well as resistance to therapy by means of genomic characterization of well-annotated, high quality tumor samples.
Application Deadline: November 12, 2020
Read More

Core Infrastructure Support for Cancer Epidemiology Cohorts (U01 Clinical Trial Not Allowed)
Through this FOA, the NCI encourages grant applications for support of the core functions of Cancer Epidemiology Cohorts (CECs), as well as methodological research. This FOA is intended to support the maintenance of existing CECs infrastructure and resource sharing with broader scientific communities.
Application Deadline: November 12, 2020
Read More

DoD Rare Cancers Research Program
These FOAs aim to greatly improve outcomes for people with rare cancer through discovery and community building, and expansion of knowledge across the cancer landscape.
- Concept Award – Letter of Intent Due: November 12, 2020
- Idea Development Award – Letter of Intent Due: November 12, 2020
- Resource and Community Development Award – Letter of Intent Due: November 12, 2020
Read More

Cancer Research Institute Technology Impact Award
The program is designed to encourage collaboration between technology developers and clinical cancer immunologists. The ultimate aim of this program is to advance technologies that can speed up the entire field’s efforts in addressing one of the most defining challenges of our time—developing immunotherapies that are effective for all cancer patients.
Letter of Intent Due: November 15, 2020
Read More

Yale Cancer Center Postdoctoral Career Transition Awards
These 1-year awards will support outstanding senior trainees that have demonstrated exceptional productivity at the postdoctoral level and are ready to transition into the next stage of their careers as independent cancer researchers.
Internal Application Deadline: November 15, 2020
Read More

The NCI Predoctoral to Postdoctoral Fellow Transition Award (F99/K00)
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: November 18, 2020
Read More

Submissions
Please submit your recent publications, awards, and grant announcements to:
Renee Gaudette
Director, Public Affairs and Communications

Endocrine Workshop
October 28, 4:00 PM
My Approach to Endocrine Htn and the Patient with an Adrenal Mass
Olga Sakharova, MD
Learn More

Smilow Shares
October 28, 7:00 PM
Breast Cancer Awareness, presented by the Smilow Cancer Hospital Care Centers in Waterford and Westerly
Mehra Golshan, MD, MBA | Anca Bulgaru, MD | Robert Legare, MD | Meena Moran, MD
Learn More

Yale General Internal Medicine Clinical Conference Meeting
October 29, 7:30 AM
Sangini Sheth, MD, MPH
Learn More

Yale Cancer Center Seminar
October 29; 11:00 AM
Moving Forward: The Transition from Pediatric to Adult Care in Sickle Cell Disease
Cecelia Calhoun, MD, MPH
Learn More

Pathology Grand Rounds
October 29; 12:30 PM
Update on the Pathology of Myeloid Neoplasms
Daniel Arber, MD
Learn More

Cancer Genetics and Prevention Program
October 29; 2:30 PM
Learn More

Microbiology Graduate Program Seminar
October 29; 4:00 PM
Identifying and Rationally Modulating Cellular Drivers of Enhanced and Diminished Immunity
Alex K. Shalek, PhD
Learn More
Limited Competition: Childhood Cancer Survivor Study (U24 Clinical Trial Required)
The purpose of this limited competition FOA is to continue support for the Childhood Cancer Survivor Study as a resource enabling broad studies on the long-term effects of cancer and its associated therapies on survivors of pediatric and adolescent cancers.

Application Deadline: November 18, 2020

Glioblastoma Therapeutics Network (U19)
The overall goal of this FOA is to improve the treatment of adult glioblastoma (GBM) by developing novel effective agents that can cross the blood brain barrier (BBB) and testing them in the clinic.

Application Deadline: November 19, 2020

AACR Clinical Oncology Research (CORE) Training Fellowship
This award is designed to provide an effective industry-academic clinical practicum with a unique training opportunity to develop academic clinicians in drug development.

Application Deadline: November 30, 2020

Investigation of the Transmission of Kaposi Sarcoma-Associated Herpesvirus (KSHV) (R01)
Through this FOA, the NCI intends to advance our understanding of: the modes of transmission of Kaposi sarcoma-associated herpesvirus (KSHV), also called human herpesvirus-8 (HHV-8); the biology of the initial steps of infection; and the risk factors for infection.

Application Deadline: December 15, 2020

Alex's Lemonade Stand RUNX1 Early Career Investigator Grant
The RUNX1 Early Career Investigator grant is a 3-year award designed to fund research in strategies leading to the development of therapies to prevent the transition from pre-leukemia to leukemia for patients with RUNX1-FPD.

Application Deadline: December 16, 2020

2021 K12 Immuno-Oncology Training Program (IOTP) Scholar Awards
We are pleased to solicit applications for the Yale Cancer Center (YCC) K12 Calabresi Immuno-Oncology Training Program (IOTP) Scholar Award for junior faculty to enhance research skills beyond the training provided during graduate and postgraduate training.

Application Deadline: January 4, 2021

NCI Research Specialist Awards
- Core-Based Award: Application Deadline - January 4, 2021

IOTP Award Instructions
IOTP Award Application
Core-Based Award:  **Application Deadline** - January 4, 2021
This FOA invites grant applications in any area of NCI-funded cancer research. This FOA is specifically for core/shared resource/central scientific support scientists.

Laboratory-Based Award:  **Application Deadline** - January 4, 2021
This FOA invites grant applications in any area of NCI-funded cancer research. This FOA is specifically for laboratory-based scientists.

**Read More**

**Specialized Programs of Research Excellence (SPOREs) in Human Cancers for Years 2021, 2022, and 2023 (P50)**
Through this FOA, the NCI and National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research (NIDCR) invite applications for P50 Research Center Grants for Specialized Programs of Research Excellence (SPORE)

**Application Deadline:** January 25, 2021

**Read More**

**Clinical Translation of Activated Optical Fluorescence Methods and Technologies for Sensitive Cancer Detection in Vivo (R01)**
The purpose of this FOA is to bring a highly sensitive imaging technology capable of detecting very small (1-3 mm³) tumors in vivo to clinical utility.

**Application Deadline:** February 10, 2021

**Read More**

**JH Milstone Fund 2021**
This FOA supports early stage investigators and innovative research and education in thrombosis, thrombolysis and hemostasis. Proposals may focus on any aspect of thrombosis, thrombolysis and hemostasis – including biochemistry, genetics, clinical evaluation and testing, quality improvement and treatment. Please contact richard.carr@yale.edu for more information.

**Letter of Intent Due:** March 1, 2021

**Cancer Grand Challenges Program**
The NCI and Cancer Research UK (CRUK) are partnering to fund the Cancer Grand Challenges program. Cancer Grand Challenges will fund novel ideas by multidisciplinary research teams from around the world that offer the potential to advance bold cancer research and improve outcomes for people affected by cancer. These nine challenges are aimed at solving complex problems in cancer research, which, if solved, could have a transformative impact towards progress.

**Application Deadline:** April 22, 2021

**Read More**