

April 27, 2012

Announcements



Lajos Puztai Named Head of Breast Medical Oncology

I am pleased to announce the appointment of Lajos Puztai, MD, DPhil, a distinguished medical oncologist with great success in translational cancer medicine, to lead the breast cancer medical oncology team at Smilow Cancer Hospital at Yale-New Haven and as director of the breast cancer research group and co-director of the Cancer Genetics Research Program.

Dr. Puztai joins Yale Cancer Center and

Smilow Cancer Hospital from The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center; he will begin his new appointment at Yale on August 1, 2012.

Dr. Puztai has a remarkable ability to integrate basic breast cancer research to improve outcomes and develop new treatment options for women with breast cancer. His research focuses on the developing pharmacogenomic markers of response to breast cancer therapy and identifying methods to select the optimal treatment for each patient. His goal is to discover the next generation of tamoxifen- and trastuzumab-like drugs through the identification of critical drug targets in human breast cancer. Dr. Puztai is principal investigator of several clinical trials investigating new drugs and molecular predictors of disease outcome.



Ted Tsangaris Joins the Breast Center at Smilow

Also joining the Breast Center team at Smilow is Dr. Theodore Tsangaris. Dr. Tsangaris has been appointed the Medical Director of Breast Services for the Smilow Cancer Hospital Network. He will help us in future endeavors with other campuses, as we develop a more

from the desk of

Thomas J. Lynch, Jr., MD

Director, Yale Cancer Center

Physician-in-Chief Smilow Cancer

Hospital at Yale-New Haven



**Countdown to
the CCSG
Submission**

**There are
151 days...**

**until our CCSG
grant is due on
September 25,
2012.**

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Center on Facebook**

prominent footprint in the state.

Dr. Tsangaris' research interests include breast cancer prevention, identification of tumor markers, and sentinel lymph node dissection, as well as other surgical procedures in the treatment of breast cancer. He is currently Chief of Breast Surgery and Director of the Johns Hopkins Avon Breast Center at the Sidney Kimmel Comprehensive Cancer Center. He is also a Commander in the United States Navy Reserve. Dr. Tsangaris will join the Breast Center faculty on July 1, 2012.

Mike Dixon will Visit Yale

Professor Mike Dixon, MD, an internationally renowned breast surgeon and Director of the Breakthrough Research Unit from Edinburgh, Scotland, will be joining us as a Visiting Professor on a three-month sabbatical starting in mid-August. Mike is well-known for innovative surgical techniques, neoadjuvant endocrine therapy studies, and translational science in personalized medicine. He will be involved in the clinical, educational and research missions of the Breast Center while he is here, and we are looking forward to welcoming him to the Breast Center team.

Yale Cancer Center Retreat - May 15

I would like to invite you to join us at the annual Yale Cancer Center Retreat, to be held on May 15th, 7:30am-5:00pm, at the Waterview in Monroe, CT. The goal of our retreat is to foster scientific and social interactions among faculty, post-docs, and students affiliated with YCC. The program will include a full agenda of scientific presentations and discussions.

Presentations by: Karen Anderson, Marcus Bosenberg, Joe Contessa, Daniel DiMaio, Ayman Sayed El Guindy, Scott Gettinger, Roy Herbst, Melinda Irwin, Beth Jones, Megan King, Anthony Koleske, Richard Lifton, Brett Lindenbach, Thomas Lynch, Steve Ma, Andrew Philips, Warren Shlomchik, Frank Slack, David Stern, and John Wysolmerski. Please RSVP to [Christine Holmberg](#).

Discovery to Cure Seeks Labs to Participate in Internship Program

The Discovery to Cure High School Internship Program needs scientists to mentor one of the outstanding young interns who will be accepted into this year's Program. The Program will provide every participating lab with a \$500 stipend for every student that it mentors. Students may be mentored by a PI, MD, postdoc, or research assistant in your lab. Admittance is competitive and based on an initial recommendation from the students' science teachers, followed by a formal application that is reviewed by the Discovery to Cure High School Internship Committee. All students chosen to participate agree to complete the entire Program are given comprehensive lab

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Links of Interest

Cancer Survivors Day Invitation

[Learn More >>](#)

Research in Progress

Video presentations from Yale Cancer Center faculty on current research projects are now available online.

[Learn More >>](#)

In the News

Read recent articles featuring experts from Yale Cancer Center.

[Learn More >>](#)

Subscribe to Yale Cancer Center Answers on iTunes

Yale Cancer Center's weekly radio program on CT Public Radio is ranked number 2 in the world for cancer programs on iTunes. Subscribe to the show.

[Learn More >>](#)

Yale Cancer Center Grand Rounds

Video presentations from Yale Cancer Center members are now available online.

[Learn More >>](#)

DirectConnect Archives

[Learn More >>](#)

Events

Yale Melanoma Symposium Co-Sponsored by AIM at Melanoma

April 28; 9:00 AM

The Anlyan Center

Presentations from members of

safety and HIPAA training by Yale OEHS prior to beginning the Program. To learn more, please contact [Joann Bilyard](#).

Smilow Updates

Ostomy Clinic

Smilow Cancer Hospital is now offering an Ostomy Clinic for all patients who have an ileostomy, colostomy, or urostomy. Lucinda Pinchot, BSN CWOCRN is a certified Ostomy Nurse (Enterostomal Nurse) who has been giving ostomy care for 15 years and specializes in difficult to manage ostomies and patient and family education regarding ostomy care. If you have patients with an ostomy, Lucinda is available to assist them with quality of life issues and managing an ostomy. Please call (203) 200-4422 to schedule an appointment.

New Staff

Chileshe Ferris recently started as an Intake Specialist for the Melanoma Program at Smilow Cancer Hospital.

In the News

Two Video Clips:

[Lung Cancer Hope: A Story from NBC 30](#)

[Smilow Gets Personal to Treat Lung Cancer](#)



the Melanoma Program
Patients and families are invited to attend.
[Learn More >>](#) (PDF)

Yale Cancer Center Answers

April 29; 6:00 PM

WNPR

Yale Small Molecule Discovery Center

Michael Kinch, PhD

[Learn More >>](#)

Yale Cancer Center Grand Rounds

May 1; 12:00 PM

55 Park Street

Direct-to-Consumer Genetic Testing: Helpful, Harmful, or Pure Entertainment?

Ellen Matloff, MS

Engineering Strategies for

Genitourinary Tumors

Christopher Hoimes, DO

[Learn More >>](#) (PDF)

Research in Progress

Lecture Series

May 2; 7:00 AM

SCH 4-101A

Presentations by:

Terri Parker and Lingeng Tian

Yale Cancer Center Answers

May 6; 6:00 PM

WNPR

Melanoma and Metastases

Harriet Kluger, MD

[Learn More >>](#)

Yale Cancer Center Grand Rounds

May 8; 12:00 PM

55 Park Street

Challenges in the Development of Cancer Drugs and Diagnostics: Can BATTLE and SPYs Help?

Eric Rubin, MD

[Learn More >>](#) (PDF)

Schwartz Center Rounds

May 10; 12:00 PM

55 Park Street

When a Patient Doesn't Believe in the Patient's Best Interest

Employee Profile: Savannah Woods

The Employee Profile recognizes the diverse contributions made by Yale Cancer Center and Smilow Cancer Hospital staff have to meet our patient care, research, education, and outreach goals. The staff profiled are examples of the great work being done here, and the dedication and values we possess. To suggest someone to be profiled, please contact [Emily Fenton](#).



Since Savannah Woods, Fellowship Coordinator for the Yale Medical Oncology-Hematology Program, started at Yale seven years ago, the program, along with her job title, have grown dramatically. Originally, Savannah oversaw 15 fellows in Medical Oncology. In 2010 she took on the Hematology Fellowship and this year, the Medical Oncology and Hematology Fellowship Programs received approval to become a combined fellowship, and Savannah is now responsible for 21 fellows, with three more to be added over the next three years.

Savannah is responsible for managing changes to clinic schedules, the set up of weekly didactic lectures, conferences and meetings, as well as coordination of the annual application process for recruitment of new fellows to the program. She organizes the applicant interviews, as well as the credentials process for incoming fellows. Additionally, she coordinates the annual fellow orientation and graduation. "The Yale Medical Oncology-Hematology Program is now one of the largest programs here at Yale. In order to keep everything running smoothly and meet continual deadlines, one must be a self-starter, committed to the job at hand and constantly aware of ongoing changes. It's important to have ownership of the job you are doing, and staying organized is key," said Savannah.

The Program also holds a quarterly meeting where any issues are brought up, and Savannah, along with Program Director Dr.

Pathology Grand Rounds

May 10; 12:30 PM

LMP 1094

Viruses and Cancer: A Historical Review

S. David Hudnall, MD

[Learn More >>](#)

Oncology CME Series: Lung Cancer

May 10; 5:00 PM

SCH 4-101 A and B

Presentations from members of the Thoracic Oncology Program

Hosted by Tom Lynch, MD

[Learn More >>](#)

New Faculty Recruits (May 2009 - Present)

Alexander Au

Plastic Surgery

Anees Chagpar

Surgical Oncology

Sandy Chang

Lab Medicine

Anne Chiang

Medical Oncology

Lieping Chen

Immunobiology

Deborah Chirnomas

Pediatric Oncology

Joseph Contessa

Therapeutic Radiology

Shari Damast

Therapeutic Radiology

Suzanne Evans

Therapeutic Radiology

Leonard Farber

Medical Oncology

Bonnie Gould Rothberg

Medical Oncology

Valentina Greco

Genetics

Stephanie Halene

Jill Lacy, are tasked with resolving them. Between interacting with the fellows on a daily basis, dealing with last minute requests, and training on new systems, Savannah's job is non-stop. Her supervisor, Jennifer Mulligan, Associate Director of Finance and Administration, commented, "Savannah's position as Fellowship Coordinator has grown tremendously since she first started. In addition to implementing many new processes and systems, she has taken on the combined Medical Oncology and Hematology Fellowship Programs. Her job takes hard work and dedication, and Savannah exemplifies both."

Funding Opportunities

Yale School of Public Health Ovarian Cancer Research Grants

This annual award is made possible by a generous gift from the Tina Brozman Foundation. The award is to provide funding for a pilot project in ovarian cancer prevention, detection, and survivorship research, which would ultimately lead to national peer-reviewed grants.

Professors, Associate Professors, Assistant Professors, and Research Track faculty of all ranks are eligible to apply. There are no restrictions for citizenship. A one-year grant up to \$25,000 will be awarded and will commence on July 1, 2012.

Application Deadline: May 31, 2012

[Learn More >>](#)

Ovarian Cancer Research Fund Grants

Program Project Development Grants (\$900,000)

provide funds for ovarian cancer research projects that may involve several investigators within one institution or collaborations between groups in multiple institutions.

Liz Tilberis Scholars Awards (\$450,000) are for investigators in their first academic faculty appointment.

This award is open to physician-scientists (Gynecologic Oncology, Medical Oncology) and PhD scientists.

Ann Schreiber Research Training Programs of

Excellence Grant (\$75,000) funds post-doctoral trainees working in established ovarian cancer research groups.

Letters of Intent Due: May 29, 2012

[Learn More >>](#)

Department of Defense Lung Cancer Research Program Grants

Idea Development Award Independent investigators at or above the level of an Assistance Professor (or equivalent); must be within 10 years of first faculty appointment.

Hematology

Roy Herbst
Medical Oncology

Howard Hochster
Medical Oncology

Erin Hofstatter
Medical Oncology

Nina Horowitz
Surgical Oncology

Michael Hurwitz
Medical Oncology

Iris Isufi
Hematology

Benjamin Judson
Otolaryngology

Jennifer Kapo
Geriatrics

Peter Koo
Medical Oncology

Alfred Lee
Hematology

Arthur Levy
Medical Oncology

Miguel Materin
Ophthalmology

Daniel Morgensztern
Medical Oncology

Don Nguyen
Pathology

Abhijit Patel
Therapeutic Radiology

Nikolai Podoltsev
Hematology

Katie Politi
Pathology

Lajos Pusztai
Medical Oncology

John Roberts
Medical Oncology

Tara Sanft
Medical Oncology

Peter Schulam

Supports new ideas that are in the early stages of development, which represent innovative, high-risk/high-gain research that could lead to critical discoveries or major advances that will accelerate progress toward eradicating deaths from lung cancer.

Maximum funding of \$350K for direct costs (plus indirect costs).

Maximum period of performance is 2 years.

Translational Research Partnership Award

Investigators at or above the level of Assistant Professor (or equivalent).

Partnership: One investigator must be a laboratory scientist, and the other must be a clinician.

Supports partnership[s] between clinicians and laboratory scientists that accelerate the movement of promising ideas in lung cancer into clinical applications.

Preliminary data required, but may be from outside of lung cancer.

Clinical trials are not allowed.

Maximum combined funding of \$900K for direct costs (plus indirect costs).

Maximum period of performance is 3 years.

Pre- Application Deadline: May 30, 2012

[Learn More >>](#)

Interagency Oncology Task Force Fellowship Opportunity

The Interagency Oncology Task Force (IOTF), a joint initiative between The National Cancer Institute (NCI) and the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA), is now accepting applications for program 3: Oncology Product Research/Review Fellows.

This is a unique fellowship training opportunity for Ph.D.s, M.D.s, and M.D./Ph.D.s with three to five years of postdoctoral training in a cancer-related topic.

This fellowship will train individuals in the aspects of research and review of medical product development process to facilitate the movement of drugs, biologics, and devices from the bench to the bedside. Participants will spend up to two years at FDA and receive formal training and mentoring, and will participate in medical product development research projects. Graduates of this program will develop skills of value to academia, the pharmaceutical industry, and government agencies.

Application Deadline: May 30, 2012

[Learn More >>](#)

2012 Outstanding Investigator Award for Breast Cancer Research

The American Association for Cancer Research announces a call for nominations for the 2012 AACR Outstanding Investigator Award for Breast Cancer Research, funded by Susan G. Komen for the Cure®.

Urology

Fatma Shebl

Epidemiology

Stacey Stein

Medical Oncology

Matthew Strout

Hematology

Theodore Tsangaris

Surgical Oncology

Narendra Wajapeyee

Pathology

Qin Yan

Pathology

Submissions

Please submit your recent publication and grant announcements to:

Renee Gaudette

Director, Public Affairs and Marketing

renee.gaudette@yale.edu

 **Forward to a Friend**

The AACR Outstanding Investigator Award for Breast Cancer Research is awarded to an investigator of no more than 50 years of age whose novel work has had or may have a far-reaching impact on the etiology, detection, diagnosis, treatment or prevention of breast cancer. The work for which the individual is recognized may involve any discipline across the continuum of biomedical research, including basic, translational, clinical and epidemiological studies.

Nomination Deadline: May 16, 2012

[Learn More >>](#)

Recent Publications

[DTCs/CTCs in Breast Cancer: Five Decades Later.](#)

Alsamarai S, Abu-Khalaf MM, Harris LN.
Recent Results Cancer Res. 2012;195:217-25.

[Simultaneous Medullary and Differentiated Thyroid Cancer: A Population-Level Analysis of an Increasingly Common Entity.](#)

Wong RL, Kazaure HS, Roman SA, Sosa JA.
Ann Surg Oncol. 2012 Apr 17.

[Cancer nurse as cancer survivor.](#)

McCorkle R.
Cancer Nurs. 2012 May;35(3):245-6.

[Lessons Learned from Randomized Clinical Trials of Micronutrient Supplementation for Cancer Prevention.](#)

Mayne ST, Ferrucci LM, Cartmel B.
Annu Rev Nutr. 2012 Apr 18.

[A Partitioning Deletion/Substitution/Addition Algorithm for Creating Survival Risk Groups.](#)

Lostritto K, Strawderman RL, Molinaro AM.
Biometrics. 2012 Apr 22.

[Epigenetic Mechanisms in Commonly Occurring Cancers.](#)

Blair LP, Yan Q.
DNA Cell Biol. 2012 Apr 20.

[The role of activation-induced cytidine deaminase in lymphomagenesis.](#)

Gu X, Shivarov V, Strout MP.
Curr Opin Hematol. 2012 Apr 18.

[Laparoscopic colectomy for the treatment of cancer has been widely adopted in the United States.](#)

Fox J, Gross CP, Longo W, Reddy V.
Dis Colon Rectum. 2012 May;55(5):501-8.

[Mohs micrographic surgery and surgical excision for nonmelanoma skin cancer treatment in the medicare](#)

[population.](#)

Viola KV, Jhaveri MB, Soulos PR, Turner RB, Tolpinrud WL, Doshi D, Gross CP.
Arch Dermatol. 2012 Apr;148(4):473-7.

[Cervical Dedifferentiated Liposarcoma with Meningothelial-Like Whorling.](#)

Blumberg JM, Jedrych J, Costa J, Judson B.
Head Neck Pathol. 2012 Apr 21.

[HER2/neu as a Potential Target for Immunotherapy in Gynecologic Carcinosarcomas.](#)

Guzzo F, Bellone S, Buza N, Hui P, Carrara L, Varughese J, Cocco E, Betti M, Todeschini P, Gasparrini S, Schwartz PE, Rutherford TJ, Angioli R, Pecorelli S, Santin AD.
Int J Gynecol Pathol. 2012 Apr 10.
