

February 17, 2012

Announcements

T-TARE Awards Announced

The inaugural year of the YCC T-TARE (Translational - Targeted Area of Research Excellence) awards was a great success with seven promising applications received! This award mechanism, administered by Julie L. Boyer, PhD, Associate Director for Translational Research Administration, provides seed money to members of Yale Cancer Center to support studies with a significant translational research component. T-TARE proposals require a collaborative effort among three or more faculty members - basic and clinical scientists, junior and senior investigators - and are intended to provide a basis for submission of new multi-investigator grant applications to the National Cancer Institute.

Congratulations to this year's awardees:

Madhav Dhodapkar, MBBS / \$100K

Targeting genetic instability towards personalized cancer prevention

Co-Investigators: David Schatz, Richard Flavell, Rick Lifton, Xiaopan Yao

Roy S. Herbst, MD, PhD / \$200K

The biology and treatment of primary and metastatic lung cancer

Co-Investigators: Lieping Chen, Scott Gettinger, David Stern, Yossi Schlessinger, Daniel Morgensztern, Katie Politi, Tom Lynch, Joanne Weidhaas, Frank Slack, Susan Mayne, Ben Toll, Frank Detterbeck, Peter Salovey, Jack Elias, Peter Koo, Chun Geun Lee, Karen Anderson, Don Nguyen, Dan Boffa, Abhi Patel, Narendra Wajapeyee, Dan Zelterman, Xiaopan Yao

Harriet Kluger, MD / \$150K

Comprehensive approaches for understanding and treating melanoma brain metastases

Co-Investigators: Lieping Chen, Peter Glazer, Mario Sznol, Marcus Bosenberg, David Rimm, Yuval Kluger,

from the desk of

Thomas J. Lynch, Jr., MD

Director, Yale Cancer Center

Physician-in-Chief Smilow Cancer

Hospital at Yale-New Haven



SMILOW CANCER HOSPITAL
AT YALE-NEW HAVEN

Yale CANCER
CENTER

A Comprehensive Cancer Center Designated
by the National Cancer Institute

Countdown to the CCSG Submission

221 days

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

Join Yale Cancer
Center on Facebook

Like us on Facebook 

Joseph Chang, Xiaopan Yao

**W. Mark Saltzman, PhD and
Joseph Piepmeier, MD / \$130K**

Translation of convection-enhanced delivery of drug-loaded nanoparticles for treatment of glioma
Co-Investigators: Fahmeed Hyder, Murat Gunel, Katsuhito Yasuno

Special Funding Announcement: The Yale-Gilead Proposal for Research Support

On behalf of Yossi Schlessinger, Rick Lifton, and myself, members of the Steering Committee that manages the Yale-Gilead collaboration, I am pleased to invite you to propose research ideas for consideration for funding under the Yale-Gilead collaboration. We would like to invite transformative ideas in the following areas of cancer biology:

- Identification of new targets in cancer therapy based on sequencing of tumor DNA
- Novel siRNA screening for cancer 'driver' genes
- Synthetic lethal analysis
- Other transformative ideas

Applicants must provide a one-paragraph description of the proposed study. Ideas that align with the mission of the collaboration will be invited to submit a more detailed proposal with a budget.

Deadline for Submission: March 31, 2012

[Learn More >>](#)

Smilow Cancer Hospital Town Hall

On behalf of the Smilow leadership team, I'd like to invite you to join us for our next Smilow Town Hall meeting. For those of you who are new members of the Smilow Cancer Hospital community, this forum is intended to keep you up to date on recent activities, accomplishments, and future plans. This is also a forum for dialogue amongst community members and the leadership team. The Town Hall will be held on Tuesday, February 28th in the Park Street auditorium. Lunch will be served at 11:30, with our program occurring from 12:00 to 1:00.

Notables

Frank Slack, PhD will participate in the **Hope Funds for Cancer Research** panel, along with Joan Massague, Malcolm A.S. Moore, and Larry Norton, and moderated by Robert Bazell, on May 7th in New York City.

Inside yalecancercenter.org

Parenting at a Challenging Time

[Learn More >>](#)

Cardio Oncology Program at Smilow Cancer Hospital

[Learn More >>](#)

Smoking Cessation Program

[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.

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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.

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Cathy Lyons has announced the promotion of **Jill Williams, RN** to the position of **Patient Services Manager**, Smilow Cancer Hospital, NP 11. Jill is extremely well qualified for this position with over 23 years of experience, much of that time in leadership positions. Jill is an exceptional patient and staff advocate and has introduced and championed a number of best practices on NP 11.

Daniel Boffa, MD, presented the plenary lecture at the **Society of Thoracic Surgeons Annual Meeting** last week in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida. His presentation focused on lymph node evaluation by open and VATS approaches.

Nancy Ruddle, PhD has been elected as a Council Delegate from the Section on Medical Sciences for the **American Association for the Advancement in Science**.

Faye Rogers, PhD has received the Norma Lies Mitchell Exceptional Project Grant from the **Breast Cancer Alliance** to support her research project, "Gene-targeted Apoptosis as a Therapeutic Strategy for HER2-positive Breast Cancer."

Clinical Trials Update



Events

February 17; 1:00 PM
Developmental Therapeutics Research Program Seminar

SHM I-116

Novel Inhibitors of Hsp90 as Potential Anti-Cancer Agents

Lynne Regan, PhD

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

February 19; 6:00 PM
Yale Cancer Center Answers

WNPR

Cancer Survivorship

Ruth McCorkle, RN, PhD

[Learn More >>](#)

February 21; 12:00 PM
Yale Cancer Center Grand Rounds

55 Park Street

Skin Hair Follicle Stem Cells

During Regeneration and Cancer

Valentina Greco, PhD

Recent Developments in Breast Reconstruction

Stephanie Kwei, MD

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

February 22; 7:00 AM
Research in Progress Meeting

SCH 4-101A

Melanoma Brain Metastases: Is it Time to Reassess the Bias?

Jaclyn Flanigan, MD

Prognostic and Predictive Value of Programmed Death-1 Ligands in Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer

Vamsidhar Velcheti, MD

[Learn More >>](#)

February 22; 11:00 AM
Radiobiology and Radiotherapy Research Program Seminar

SHM I-304

Characterization of MicroRNA Regulation and Function in Hypoxia Biology

Jennifer Czochoz

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



On Wednesday evening, YCC and YNHH hosted the first Yale Cancer Center Research Network Summit. Disease Team research leaders met one-on-one with the oncologists from the Smilow Cancer Care Centers who joined our faculty on January 1 and oncologists from the Greenwich Hospital affiliated practices.

Twenty-five of the off-campus physicians met with representatives from the Breast Cancer, Gastrointestinal Cancers, Thoracic Oncology, Hematology, Melanoma, Prostate and Urologic Cancers, Head and Neck Cancer, and Brain Tumor Programs, as well as a representative from the YCC Clinical Trials Office and the Molecular Profiling Laboratory. Each disease team presented their portfolio of research studies to the off-campus physicians in a small group rotating format, representing a sort of oncology research "speed-dating." At the conclusion of the discussions, everyone enjoyed dining and informal networking.

Four specific cooperative group research trials (in lung, colon, and breast cancer) were opened for network-wide participation.

Development Update

Tony Ciabattoni, of Laguna Beach, CA, recently made a \$25,000 gift to the translational research program at Yale Cancer Center. Mr. Ciabattoni made the gift in gratitude for the counsel that Dr. Roy Herbst provided to a friend who is receiving treatment. For more information about the YCC grateful patient program and to speak to a development officer about participating, please contact [Peter Lamothe](#).

February 23; 9:00 AM Therapeutic Radiology Grand Rounds

SCH LL Conference Room
Room E

*An Interdisciplinary Approach
Towards Sexuality, Intimacy,
Menopause and Cancer
Survivorship*

Elena Ratner, MD

[Learn More >>](#)

February 23; 12:30 PM Pathology Grand Rounds

Fitkin Amphitheater

*Towards a Molecular
Classification of Tumors of the
Pancreas*

Ralph H. Hruban, MD

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

February 26; 6:00 PM Yale Cancer Center Answers

WNPR

Musculoskeletal Oncology

Gary Friedlaender, MD

[Learn More >>](#)

February 27; 3:30 PM Signal Transduction Research Program Seminar

SHM I-116

*The Actin-Binding Protein
Filamin in Cell Differentiation
and Cell Invasion?*

David Calderwood, MD

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

February 28; 12:00 PM Yale Cancer Center Grand Rounds/ Smilow Cancer Hospital Town Hall

55 Park Street

*Smilow Cancer Hospital Town
Hall Meeting*

Tom Lynch, Abe Lopman, and
Cathy Lyons

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

February 28; 4:30 PM Yale OCR / CURE BioHaven Entrepreneurship Series:

Harkness Auditorium

*Personalized Medicine: How Far
Off? Panel Discussion and
Networking*

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

Employee Profile: Rachel Barnett, MS

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](#).



Within the Yale Cancer Center Cancer Genetic Counseling Program, Senior Genetic Counselor Rachel Barnett, MS, CGC, is responsible for direct patient care. This means that oftentimes she is the first person patients encounter when they are considering genetic counseling or testing. The Yale Cancer Center Cancer Genetic Counseling Program provides genetic counseling and testing to people at increased risk for hereditary cancer and helps them to make informed medical decisions based on their own personal risk assessment.

Rachel meets with patients and takes a detailed family history to determine the likelihood that their cancer is hereditary. If they are determined to be a good candidate for genetic testing, Rachel will then discuss the impact the test results will have on the family as a whole, explain the different tests that are available, and ultimately she will order the appropriate test. These interventions can have a huge impact on a person's life

**February 29; 7:00 AM
Research in Progress
Meeting**
SCH 4-101A
TBD
Bonnie Gould Rothberg, MD
Link TBD

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
Hematology

Roy Herbst
Medical Oncology

Howard Hochster
Medical Oncology

Erin Hofstatter
Medical Oncology

by allowing them to better manage their health and reduce their risk of ever developing cancer.

"It is a wonderful feeling to be able to tell someone that they are not at increased risk for cancer," said Rachel. "It is also rewarding when you do discover a hereditary cancer and you can help other family members by giving them options to prevent cancer, and make them aware that there is a risk so they can be more vigilant."

Rachel's interest in genetics started back in high school when she took a summer course on the topic. She explained that she was fascinated by how much knowledge there was about genes and that so many different sciences were highlighted within the study of genes. By the time she got to college, she knew she wanted to enter the field of genetics and has been at Yale since 2004. She enjoys the ever changing nature of the field and the fact that there are always new and exciting discoveries being made.

Ellen Matloff, MS, CGC, Research Scientist in the Department of Genetics and Director of the Yale Cancer Center Cancer Genetic Counseling Program commented, "Rachel Barnett has been the tireless clinic coordinator for Cancer Genetic Counseling for close to 8 years and is known for her efficiency, her strong work ethic and her positive and empathetic approach with all of our patients."

Funding Opportunities

Samuel Waxman Cancer Research Foundation Grants - Re-Programming the Cancer Cell

Applications are being accepted for the 2012 Grants from the Samuel Waxman Cancer Research Foundation. Yale Cancer Center can send one application for review. If interested, please send a copy of your CV and a two-page description of your proposed project on the topic "Reprogramming the Cancer Cell" by email to [Jan Zulkeski](#) in Dr. Daniel DiMaio's.

Application Deadline: Friday, February 24; 5:00 PM

[Learn More >>](#)

James S. McDonnell Foundation 21st Century Research Awards in Brain Cancer Research

21st Century Research Awards are designed to support research projects with a high probability of generating new knowledge and insights. Projects submitted for funding consideration should be at an early, even preliminary stage of development, and should be intended to break new ground or to revisit commonly-held assumptions. Projects submitted should be sufficiently cross-disciplinary or heterodox to have a strong likelihood of influencing the development of new ways of

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

John Roberts
Medical Oncology

Tara Sanft
Medical Oncology

Peter Schulam
Urology

Fatma Shebl
Epidemiology

Stacey Stein
Medical Oncology

Matthew Strout
Hematology

Narendra Wajapeyee

thinking about important problems.

The James S. McDonnell Foundation is particularly interested in supporting novel research that will generate new knowledge leading to increased rates of survival and improve functional recovery for individuals with brain cancer.

Application Deadline: March 14, 2012

[Learn More >>](#)

Breast Cancer Alliance Exceptional Project Grants 2013

- For physician scientists and research scientists whose primary focus is breast cancer.
- Candidates are eligible at any stage of their careers.
- The proposed research must be directly related to the field of breast cancer.
- Areas of relevant research may include, but are not limited to: diagnosis, etiology, immunology, genetics, therapies, prevention, and clinical studies.

Internal Deadline: Monday, March 5, 2012

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

MMRF Research Senior Research Awards

The Multiple Myeloma Research Foundation (MMRF) supports investigators with more than five years of experience in blood cancer research. The goal of this initiative is to accelerate the development of therapeutic approaches for myeloma and may include proposals in basic science, validation, or translation research. Proposals may request up to \$100,000 per year for 2 years.

Application Deadline: March 27, 2012

[Learn More >>](#)

The Prostate Cancer Foundation (PCF) Honorable A. David Mazzone Special Challenge Award Research Program 2012

Proposals must be from teams capable of providing unique scientific expertise to the solution of a significant problem in prostate cancer research. A team may be assembled from one institution, or several institutions, from across the globe. These awards focus on funding Treatment Sciences: Investigations of new ideas in man or laboratory support of a high impact clinical investigation.

Treatment Sciences research with a high probability of near-term patient benefit is required in the following topic areas:

1. Translational research in metabolism/adiposity/nutrition/survivorship
2. Molecular imaging in both primary and metastatic disease
3. Co-targeting tumor microenvironment
4. First-in-field research on new targets in metastatic

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

- disease systemic treatment
5. Mechanisms of resistance to new treatments for advanced prostate cancer
 6. Diagnostics and biomarkers that differentiate indolent from metastatic prostate cancer

Application Deadline: March 16, 2012

[Learn More >>](#)

Call for Abstracts

The Virtual Physiological Human Network of Excellence
Integrative Approaches to Computational Biomedicine
Conference to be held in London, September 18-20, 2012

Deadline for Submission: February 29, 2012

[Learn More >>](#)

Recent Publications

IL-17-mediated signaling and intestinal tumorigenesis. Drug Discovery Today: Disease Mechanisms.

Chae, W.-J. and Bothwell, A.L.M. (2011).

[Read More >>](#)

Treatment of locally advanced pancreatic cancer: the role of radiation therapy.

Johung K, Saif MW, Chang BW.

Int J Radiat Oncol Biol Phys. 2012 Feb 1;82(2):508-18.

[Read More >>](#)

A proposal for the timing of management of patients with melanoma presenting during pregnancy.

Broer N, Buonocore S, Goldberg C, Truini C, Faries MB,
Narayan D, Ariyan S.

J Surg Oncol. 2012 Feb 13.

[Read More >>](#)

An analysis of measured and estimated creatinine clearance rates in normal weight, overweight, and obese patients with gynecologic cancers.

Nelson WK, Formica RN Jr, Cooper DL, Schwartz PE,
Rutherford TJ.

J Oncol Pharm Pract. 2012 Feb 13.

[Read More >>](#)

A modular approach to the design of protein-based smart gels.

Grove TZ, Forster J, Pimienta G, Dufresne E, Regan L.
Biopolymers. 2012 Feb 10.

[Read More >>](#)

Postmenopausal hormone therapy and ductal carcinoma in situ: A population-based case-control study.

Calvocoressi L, Stowe MH, Carter D, Claus EB.
Cancer Epidemiol. 2012 Feb 6.

[Read More >>](#)

Two sides of the same coin: EGFR exon 19 deletions and insertions in lung cancer.

Politi K, Lynch TJ.
Clin Cancer Res. 2012 Feb 8.

[Read More >>](#)

Inflammasome-mediated dysbiosis regulates progression of NAFLD and obesity.

Henao-Mejia J, Elinav E, Jin C, Hao L, Mehal WZ, Strowig T, Thaiss CA, Kau AL, Eisenbarth SC, Jurczak MJ, Camporez JP, Shulman GI, Gordon JI, Hoffman HM, Flavell RA.
Nature. 2012 Feb 1;482(7384):179-85.

[Read More >>](#)

American Thyroid Association Design and Feasibility of a Prospective Randomized Controlled Trial of Prophylactic Central Lymph Node Dissection for Papillary Thyroid Carcinoma.

Carling T, Carty SE, Ciarleglio MM, Cooper DS, Doherty GM, Kim LT, Kloos RT, Mazzaferri EL Sr, Peduzzi PN, Roman SA, Sippel RS, Sosa JA, Stack BC Jr, Steward DL, Tufano RP, Tuttle RM, Udelsman R.
Thyroid. 2012 Feb 7.

[Read More >>](#)

Sequence-Specific Biosensors Report Drug-Induced Changes in Epigenetic Silencing in Living Cells.

Huang X, Narayanaswamy R, Fenn K, Szpakowski S, Sasaki C, Costa J, Blancafort P, Lizardi PM.
DNA Cell Biol. 2012 Feb 7.

[Read More >>](#)

In silico Experimentation of Glioma Microenvironment Development and Anti-tumor Therapy.

Wu Y, Lu Y, Chen W, Fu J, Fan R.
PLoS Comput Biol. 2012 Feb;8(2):e1002355.

[Read More >>](#)

IL-17F deficiency inhibits small intestinal tumorigenesis in ApcMin/+ mice.

Chae WJ, Bothwell AL.

Biochem Biophys Res Commun. 2011 Oct 14;414(1):31-6.

Epub 2011 Sep 12.

[Read More >>](#)