November 9, 2012

Announcements

$1 Million Gift to Support Palliative Care at Smilow

I am pleased to announce that Yale Cancer Center has received $1 million from the Milbank Foundation for Rehabilitation to support palliative care services, research, and fellowships at Smilow Cancer Hospital and Yale Cancer Center. This gift will provide considerable support to help Dr. Jennifer Kapo reach her goals for palliative and end of life care for our patients, and will also enable us to improve our training programs and research efforts in this area. Under Dr. Kapo's leadership, the Yale Palliative Care Program will evolve into a model clinical program that provides world-class, comprehensive supportive and palliative care to patients and their families who face cancer and other serious, life-threatening illnesses. The program will also conduct cutting-edge palliative medicine research, contributing to the evidence that supports clinical decision making. The next generation of palliative care experts will train at Smilow and Yale through the Milbank Foundation Fellowship program.

Thanks are owed to Dr. Kapo, Peter Lamothe, Director of Development at YCC, and Amy Rich in Corporate and Foundation Relations at Yale for their teamwork in preparing the proposal and securing this support.

Toby Chai, MD Joins Urology as Vice Chair

Peter Schulam, MD, Chairman of the Department of Urology at Yale School of Medicine, has appointed Toby C. Chai, MD, to the position of Vice Chairman for Research and Director of the Female Pelvic Medicine Reconstruction Surgery Program. Dr. Chai will also be a member of the Prostate and Urologic Cancers Program at Smilow Cancer Hospital at Yale-New Haven, caring for women with cancer of the bladder. Dr. Chai joins Yale from the University of Maryland School of Medicine. He will begin his new appointment on
January 1, 2013.

Currently, Dr. Chai is the John D. Young Professor of Surgery, in the division of urology, at the University of Maryland School of Medicine. Dr. Chai is the principal investigator or co-investigator for several NIH-funded grants studying urology and clinical trials testing new treatment options for incontinence and bladder function.

Lung Cancer SPORE Grant Submitted
Yale Cancer Center recently submitted a SPORE (Specialized Programs of Research Excellence) grant application to the National Cancer Institute to support several projects in lung cancer basic and clinical/translational research. Roy Herbst is the principal investigator of the grant and Lieping Chen is the co-principal investigator. The proposal comprises a series of projects, cores, and programs that are highly coordinated and focused on providing a greater understanding of existing lung cancer therapies and developing novel lung cancer therapies. The application includes an outstanding group of investigators to lead these innovative and highly translational research projects and the cores that support the objectives of this overall program.

Development Update

Gift to Support Urologic Oncology
Dick and Geri Capobianco have been generous supporters of Yale-New Haven Hospital for many years, and Dick was a member of the Smilow Capital Campaign Committee. Their keen interest in helping move the oncology program forward led them to continued conversations with Smilow Cancer Hospital leadership. Working with Alison Marcinek in the Hospital's Office of Development Dick and Geri established the new Capobianco Scholar Fund for Urologic Oncology, for salary support and clinical research needs of key recruits in the Urologic Oncology Program.

Movember
For those of you unfamiliar with Movember, it is one of the odder cancer awareness and fund-raising projects. Apparently, 'mo' is slang for mustache in Australia where this idea began. In brief, men start at the beginning of the month of November clean-shaven and grow mustaches (but no other facial hair) until the end of the month. Since most people don't do this, it usually engenders questions such as "why would you do this to yourself?" or "are you aware this is not the 1970's?" at which point the mustache grower explains that the mustache is to promote awareness of men's health and, specifically, of prostate cancer. And there is a website where people can donate to prostate cancer charities. In the U.S., the charities are the Livestrong Foundation and The Prostate Cancer Foundation. Last year alone this charity raised over $100 million dollars and no one sprained any muscles doing this.

I did this for the first time last year and I am doing it again now (started a little late this year). We raised a few hundred dollars last year and I'm hoping we will raise more this year.

Everyone is encouraged to join in (both giving and participating. Women are also encouraged to join (we have paste on moustaches) and don't even have to endure the itchiness. Ideally more than none of you will join. If so, please join our team, named Team Smi-Mo (after a long tradition of lame puns being used in team names). I'm open to a new name for our team.

Thanks,

Mike

Michael Hurwitz, MD, PhD

Support or Join the Team >>
Employee Profile:
James Henrice

The Employee Profile recognizes the diverse contributions made by Yale Cancer Center and Smilow Cancer Hospital staff 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.

With the exponential increase in enrollment in clinical trials at Smilow Cancer Hospital at Yale-New Haven, James Henrice, MD has been an influential presence in the Clinical Trials Office as both a clinical data manager and recently, as interim project manager on the melanoma disease team - the second highest accruing team at the Cancer Center. After the clinical team collects the data from the patients during their visit, the information is delivered to Dr. Henrice where he takes the assorted information and translates it into data that is easy to understand, which brings meaning to the meritorious research being conducted here at Yale.

"Contributing to the future of cancer management is of primordial importance to me. My objective is to cooperatively capture the critical data that will help us comprehend the outstanding work being done by my colleagues in the Cancer Center," said Dr. Henrice.

In addition, Dr. Henrice has served as a catalyst to help increase the professionalism and camaraderie in his department. Earning the respect of everyone who works with him, he has changed his work environment which, in turn, has elevated the quality of service the Clinical Trials Office is able to provide to support cancer research both here on campus and at the Smilow Cancer Hospital Cancer Care Centers located throughout the state.

Kathleen Uscinski, Associate Director for Clinical Trials Operations, commented, "The output provided by our data managers must be detailed, accurate and of high quality. James

Zhe Chen, PhD
Read More >>

November 15; 12:30 PM
Pathology Grand Rounds
Fitkin Amphitheatre, LMP 1094
Title TBD
Frank McCormick, PhD
Read More >>

November 15; 5:00 PM
Humanities in Medicine Program/The Barwick Lecture
The Anlyan Center Auditorium, N-107
The Patient's Journey: A Portrait of Healing
Janice Baker, MA
Read More >> (PDF)

November 16; 12:00 PM
Canceled: YCC Research in Progress Meeting
Read More >>

November 16; 1:00 PM
YCC Developmental Therapeutics/Genetics and Genomics Research Program
SHM I-116
New Insights from Sequencing the Melanoma Exome
Ruth Halaban, PhD
Read More >> (PDF)

November 18; 6:00 PM
Yale Cancer Center Answers WNPR
Lung Cancer Awareness Month
Thomas Lynch, Jr., MD
Read More >>

November 20; 12:00 PM
Canceled: Yale Cancer Center Grand Rounds
Read More >>

November 21; 1:00 PM
YCC Cancer Immunology Research Program
Giarman Conference Room, SHM B-201
Dysbiosis, Tissue Damage, and Colon Cancer
Richard Flavell, PhD, FRS

Read More >>

**Employment Opportunities**

We seek your assistance in the recruitment of qualified Oncology Research Nurses to join the Cancer Center for full time research opportunities. Positions traditionally require a minimum of BSN and 4 years of research nursing experience with a strong preference within oncology. In lieu of research experience, trained oncology nurses with little or no research experience are considered for positions of the same level. Should you know of any potential candidates, please encourage them to go on-line to www.yale.edu/jobs and navigate to the STARS employment website in search of positions 18343BR and 18943BR, upload the resume and apply. They may also contact Sandra Greer for further information.

**Submissions**

Please submit your recent publication and grant announcements to:

Renee Gaudette
Director, Public Affairs and Marketing

renee.gaudette@yale.edu

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**Funding Opportunities**

**2013 AACI Translational Research Fellowship**
Applications are now being accepted for the 2013 AACI Translational Cancer Research Fellowship. The fellowship is designed to help ensure that qualified applicants receive research training and experience under the guidance of highly trained, well-respected researchers who have demonstrated success in their field of research. The goal is to assist the trainee in becoming a high-caliber, productive independent researcher with an enduring focus on the importance of translational research relevant to cancer.

**Application Deadline: February 1, 2012**

Learn More >>

**Yale SPORE in Skin Cancer Developmental Research Program Pilot Project Grants**
Developmental Research Program Awards are intended to support a broad spectrum of innovative pilot projects applicable to human skin cancer risk, prevention, diagnosis, prognosis, or treatment. To be funded, DRP projects must have promising translational research potential, i.e., direct application to human skin cancer, and there must be the expectation that they can evolve into, or be incorporated into, full projects with an unequivocal translational component funded either within this SPORE or as independent R01 (or equivalent) grants.

**Application Deadline: November 12, 2012**

Learn More >> (PDF)

**Uniting Against Lung Cancer and the National Lung Cancer Partnership Announce Impact Award**
Uniting Against Lung Cancer and the National Lung Cancer Partnership have announced that they will be jointly sponsoring the Impact Award, a new $200,000 research grant designed to accelerate the movement of promising ideas in lung cancer research into clinical application. The award is intended to rapidly bring new advances to the clinic and positively impact patient care.

The award is intended to support clinical translational research that will promote significant improvements over current approaches in lung cancer prevention, detection, or therapy. Applicants are expected to demonstrate an ability to produce

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is an exemplary member of our team. He single handedly has set a new standard for ensuring quality data. His vision and values related to team building extend well beyond his responsibilities with the Melanoma Team. Yale Cancer Center is extremely fortunate to have him assist us in developing a top notch Clinical Trials Office."
significant progress for lung cancer patients in the near term. Applicants must present a strategic plan and timeline for clinical implementation within five years of the start of the two-year award period.

**Application Deadline: November 12, 2012**
[Learn More >> (PDF)]

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**2013 Connecticut Stem Cell Research Grant**
The Connecticut Stem Cell Research Advisory Committee, in consultation with the Connecticut Department of Public Health and Connecticut Innovations, is pleased to announce the availability of the 2013 RFP to support the advancement of embryonic and/or human adult stem cell research in Connecticut.

Any non-profit, tax-exempt academic institution of higher education, any hospital that conducts biomedical research or any entity that conducts biomedical research or embryonic or human adult stem cell research may apply for grants from the Connecticut Stem Cell Research Fund.

**Letter of Intent Due: November 16, 2012**
[Learn More >>]

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**Recent Publications**

**Efficacy and tolerability of pharmacotherapy options for the treatment of medullary thyroid cancer.**
[Read More >]

**Body mass index, physical activity, and survival after endometrial cancer diagnosis: Results from the Women's Health Initiative.**
[Read More >]

**Reply to "Fc gamma receptor 3a genotype in follicular lymphoma: the end of the story?" Haematologica.**
[Read More >]

**Association of large noncoding RNA HOTAIR expression and its downstream intergenic CpG island methylation with survival in breast cancer.**
Lu L, Zhu G, Zhang C, Deng Q, Katsaros D, Mayne ST, Risch
Targeting cancer with a lupus autoantibody.
Read More >>

Clinical regressions and broad immune activation following combination therapy targeting human NKT cells in myeloma.
Richter J, Neparidze N, Zhang L, Nair S, Monesmith T, Sundaram R, Miesowicz F, Dhodapkar KM, Dhodapkar MV.
Read More >>

Adrenocortical Carcinoma: Current Therapeutic State-of-the-Art.
Lebastchi AH, Kunstman JW, Carling T.
Read More >>