September 30, 2016

Announcements

Four YCC Members Named Faculty Scholars
Congratulations to Yale Cancer Center's Antonio Giraldez, Andrew Goodman, Valentina Greco, and Carla Rothlin who are among the 84 young researchers designated as Faculty Scholars. The Faculty Scholars program is a new program to promote early career scientists launched by the Howard Hughes Medical Institute, the Simons Foundation, and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. Each scholar will receive a five-year grant totaling between $600,000 and $1.8 million, and all are required to devote at least 50% of their time to research.

Learn More >>

Obesity Research Working Group
Melinda Irwin, MPH, PhD, Associate Director for Population Sciences, will convene the first meeting of the Yale Obesity Research Working Group on October 2. All faculty across the Yale campus who are conducting obesity research are invited to attend. The group will pull together faculty with expertise in diet, exercise, or any aspect of energy balance and various endpoints, e.g., CVD, cancer, mental health, and across the lifespan to encourage future collaborations and research.

The first meeting of the Yale Obesity Research Working Group will be on October 21 at 12 noon at YSPH, 60 College St, Room 216. Lunch will be served. Please RSVP to Melinda Irwin

Shared Resource: Yale Molecular Assay
The Yale Molecular Assay Shared Resource works with investigators to design, carry out, and analyze a diverse portfolio of molecular assays for use in research studies. The shared resource also provides a one-stop facility for the intake, initial processing, and storage of biospecimens for later analysis. We have the capability to manage small studies of a few samples, to large studies of a thousand subjects or more. In addition, we have stored biosamples from thousands of subjects in a number of existing studies, samples that can be used to investigate novel research hypotheses.

Led by Harvey Risch, MD, PhD and Lingeng Lu. MD, PhD, the Yale Molecular Assay Shared Resource is supported on a fee-for-service basis, but can generally provide as low or lower costs than carrying out the same assays in research or commercial laboratories outside of Yale. In the last decade, the shared resource has processed more than 50,000 assays with extremely high success rates and in many cases with assay CVs of less than 5%, making it an outstanding facility for laboratory-based work.

**Notables**

Lisa Fucito, PhD, along with co-investigators Lynn Tanoue, MD and Steven Bernstein, MD, has received funding for a new R01 focused on tobacco cessation for lung cancer patients, *Gain-framed Messages and NRT Sampling to Promote Smoking Cessation in Lung Cancer Screening Programs*.

The Yale Cancer Center business office is please to announce that Tarrah Knowlton will be the Accountant for Yale Cancer Center. Tarrah was previously a Financial Assistant for our Center.

Dr. Roy Herbst gave the introductory lecture at the IASLC Meeting in Chicago last weekend, *Looking Forward - Immunology Approach in 2020*.

**Research in the News**

Yale Developing Text System To Remind Breast Cancer Patients To Take Medication

Read More >>

From Rags to Riches: Bladder Cancer Research Rife With New Approaches

Read More >>
Radiation boost reduces local tumor recurrence for DCIS patients following WBRT

A supplemental "boost" of radiation improves local control and provides an incremental benefit in decreasing breast cancer recurrence for patients with Ductal Carcinoma In Situ (DCIS) who receive whole breast radiation therapy radiation (WBRT) following lumpectomy, according to research presented at the 58th Annual Meeting of the American Society for Radiation Oncology (ASTRO). The Yale Cancer Center team concluded that use of a radiation boost should be considered in DCIS patients who have life expectancies of 10 or more years following breast-conserving surgery and WBRT.

Yale Team Compares Effectiveness of Four PD-L1 Tests

In a recent study, a Yale Cancer Center team compared the performance of the four available PD-L1 assay tests. They found that one of the assays failed to reveal comparable levels of PD-L1, a tumor-promoting protein, while three others revealed comparable levels. The findings were presented September 26 at the International Association for the Study of Lung Cancer (IASLC) 2016 Chicago Multidisciplinary Symposium in Thoracic Oncology in Chicago.

Analysis revealed that one of the assays, SP142, systematically returned statistically lower levels of PD-L1 expression than the other three. This was true in both tumor and immune cells using any test. The remaining three assays available (28-8, E1L3N, and 22c3) showed no significant difference between them, according to researchers.

Medulloblastoma patients should receive both chemotherapy and radiation post-surgery

In a recent study, a Yale Cancer Center team revealed that the addition of chemotherapy to postoperative treatment for adults with medulloblastoma improves survival. The benefit of chemotherapy, in addition to craniospinal radiation, was seen in adult patients with medulloblastoma (MB), including those with localized disease who received high-dose radiation treatment following surgery. The findings were presented September 26...
This study used the National Cancer Data Base to identify 751 patients diagnosed with MB over the age of 18 who underwent surgical resection for MB and post-surgical radiation. Of the 751 patients, 520 (69.2%) received chemotherapy and radiation therapy and 231 (30.8%) received only radiation therapy. Estimated overall survival at five years was 14.5% higher for patients who received chemotherapy and radiation compared to patients who received radiation alone (86.1% versus 71.6%).

Cardiac risk a factor when considering hormonal therapy for prostate cancer

In a recent study, a Yale Cancer Center team determined that men who received hormonal therapy for prostate cancer had a net harm if they had a prior history of a heart attack. The findings were presented September 28 at the American Society for Therapeutic Radiology and Oncology (ASTRO) meeting in Boston.

Hormone therapy was associated with a net decrease of 0.3 - 0.4 QALYs in men with a prior history of heart attack. However, for all other men, hormone therapy improved QALYs (range 0.4 - 2.6). Younger men with fewer cardiac risk factors experienced the largest benefit from hormone therapy. Men at low risk for biochemical failure (≤8.7% at 5 years) did not benefit from hormone therapy. Further, the benefits of hormone therapy did not begin to manifest until after 7.3 years of follow-up.

Link between Facility Volume and Radiation Outcomes for Head and Neck Cancers

The association between provider case volume and outcomes has long been suggested in cancer care. A Yale Cancer Center team has completed a review of outcomes for patients with locally advanced squamous cell head and neck cancers treated with intensity-modulated radiation therapy (IMRT) and found a distinct association between higher-volume treatment centers and improved overall survival. The findings were presented September 26 at the
American Society for Therapeutic Radiology and Oncology (ASTRO) meeting in Boston.

Read More >>

**Optimal Management for NSCLC Patients with Brain Metastases**

A Yale Cancer Center team completed a multi-institutional analysis of treatment options for patients with newly diagnosed EGFR-mutant non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC) with brain metastases to determine the best option for treatment. Stereotactic radiosurgery, in combination with targeted therapy using EGFR tyrosine kinase inhibitors, resulted in the longest survival and best outcomes for patients. The findings were presented September 26 at the American Society for Therapeutic Radiology and Oncology (ASTRO) meeting in Boston.

Read More >>

**Employee Profile: Sarah Eder**

On a day to day basis, Sarah Eder, BSN, OCN, Assistant Patient Service Manager for Women's Oncology, manages several tasks. In addition to her daily rounds, Sarah triages any issues that a patient or family member may have, and makes sure that safety and quality measures are met on the floor. She also supervises a team of RNs and Patient Care Associates and serves as a mentor.

An important part of Sarah's role is making sure that the staffing ratios are in place each day based on the needs of the patients on the floor. The majority of patients are post-surgery, but they also see benign cases and an overflow from obstetrics. Sarah needs to make sure that the right mix of staff with the required skill set is there to care for any possible

Following the FDA's ban on the sale of e-cigarettes, American Association for Cancer Research released a new webinar: "E-cigarettes: Research, Public Health Concerns and Opportunities, and Regulations" and is now taking questions to be featured on their next program. Have any questions? Send them to sciencepolicy@aacr.org by October 10th and they may be answered on the next program!

Submit your questions to the AACR webinar on e-cigarettes!

Read More >>

This year's Beverly Levy Walk drew hundreds of people to New Haven, all united by the goal to end women’s reproductive cancers. The walk is aimed at honoring survivors as well as those currently battling reproductive cancers, raising awareness of these cancers, and encouraging women to get regular checkups.

Volunteer Carrie Roberts has a personal reason for walking this year: "My mom has been a patient for over a year at Smilow and once I discovered this walk, I wanted to make sure I participated because the doctors and the nurses, and the staff here are just really really wonderful."
patient population. She is also there to listen to and support staff so that they can be the best for their patients. Her door is always open for patients, family, and staff to voice concerns or recognition.

"I can't imagine being a nurse in any other field," said Sarah. "When my grandmother was diagnosed with cancer I saw the care that she received and how much she loved her nurses, and I knew I wanted to be a part of that. Being able to make someone smile, while also providing them with lifesaving information is a wonderful thing, and Yale and the team that I work with are amazing." Sarah commented that she enjoys being able to work with patients and families while also being involved with larger hospital initiatives.

Tracy Carafeno, MS, RN CNML, Patient Service Manager for Women's Services and Surgical Oncology commented, "A year ago Sarah took her first role in leadership as the APSM for NP 14. She brings so much passion, energy, and creativity to this role. Sarah ensures that the patients and families are at the center of all decisions and this results in the highest patient satisfaction and patient outcomes. Sarah is a natural leader and a role model to the staff she serves, always pushing them to their highest potential."

Funding and Award Opportunities

All current funding opportunities are archived on the Yale Cancer Center website, and searchable by topic, funding agency, and due date. Please check the site often for new opportunities.

Learn More >>

Pancreatic Cancer Action Network/AACR 2017 Research Grants Program

The American Association for Cancer Research (AACR) and the Pancreatic Cancer Action Network are pleased to announce the opening of the 2017 Research Grants Program to support early-career investigators focused on pancreatic cancer.

Career Development Awards

We are proud to be hosting "Impact," a conference for young adults living with cancer and beyond. The conference will be on Saturday, October 15th from 8 am to 1:30 pm. Breakout sessions will address a variety of topics pertaining to young adults who are undergoing, or have undergone, cancer treatment.
Career Development Awards are two-year grants totaling $200,000 to support junior faculty to develop or strengthen their research programs in pancreatic cancer.

**Letter of Intent Deadline:** October 4, 2016

Learn More >>

**MAJOR RESEARCH INSTRUMENTATION GRANTS PROGRAM 2016**

This program supports the acquisition, through purchase, upgrade, or development of state-of-the-art major instrumentation for research, research training, and integrated research/education activities. Yale University may submit up to three (3) proposals for the acquisition or development of instrumentation.

**Internal Deadline:** October 5, 2016

Learn More >>

**Yale Pepper Center Letters of Intent**

The Yale Pepper Center is soliciting letters of intent from full-time faculty members at Yale with interests and expertise relevant to aging research who would be interested in submitting a career development proposal (if currently within 4 years of first faculty appointment), a pilot project proposal, or a research development project.

**Letter of Intent Deadline:** October 17, 2016

Learn More >>

**Melanoma Research Alliance Grants**

The Melanoma Research Alliance (MRA) is pleased to announce a Request for Proposals (RFP) for high-impact translational research that has the potential to lead to near-term clinical application in melanoma prevention, detection, diagnosis, staging, and treatment. This cycle, proposals will be accepted for Young Investigator Awards, Established Investigator Awards, Pilot Awards, and Academic-Industry Partnership Awards.

**Application Deadline:** October 21, 2016

Learn More >>

**Women's Health Research at Yale 2016-2017 Pilot Project Program**

Pilot Project Awards: Up to $35,000 over one or two years for research designed to meet a pressing need...
in women’s health with a clearly described path to
direct clinical or public health utility.

Wendy U. and Thomas C. Naratil Pioneer Award:
Up to $50,000 in funding over one or two years to
initiate new investigations that are highly inventive or
close to a major breakthrough in advancing women’s
health.

**Application Deadline:** October 27, 2016
[Learn More >>]

Department of Defense Breast Cancer Research
Program Funding Opportunities for Fiscal Year
2016 (FY16)
The Fiscal Year 2016 (FY16) Defense Appropriations Act provides $120 million (M) to the
Department of Defense Breast Cancer Research Program (BCRP) to support innovative, high-impact
breast cancer research to accelerate progress toward ending breast cancer.

**Breakthrough Award**
Funding Levels 1 and 2:
- Investigators at all academic levels (or equivalent)
- Postdoctoral fellows are eligible and encouraged to apply

**Application Deadline:** November 3, 2016
[Learn More >>]

Pathway to Leadership Grant
The Pathway to Leadership Grant is a grant of up to
five years totaling up to $600,000 that is designed to
build future leadership in the pancreatic cancer
research community by supporting a highly promising postdoctoral or clinical research fellow
during his or her mentored research and career development, continuing through his or her early
phase of independence.

**Application Deadline:** November 15, 2016
[Learn More >>]

Office of Disease Prevention Call for
Nominations for Early-Stage Investigator Award
The Office of Disease Prevention (ODP) at the
National Institutes of Health invites submissions for
the ODP Early-Stage Investigator Award. This
inaugural award will recognize early-career

**Study finds men with history of heart attack may be harmed by hormone therapy for prostatecancer #ASTRO16 #radonc**

**Thank you @ccgreymatters for all of the work you do to support our Brain Tumor Program @YaleCancer!**

**.@AneesChagpar explains why there’s wisdom to be found in negative research results via @researchgate**

**#Radiation boost provides significant benefit in reducing recurrence for DCIS patients #ASTRO16**

**@YaleCancer study shows both chemo + RT post-surgery for adults w medulloblastoma is beneficial #btm#ASTRO16**

**Researchers discover link between pt volumes & radiation outcomes for pts w head & neck cancer .@YaleCOPPER#ASTRO16**

**Join @YaleCancer and @YNHH at #ASTRO16. Check out our faculty presentations this week .@ASTRO_org**

**Thank you @EzraAcademyCT students!**

**CT receives $600K in breast cancer research grants @YaleCancer Thank you @SusanGKomen!**

**Closer to Free**
[The fund to advance cancer research and enhance patient care]

**Upcoming Events**

**October 3; 12PM**
prevention scientists who have already made substantial, outstanding research contributions to their respective fields and are poised to become future leaders in prevention research.

**Deadline for Nominations:**
November 15, 2016

[Learn More >>]

**ALSF Research Grants 2017 Funding Opportunities**
Alex's Lemonade Stand Foundation (ALSF) has evolved from the front yard lemonade stand of cancer patient Alexandra "Alex" Scott (1996-2004) into a national fundraising movement for childhood cancer research.

Open for Applications (funding to start in 2017):

- **Innovation Grant** - Letter of Intent, Deadline: Nov. 1, 2016 - Submit Now!
- **Epidemiology Grants** - Deadline: Dec. 15, 2016 - Apply Now!
- **Young Investigator Grants** - Deadline: Dec. 15, 2016 - Apply Now!

[Learn More >>]

**Recent Publications**

- **Mibefradil Dihydrochloride With Hypofractionated Radiation for Recurrent Glioblastoma: Preliminary Results of a Phase 1 Dose Expansion Trial.**

[Read More >>]

- **Calcium-Sensing Receptor Promotes Breast Cancer by Stimulating Intracrine Actions of Parathyroid Hormone-Related Protein.**

[Read More >>]

**GIM Section Research in Progress Meeting**

TAC N203

*The Yale Transdisciplinary Collaborative Center for Health Disparities focused on Precision Medicine*

Marcella Nunez Smith, MD, MHS

[Read More >>]

**October 3; 12PM**

**YCC Epigenetics Interest Group Seminar Series**

BCMM 206/208

*Defining the Epigenomic Landscape of Human Erythropoiesis*

Patrick G. Gallagher, MD

[Read More >>]

**October 4; 9:30AM**

**Pathology Research in Progress Talk**

TAC N-107

*Endothelial exocytosis of angiopoietin-2 resulting from CCM3 deficiency contributes to cerebral cavernous malformation*

Jenny (Huanjiao) Zhou, MD, PhD

TBA

Xiaoni Liu

[Read More >>]

**October 4; 12PM**

**Yale Cancer Center Grand Rounds**

Park Street Auditorium

*High-grade Prostate Cancer: Clinico-pathologic and Molecular Aspects*

Peter Humphrey, MD, PhD

*Cancer Screening and Prevention*

Beth Jones, PhD, MPH

[Read More >>]

**October 4; 5PM**

**YCC / Smilow Cancer Hospital Readings: In Our Own Words**

Park Street Auditorium

*Essays on Cancer by Current and Former Patients*

[Read More >>]

**October 5; 12PM**
Improved i.p. drug delivery with bioadhesive nanoparticles.

Promoting similarity of model sparsity structures in integrative analysis of cancer genetic data.

Long non-coding RNAs, ASAP1-IT1, FAM215A, and LINC00472, in epithelial ovarian cancer.

Testing violations of the exponential assumption in cancer clinical trials with survival endpoints.

Data sharing through an NIH central database repository: a cross-sectional survey of BioLINCC users.
Ross JS, Ritchie JD, Finn E, Desai NR, Lehman RL, Krumholz HM, Gross CP. BMJ Open. 2016 Sep 26;6(9):e012769. Read More >>

Regression in thin melanoma is associated with nodal recurrence after a negative sentinel node biopsy.

YCC Cancer Prevention & Control Research Program
LEPH, Room 216
Roundtable Discussion of Collaborative Opportunities in Breast Cancer Research
Lajos Pusztai, MD Read More >>

October 5; 1PM
The American Brain Tumor Association Webinar
Register here
The International Low Grade Glioma Registry
Elizabeth Claus, MD, PhD Read More >>

October 5; 4PM
Yale Computational Biology and Bioinformatics Monthly Seminar Series
Brady Auditorium
Reconstructing Tumor Evolution
Quaid Morris, PhD Read More >>

October 6; 7AM
YCCI Fourth Annual All Scholar Day Retreat
Mary S. Harkness Auditorium
Robert M. Califf, MD, MACC and Petra Kaufmann, MD Read More >>

October 6; 9AM
Therapeutic Radiology Grand Rounds
Smilow LL505
Medical Student Presentations
David Harris and Christopher Doucette Read More >>

October 6; 12:30PM
Pathology Grand Rounds
LMP 1094
Medial Arterial Calcification: More than Just an Incidental Finding
W. Charles O'Neill, MD Read More >>
A proximity-dependent assay for specific RNA-protein interactions in intact cells.
Zhang W, Xie M, Shu MD, Steitz JA, DiMaio D.
RNA. 2016 Sep 22.

Factors Associated with Persistently Positive Margin Status after Breast-Conserving Surgery in Women with Breast Cancer: An Analysis of the National Cancer Database.
Hanna J, Lannin D, Killelea B, Horowitz N, Chagpar AB.

Variation in Follow-up of Asymptomatic Breast Cancer Patients: Can We Choose More Wisely?
Chagpar AB, Hughes T, Hunt K, Aguirre J, Babiera G.

Association between access to accelerated partial breast irradiation and use of adjuvant radiotherapy.
Wang EH, Park HS, Rutter CE, Gross CP, Soulos PR, Yu JB, Evans SB.
Cancer. 2016 Sep 22.

Treatment delay and facility case volume are associated with survival in early-stage glottic cancer.
Cheraghloo S, Kuo P, Judson BL.
Laryngoscope. 2016 Sep 22.

Comparative clinical effectiveness of azacitidine versus decitabine in older patients with myelodysplastic syndromes.

October 11; 12PM
YCC Grand Rounds/Smilow Case Notes
Park Street Auditorium
At the Heart of MSI High Colon Cancer
Bing Xia, MD
Mortality Review
Tara Sanft, MD and Alfred Lee, MD, PhD

Read More >>

October 12; 7:30AM
Interventional Radiology Grand Rounds Lecture
LMP 1094
Biology of Therapeutic Radiology and Future of Radiation Oncology
Peter Glazer, MD, PhD

Read More >>

Therapeutic Radiology Grand Rounds
October 13; 9AM
Smilow LL505
Advances in the Treatment of Sarcomas
Hari Deshpande, MD

Read More >>

October 13; 12PM
Yale Cooperative Center of Excellence in Hematology 2016 Seminar Series
Institute for Excellence Wing, 1st Floor
TET Proteins and Hematopoiesis
Anjana Rao, PhD

Read More >>

October 13; 12:30PM
Pathology Grand Rounds
LMP 1094
TBA

Read More >>

October 13; 2:30PM
Smilow Cancer Genetics and Prevention Program Seminar
Cancer Genetics and Prevention Program, Suites 107-109
TBA

Read More >>
October 14; 7:30AM
Urology Grand Rounds
Beaumont Room
State of Yale New Haven Hospital and Health System
Tom Balczak, MD and Rick D'Aquila
Read More >>

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