### **News from the Association of American Cancer Institutes | December 2018**

Click here to read the full newsletter on our web site.



Awards & Honors | Grants & Gifts | Leadership Transitions | Research Highlights | Other News

#### **AACI HEADLINES**

#### **AACI Debuts New Website**



AACI recently launched a **redesigned website**, which will serve as a powerful tool to support communication between AACI and our 98 cancer center members.

The responsive, mobile-friendly interface offers enhanced viewing across devices, and real-time updates allow AACI to showcase its full range of events, programs, and initiatives. The website will also provide a platform for Dr. Roy Jensen's presidential initiative: a library of sample legislation for AACI members.

Read More and Explore the New Site

### CRI: From 'Initiative' to 'Innovation'



Entering its eleventh year, AACI's Clinical Research Initiative (CRI) has been renamed **Clinical Research Innovation**, to mark its popularity and success. Earlier this year, AACI sought recommendations from its members and board of directors for renaming CRI. The decision was rooted in a desire to reflect the program's longevity: with over a decade of consistent growth, CRI has expanded beyond its status as an "initiative."

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### **eRegulatory Working Group Established**

While most AACI cancer centers have in place a regulatory file system—either paper or an electronic system for the filing and version control of a trial's required regulatory information—many utilize non-standard file-naming conventions. AACI Clinical Research Innovation (CRI) has established an eRegulatory working group to address the challenges that non-standard file names create.

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### **New Congress Brings New Opportunities**

The 116th Congress will convene on January 3, 2019 with nine new members of the United States Senate

and 92 new members of the House of Representatives. The incoming Congress is the most demographically diverse in history and trends historically younger with an average age of 49 years old.

With new faces in Washington, AACI cancer centers have a great opportunity to set the stage for a positive relationship with these leaders. Now is the time for your cancer center to **invite newly-elected officials** in your state or region to your institution, introduce them to faculty and staff, educate them on novel technologies, and offer a tour.

Read More and Download Our Congressional Welcome Letter

### **Nominations Sought for Champion for Cures Award**

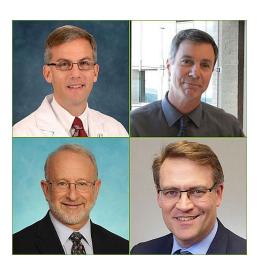


Nominations are now being accepted for the 2019 **Champion** for Cures Award.

AACI created the Champion for Cures Award to recognize an individual or individuals who, through direct financial support of an AACI cancer center, demonstrate exceptional leadership in advancing cancer research and care and in inspiring others to do the same.

Learn More and Nominate a Champion

# **PCLI Welcomes New Steering Committee Members**



Four new members have been selected to join AACI's Physician Clinical Leadership Initiative (PCLI) steering committee: Andrew Chapman, DO, FACP, chief of medical services, Sidney Kimmel Cancer Center at Jefferson Health; David Gaffney, MD, senior director of clinical research, Huntsman Cancer Institute, University of Utah; Richard Goldberg, MD, FACP, FASCO, director, WVU Cancer Institute; and Charles Ryan, MD, director, Division of Hematology, Oncology & Transplantation, Masonic Cancer Center, University of Minnesota. Read More

# **Webinar: Minority Recruitment to Clinical Trials**



The AACI Physician Clinical Leadership Initiative (PCLI) will present a **webinar** on minority recruitment to clinical trials on **Thursday**, **December 13** at 12:00 pm eastern. Facilitated by **Ruben A. Mesa, MD, FACP**, director of UT Health San Antonio MD Anderson Cancer Center, the webinar will address topics including barriers to trial enrollment that may disproportionately impact Latino patients and strategies to facilitate clinical trial participation among diverse populations.

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### **Winter Break for AACI Update**

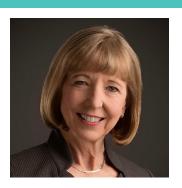
Please let us know what you think about the new format of the December 2018 AACI Update!

AACI Update will take a holiday break in January, but we will be working to improve the February 1, 2019 issue based on your feedback.

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### **NEWS FROM THE CENTERS**

#### **AWARDS & HONORS**



Johnson Named Among Women Power 100
Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Center

Roswell Park's president and CEO, **Candace S. Johnson, PhD**, has been named to a new list of the most powerful female leaders in New York.

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Pediatrician Named Pagano Scholar Indiana University Melvin & Bren Simon Cancer Center

Rachel Katzenellenbogen, MD, will be the inaugural Chuck and Tina Pagano Scholar at Indiana University School of Medicine, where she will hold that title as well as associate professor of pediatrics.

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Lisenbee Elected To APSHO Board

Duke Cancer Institute, Duke University Medical Center

**Kelly Lisenbee, DNP, ANP-C, AOCN**, adult nurse practitioner, Department of Urologic Surgery, was recently elected to the board of directors for the Advanced Practitioner Society for Hematology and Oncology (APSHO).

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Lu-Yao Awarded by Geriatric Oncology Society
Sidney Kimmel Cancer Center at Jefferson Health

**Grace Lu-Yao, PhD**, associate director of population science at the Sidney Kimmel Cancer Center at Jefferson Health, has been honored with the International Society of Geriatric Oncology (SIOG) 2018 Nursing and Allied Health (NAH) Investigator Award at the SIOG 2018 Annual Conference.

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# St. Clair Receives Lifetime Achievement Award UK Markey Cancer Center

University of Kentucky Markey Cancer Center researcher **Daret St. Clair**, **PhD**, has been named the 2018 Lifetime Achievement Award Recipient from the Society for Redox Biology and Medicine (SfRBM).

\*\*Read More\*\*

#### **GRANTS & GIFTS**

# \$20 Million Gift Boosts Multiple Myeloma Research

Siteman Cancer Center

### \$11.5 Million SPORE Grant Supports Innovation in Leukemia Research

Siteman Cancer Center

#### **Duke Team Receives \$10.8 Million From NCI**

**Duke Cancer Institute, Duke University Medical Center** 

# **Grant Awarded to Discover Best Way to Deliver Genetic Services to Primary Care Patients**

Huntsman Cancer Institute, University of Utah

### **Grant to Establish Center for Early Detection of Liver Cancer**

**UCLA Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center** 

# \$2.3 Million Supports Studies on Chemotherapy-Induced Peripheral Neuropathy

Indiana University Melvin & Bren Simon Cancer Center

### \$2.1 Million Grant to Study Cognitive Decline During Chemotherapy

**VCU Massey Cancer Center** 

# **Husband and Wife Doctors Receive \$1.8 Million to Test New Breast Cancer Approach**

**University of Virginia Cancer Center** 

### McMahon Receives Pancreatic Cancer Collective Grant

Huntsman Cancer Institute, University of Utah

#### **LEADERSHIP TRANSITIONS**



# **Omuro Named New Neuro-Oncology Chief**

Yale Cancer Center, Yale School of Medicine

**Antonio Omuro, MD**, has been appointed the new chief of neuro-oncology and a leader for the Brain Tumor Program at Smilow Cancer Hospital. Dr. Omuro started his new position December 1, 2018.

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### **Whetstine Joins Cancer Epigenetics Program**

Fox Chase Cancer Center, Temple Health

Epigenetics researcher **Johnathan Whetstine**, **PhD**, joined Fox Chase as a program leader of the Cancer Epigenetics Program. Previously, Dr. Whetstine served as vice chair of the Epigenetics Program at Massachusetts General Hospital Cancer Center and Harvard Medical School in Boston.

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### **Dlugosz to Oversee Basic Science Research**

**University of Michigan Rogel Cancer Center** 

The University of Michigan Rogel Cancer Center has



named **Andrzej Dlugosz**, **MD**, associate director for basic science research. Dr. Dlugosz currently co-leads the Rogel Cancer Center's cancer biology program. **Read More** 

#### RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS

CAR T Clinical Trial Opens for Patients with HER2-Positive Breast Cancer That Has Spread to Brain

**City of Hope Comprehensive Cancer Center** 

Decrease in Specific Gene
'Silencing' Molecules Linked with
Pediatric Brain Tumors

Sidney Kimmel Comprehensive Cancer Center at Johns Hopkins University

**Standard Myeloma Treatment Shows Itself as an Immunotherapy** 

Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center

When Melanoma Spreads to Brain, Patients with BRAF, MEK Mutations Can Find Novel Treatment

The University of Arizona Cancer Center

Targeting Rhabdomyosarcoma, a Rare Cancer with Few Treatment Options

The University of Arizona Cancer Center

**Spread of Deadly Eye Cancer Halted in Cells, Animals** 

Sidney Kimmel Comprehensive Cancer Center at Johns Hopkins University

Unique Research Models Immune Responses in Cellular Immunotherapies

**VCU Massey Cancer Center** 

Fecal Transplant Effective Against Immunotherapy-Induced Colitis

University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center

Anti-CD47 Cancer Therapy Safe, Shows Promise in Small Clinical Trial

**Stanford Cancer Institute** 

New Way That Skin Stops Tumor Growth Identified

Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center

Minimally-Invasive Surgery Linked with Worse Survival for Women with Cervical Cancer Versus Open Hysterectomy

University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center

Rural Residents at Much Higher Larynx Cancer Risk

Fox Chase Cancer Center, Temple Health

Cold Therapy Offers Promising Prevention Against Taxane-Induced Dermatologic Events

**GW Cancer Center** 

Link Identified Between DNA-Protein Binding, Cancer Onset

**Stanford Cancer Institute** 

As Vaping Increased in Popularity, Use of Cigarettes Declined

Georgetown Lombardi

**Comprehensive Cancer Center** 

A Genetic Driver of Deadly Prostate Cancer Identified

Samuel Oschin Comprehensive Cancer Institute, Cedars-Sinai Medical Center

# How Melanoma Evades Targeted Therapies

Sidney Kimmel Cancer Center at Jeffers on Health

# Targeting MC1R in Metastatic Melanoma

**University of Colorado Cancer Center** 

# Researchers ID 'Achilles Heel' of Drug-Resistant Tumors

UCSF Helen Diller Family
Comprehensive Cancer Center

## New Checkpoint Inhibitor Shows Promise in Non-Hodgkin Lymphoma Trial

The University of Chicago Medicine
Comprehensive Cancer Center

# Genomic Study Discovers 40 New Genetic Variants Associated with Colorectal Cancer

Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center

# New 'SLICE' Tool Can Massively Expand Immune System's Cancer-Fighting Repertoire

UCSF Helen Diller Family
Comprehensive Cancer Center

### **Ultrasound Ovarian Cancer Screening Improves Survival**

**UK Markey Cancer Center** 

# Will Tarloxotinib Finally Break the HER2 Barrier in Lung Cancer?

**University of Colorado Cancer Center** 

# **Stephenson Cancer Center Leads Ovarian Cancer Study**

Stephenson Cancer Center, University of Oklahoma

**Share Your News** 

#### **OTHER NEWS**

# **Developing Patient-Centered Palliative Care From Diagnosis to End of Life**

LIVESTRONG Cancer Institutes, University of Texas Austin/Dell Medical School

This month, The University of Texas at Austin Dell Medical School will launch an innovative cancer care model called the CaLM (cancer life re-imagined) Clinic as part of its new cancer center, the Livestrong Cancer Institutes. The goal of the Livestrong Cancer Institutes and the CaLM Clinic is to provide a holistic approach to caring for patients with cancer from their initial cancer diagnosis and treatment throughout survivorship, including palliative and supportive care.

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# **Polish University Partnership**

Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Center



Roswell Park has formed an academic cooperation agreement with the Jagiellonian University in Kraków, Poland. The collaboration will see the two centers exchanging staff, students, and scientific resources to jointly undertake basic, translational, and clinical research to develop cancer therapies.

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# Human Images From the World's First Total-Body Medical Scanner Unveiled

**UC Davis Comprehensive Cancer Center** 

EXPLORER, the world's first medical imaging scanner that can capture a 3-D picture of the whole human body at once, has produced its first scans. The brainchild of UC Davis scientists Simon Cherry, PhD, and Ramsey Badawi, PhD, EXPLORER is a combined positron emission tomography and x-ray computed tomography scanner that can image the entire body at the same time. Because the machine captures radiation far more efficiently than other scanners, EXPLORER can produce an image in as little as one second and, over time, produce movies that can track specially tagged drugs as they move around the entire body.

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#### **JOB OPPORTUNITIES**

# Clinical Trial Protocol/Operations Coordinator I

Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center

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### **External Research Coordinator**

**Moffitt Cancer Center** 

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### **Director, Cancer Center Research**

Dana-Farber Cancer Institute
Harvard Medical School

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# Clinical Trial Protocol/Operations Coordinator II

Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center

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# Administrative Director, Clinical Research Office

University of New Mexico
Comprehensive Cancer Center

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# Research Clinical Specialist (RN)

**Moffitt Cancer Center** 

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#### **AACI MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS**



#### **AACI/AACR Hill Day**

April 30, 2019 Washington, DC

Save the Date



#### 11th Annual AACI CRI Meeting

July 9-11, 2019 Chicago, IL

Save the Date



### 2019 AACI/CCAF Annual Meeting

October 20-22, 2019 Washington, DC

Save the Date



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