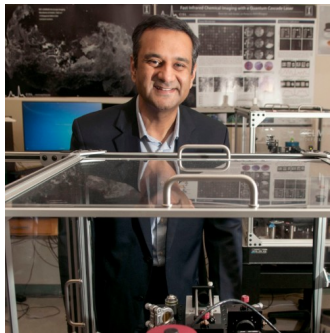




[Awards & Honors](#) | [Grants & Gifts](#) | [Leadership Transitions](#) | [Research Highlights](#) | [Other News](#)

## AACI HEADLINES

### New AACI Member: Cancer Center at Illinois



AACI welcomes its newest member this spring, with the addition of the [Cancer Center at Illinois \(CCIL\)](#), University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. **Rohit Bhargava, PhD**, is director of the center, which applies the university's historic strengths in basic science and engineering to cancer. The mission of CCIL is to promote and translate engineering and scientific innovations to enable cancer-free lives. [Read More](#)

### Join Us at Hill Day to Advocate for the NIH and NCI



As a member of AACI, your advocacy is critical to sharing our message with legislators: that stable, predictable funds are vital to advancing cancer research and care. On Tuesday, April 30, AACI will co-host the 2019 [Hill Day](#) with the [American Association for Cancer Research \(AACR\)](#). All faculty and staff of AACI cancer centers are invited to attend and bring patient advocates, whose impactful stories demonstrate the importance of cancer research and care. [Read More](#)

### CRI Meeting to Highlight Innovation, Resiliency



The 11th Annual [AACI Clinical Research Innovation \(CRI\) Meeting](#) will be held July 9-11, at the Loews Chicago O'Hare Hotel. The theme for this year's meeting is "Strategies to Maximize Innovation to Advance Cancer Clinical Research." This year's keynote features **Raquel Forsgren**, a Chicago-based resilience coach and yoga therapist, who will focus on strategies for self-preservation, managing stress, and building resiliency. [Read More](#)



On March 27, AACI hosted a Congressional briefing titled "Breaking Down Barriers to a Cure." The briefing highlighted the importance of robust and sustained funding levels for the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and the National Cancer Institute (NCI) and provided background of CAR T to members of Congress and their staffers. [Read More](#)

## NEWS FROM THE CENTERS

### AWARDS & HONORS



#### Dicker Named ASCO Fellow

**Sidney Kimmel Cancer Center at Jefferson Health**

**Adam P. Dicker, MD, PhD**, has been named a fellow of the American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO). Dr. Dicker is senior VP and chair of Enterprise Radiation Oncology; director of the Jefferson Institute for Digital Health; and professor of Radiation Oncology, Pharmacology & Experimental Therapeutics at Sidney Kimmel Cancer Center at Jefferson Health. [Read More](#)



#### Jung Wins AACR Award

**UCLA Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center**

**Michael Jung, PhD**, a UCLA distinguished professor of chemistry and biochemistry and member of the UCLA Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center, has been selected as the recipient of the 2019 American Association for Cancer Research Award for Outstanding Achievement in Chemistry in Cancer Research. [Read More](#)



#### Le Beau Elected to ACS Board

**The University of Chicago Medicine Comprehensive Cancer Center**

The American Cancer Society has named **Michelle M. Le Beau, PhD**, director of the University of Chicago Medicine Comprehensive Cancer Center, to its board of directors, effective January 1, 2019. Directors serve a two-year term on the all-volunteer board, which sets policy, establishes long-term goals, monitors general operations, and approves organizational outcomes and resource allocation. [Read More](#)



#### Werb Elected AACR Academy Fellow

**UCSF Helen Diller Family Comprehensive Cancer Center**

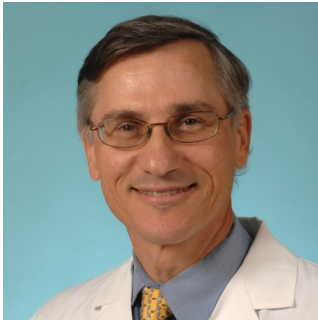
**Zena Werb, PhD**, has been named a 2019 AACR Academy Fellow for her contributions to the understanding of cellular microenvironments, inflammation, and intercellular communications in breast development and carcinogenesis, and for discovering MMP3 and MMP12 and the central processes by which they induce extracellular matrix remodeling and proteolysis. [Read More](#)



## Cohn Receives AACR Research Award

**The University of Chicago Medicine Comprehensive Cancer Center**

The American Association for Cancer Research (AACR) has named **Susan Cohn, MD**, dean for clinical research at the University of Chicago Medicine, as the recipient of the 2019 AACR-Joseph H. Burchenal Memorial Award for her outstanding contributions in international pediatric clinical research. Dr. Cohn is a leading authority on neuroblastoma. [Read More](#)



## Andriole Elected to American College of Surgeons Academy

**Siteman Cancer Center**

**Gerald L. Andriole, MD**, the Washington University chief of urologic surgery at Siteman Cancer Center, has been elected to the American College of Surgeons Academy of Master Surgeon Educators. Launched in 2017, the academy recognizes surgeon educators poised to advance the science and practice of surgical education and training. [Read More](#)

### GRANTS & GIFTS

## Over \$28 Million in Grants Includes Funding for Breast Cancer Studies in African Americans

**Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Center**

## NIH Awards \$11.4 Million to Establish Institute for Precision Medicine

**The University of Kansas Cancer Center**

## NCI Grant Will Help Assess New Treatment for Deadly Brain Tumor

**The Ohio State University Comprehensive Cancer Center - James Cancer Hospital and Solove Research Institute**

## \$1.1 Million Awarded to Investigate Treatment Options for Chemotherapy Nerve Damage

**VCU Massey Cancer Center**

### LEADERSHIP TRANSITIONS



## Sharpless to be Acting FDA Commissioner

**National Cancer Institute**

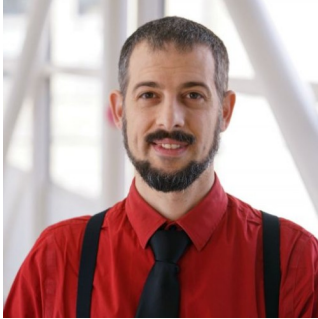
**Norman Sharpless, PhD**, director of the National Cancer Institute (NCI), will head the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) after current FDA chief Scott Gottlieb steps down in early April. In an email to NCI colleagues, Dr. Sharpless said his move was announced by Health and Human Services Secretary Alex Azar on March 12, and that Douglas Lowy, PhD, will serve as acting NCI director. [Read More](#)

## Chief Technology Officer Role Created

**Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Center**

**Paul Visco** has been promoted to the role of chief technology officer (CTO) at Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Center. A new position at Roswell Park, Mr. Visco's role as CTO involves developing and implementing new technologies that benefit the experiences of both patients and clinical teams. [Read More](#)





## Draetta Named Chief Scientific Officer

**University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center**

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MD Anderson Cancer Center has named **Giulio Draetta, MD, PhD**, as chief scientific officer, a new position that champions innovation, strengthens partnerships, and provides leadership on the clinical translation of research programs. His previous roles include director of MD Anderson's Institute for Applied Cancer Science and vice president of its Therapeutics Discovery Division. [Read More](#)

## Antonia Appointed Director of Center for Cancer Immunotherapy

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

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**Scott Antonia, MD, PhD**, who joined Duke in February, has been appointed director of the newly formed DCI Center for Cancer Immunotherapy, a DCI Strategic Plan priority that aims to enhance the institute's ability to develop and test novel immunotherapeutic approaches. [Read More](#)



## Kim to Lead Gastrointestinal Cancers Program

**GW Cancer Center**

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Medical oncologist **George Kim, MD**, will direct the George Washington University (GW) Cancer Center Gastrointestinal Cancers Program. Dr. Kim, who specializes in colorectal, pancreatic, liver, and gastric esophageal cancers, most recently provided medical oncology services at 21st Century Oncology in Florida. He previously worked at the Mayo Clinic in Jacksonville, Florida; the National Cancer Institute; and Dana-Farber Cancer Institute. [Read More](#)



## Immunologist Joins Ohio State

**The Ohio State University Comprehensive Cancer Center - James Cancer Hospital and Solove Research Institute**

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**Zihai Li, MD, PhD**, a medical oncologist and immunologist, has been named founding director of the new Institute for Immunology (IIO) at the OSUCCC – James. Dr. Li, whose appointment is effective April 1, was previously co-leader of the Cancer Immunology Program at Hollings Cancer Center, Medical University of South Carolina. [Read More](#)

## RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS

### Enzyme USP15 May Have Potential Role in Future Treatment of Various Cancers

**GW Cancer Center**

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### Researchers Pursue Blood Test for Colorectal Cancer

## [Molecular Data Can Predict Breast Cancer Recurrence](#)

[Stanford Cancer Institute](#)

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## [Scientists Home in on MicroRNA Processing for Novel Cancer Therapies](#)

[VCU Massey Cancer Center](#)

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## [Scans May Reduce Need for Surgery in Head and Neck Cancer Patients](#)

[UAMS Winthrop P. Rockefeller Cancer Institute](#)

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## [Vaccine for HER2 Breast Cancer Shows Promise](#)

[Duke Cancer Institute, Duke University Medical Center](#)

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## [Managing Nontraditional Risk Factors Could Improve Cancer Surgery Outcomes](#)

[Sidney Kimmel Comprehensive Cancer Center at Johns Hopkins University](#)

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## [Structural, Clinical Barriers Keep 3 of 4 Cancer Patients From Participating in Trials](#)

[Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center](#)

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## [Finding Will Help ID New Targets for Treatment of Autoimmune Diseases](#)

[Fox Chase Cancer Center, Temple Health](#)

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## [Potential Treatment for Cancer in 'Butterfly Disease'](#)

[Sidney Kimmel Cancer Center at Jefferson Health](#)

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## [Soft Drink Companies Copy Tobacco Playbook to Lure Young Users](#)

[UCSF Helen Diller Family Comprehensive Cancer Center](#)

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## [Study Leads to First FDA-Approved Drug in Decades to Improve Survival in Small Cell Lung Cancer](#)

[Georgetown Lombardi Comprehensive Cancer Center](#)

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## [Link Found Between Demographics, Liver Cancer](#)

[University of Florida Health Cancer Center](#)

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## [Potential New Combination Treatment for Pancreatic Cancer Identified](#)

[UCLA Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center](#)

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## [Drug Could Alleviate Side Effects of Chemo for Breast Cancer Patients](#)

[Stanford Cancer Institute](#)

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## [Key Regulator of Immune System Defies Evolution](#)

[Fox Chase Cancer Center, Temple Health](#)

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## [New Target for Pancreatic Cancer Treatment Identified](#)

[The University of Kansas Cancer Center](#)

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## [Blood Diseases Cured with Bone Marrow Transplant](#)

[Sidney Kimmel Comprehensive Cancer Center at Johns Hopkins University](#)

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## [Topical Immunotherapy Reduces Skin Cancer Risk](#)

[Siteman Cancer Center](#)

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## Report: States Must Do More to Ensure People at High Risk Can Be Screened for Lung Cancer

University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center

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Lung cancer is the leading cancer killer, yet coverage of screenings for individuals at high risk for lung cancer varies across state Medicaid programs, according to a new report by the American Lung Association. To ensure those eligible can access lifesaving lung cancer screenings, the American Lung Association and MD Anderson Cancer Center have partnered on educational initiatives to improve coverage for recommended low-dose computed tomography lung cancer screenings in state Medicaid programs. [Read More](#)

## Multipronged Approach to Reducing Health Inequities

Samuel Oschin Comprehensive Cancer Institute, Cedars-Sinai Medical Center

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The Cedars-Sinai Research Center for Health Equity is front and center in the growing trend of population health studies, which addresses environmental, cultural, and genetic factors to understand why certain populations have higher rates of cancer and other diseases than other groups. In Los Angeles County and across California, the Health Equity team is focusing on the high cancer mortality rate among Korean-Americans and the growing incidence of liver cancer in the Hispanic population, in addition to other health disparities in a number of communities. [Read More](#)

### JOB OPPORTUNITIES

#### Director

Fred and Pamela Buffett Cancer Center

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#### Nurse Practitioner, Clinical Research Unit

Moffitt Cancer Center

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#### Administrative Director, Clinical Research Office

University of New Mexico Comprehensive Cancer Center

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#### Clinical Research Coordinator

UC Davis Comprehensive Cancer Center

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#### Chief Administrative Officer/Associate Director for Administration & Finance

UCI Chao Family Comprehensive Cancer Center

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#### Director of Regulatory Affairs

The University of Kansas Cancer Center

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#### Research Nurse Manager, Clinical Trials Office

Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center, University of Miami Health System

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#### Director, Clinical Protocol Office

O'Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center at the University of Alabama at Birmingham

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#### Chair, Department of Cancer Biology and Genetics

The Ohio State University Comprehensive Cancer Center - James Cancer Hospital and Solove Research Institute

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#### Clinical Research Budget Coordinator I/II - Pre Award

Samuel Oschin Comprehensive Cancer Center, Cedars-Sinai Medical Center

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#### Clinical Research Educator, Hem-Onc Clinical Trials

Penn State Cancer Institute

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## Clinical Team Lead, Cancer Clinical Trials Office

Samuel Oschin Comprehensive Cancer Center, Cedars-Sinai Medical Center

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## Director, Clinical Trials Administration

City of Hope Comprehensive Cancer Center

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## Manager of Clinical Research Operations, Hem-Onc Clinical Trials

Penn State Cancer Institute

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## Regulatory Program Manager

UCI Chao Comprehensive Cancer Center

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### MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS



## Epigenetics in Cancer Scientific Symposium

April 25, 2019

Philadelphia, PA

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[Learn More](#)



## AACI/AACR Hill Day

April 30, 2019

Washington, DC

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[Register Today](#)



## 11th Annual AACI CRI Meeting

July 9-11, 2019

Chicago, IL

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[Register Today](#)



## Women in Cancer Immunotherapy Network Leadership Institute

August 19-20

Seattle, WA

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[Learn More](#)



## 2019 AACI/CCAF Annual Meeting

October 20-22, 2019

Washington, DC

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[Save the Date](#)

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Medical Arts Building  
3708 Fifth Avenue, Suite 503  
Pittsburgh, PA 15213



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