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AACI HEADLINES

[Register Today for the AACI/CCAF Annual Meeting](#)



The **2019 AACI/CCAF Annual Meeting** will be held at the Mayflower Hotel in Washington, DC, from October 20-22. Information on the meeting, including the program and electronic registration, is now available on the [meeting website](#). The three-day event will bring together AACI cancer center leadership with top personnel from national cancer research and advocacy organizations, industry, and government health agencies to share common challenges and best practices. [Read More](#)

[CRI Meeting Spotlight: Conducting Multicenter Trials](#)



Conducting multicenter trials is a hot topic in AACI members' clinical trials offices. During this **CRI meeting** session, panelists will discuss how to effectively run multicenter trials. In addition, they will present on how to operationalize investigator-initiated trials, manage single and site-specific IRB reviews, and address the challenges of adaptive trial design and drug distribution. [Read More](#)

[AACI Introduces New Opportunity to Support CRI Meeting](#)

AACI invites you to promote your cancer center by purchasing an advertisement in the **11th Annual AACI CRI Meeting** event program. The program offers an excellent opportunity to showcase your center while supporting the CRI meeting. Your cancer center's program ad may highlight a conference or a new initiative, or celebrate the success of the center's clinical trials office. [Read More](#)

[Hill Day Advocates Present Unified Voice in Support of NIH, NCI Funding](#)

On Tuesday, April 30, AACI co-hosted the 2019 Hill Day with the **American Association for Cancer Research** (AACR). Ninety-one researchers, oncologists, survivors, and other advocates, representing 37 cancer centers and 24 states, attended meetings with legislators and staff on



Capitol Hill. The group gathered to present a unified voice in support of stable funding increases for the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and the National Cancer Institute (NCI). [Read More](#)

NEWS FROM THE CENTERS

AWARDS & HONORS



Ashworth Elected to American Academy of Arts and Sciences

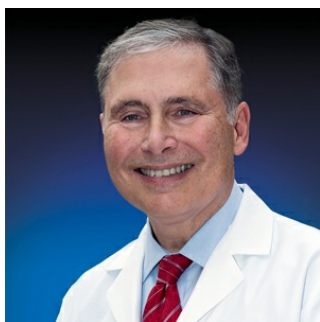
UCSF Helen Diller Family Comprehensive Cancer Center

Alan Ashworth, PhD, FRS, president of the Helen Diller Family Comprehensive Cancer Center and noted cancer biologist, was among three UCSF scientists elected to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. Dr. Ashworth is a translational researcher whose work has focused on understanding breast cancer genetics to improve the treatment and care of patients. [Read More](#)

Ault Appointed to Federal Immunization Committee

The University of Kansas Cancer Center

Kevin Ault, MD, has been appointed to the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices by Health and Human Services Secretary Alex M. Azar II. This federal committee is part of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and formulates vaccine policy for the United States. Dr. Ault will serve a four-year term. [Read More](#)



Weiner Receives Distinguished Public Service Award

Georgetown Lombardi Comprehensive Cancer Center

The American Association for Cancer Research (AACR) has honored Georgetown Lombardi Comprehensive Cancer Center director **Louis M. Weiner, MD**, with a 2019 AACR Distinguished Public Service Award. The award recognizes groundbreaking, innovative work throughout the cancer community. [Read More](#)



Seeger Receives Hepatitis B Foundation Prize

Fox Chase Cancer Center, Temple Health

Christoph Seeger, PhD, is the recipient of the Hepatitis B Foundation's 2019 Baruch S. Blumberg Prize for excellence in hepatitis B research. Dr. Seeger's work has focused on the biology of human pathogenic viruses with an emphasis on HBV, and has led to the identification of the signals required for reverse transcription of viral DNA and provided the basis for the current model for HBV replication. [Read More](#)

Rossi Receives ASGCT Award

City of Hope Comprehensive Cancer Center

John Rossi, PhD, was given the Outstanding Achievement Award by the American Society of Gene & Cell Therapy (ASGCT) in March. This award recognizes an ASGCT member who "has achieved a

pioneering research success, specific high-impact accomplishment, or lifetime of significant contributions to the field of gene and cell therapy.” Dr. Rossi is a pioneer in creating highly structured RNA molecules called aptamers that act like antibodies. [Read More](#)



Saeed Joins National GI Cancer Consortium

The University of Kansas Cancer Center

Anwaar Saeed, MD, has been accepted into the Academic GI Cancer Consortium, which brings together institutions and investigators to design and rapidly complete clinical trials in GI cancers. Dr. Saeed's clinical research is focused on developmental therapeutics and immune modulatory approaches in patients with advanced gastric, esophageal, and colon cancers. [Read More](#)

GRANTS & GIFTS

\$15.1 Million Awarded for Redesignation as Comprehensive Cancer Center

Rutgers Cancer Institute of New Jersey

Rating of 'Exceptional' Earned for Second Consecutive CCSG Review Cycle

The Wistar Institute

University of Chicago to Lead the NRG Oncology Statistics and Data Management Center

The University of Chicago Medicine Comprehensive Cancer Center

\$10.8 Million Grant to Expand Clinical Trials

Stephenson Cancer Center, University of Oklahoma

\$8.9 Million Awarded for Clinical Research

Case Comprehensive Cancer Center

\$7.5 Million to Develop Better Treatment For a Rare, Incurable Cancer

City of Hope Comprehensive Cancer Center

Addiction Training Program Awarded \$2.1 Million

UAMS Winthrop P. Rockefeller Cancer Institute

Grant Received to Investigate Progression, Relapse of Rare Blood Cancer

Indiana University Melvin & Bren Simon Cancer Center

LEADERSHIP TRANSITIONS



Bhatia is Interim Director at Alabama

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

Ravi Bhatia, MD, has been named interim director of the O'Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center at the University of Alabama at Birmingham. Dr. Bhatia was the director of the UAB Division of Hematology and Oncology, and also served as deputy director of the O'Neal Cancer Center. Prior to joining UAB in 2015, Dr. Bhatia was at City of Hope Comprehensive Cancer Center. [Read More](#)

Cance Named Interim Director

The University of Arizona Cancer Center

William Cance, MD, deputy director of the University of Arizona Cancer Center (UA) in Phoenix, has been appointed interim

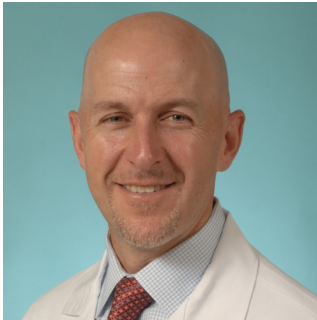


director, effective July 1, 2019. Dr. Cance is an oncology surgeon and physician-scientist who joined the UA in 2016. He holds the position of professor in the departments of Interdisciplinary Oncology, Pharmacology & Toxicology, and Surgery for the UA Colleges of Medicine and Pharmacy—Phoenix. [Read More](#)

Maihle Joins UMMC Cancer Institute

UMMC Cancer Center and Research Institute

Nita Maihle, PhD, has joined the University of Mississippi Medical Center Cancer Institute (now the [UMMC Cancer Center and Research Institute](#)) as associate director for research. She will lead efforts to further develop basic research programs and help coordinate research among the institute's three National Cancer Institute-targeted research programs. [Read More](#)



Zipfel Named Head of Neurosurgery

Siteman Cancer Center

Gregory J. Zipfel, MD, has been named head of the Department of Neurosurgery at Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis. Zipfel also will become neurosurgeon-in-chief at Barnes-Jewish Hospital. In both roles he will partner with Siteman Cancer Center. Zipfel succeeds Ralph G. Dacey Jr., MD, who has led the department since 1989. [Read More](#)

Mullighan Named Deputy Director

Comprehensive Cancer Center

St. Jude Children's Research Hospital

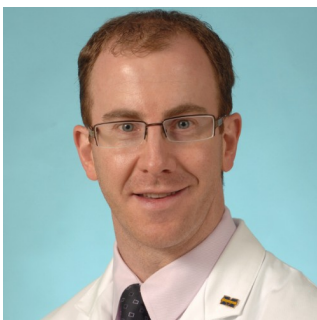
The St. Jude Children's Research Hospital Comprehensive Cancer Center has appointed **Charles G. Mullighan, MBBS, MD**, deputy director. In this new position, Dr. Mullighan will help guide precision medicine, preclinical and other strategic research initiatives for the center. He joined the St. Jude Department of Pathology faculty in 2008, and serves as co-leader of the cancer center's Hematological Malignancies Program. [Read More](#)



Famiglietti Appointed Chief Administrator

Duke Cancer Institute, Duke University Medical Center

Robin Famiglietti, PhD, MBA, FACHE, has been appointed chief administrator of Duke Cancer Institute and associate vice president of Oncology Services for Duke University Health System. Previously, Dr. Famiglietti served as division administrator for Radiation Oncology at MD Anderson Cancer Center and provided consulting services to the radiation oncology industry. [Read More](#)



Fields New Chief of Surgical Oncology

Siteman Cancer Center

Ryan C. Fields, MD, a noted cancer surgeon and researcher, has been named chief of the Section of Surgical Oncology at Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis. Dr. Fields, who treats patients at Siteman Cancer Center, also is associate program director of the General Surgery Residency Program and director of resident research in the Department of Surgery at the School of Medicine. [Read More](#)

Ovarian Cancer Patients Undertested for Mutations That Could Guide Clinical Care

[Stanford Cancer Institute](#)

How Immune Cells Help Tumors Escape Body's Defenses

[UPMC Hillman Cancer Center](#)

Turning Silenced Cancer Genes Back Into Fighters

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

New Role Uncovered for Tamoxifen in Triple-Negative Breast Cancers

[Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Center](#)

Genetic Testing in Women with Breast Cancer Decreases Cost of Care Nationwide

[Georgetown Lombardi Comprehensive Cancer Center](#)

Tarloxotinib Shows Promise Against NRG1-Fusion Cancers

[University of Colorado Cancer Center](#)

UPMC Joins National Acute Myeloid Leukemia Trial

[UPMC Hillman Cancer Center](#)

Single Agent Umbralisib Effective for Relapsed Slow-Growing Lymphoma

[University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center](#)

Neurotransmitter Identified That Helps Cancers Progress

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

Artificial Intelligence Nearly Equal to Experienced Radiologists in Detecting Prostate Cancer

[UCLA Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center](#)

How Estrogen Drives Brain Metastasis in Non-Estrogen-Dependent Breast Cancers

[University of Colorado Cancer Center](#)

Study Finds Physicians, Patients Talking Less About Lung Cancer Screening

[University of Florida Health Cancer Center](#)

Chronicling How a Cancer Drug Works by Triggering the Immune System

[The Cleveland Clinic Cancer Center](#)

Modified Immune Cells Issue Alert When Detecting Cancer in Mice

[Stanford Cancer Institute](#)

Promising New Pancreatic Cancer Treatment Moves Forward

[Huntsman Cancer Institute, University of Utah](#)

Blood Tests Predict Effectiveness of Hormonal Therapies

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

Exploring Immunotherapy in Small Cell Lung Cancer

[Rutgers Cancer Institute of New Jersey](#)

Oral Contraceptives Protect Against Most-Fatal Types of Ovarian Cancer

[Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Center](#)

Study Aims to Increase Diversity in Cancer Clinical Trials

UCSF Helen Diller Family Comprehensive Cancer Center

Blood Clots Get Renewed Attention and Potential New Therapies

Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center

Synthetic DNA-Based Cancer Immunotherapy Approach Shows Tumor-Clearing Ability

The Wistar Institute

Triple-Negative Breast Cancers Can Adopt Reversible, Chemotherapy-Resistant State

University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center

OTHER NEWS



Barbershops Will Play a Role in Reducing Colon Cancer Disparities Among Black Men

Huntsman Cancer Institute, University of Utah

With a grant from the National Cancer Institute, HCI researcher **Charles R. Rogers, PhD, MPH, MS, CHES®**, will implement and evaluate culture-specific interventions with a goal of eliminating cancer disparities among African-American men, who are more likely than men of other races to die from colon cancer. Barbershops will be a key recruitment venue for the five-year study. [Read More](#)



A UVA Doctor Reflects on Her Work with NASA

University of Virginia Cancer Center

When NASA astronaut Scott Kelly returned from a yearlong stay on the International Space Station on March 3, 2016, a young physician-scientist, **Francine Garrett-Bakelman, MD, PhD**, was standing by to receive samples of Kelly's blood to compare to samples from his twin brother on Earth. Today Dr. Garrett-Bakelman is a cancer doctor and researcher at the UVA Health System. [Read More](#)



New Name for Mississippi Cancer Center

UMMC Cancer Center and Research Institute

The University of Mississippi Medical Center's Cancer Institute is changing its name to the **UMMC Cancer Center and Research Institute (CCRI)**. The CCRI offers adult cancer care through 10 interdisciplinary teams of doctors and conducts basic, translational, and population research through scientists from UMMC, the University of Mississippi, and Mississippi State University. [Read More](#)

Cancer Control Collaborations Extended to the Caribbean

Fox Chase Cancer Center, Temple Health

For more than a decade, **Camille Ragin, PhD, MPH**, has been working to eliminate cancer disparities among people of African ancestry. The first step is understanding the problem. With support from the National Cancer Institute, Dr. Ragin and colleagues are building a cancer research infrastructure in the Caribbean to prepare the region to reduce its cancer burden. [Read More](#)

Washington Governor Signs Tobacco 21 Legislation

[Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center](#)

Washington Governor Jay Inslee signed the state's new Tobacco 21 legislation into effect on April 5 in a ceremony at Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center. Starting January 1, 2020, it will be illegal under Washington law to sell or give tobacco or vaping products to people under age 21. Washington is the tenth U.S. state to raise the age for legal purchase of tobacco and vaping products from age 18 to 21. [Read More](#)

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

Associate Director for Basic Research

[Samuel Oschin Comprehensive Cancer Institute, Cedars-Sinai Medical Center](#)

Associate Director for Population Sciences

[Case Comprehensive Cancer Center](#)

Assistant Director of Clinical Research

[Winship Cancer Institute of Emory University](#)

Protocol Review Specialist

[Dartmouth-Hitchcock Norris Cotton Cancer Center](#)

CRMO Clinical Research Manager

[Georgetown Lombardi Comprehensive Cancer Center](#)

Assistant Director of Finance

[University of Colorado Cancer Center](#)

Faculty (Open Rank) Biostatistician

[University of Illinois Cancer Center](#)

Director of Regulatory Affairs

[The University of Kansas Cancer Center](#)

Research Scientist or Physician Scientist, Head and Neck Cancer Program

[Samuel Oschin Comprehensive Cancer Institute, Cedars-Sinai Medical Center](#)

AACI MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS



11th Annual AACI CRI Meeting

July 9-11, 2019

[Chicago, IL](#)

[Register Today](#)



2019 AACI/CCAF Annual Meeting

October 20-22, 2019

[Washington, DC](#)

[Register Today](#)

Imaging Science and Cancer Biology Symposium

June 21-23, 2019

Frederick, MD

[Learn More](#)

Women in Cancer Immunotherapy Network Leadership Institute

August 19-20, 2019

Seattle, WA

[Learn More](#)

Wendy & Emery Reves International Breast Cancer Symposium

September 20-21, 2019

Dallas, TX

[Learn More](#)

Multidisciplinary Approaches to Cancer Symposium

October 10-13, 2019

Las Vegas, NV

[Learn More](#)

Cancer and Inflammation: From Micro to Macro

October 17-18, 2019

Bethesda, MD

[Learn More](#)

16th International Conference on Bioactive Lipids in Cancer, Inflammation, and Related Diseases

October 20-23, 2019

St. Petersburg, FL

[Learn More](#)



Medical Arts Building
3708 Fifth Avenue, Suite 503
Pittsburgh, PA 15213
412-647-6111

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