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News from the Association of American Cancer Institutes | September 2019

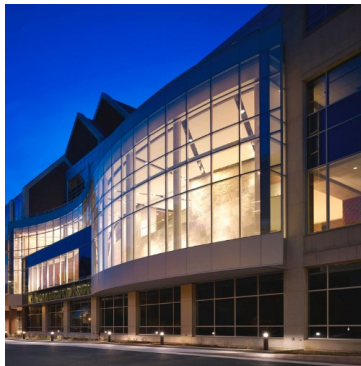
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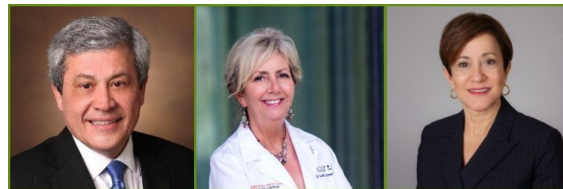
AACI HEADLINES

[IU Simon Earns Comprehensive Designation](#)



The Indiana University Melvin and Bren Simon Cancer Center has achieved the highest recognition from the National Cancer Institute: Comprehensive Cancer Center, signifying research excellence. Overall, the center received an "outstanding" rating from NCI reviewers and was awarded a five-year, \$13.8 million grant that supports the center's research programs and shared facilities. That marks an increase of 43 percent from the previous five-year funding period. **Patrick J. Loehrer, Sr., MD**, is director of the center. [Read More](#)

[Three Cancer Center Directors Elected to AACI Board](#)



Carlos L. Arteaga, MD, **S. Gail Eckhardt, MD, FASCO**, and **Caryn Lerman, PhD**, were elected by their peers to serve three-year terms on AACI's Board of Directors. Dr. Arteaga was appointed director of the Harold C. Simmons Comprehensive Cancer Center at UT Southwestern Medical Center in 2017 and Dr. Eckhardt became the inaugural director of the **LIVESTRONG** Cancer Institutes at The University of Texas at Austin, Dell Medical School, the same year. Dr. Lerman was appointed director of the USC Norris Comprehensive Cancer Center in March 2019. [Read More](#)

[CAR T Symposium, Other Meetings, Set for AACI/CCAF Annual Meeting](#)

The **2019 AACI/CCAF Annual Meeting**, October 20-22 in Washington, DC, will include additional meetings for AACI's **Physician Clinical Leadership Initiative (PCLI)** and **Government Relations (GR) Forum**, as well as a **CAR T Symposium**. All events are included in the regular annual meeting registration. However, attendees must [register online](#)



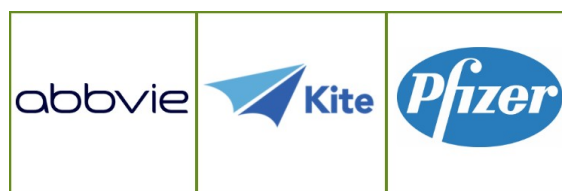
prior to the meetings or [modify a previous registration](#). Please note: the meetings are only open to AACI members. Annual meeting registration rates will increase on Friday, September 20. [Read More](#)

New Committee Chairs Selected for Three AACI Programs



AACI's [Clinical Research Innovation \(CRI\)](#), [Government Relations \(GR\) Forum](#), and [Physician Clinical Leadership Initiative \(PCLI\)](#) welcome new committee leaders who will provide guidance to the association in the areas of public policy and cancer center management. **Theresa L. Werner, MD**, **John DeMuro**, and **Claire F. Verschraegen, MS, MD, FACP**, will begin their terms during the **2019 AACI/CCAF Annual Meeting**, October 20-22, in Washington, DC. [Read More](#)

AACI Welcomes New Corporate Roundtable Members



AACI extends a warm welcome to its newest corporate members: **AbbVie**, **Kite**, and **Pfizer**. Launched in 2012, the AACI Corporate Roundtable creates opportunities for open discussion around important issues between industry representatives and leaders of academic centers. [Read More](#)

Register Today for PCLI Hereditary Cancer Program Webinars



AACI's [Physician Clinical Leadership Initiative \(PCLI\)](#) will present a two-part webinar series on hereditary cancer programs, which consist of genetic counselors and physicians with expertise in cancer risk assessment. The first webinar will focus on models of testing for pancreatic, breast, ovarian, and prostate cancers and will be held on Wednesday, October 2 at 11:00 am ET. The second part of the series will highlight models of testing for colon and hematologic cancers and informed consent and will be held on Wednesday, November 13 at 11:00 am ET. [Read More](#)

NEWS FROM THE CENTERS

AWARDS & HONORS

Gerson Elected to National Academy of Inventors as Senior Member Case Comprehensive Cancer Center

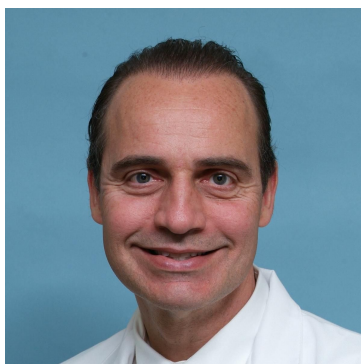
The National Academy of Inventors (NAI) has named 54 academic



inventors to its Spring 2019 class of senior members, including **Stan Gerson, MD**, director of Case Comprehensive Cancer Center. Dr. Gerson, who also directs the National Center for Regenerative Medicine at Case Western Reserve University, holds 16 U.S. patents for stem cells and drug discovery. His research focuses on the relationship between stem cells, DNA, and cancer. [Read More](#)

Hallahan Named Senior Member of NAI

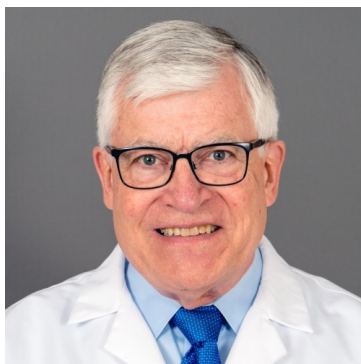
[Siteman Cancer Center](#)



Washington University radiation oncologist **Dennis E. Hallahan, MD**, of Siteman Cancer Center, has been named a senior member of the National Academy of Inventors (NAI). Dr. Hallahan, who also heads the Department of Radiation Oncology, is being recognized for producing "technologies that have brought, or aspire to bring, real impact on the welfare of society." [Read More](#)

Oncologist to Receive Medal for Leukemia Research

[The University of Chicago Medicine Comprehensive Cancer Center](#)



University of Chicago Medicine oncologist and professor **Richard A. Larson, MD**, will receive the 2019 Henry M. Stratton Medal from the American Society of Hematology. Dr. Larson, director of UChicago Medicine's Hematologic Malignancies Clinical Research Program, has dedicated his career to designing groundbreaking therapeutic trials for patients with leukemia. [Read More](#)

GRANTS & GIFTS

More Than \$15 Million in New Funding Secured for Cancer Research

[Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Center](#)

Grant Awarded for CAR T-Cell Trial for HER2-Positive Breast Cancer That Has Spread to Brain

[City of Hope Comprehensive Cancer Center](#)

\$7.8 Million Awarded to Expand Clinical Trials Access

[Siteman Cancer Center](#)

NCI Grant Will Support Community Outreach and Research

[Georgetown Lombardi Comprehensive Cancer Center](#)

Grant to Fund Study of Family Caregiver Training

[Case Comprehensive Cancer Center](#)

Cancer Moonshot Grant Supports New Approach to Boost Immunotherapies

Researcher Receives NIH Grant to Improve Therapy and Detection of Ovarian Cancer

UCLA Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center

Researchers Seek Culprit in Liver Inflammation

The University of Kansas Cancer Center

Eoff Receives Grant From National Science Foundation

UAMS Winthrop P. Rockefeller Cancer Institute

\$1 Million Awarded to Study Endometrial Cancer

Duke Cancer Institute, Duke University Medical Center

LEADERSHIP TRANSITIONS

UMMC Launches Precision Medicine Division, Names Director

UMMC Cancer Center and Research Institute



Joseph Maher, MD, has been named director of the University of Mississippi Medical Center (UMMC) Division of Medical Genetics and Precision Medicine. Dr. Maher also plays a crucial role on several UMMC Cancer Center and Research Institute interdisciplinary teams. [Read More](#)

Halene Named Interim Chief of Hematology

Yale Cancer Center, Yale School of Medicine



Stephanie Halene, MD, PhD, has been named interim chief of hematology at Yale Cancer Center and Smilow Cancer Hospital. An associate professor of medicine, Dr. Halene joined the faculty in 2006 after completing her residency and fellowship in hematology at Yale New Haven Hospital and Yale Cancer Center. The cancer center's hematology section includes 18 faculty members focused on patient care and research. [Read More](#)

Biotech Leader Apelian Named BlueSphere Bio CEO

UPMC Hillman Cancer Center



BlueSphere Bio, an immunotherapy startup formed by UPMC Enterprises, has announced that **David Apelian, MD, PhD, MBA**, has been named chief executive officer. He joins clinical immunology experts and company co-founders **Mark Shlomchik, MD, PhD**, and **Warren Shlomchik, MD**, of the University of Pittsburgh, to advance the TCXpress platform to develop rapid, personalized T-cell therapies for cancer. [Read More](#)

Bradley Named Executive Vice Chairman of Radiation Oncology

[Winship Cancer Institute of Emory University](#)



Winship Cancer Institute of Emory University has announced that **Jeffrey Bradley, MD, FASTRO**, will become the new executive vice chairman of the Department of Radiation Oncology. Dr. Bradley joins Winship from Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis where he was the clinical director of the Kling Proton Center and chief of the Radiation Oncology Thoracic Cancer Service. [Read More](#)

Stefanek to Head Cancer Control, Epidemiology and Disparities

[UMMC Cancer Center and Research Institute](#)

Michael Stefanek, PhD, has joined the University of Mississippi Medical Center (UMMC) Cancer Center and Research Institute as head of its Cancer Control, Epidemiology and Disparities Program. Dr. Stefanek comes from Augusta University where he chaired and was a professor in the Department of Psychological Sciences, and full member of the Georgia Cancer Center. [Read More](#)

RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS

Modified Drug Combination May Reduce Breast Cancer Recurrence

[VCU Massey Cancer Center](#)

Team Develops New DNA-Mapping Tool

[Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Center](#)

Molecular Sensor Scouts DNA Damage and Supervises Repair

[UPMC Hillman Cancer Center](#)

Researchers Find New Details of Immune System Molecular 'Switch'

[University of Florida Health Cancer Center](#)

Risks of Novel Oral Prostate Cancer Therapies and Pre-Existing Conditions

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

UVA Discovers Incredible HULLK That Controls Growth of Prostate Cancer

[University of Virginia Cancer Center](#)

New Study Reveals Weakness in Prostate Tumors

[Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center](#)

Bacteria on Tumors Influence Immune Response and Survival of Patients With Pancreatic Cancer

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

Discovery of How Cells Override Genetic Changes Could Lead to New Pancreatic Cancer Treatments

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

New Signal May Provide Basis for Cancer Therapies

[Stanford Cancer Institute](#)

New Drug Shows Encouraging Survival Results for Pancreatic Cancer

[University of Michigan Rogel Cancer Center](#)

Researchers Identify Protein Governing Platinum-Resistant Ovarian Cancer
[GW Cancer Center](#)

Targeting Cell Division in Pancreatic Cancer

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

Improving the Standard of Therapy for Patients With Intermediate-Risk Neuroblastoma

[The University of Chicago Medicine Comprehensive Cancer Center](#)

In-Depth Look at RAS Mutations Highlight Age-Related Molecular Differences in CRC

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

New HIV Vaccine Trial to Launch in U.S., Latin America, and Europe

[Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center](#)

New Study Examines Breast Cancer Survivor Experiences Managing Cancer and Work

[UK Markey Cancer Center](#)

First Clinical Trial Site for High-Risk Cutaneous Squamous Cell Carcinoma

[GW Cancer Center](#)

Cancer Clinic Closures Limit Access to Care, Increase Medicare Spending

[O'Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center at the University of Alabama at Birmingham](#)

Depression, Anxiety Linked to Opioid Use in Women With Breast Cancer

[University of Virginia Cancer Center](#)

Recognizing the Toll of Oral Damage From Graft-Versus-Host Disease After Stem Cell Transplant

[Georgetown Lombardi Comprehensive Cancer Center](#)

Study Shows Value of Virtual Reality for Pain Management

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

Drug Combo Heralds Major Shift in Chronic Lymphocytic Leukemia Treatment

[Stanford Cancer Institute](#)

Uncovering Secrets of Bone Marrow Cells and How They Differentiate

[O'Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center at the University of Alabama at Birmingham](#)

Diabetes Symptoms Could Cause Genomic Instability and Lead to Cancer

[City of Hope Comprehensive Cancer Center](#)

OTHER NEWS

Improving Equity in Academic Medicine

[University of Michigan Rogel Cancer Center](#)

Christina Chapman, MD, studies ways to improve equity in health care systems and the medical workforce to better meet the needs of the population. She served as a discussant on a panel on workplace inequities at the 2019 American Society of Clinical Oncology's annual meeting in Chicago. [Read More](#)



Boehringer Ingelheim, MD Anderson Form Virtual Research and Development Center

The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center

Boehringer Ingelheim and The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center have announced a new multi-year partnership to conduct collaborative research to rapidly advance therapies for various types of cancers, including gastrointestinal and lung cancers. The establishment of a joint Virtual Research and Development Center will enable effective data sharing and analysis between the organizations. [Read More](#)

Chemical Exposure Web Tool Defines Risks Faced by Millions of California Women

UCSF Helen Diller Family Comprehensive Cancer Center

A new web tool spells out for the first time the exposures that more than 6.5 million working women in California face that could increase their risk for breast cancer, including industrial solvents, antimicrobials, and phthalates. The tool, which was developed by researchers at UC San Francisco and the California Department of Public Health's Occupational Health Branch, is part of an ongoing study focused on understanding potential breast cancer risks related to workplace chemical exposures. [Read More](#)

New E-Cigarette Laws Could Drive Some Users to Smoke More Cigarettes

Duke Cancer Institute, Duke University Medical Center

Efforts by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration and some cities could limit the availability and appeal of e-cigarettes to young users could drive some existing users to smoke more tobacco cigarettes to get their fix, according to new finding by Duke Health from a survey of 240 young U.S. adults who use both e-cigarettes and traditional tobacco cigarettes. [Read More](#)

Fox Chase Launches 'Connected by Cancer' Podcast

Fox Chase Cancer Center, Temple Health

Fox Chase Cancer Center launched "Connected by Cancer," a new narrative podcast, on August 20, 2019. The seven-part audio documentary will be updated weekly and is available for free on Apple Podcasts, Spotify, and other podcasting platforms. Each episode focuses on a different aspect of life at one of the first comprehensive cancer centers designated by the National Cancer Institute, including episodes on patients, doctors, researchers, nurses, and volunteers. [Read More](#)

Mammography Bus Screens 20,000th Patient

WVU Cancer Institute



The Bonnie's Bus Mobile Mammography Program began its screenings in 2009 through a donation from Jo and Ben Statler. The bus is named in memory of Jo Statler's mother, Bonnie Wells Wilson, who spent her life in a remote area of the state that lacked access to mammography services. The Statlers wanted to ensure that other families would not lose family members due to a lack of mammography access. [Read More](#)

Administrative Director, Clinical Research Office

University of New Mexico Comprehensive Cancer Center

Clinical Research Manager (two positions)

UNC Lineberger Comprehensive Cancer Center, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Executive Vice President

Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center

Director of Division Operations

Moffitt Cancer Center

Division Research Operations Manager

Moffitt Cancer Center

Manager, Clinical Research Budgeting/Finance

GW Cancer Center

AACI MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS



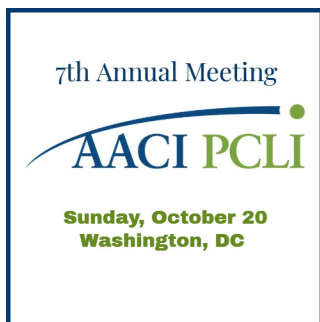
2019 AACI/CCAF Annual Meeting

October 20-22, 2019

Washington, DC

[Learn More](#)

[Register Today](#)



7th Annual AACI PCLI Meeting

October 20, 2019

Washington, DC

[Learn More](#)

[Register Today](#)

2019 CAR T Symposium

October 21 • Washington, DC



2019 CAR T Symposium

October 21, 2019

Washington, DC

[Learn More](#)

[Register Today](#)

AACI Government Relations Forum

October 21, 2019

Washington, DC

[Learn More](#)



Government Relations
Forum

Monday, October 21
Washington, DC

Register Today

MEMBER MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS

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](#)

Artificial Intelligence in Oncology: Advancements and Policy

October 24, 2019

Cleveland, OH

[Learn More](#)

Innovators in AYA Cancer: Driving Science and Policy Toward a Brighter Future for Teens and Young Adults With Cancer

November 14-15, 2019

Cleveland, OH

[Learn More](#)



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

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