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News From the Association of American Cancer Institutes | September 2021
Click here to read the full newsletter on our website.

Awards & Honors | Grants & Gifts | Leadership Highlights | Research Highlights | Other News & COVID-19

AACI HEADLINES

AACI to Honor Winn With Inaugural Cancer Health Equity Award

AACI will honor Robert A. Winn, MD, with the inaugural AACI Cancer Health Equity Award during the 2021 AACI/CCAF Annual Meeting, which will be held virtually October 19-21. Dr. Winn is AACI’s vice president/president-elect and director of VCU Massey Cancer Center.
Read More

Promote Your Cancer Center With a Program Ad

AACI invites you to promote your cancer center by purchasing an ad in the 2021 AACI/CCAF Annual Meeting program. The digital program book offers an excellent opportunity to showcase your center while supporting the annual meeting. Your cancer center’s program ad may highlight a conference or a new initiative. Cancer centers may also include links to their website and any upcoming events.
Read More

AACI Joins Cancer Centers, Other Organizations to 'Get HPV Vaccination Back on Track'

Last month St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital, 15 of AACI’s leading academic and freestanding cancer center members, all National Cancer Institute (NCI)-Designated Cancer Centers—among them 70 AACI members—and other organizations issued a joint statement urging the nation’s health care systems, physicians, parents, children, and young adults to get human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccinations and other
recommended vaccinations back on track. Read More

AACI Supporter Message: Patient Resource Navigator

Patient Resource Navigator System User Metrics

Of more than 80,000 patients surveyed:

- 94% reported that guides will influence their recommendation of a cancer center to friends & family
- 94% said the guides are comprehensive & easy to read
- 93% stated that the guides assist them in following their doctor’s treatment plan

For more information, contact Amy Galey. Learn More

NEWS FROM THE CENTERS

AWARDS & HONORS

Licht Receives ASH Mentor Award
University of Florida Health Cancer Center

UF Health Cancer Center Director Jonathan Licht, MD, has received the 2021 American Society of Hematology (ASH) Mentor Award. The ASH Honorific Awards are the society’s most prestigious awards, recognizing individuals within the global hematology community who have made significant contributions to the field. Read More

Bergom Elected Councilor-at-Large for Radiation Society
Siteman Cancer Center

Carmen R. Bergom, MD, PhD, a Washington University associate professor of radiation oncology at Siteman Cancer Center, has been elected to a three-year term as a councilor-at-large for the Radiation Research Society. Read More

Weinberg Named Co-Editor of Gastroenterology Journal
David S. Weinberg, MD, MSc, chair of the Department of Medicine at Fox Chase Cancer Center, was recently named one of two new editors-in-chief of *Gastroenterology*, the premier journal of the American Gastroenterological Association. Read More

Karlan Receives Lifetime Achievement Award for Contributions to Gynecologic Oncology
UCLA Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center

Beth Karlan, MD, director of cancer populations at the UCLA Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center, is being honored with the Lifetime Achievement Award from the International Gynecologic Cancer Society for her contributions to gynecologic cancer research and clinical practice. Read More

Fox Chase Staff Member Recognized for Advancing Patient-Centered Care
Fox Chase Cancer Center, Temple Health

Delinda Pendleton, BSN, MSN, staff liaison for the Fox Chase Patient and Family Advisory Council, has been named a Planetree Fellow in Person-Centered Care. The fellows program is operated by Planetree International, a leading person-centered care advocacy and standard setting organization. Read More

Camarata Named President of Neurosurgical Society
The University of Kansas Cancer Center

Paul Camarata, MD, neurosurgery clinical service chief at The University of Kansas Health System, has been elected president of the Neurosurgical Society of America. Read More

Landmark Tisch Gift Announced
The Tisch Cancer Institute at Mount Sinai

Baylor Receives More Than $20 Million in CPRIT Funding
Dan L Duncan Comprehensive Cancer Center at Baylor College of Medicine

$10 Million State Appropriation for Pediatric Cancer Will Advance Research and Treatment
Rutgers Cancer Institute of New Jersey

Grant Awarded to Study Anal Cancer Screening in High-Risk Women
The Tisch Cancer Institute at Mount Sinai

Researchers to Study Mechanisms Driving Uveal Melanoma Spread to Liver
University of Florida Health Cancer Center

$3.6 Million Awarded to Expand HPV Cancer Vaccine Study
UAMS Winthrop P. Rockefeller Cancer Institute

Putting Cancer Screening on Wheels
Sidney Kimmel Cancer Center at Jefferson Health

NCI Names Fong Outstanding Investigator
UCSF Helen Diller Family Comprehensive Cancer Center

LEADERSHIP TRANSITIONS

Brentjens Joins Roswell Park as Deputy Director, Chair of Medicine
Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Center

An influential figure in cancer immunotherapy has returned to his Western New York roots to take on leadership roles at Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Center. Renier Brentjens, MD, PhD, starts in September as deputy director and chair of medicine. He joins Roswell Park from Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, where he served as director of cellular therapeutics. Read More

Park Named to New Role as Deputy Director
Vanderbilt-Ingram Cancer Center

Ben Ho Park, MD, PhD, has been named deputy director of Vanderbilt-Ingram Cancer Center. His elevation to deputy director follows his promotion to director of the Division of Hematology and Oncology at Vanderbilt University Medical Center in October 2020. He will continue to lead the division in addition to serving in the new position. Read More

Hwang Named Interim Director of Breast Cancer Disease Group
Duke Cancer Institute, Duke University Medical Center

Shelley Hwang, MD, MPH, has been named interim director of the Breast Cancer Disease Group at Duke Cancer Institute. In 2016, Time magazine named Dr. Hwang one of the 100 most influential people for her work in reframing the problem of pre-invasive breast cancer. Read More
Katzenellenbogen is Cancer Prevention and Control Co-Leader
Indiana University Melvin and Bren Comprehensive Cancer Center

Rachel Katzenellenbogen, MD, has joined Susan Rawl, PhD, and Todd Skaar, PhD, as a co-leader of the Cancer Prevention and Control research program. She is the Chuck and Tina Pagano Scholar at the IU Simon Comprehensive Cancer Center. Read More

Hugo Named Medical Physics Director
Siteman Cancer Center

Geoffrey Hugo, PhD, a Washington University professor of radiation oncology at Siteman Cancer Center, has been named director of the Medical Physics Division in the Department of Radiation Oncology. Dr. Hugo is recognized for his role in developing the use of radioablation to treat patients with cardiac arrhythmias, and for his work advancing adaptive radiotherapy. Read More

Kheterpal Leads New DCI Oncodermatology Clinic
Duke Cancer Institute, Duke University Medical Center

The Duke Cancer Institute Melanoma (and advanced skin cancers) Disease Group has expanded clinic services at its Duke Cancer Center Durham location to include dermatological cancer care for those patients who require multidisciplinary care. Meenal Kheterpal, MD, leads the new clinic. Read More

Finance Professional Moves Into Executive Role for Cancer Center
Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Center

Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Center announces the promotion of Todd Maier, CPA, to vice president of finance. Maier joined Roswell Park in 2014 and has previously served as manager of finance transformation and, more recently, director of financial analytics and planning. Read More
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<tr>
<th>Research Highlight</th>
<th>Institution</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Bladder Cancer: New Subtype Discovery May Offer Better Treatment Options</strong></td>
<td>Cedars-Sinai Cancer</td>
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<td><strong>Statins May Improve Survival for Triple-Negative Breast Cancer Patients</strong></td>
<td>The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center</td>
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<td><strong>Blood Pressure Drugs Could Improve Colorectal Cancer Survival</strong></td>
<td>University of Virginia Cancer Center</td>
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<td><strong>Lasofoxifene Shows Promise for Therapy-Resistant Breast Cancer Treatment</strong></td>
<td>The University of Chicago Medicine Comprehensive Cancer Center</td>
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<td><strong>Anti-Parasitic Drug Slows Pancreatic Cancer in Mice</strong></td>
<td>Sidney Kimmel Comprehensive Cancer Center at Johns Hopkins University</td>
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<td><strong>Model Developed to Predict Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer Outcomes With Immunotherapy</strong></td>
<td>Moffitt Cancer Center</td>
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<td><strong>Study Identifies Biomarker for Breast Cancer Response to Immunotherapy</strong></td>
<td>Vanderbilt-Ingram Cancer Center</td>
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<td><strong>Using AI to Personalize Cancer Care</strong></td>
<td>Stanford Cancer Institute</td>
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<td><strong>Entinostat Primes Body to Better Respond to Anti-Cancer Treatment With Immunotherapy</strong></td>
<td>Sidney Kimmel Comprehensive Cancer Center at Johns Hopkins University</td>
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<td><strong>Genomic Markers of Aggressive Childhood Leukemias Identified</strong></td>
<td>Huntsman Cancer Institute, University of Utah</td>
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<td><strong>Researchers Harness Power of Immunotherapy for Advanced Prostate Cancer</strong></td>
<td>University of Michigan Rogel Cancer Center</td>
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<td><strong>Immunotherapy May Be Effective for Subgroup of Metastatic Colorectal Cancer Patients</strong></td>
<td>City of Hope Comprehensive Cancer Center</td>
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<td><strong>Low-Dose, Four-Drug Combo Blocks Cancer's Spread in Mice</strong></td>
<td>The University of Chicago Medicine Comprehensive Cancer Center</td>
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<td><strong>Study Predicts Who May Benefit From CAR T-Cell Therapy for Blood Cancers</strong></td>
<td>Stanford Cancer Institute</td>
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<td><strong>Adoptive Cell Therapy Plus Checkpoint Inhibitors Show Promise in Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer</strong></td>
<td>Moffitt Cancer Center</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Discovery Suggests Potential New Treatment for Deadly Blood Cancer</strong></td>
<td>University of Virginia Cancer Center</td>
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Feeling the Impact of Pancreatic Disease
Sidney Kimmel Cancer Center at Jefferson Health

Physically Active Women With Breast Cancer Have Less Brain Fogginess
Wilmot Cancer Institute, UR Medicine

Inhibition of Key Pathway Promotes Iron-Dependent Cell Death in Pancreatic Cancer Cells
University of Michigan Rogel Cancer Center

Study Confirms Effectiveness of New Personalized Approach for Radiation Therapy
Case Comprehensive Cancer Center

OTHER NEWS & COVID-19

New Affiliate Delivers Cancer Care Closer to Home
UK Markey Cancer Center

The University of Kentucky Markey Cancer Center launched a new initiative to create a connected, integrated statewide cancer provider network. The initiative, which include upgraded cancer conference facilities and a comprehensive cancer care platform, will help ensure the delivery of quality cancer care close to home. Read More

Cancer Coalition Praises Passage of First in the Nation California Cancer Patients Bill of Rights
City of Hope Comprehensive Cancer Center

Cancer Care Is Different, a coalition-based campaign effort to improve patient access to advanced cancer care in California, applauds the state Assembly’s unanimous passage of the Cancer Patients Bill of Rights on August 19, joining the state Senate in adopting this resolution. Read More

Smoking Cessation Program Most Successful With Four or More Visits
Wilmot Cancer Institute, UR Medicine

When Tracy Downs decided to quit smoking, she had little faith that it would actually happen. Having smoked for 26 years, including while she received treatment for breast cancer in 2020, she had tried a lot of tactics but nothing seemed to stick. Read More

Pediatric Neuroendocrine Tumor Program Launched
UK Markey Cancer Center

UK HealthCare recently launched a new Pediatric Neuroendocrine Tumor Clinical and Research Program to improve treatment for children diagnosed with or at high risk for developing rare neuroendocrine tumors. This program, a joint effort between the University of Kentucky Markey Cancer Center and the Kentucky Children’s Hospital, is one of only a handful of centers specializing in this field. Read More

New Concerns About Coronavirus Evolution in Immunosuppressed Patients
Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center

In the wake of findings that COVID-19 virus variants are more likely to spring from patients with weakened immune systems, Lawrence Corey, MD, and other leading medical experts are calling for heightened precautions in the treatment of such individuals and better, more intensive therapies to help them fully recover from their disease. Read More
Vaping Prevention Critical as Teens Head Back to School During Ongoing Pandemic
The Ohio State University Comprehensive Cancer Center - James Cancer Hospital and Solove Research Institute

The global COVID-19 pandemic has forced many people to live in relative isolation for more than a year. As adolescents return to school, public health experts caution parents to pay close attention to signs of tobacco use among teens. Read More

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

Research Auditor
Indiana University Melvin and Bren Simon Comprehensive Cancer Center

Associate Director, Cancer Clinical Trials Office
Sandra and Edward Meyer Cancer Center at Weill Cornell Medicine

Co-Director, Cancer Control Program
Hollings Cancer Center, Medical University of South Carolina

Biostatistics Shared Resource Director
VCU Massey Cancer Center

Deputy Director
Hollings Cancer Center, Medical University of South Carolina

Director, Office of Clinical and Translational Research
UNC Lineberger Comprehensive Cancer Center, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Division Chair, Hematology, Oncology, and Palliative Care
VCU Massey Cancer Center

Senior Administrator, Quality Assurance
Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Center

Research Program Manager, PRMS
GW Cancer Center

Senior Director, Clinical Trials Office
The University of Kansas Cancer Center
Clinical Research Specialist I Protocol Review and Management System (PRMS)
Cedars-Sinai Cancer

Industry Contract Specialist
Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center

Program Manager, Cancer Clinical Trials Office
Cedars-Sinai Cancer

Study Activation Coordinators
Moffitt Cancer Center

MEMBER MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS

Affordable Cancer Technologies (ACT) Conference 2021
VIRTUAL EVENT
Case Western Reserve University
September 23-24, 2021

Artificial Intelligence in Oncology Symposium: Precision Medicine and Cancer Disparities
VIRTUAL EVENT
Case Comprehensive Cancer Center
November 8-9, 2021

AACI MEETINGS AND EVENTS

2021 AACI/CCAF Annual Meeting
VIRTUAL EVENT | REGISTER TODAY
October 19-21, 2021

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