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News From the Association of American Cancer Institutes | July 2022

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Awards & Honors | Grants & Gifts | Leadership Highlights | Research Highlights | Other News & COVID-19 Job Opportunities | Meeting Announcements

AACI HEADLINES

Ramos Named Director of the Louisiana Cancer Research Center



A national search for a director for the Louisiana Cancer Research Center (LCRC) has culminated in the selection of cancer biology researcher **Joe W. Ramos, PhD**. Dr. Ramos is currently the interim director of the University of Hawai'i Cancer Center. He will be officially introduced as director and chief executive officer of the LCRC on July 26 and will begin a tour of research institutions in the state that week. *Read More*

Reddy to Lead Dan L Duncan Comprehensive Cancer Center



Pavan Reddy, MD, is joining Baylor College of Medicine as director of the Dan L Duncan Comprehensive Cancer Center. He will lead oncology services, research, and strategic growth at Baylor St. Luke's Medical Center. Dr. Reddy joins Baylor after more than 20 years at the University of Michigan. *Read More*

Memorial Sloan Kettering Names Vickers New President and CEO

Selwyn M. Vickers, MD, FACS, a pancreatic cancer surgeon and researcher and pioneer in cancer health disparities research, has been selected to serve as the next president and chief executive officer of Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center. He will succeed Craig B. Thompson, MD, who announced his intention to step down earlier this year. The transition will occur in September 2022. *Read More*



Cancer Research Advocates Make Virtual Visits to Capitol Hill

On June 15, AACI jointly hosted the 2022 virtual Hill Day with the American Association for Cancer Research (AACR). During meetings with legislators, cancer center directors, researchers, physician-scientists, cancer survivors, and other advocates made the case for robust, sustained federal investments in biomedical research—and cancer research in particular—through the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and the National Cancer Institute (NCI). *Read More*

Register Today for Upcoming AACI Meetings

Registration at the regular rate begins today for the 2022 AACI/CCAF Annual Meeting, which will take place October 2-4 at InterContinental at the Plaza, Kansas City, MO. There is still time toregister for the 14th Annual AACI Clinical Research Innovation (CRI) Meeting, which will be held July 12-14 at the Loews Chicago O'Hare Hotel in Rosemont, IL. Read More

AACI to Host Workshop for Emerging Cancer Center Leaders



AACI will host its inaugural Leadership Diversity and Development Initiative (LDDI) Workshop, **November 8-9**, at the Loews Chicago O'Hare Hotel in Rosemont, IL. The pilot event will convene emerging leaders from each AACI member cancer center at in-depth leadership development workshops. LDDI workshops are part of the presidential initiative of AACI President **Caryn Lerman**, **PhD**, director of USC Norris Comprehensive Cancer Center. *Read More*

Impact of Roe v. Wade Reversal on Patients With Cancer

The June 24 Supreme Court decision on Dobbs v. Jackson reversed the 1973 ruling on Roe v. Wade, allowing individual states to determine access to abortion. As state leaders weigh the implications of the Supreme Court decision, AACI urges them to consider its ripple effects on access to quality cancer prevention, screening, and treatment services, particularly as they impact communities of color, sexual and gender minorities, residents of rural communities, and other groups that experience cancer disparities. *Read the Statement*

NEWS FROM THE CENTERS

AWARDS & HONORS

Patel Inducted Into American Association of Plastic Surgeons

Fox Chase Cancer Center, Temple Health

Sameer Patel, MD, FACS, chief of the Division of Plastic & Reconstructive Surgery at Fox Chase Cancer Center, was recently inducted into the American Association of Plastic Surgeons. *Read More*



Bukavina Wins Research Scholar Award

Fox Chase Cancer Center, Temple Health



Laura Bukavina, MD, MPH, has been awarded a 2022 Urology Care Foundation Research Scholar Award, which supports future research leaders and ensures they receive the necessary training and guidance for a successful research career. The Urology Care Foundation is the official foundation of the American Urological Association. *Read More*

GRANTS & GIFTS

Cancer Grand Challenges Awardees Announced

National Cancer Institute

<u>\$11 Million Grant to Improve Immunotherapy for Lung Cancer</u></u>

Winship Cancer Institute of Emory University

\$10 Million Gift to Establish Brock Family Center for Applied Innovation

Vanderbilt-Ingram Cancer Center

\$5 Million to Establish New Urologic Cancer Program UK Markey Cancer Center

Four NYC Cancer Centers Receive \$1 Million to Improve Lung Cancer Care in Underserved Patients

Laura and Isaac Perlmutter Cancer Center at NYU Langone

LEADERSHIP TRANSITIONS

Mayo Announces New Leadership Structure

Mayo Clinic Comprehensive Cancer Center

Three Mayo Clinic Comprehensive Cancer Center leaders have assumed new roles: **Stephen M. Ansell, MD, PhD**, has been named enterprise deputy director and senior deputy director, Midwest; **Roxana Dronca, MD**, has been named director, Florida Cancer Programs; and**Alan Bryce, MD**, will serve as acting director, Arizona Cancer Programs.

Pictured, clockwise from top right: Stephen M. Ansell, MD, PhD; Roxana Dronca, MD; and Alan Bryce, MD Read More



Radiation Oncology Chair Appointed

UPMC Hillman Cancer Center



Heath D. Skinner, MD, PhD, has been appointed chair of the Department of Radiation Oncology, effective July 1. Clinically, he will focus on advancing UPMC Hillman Cancer Center's radiation oncology services nationally and enhancing access to care. *Read More*

New Director for Thoracic Oncology Research Initiative University of Colorado Cancer Center



For **Sharon Pine**, **PhD**, racial and economic disparities in cancer diagnosis and care add an urgency to lung cancer research. Dr. Pine will bring that motivation to her new role as director of the Thoracic Oncology Research Initiative (TORI) at the University of Colorado Cancer Center. *Read More*

COE Leadership Team Announced

Mayo Clinic Comprehensive Cancer Center

Mayo Clinic Comprehensive Cancer Center has announced a new community outreach and engagement (COE) leadership team to help develop targeted interventions that will lead to sustainable, impactful changes in health equity. *Read More*

Palmer Named VP Of Cancer Clinical Administration and Strategy

Winship Cancer Institute of Emory University



Stacy L. Palmer, MBA, has joined Winship Cancer Institute of Emory University as the new vice president of cancer clinical administration and strategy. She will be responsible for coordinating clinical strategy and supporting standardization of cancer care across clinical sites and partners. *Read More*

Scientist Tapped to Lead Basic Science Research

Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Center



A research leader with a record of important discoveries in cancer biology and precision therapeutics, Roswell Park's **Erik Knudsen**, **PhD**, has been promoted to associate director of basic science research. *Read More*

New Associate Director of Translational Research Welcomed

University of Colorado Cancer Center

With more than 20 years of experience in gene therapy and personalized medicine,**Hatim Sabaawy**, **MD**, PhD, steps into the role of associate director of translational research at the University of Colorado (CU) Cancer Center on July 1. Dr. Sabaawy joins CU from Rutgers University in New Jersey. *Read More*

New Vice President of Cancer Services Announced

WVU Cancer Institute



Edward Harrison has joined the WVU Cancer Institute as its vice president of cancer services. His first day on the job was May 16. Prior to WVU, he served in various leadership roles at UPMC and the University of Pittsburgh. *Read More*

RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS

Rectal Cancer Disappears After Experimental Use of Immunotherapy Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center

Blood Test Developed to Predict Liver Cancer Risk

Simmons Comprehensive Cancer Center, UT Southwestern Medical Center

Liquid Biopsy Detects DNA Markers in Advanced Breast Cancer Within Five Hours

Sidney Kimmel Comprehensive Cancer Center at Johns Hopkins University

New Lung Cancer Screening Guidelines Reduce Disparity

Sidney Kimmel Cancer Center at Jefferson Health

Discovery Could Revolutionize Understanding of Aggressive Cancer Growth and Spread

The Ohio State University Comprehensive Cancer Center - James Cancer Hospital and Solove Research Institute Solid Tumors Use a Type of T Cell as Shield Against Immune Attack <u>Fred Hutchinson Cancer Center</u>

Androgen Receptor Signaling Contributes to Targeted Therapy Resistance in Melanoma

The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center

Computer Simulations of Proteins Help Unravel Why Chemotherapy Resistance Occurs

Stony Brook Cancer Center

Hormones Contribute to Sex Disparities in Bladder Cancer, Study Shows

Cedars-Sinai Cancer

Tumor-Based Methylation Patterns Identified as Cancer Biomarkers Moffitt Cancer Center

Biomarker in Liquid Biopsy for Lung Cancer Appears More Accurate in Predicting Immunotherapy Response Than Tumor Biopsy

The Tisch Cancer Institute at Mount Sinai

Locking Cellular Escape Hatch for Leukemia

Duke Cancer Institute, Duke University Medical Center

Study of Anti-Cancer Mitochondrial Drug Shows Additional Clinical Promise

Stony Brook Cancer Center

Varenicline Increases Smoking Cessation Rates for African American Smokers

The University of Kansas Cancer Center

Age-Related Lung Changes Provide Pathway for Metastatic Growth of Dormant Melanoma Cancer Cells

Sidney Kimmel Comprehensive Cancer Center at Johns Hopkins University

Glioma Progression is Shaped by Genetic Evolution and Microenvironment Interactions

The Jackson Laboratory Cancer Center

Listeria-Based Booster Improves Vaccine Protection Against Recurring Colon Cancer

Sidney Kimmel Cancer Center at Jefferson Health

Researchers Identify New Treatment Target for Prostate Cancer Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Center

Social Stress Factors Drive Cancer Mechanisms That Help Explain Racial Disparities

Duke Cancer Institute, Duke University Medical Center

Advanced Radiotherapy is Safe, Effective for Early-Stage Liver Cancer The Tisch Cancer Institute at Mount Sinai

Immunotherapy Before Surgery Associated With Improved Survival for Soft-Tissue Sarcoma

The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center

Screening and Removal of Precancerous Lesions Prevents Anal Cancer

UCSF Helen Diller Family Comprehensive Cancer Center

<u>Study Reveals How Gastric Cancer Forms, Suggests Preventive</u> <u>Treatment</u>

Vanderbilt-Ingram Cancer Center

<u>Study Uncovers New Treatment Approaches for Liver Cancer</u> <u>Patients</u>

Cedars-Sinai Cancer

Researchers Help Find Mechanism Leading to Prostate Cancer Drug Resistance

Moffitt Cancer Center

OTHER NEWS & COVID-19

Groundbreaking for Major Expansion Celebrated

University of Maryland Marlene and Stewart Greenebaum Comprehensive Cancer Center



The University of Maryland Medical Center has broken ground for a \$219 million, nine-story patient care tower—the Roslyn and Leonard Stoler Center for Advanced Medicine—that will become the new home of the University of Maryland Marlene and Stewart Greenebaum Comprehensive Cancer Center. **Kevin J. Cullen, MD**, is the center's director. *Read More*

Cancer Research Building Construction Begins Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center, University of Miami Health System



Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center is celebrating the groundbreaking for a 244,000-square-foot, state-of-the-art Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center - Transformational Cancer Research Building. The 12-story facility is slated to open in 2024. *Read More*

Expanding Commitment to Advance Cancer Research in the Mountain West

Huntsman Cancer Institute, University of Utah



Huntsman Cancer Institute at the University of Utah announces a formal expansion of its catchment area. In addition to Utah, it now includes Idaho, Montana, Nevada, and Wyoming. **Neli Ulrich, PhD, MS**, is the center's executive director. *Read More*

Statewide Cancer Navigation Program Launched

UAMS Winthrop P. Rockefeller Cancer Institute

The UAMS Winthrop P. Rockefeller Cancer Institute is implementing a new statewide patient navigation program to help cancer patients across the state access needed prevention, screening, treatment and support services. *Read More*

First Graduate of New Cancer Biology Concentration

Wilmot Cancer Institute, UR Medicine



Carlos Ortiz-Bonilla, a Puerto Rican native who has been studying science at the University of Rochester (UR) for the past seven years, is the first graduate of a new course concentration in cancer biology, spearheaded by the Wilmot Cancer Institute. The cancer biology concentration was developed in partnership with UR's doctoral programs. *Read More*

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

Collaborative Fellowship Program in Pediatric Pharmacology The University of Kansas Cancer Center

Senior Director of Development VCU Massey Cancer Center

Associate or Full Professor & Associate Director of Community Outreach and Engagement The University of Vermont Cancer Center

Chair of the Department of Radiation Medicine OHSU Knight Cancer Institute

Protocol Review and Monitoring System Manager Case Comprehensive Cancer Center

Associate Director for Community Outreach and Engagement O'Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center at the University of Alabama at Birmingham

Budget Analyst, Clinical Research Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center Deputy Director and Chief Technology Officer, Division of Cancer Prevention National Cancer Institute

Program Manager, Shared Resources - Hybrid

Cedars-Sinai Cancer

Research Program Administrator, Shared Resources - Hybrid Cedars-Sinai Cancer

Research Committees and Systems Manager University of Illinois Cancer Center

Senior Clinical Research Coordinator UC Davis Comprehensive Cancer Center

Clinical Research Project Manager Fred Hutchinson Cancer Center

Activation Specialist The University of Vermont Cancer Center

Administrative Director of Clinical Trials The University of Vermont Cancer Center

Associate Director, Clinical Research Services Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center, Yale School of Medicine

Clinical Research/Regulatory Openings Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center, University of Miami Health System

Health Services Research Center Director and Associate Director for Cancer Health Policy and Care Delivery

The University of Vermont Cancer Center

MEMBER MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS

<u>31st Annual Short Course on Experimental Models of Human</u> Cancer

HYBRID EVENT The Jackson Laboratory Farmington, CT August 14, 2022

2022 Cancer Immunology and Immunotherapy Conference: Discovery to Mainstream Oncology

National Institutes of Health Bethesda, MD September 15, 2022

AACI MEETINGS AND EVENTS

14th Annual AACI CRI Meeting REGISTER TODAY July 12-14, 2022 Loews Chicago O'Hare Hotel Rosemont, IL

2022 AACI/CCAF Annual Meeting

REGISTER TODAY October 2-4, 2022 InterContinental at the Plaza Kansas City, MO



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