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News From the Association of American Cancer Institutes | May 2023
Click here to read the full newsletter on our website.

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

AACI HEADLINES

City of Hope Appoints Carpten as Director
City of Hope has announced the appointment of John D. Carpten, PhD, as director of the National Cancer Institute-Designated Comprehensive Cancer Center, director of Beckman Research Institute of City of Hope and chief scientific officer. Dr. Carpten joins City of Hope from the University of Southern California where he was associate director of the cancer center. Read More

Register Today for the 2023 AACI/CCAF Annual Meeting
Registration is now open for the 2023 AACI/CCAF Annual Meeting, which will take place October 1-3 at the Salamander Washington, DC. This three-day event convenes AACI cancer center members with national cancer research and advocacy groups, industry, and government health agencies to develop solutions to common challenges. Continuing Medical Education (CME) is jointly provided by the American Association for Cancer Research (AACR) and AACI. Read More

Abstract Winners Announced for 15th Annual AACI CRI Meeting
The AACI Clinical Research Innovation (CRI) Steering Committee, with the assistance of peer reviewers from CRI committees, have selected three abstracts from 118 submissions for formal presentation at the 15th Annual AACI CRI Meeting. The three winning abstracts will be presented individually during a session on Tuesday, June 27. Read More
Representatives Fitzpatrick and Wasserman Schultz to Receive Cancer Research Ally Award

Representatives Brian Fitzpatrick (R-PA) and Debbie Wasserman Schultz (D-FL) will be honored with the Cancer Research Ally Award during the 2023 AACI/AACR Hill Day, which will be held in person on Thursday, May 18. The representatives will provide remarks during a reception on Wednesday, May 17. Read More

Call For Research Grant and Fellowship Proposals

The goal of the Prevent Cancer Foundation research program is to identify and fund innovative projects with the potential to make substantial contributions to cancer prevention or early detection.

Learn more and apply for a $100,000 award by 11:59 pm eastern time on July 11, 2023.

Read about awarded researchers and the impact of the research program and use our Award Database to discover previously funded researchers. Visit Our Website

Vitalief: Cultivating the Clinical Trial Office and Beyond

Vitalief is a Functional Service Provider (FSP) offering robust solutions that help research organizations and clinical trial offices address the Healthcare Human Capital Epidemic.

Consulting
Resourcing & Education
Managed Services

Visit us at the 15th Annual AACI CRI Meeting! Learn More

NEWS FROM THE CENTERS

AWARDS & HONORS

NCCN Names UChicago as New Member Institution
The University of Chicago Medicine Comprehensive Cancer Center has been named the newest member institution of the National Comprehensive Cancer Network (NCCN). The network now has 33 academic centers contributing subject matter experts to 61 panels that determine evidence-based recommendations for cancer care. Kunle Odunsi, MD, PhD, is director of the cancer center. Read More

Researchers Honored at American Physiology Summit
Vanderbilt-Ingram Cancer Center

Three faculty members and five postdoctoral fellows at Vanderbilt University Medical Center, including James Goldenring, MD, PhD, received research honors last week from the American Physiological Society during its 2023 American Physiology Summit. Read More

Priyanka Sharma, Prateek Sharma Honored at Investiture Ceremony
The University of Kansas Cancer Center

Priyanka Sharma, MD, and Prateek Sharma, MD, of The University of Kansas Cancer Center, were formally invested with professorships on March 21, 2023. Endowed professorships recognize the cancer center's most productive faculty and are made possible by generous donors. Read More

Clinical Director Wins Oncology Nursing Society Award
Fox Chase Cancer Center, Temple Health

Erin Longstreth-Papsun, RN, MSN, OCN, NEA-BC, clinical director of Ambulatory Satellite Clinics and Radiation Oncology Nursing at Fox Chase Cancer Center, was recently awarded the Excellence in Cancer Nursing Management Award by the Oncology Nursing Society. Read More

Castro Inducted Into 2023 Class of AIMBE College of Fellows
University of Michigan Rogel Cancer Center
Maria G. Castro, PhD, R.C. Schneider Collegiate Professor of Neurosurgery and professor of cell and developmental biology at the University of Michigan, was inducted to the American Institute for Medical and Biological Engineering (AIMBE) College of Fellows. Read More

Ford Invited to Join Advisory Board
Hollings Cancer Center, Medical University of South Carolina

Marvella Ford, PhD, was invited to join the National Minority Quality Forum’s Cancer Stage Shifting Initiative’s Scientific Advisory Board. The forum is a 501(c)3 nonprofit research and educational organization dedicated to ensuring high-risk racial and ethnic populations and communities receive optimal health care. Read More

Ganz Receives AACR-American Cancer Society Award
UCLA Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center

Patricia A. Ganz, MD, has been awarded the 2023 AACR-American Cancer Society Award for Research Excellence in Cancer Epidemiology and Prevention. The award recognizes outstanding research accomplishments in cancer epidemiology, biomarkers, and prevention. Read More

Rathmell Elected to American Academy of Arts & Sciences
Vanderbilt-Ingram Cancer Center

Kimryn Rathmell, MD, PhD, MMHC, chair of the Department of Medicine at Vanderbilt University Medical Center, is one of four Vanderbilt University faculty members elected this year to the American Academy of Arts & Sciences. Dr. Rathmell is internationally recognized for her molecular biology research in the pathogenesis of kidney cancer. Read More

Secord Installed as New President of SGO
Duke Cancer Institute, Duke University Medical Center

Angeles Alvarez Secord, MD, MHSc, associate director of clinical research in Duke Cancer Institute's Gynecologic Cancer Disease Group,
was officially installed as president of the Society of Gynecologic Oncology in March. Read More

GRANTS & GIFTS

$3.2 Million Grant Supports Study of New Genetic Testing Approach to Reduce Racial Health Disparities
Rutgers Cancer Institute of New Jersey

Researcher Awarded $3.19 Million Grant for Drug Development
UAMS Winthrop P. Rockefeller Cancer Institute

Ness Awarded $2.2 Million Grant
University of New Mexico Comprehensive Cancer Center

UChicago-Led Team Selected for Challenge Award
The University of Chicago Medicine Comprehensive Cancer Center

LEADERSHIP TRANSITIONS

Holcombe Named Associate Dean for Cancer Programs
The University of Vermont Cancer Center

The Larner College of Medicine at the University of Vermont (UVM), has announced the appointment of Randall F. Holcombe, MD, MBA, as associate dean for cancer programs. Dr. Holcombe joined UVM in 2021 to serve in the dual roles of director of the UVM Cancer Center and chief of the Division of Hematology and Oncology in the Department of Medicine. Read More

Top Cancer Experts to Head New Hospital
The Tisch Cancer Institute at Mount Sinai

Cardinale B. Smith, MD, PhD, and Ash Tewari, MBBS, MCh, have been named to lead Mount Sinai’s new Tisch Cancer Hospital, which is under development and due to open in 2027. Read More
Co-Leader of Hematologic Malignancies Research Program Appointed
UC San Diego Moores Cancer Center

Leslie A. Crews, PhD, has been appointed as the new co-leader of the UC San Diego Moores Cancer Center's Hematologic Malignancies Program, joining current co-leader, Thomas Kipps, MD, PhD. Read More

Siteman Names New Deputy Director Among Other Leadership Appointments
Siteman Cancer Center

Siteman Cancer Center at Barnes-Jewish Hospital and Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis announces several leadership changes including Daniel C. Link, MD, as new deputy director, along with associate directors of translational research and shared resources, and a deputy associate director of shared resources. Read More

Leadership Promotions Support Growing Cancer Network
UAMS Winthrop P. Rockefeller Cancer Institute

Sanjay Maraboyina, MD, has been named clinical director of radiation oncology for the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences (UAMS) Baptist Health Cancer network, and Santanu Samanta, MD, will be the onsite radiation oncology director at the UAMS Baptist Health Cancer Center at the Baptist Health Springhill Medical Plaza in North Little Rock. Read More

New Leaders to Oversee Key Areas
Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Center

Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Center announces the promotion and appointment of three leaders: Ericka Bennett, Esq., has been promoted to vice president of corporate ethics, research integrity and research subject protection; Petrina Hill-Cheatom, MED, is chief academic officer and vice president for educational affairs; and Anthony Putrelo, PE, has been named vice president of facilities management. Read More
Assistant Director of Diversity Appointed
The University of Arizona Cancer Center

Kelly Palmer, PhD, MHS, CCRP, has been appointed assistant director of Inclusivity, Diversity, Equity and Accessibility for the University of Arizona Cancer Center (UACC). In reference to establishing an office of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, UACC Director Joann Sweasy, PhD, said that diversity is the number one priority for the cancer center. Read More

Sicklick Appointed Co-Leader of Structural and Functional Genomics Program
UC San Diego Moores Cancer Center

Jason Sicklick, MD, FACS, has been appointed as the new co-leader of the UC San Diego Moores Cancer Center Structural and Functional Genomics Research Program, joining current co-leader, Jill Mesirov, PhD at the helm of the program. Read More

RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS

Promising Combination Therapy for Head and Neck Squamous Cell Carcinoma
Winship Cancer Institute of Emory University

Study: Vitamin D May Play a Role in Prostate Cancer Disparities
Cedars-Sinai Cancer

Benefit of Chemotherapy for Patients With Early-Stage Breast Cancer Varies by Tumor Anatomy
Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Center

Immunotherapy Alone Produces Exceptional Response Rates in Some Melanoma Patients
The Ohio State University Comprehensive Cancer Center - James Cancer Hospital and Solove Research Institute

Lack of Provider Training Creates Health Care Barriers for Individuals With Intellectual or Developmental Disabilities
Sidney Kimmel Cancer Center at Jefferson Health

Researchers Identify Biomarkers of Response to Immunotherapy for Kidney Cancer
Sidney Kimmel Comprehensive Cancer Center at Johns Hopkins University

Researchers Use Skin-Colonizing Bacteria to Create a Topical Cancer Therapy in Mice
Metastasis-Directed Radiation Therapy Plus Hormone Therapy Improves Progression-Free Survival for Men With Advanced Prostate Cancer

The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center

Researcher Prototypes New Equipment to Improve Head and Neck Cancer Treatment

WVU Cancer Institute

Researchers Find Link Between Asthma and Cancer Risk

University of Florida Health Cancer Center

Novel Immunotherapy Agent Safe, Shows Promise Against High-Risk Prostate Cancers

Sidney Kimmel Comprehensive Cancer Center at Johns Hopkins University

New Trial Compares Open Versus Minimally Invasive Surgery for Early-Stage Cervical Cancer

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

Prior Treatments Influence Immunotherapy Response in Advanced Melanoma

UCLA Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center

Depression Linked to Lower Survival Rates in Breast Cancer Patients, Study Finds

UK Markey Cancer Center

First Single Molecule Microscopic Visualization of the Full-Length Human BRCA2 Protein Binding to DNA Revealed

Yale Cancer Center, Yale School of Medicine

Jumping Genes in Cancer Cells Open Door to New Immunotherapies

Siteman Cancer Center

Lorlatinib Safe, Effective for Patients With High-Risk Neuroblastoma

Winship Cancer Institute of Emory University

Novel Immunotherapy Delivery Approach Safe and Beneficial for Some Melanoma Patients With Leptomeningeal Disease

The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center

Sex, Age, Mental Health and More Can Affect Perceived Barriers to Genetic Testing for Cancer

University of Michigan Rogel Cancer Center

Research Suggests Novel Therapies to Block Cancer Metastasis Are on the Horizon

The University of Arizona Cancer Center
Researchers Discover and Target an Unexpected 'Achilles Heel' in Triple-Negative Breast Cancer
Sidney Kimmel Cancer Center at Jefferson Health

Researchers Identify Promising New Target for Treatment-Resistant Prostate Cancer
UK Markey Cancer Center

Study: Lasting Effects of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Cancer Care Confirmed
Duke Cancer Institute, Duke University Medical Center

Other News

Mount Sinai Launches Institute for Regenerative Medicine
The Tisch Cancer Institute at Mount Sinai

Eirini Papapetrou, MD, PhD, is the founding director of Mount Sinai’s new Center for Advancement of Blood Cancer Therapies (CABCT), co-sponsored by Mount Sinai’s Institute for Regenerative Medicine and The Tisch Cancer Institute. The mission of the CABCT is to accelerate the development of new therapies for blood cancers and other blood diseases. Read More

Stanford Cancer Institute Joins White House Challenge
Stanford Cancer Institute

The Biden-Harris Administration announced the White House Challenge to End Hunger and Build Healthy Communities. Stanford Cancer Institute’s Lisa Goldman Rosas, PhD, MPH and University of California San Francisco researchers, along with Instacart, have risen to the challenge to examine the impact of nutrition security interventions. Read More

Care Options Improved for Metastatic Gastrointestinal Cancer
UCSF Helen Diller Family Comprehensive Cancer Center

UCSF Health’s surgical oncology team leads in using an innovative chemotherapy infusion pump, called hepatic artery infusion (HAI) pump, for patients with widely metastatic colorectal and bile duct cancers. The HAI pump delivers chemotherapy directly to the liver to treat cancer and prevent future liver metastases. UCSF is one of only a few U.S. medical centers using this pump. Read More

Peripheral Neuropathy: When Having No Pain is a Big Problem
Fred Hutchinson Cancer Center

Eric Tandberg has guided himself through years of cancer treatments, including three blood stem cell transplants at Seattle’s Fred Hutchinson Cancer Center. In all those years of treatment, perhaps the most unnerving experience came in January, when chemotherapy led to an eerie loss of feeling in his feet and toes, interspersed with stabbing pain at the bottom of his heel. Read More
Fox Chase Offers Adaptive Radiation Therapy

Fox Chase Cancer Center has begun offering cone-beam computed tomography-based adaptive radiation therapy, a technique that allows a patient’s radiation treatment to be adjusted in real time to accommodate changes in the body such as tumor shrinkage and/or the position of the adjacent normal organs. Read More

UF Health Launches AI Research Initiative in Radiology

Using artificial intelligence tools to make radiologists’ work more precise and efficient is the goal as University of Florida Health researchers embark on an academic-industry collaboration. The research alliance will be used to help develop and optimize AI-based solutions that improve quality and safety while helping radiologists work quickly and more effectively. Read More

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

Project Manager I, Investigator Research

The Tisch Cancer Institute at Mount Sinai

Executive Administrative Director, Clinical Trials Office

Stanford Cancer Institute

Associate Director for Cell and Gene Therapy

UCI Chao Family Comprehensive Cancer Center

Associate Director of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion and Associate Director of Community Outreach and Engagement

Atrium Health Wake Forest Baptist Cancer Center

Molecular Imaging Program Positions

Karmanos Cancer Institute, Wayne State University

Assistant Director of Clinical Research

University of Puerto Rico Comprehensive Cancer Center

Associate Director, Division of Cancer Medicine

University of Puerto Rico Comprehensive Cancer Center

MEMBER MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ginny L. Clements Breast Cancer Research Institute Inaugural Symposium

May 5, 2023

University of Arizona Cancer Center

Tucson, AZ

2023 Annual Conference of the Cancer Molecular Therapeutics Research Association (CMTRA)

July 23-27, 2023

Watkins Glen, NY

AACI MEETINGS AND EVENTS

2023 AACI/AACR Hill Day

REGISTER TODAY
15th Annual AACI CRI Meeting
REGISTER TODAY
June 26-28, 2023
Loews Chicago O'Hare Hotel
Rosemont, IL

2023 AACI/CCAF Annual Meeting
REGISTER TODAY
October 1-3, 2023
Salamander Washington DC (formerly Mandarin Oriental, DC)
Washington, DC

16th Annual AACI CRI Meeting
SAVE THE DATE
June 24-26, 2024
Loews Chicago O'Hare Hotel
Rosemont, IL

2024 AACI/CCAF Annual Meeting
SAVE THE DATE
October 20-22, 2024
Loews Chicago Hotel
Chicago, IL

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