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

AACI HEADLINES

Sweasy Selected as AACI President-Elect; Three Cancer Center Leaders Join Board

Joann B. Sweasy, PhD, director of the University of Arizona Cancer Center, has been elected by AACI's membership to serve as vice president/president-elect of the AACI Board of Directors. Three new board members were also chosen: Edward Chu, MD, MMS; Raymond N. DuBois, MD, PhD; and Yolanda Sanchez, PhD. They will replace outgoing board members Roy A. Jensen, MD, and Cornelia Ulrich, MS, PhD. Dr. Sweasy is also finishing her term as a regular board member.
Read More

Pasche Named Karmanos President and Chief Executive Officer

Karmanos Cancer Institute, in Detroit, has named Boris C. Pasche, MD, PhD, FACP, president and chief executive officer. Dr. Pasche assumes the role Joseph Uberti, MD, PhD, served on an interim basis following the retirement of Gerold Bepler, MD, PhD. Dr. Pasche joins Karmanos from Wake Forest Baptist Health in Winston-Salem, NC.
Read More

AACI to Present Public Service Award to Dunn, Klobuchar at Annual Meeting

AACI will present the 2023 Public Service Awards to U.S. Representative Neal Dunn (R-FL) and U.S. Senator Amy Klobuchar
Urge Congress to Pass Fiscal Year 2024 Budget

With the end of the fiscal year approaching (September 30), Congress has not passed a Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 budget. To avert a shutdown, Congress must reach a bipartisan agreement to fund the government. AACI encourages you to write to your Members of Congress today to urge them to pass the FY 2024 budget and to prioritize cancer research funding. Read More

AACI CRI Steering Committee Announces New Members

This fall, AACI Clinical Research Innovation (CRI) will welcome Thomas J. George, Jr., MD, FACP, University of Florida Health Cancer Center, as the new CRI Steering Committee chair. CRI will also add three newly-elected members to the steering committee. They will formally assume their duties in October during the 2023 AACI/CCAF Annual Meeting in Washington, DC.

Pictured, clockwise from top left: Dr. Thomas J. George, Dina Aziz, Angela Campbell, and Dr. Muhammad Furquan. Read More

Register for the Catchment Area Data Conference

VCU Massey Cancer Center will present the 1st Annual Catchment Area Data (CADA) Conference: Beyond Definition, December 7-9, in Richmond, VA. The conference is open to AACI members and all eligible staff, faculty, students, and post-doc trainees from cancer centers who provide education, resources, and support within their defined catchment area. The early bird registration rate ends Friday, September 15. Read More

Integra Connect: A Value-Based Precision Medicine Company

Integra Connect offers oncology-specific solutions to improve care quality and research while also reducing costs with:

- Information from industry-leading specialty care data
- Insights from powerful AI and analytics solutions
- Intelligence from unprecedented experience and expertise

Get tips from VBC experts. Watch Now
Shariff Receives Community Cancer Centers Innovator Award

Afreen Shariff, MD, has been selected by the Association of Community Cancer Centers as a 2023 Innovator Award recipient for her work on the effectiveness of electronic consults for immune-related endocrine toxicities. Read More

Huq Receives Top Award From American Association of Physicists in Medicine

Saiful Huq, PhD, FAAPM, FInstP, received the William D. Coolidge Gold Medal Award from the American Association of Physicists in Medicine for his distinguished career and significant impact on the science and practice of medical physics. Read More

Singh Named Fellow of the American Society for Radiation Oncology

Anurag Singh, MD, has been named a 2023 American Society for Radiation Oncology (ASTRO) Fellow. ASTRO is the world’s largest society for radiation oncology professionals. Read More

Siteman Earns Merit Extension From NCI

Project to Study How Sex Differences Affect Bladder Cancer

Read More
**SALUD Study Examines Health Disparities for Latino Survivors of Childhood Cancer**

Dan L Duncan Comprehensive Cancer Center at Baylor College of Medicine

**$3.5 Million Grant Received to Study New Technology for At-Home Cancer Care**

Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center, University of Miami Health System

**Head-and-Neck Team Leads Trial to Reduce Delays in Care**

Hollings Cancer Center, Medical University of South Carolina

**$2.5 Million Grant Aimed at Making Urine Test to Limit Use of Invasive Biopsies in Prostate Cancer Detection**

Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center, University of Miami Health System

**Immunologist Receives New Innovator Award**

UPMC Hillman Cancer Center

**New Center to Promote Cancer Health Equity Research**

Winship Cancer Institute of Emory University

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**LEADERSHIP TRANSITIONS**

**New President Appointed**

City of Hope Comprehensive Cancer Center

Marcel van den Brink, MD, PhD, has been appointed president of City of Hope Los Angeles and National Medical Center, after serving 24 years at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center. Current president Michael Caligiuri, MD, a past president of AACI, will remain at City of Hope and transition to focus full time on his laboratory research. *Read More*

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**Associate Chief Medical Officer Hired**

Fox Chase Cancer Center, Temple Health

Fox Chase Cancer Center is pleased to announce the hiring of Nkemdilim Mgbojikwe, MD, as associate chief medical officer. She joins the center from Johns Hopkins Hospital. *Read More*

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**Chair, Vice Chair Named for Department of Immunology and Immunotherapy**

The Tisch Cancer Institute at Mount Sinai
Miriam Merad, MD, PhD, has been named chair, and Brian Brown, PhD, vice chair, of a newly established Department of Immunology and Immunotherapy at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai. Drs. Merad and Brown are integral members of Mount Sinai’s Tisch Cancer Institute. Read More

Salloum Named Associate Director for Community Outreach and Engagement
University of Florida Health Cancer Center

Ramzi Salloum, PhD, a cancer implementation science researcher with a focus on tobacco control, has been named associate director for community outreach and engagement at the University of Florida Health Cancer Center. Read More

Fox Chase Welcomes New Senior Director of Pharmacy
Fox Chase Cancer Center, Temple Health

Fox Chase Cancer Center is pleased to announce the hiring of Dapo Amosu, MS, PharmD, DPLA, as its new senior director of pharmacy. Dr. Amosu has more than 25 years of pharmacy experience, with significant expertise in hematology/oncology pharmacy, clinical research, and pharmacy management. Read More

Karmanos Welcomes New Chief Development Officer
Karmanos Cancer Institute, Wayne State University

Karmanos Cancer Institute welcomes Arnold D’Ambrosio as its new chief development officer. He brings the National Cancer Institute-designated comprehensive cancer center over 30 years of donor relations, fundraising, and major gifts experience. Read More

Biotech Executive Returns to Lead Expansion of Cell Therapy Production, Industry Partnerships
As work advances on a significant expansion of its cellular therapy production and research facilities, Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Center has named Yeong "Christopher" Choi, PhD, MBA as senior vice president of industry partnerships and technical director of the center’s Current Good Manufacturing Practice facility. Read More

Tsai Named Chief of Surgical Oncology
The Ohio State University Comprehensive Cancer Center - James Cancer Hospital and Solove Research Institute

Susan Tsai, MD, has been named the chief of the Division of Surgical Oncology at The Ohio State University Comprehensive Cancer Center – James Cancer Hospital and Solove Research Institute. Read More

DEIA Efforts Enhanced With New Hires
University of Colorado Cancer Center

The University of Colorado Cancer Center is doubling down on its diversity, equity, inclusion, and access (DEIA) efforts, with the addition of DEIA Associate Director Miria Kano, PhD, and Deputy Associate Director Curtis Henry, PhD. Read More

New Leaders Named to Research Programs
Vanderbilt-Ingram Cancer Center

Vanderbilt-Ingram Cancer Center has seven new research program leaders. Stacie Dusetzina, PhD, Eric Grogan, MD, MPH, and Daniel Barocas, MD, MPH, lead the Cancer Health Outcomes and Control Research Programs; Martha Shrubsole, PhD, co-leads the Cancer Epidemiology Research Program; Vandana Abramson co-leads the Breast Cancer Research Program; and Eben Rosenthal, MD, and Kristen Ciombor, MD, MSCI, lead the Translational Research and Interventional Oncology Research Program. Read More

Birrer Contributes to Major Ovarian Cancer Discovery
UAMS Winthrop P. Rockefeller Cancer Institute

Clinical Trial Leads to FDA Approval of Novel Cord Blood Therapy
Study Finds Improved Survival for Incurable Brain Tumor
University of Michigan Rogel Cancer Center

Consent Document Translation Costs May Limit Clinical Trial Participation by Underrepresented Groups
UCLA Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center

Scientists Employ AI to Predict Brain Cancer Outcomes
Stanford Cancer Institute

Estrogen Receptor Mutation Study Suggests Potential Treatments for Endometrial Cancers
Huntsman Cancer Institute, University of Utah

New Machine-Learning Method May Aid Personalized Cancer Therapy
Sidney Kimmel Comprehensive Cancer Center at Johns Hopkins University

RNA Stability May Play a Role in Prostate Cancer
Fred Hutchinson Cancer Center

Largest U.S. Study of E-Cigarettes Shows Their Value as Smoking Cessation Aid
Hollings Cancer Center, Medical University of South Carolina

Understanding Epigenetic Changes in Glial Cells May Be Key to Combating Brain Tumors
Stony Brook Cancer Center

Study Finds Many Rural Women Cancer Patients Receive Financial Support Through Social Networks
UAMS Winthrop P. Rockefeller Cancer Institute

AI Tool Helps Predict Early Response and Survival in Patients With Metastatic Breast Cancer
Winship Cancer Institute of Emory University

Boosting Public Health Programs With Technology
Huntsman Cancer Institute, University of Utah

Findings Suggest Aerobic Exercise Relieves Pain for Ovarian Cancer Survivors
Yale Cancer Center, Yale School of Medicine

Infants, Young Children Diagnosed With Brain Cancer Need More Detailed Assessments
Comprehensive Cancer Center, St. Jude Children's Research Hospital

Study Examines Increased Risk of Cancer Among Kentucky Cancer Survivors
UK Markey Cancer Center

Ovarian Cancer: New Biological Markers Found That May Predict
Which Patients Won't Respond to Chemotherapy
The Tisch Cancer Institute at Mount Sinai

Researchers Create Powerful Cancer-Targeting Compound
University of Florida Health Cancer Center

Rewiring Cancer Cells to Self-Destruct
Stanford Cancer Institute

Immune and Tumor Cell Tug-of-War Controls Anti-Cancer Activity
Comprehensive Cancer Center, St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital

An Innovative Approach to Classifying Metastases in Patients With Colorectal Cancer
The University of Chicago Medicine Comprehensive Cancer Center

Hallmarks of T Cell Exhaustion Found Within Hours of Tumor Exposure
Vanderbilt-Ingram Cancer Center

OTHER NEWS

David Alberts: a Legacy of Encouragement, Innovation and Scientific Rigor
The University of Arizona Cancer Center

David Alberts, MD, a founding member of the University of Arizona Cancer Center and a past member of AACI’s Board of Directors, passed away on July 29 at the age of 83. He developed the center’s Cancer Prevention and Control Program served as the center’s director from 2005 until his retirement in 2013 and continued his work part-time until 2017. Read More

State Approves $815 Million Plan to Build Chicago’s First Freestanding Cancer Care and Research Facility
The University of Chicago Medicine Comprehensive Cancer Center

The Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board approved the University of Chicago Medicine’s plans to build an $815 million, 575,000-square-foot building dedicated to cancer research and care on its medical campus on the city’s South Side. Read More

LILAC Grant Enables Purchase of Key Instruments to Assess Lipid Regulation in Cancer
Stony Brook Cancer Center
Daniel Canals, PhD, has received a grant from the Long Island League to Abolish Cancer (LILAC) for the purchase of two cutting-edge instruments that enable him and colleagues to better understand how lipids are regulated in cancer, and in turn, the many functions that lipids perform in cancer cells. Read More

Immunotherapy Drug Combo Helps Extend the Lives of Patients With Metastatic Melanoma
UCLA Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center

A research team co-led by UCLA investigators has shown that an immunotherapy drug combination can be an effective second-line therapy for patients with an aggressive and deadly type of melanoma that is resistant to the widely used immunotherapy drugs known as PD-1 inhibitors. Read More

New Mexico Cancer Research Alliance to Focus on Delivering Clinical Trials Across State
University of New Mexico Comprehensive Cancer Center

The New Mexico Cancer Care Alliance has rebranded as the New Mexico Cancer Research Alliance to strengthen its focus on delivering cancer clinical trials to New Mexicans. The state’s small population is spread over a large area, presenting a daunting challenge to offer clinical trials across the state. Read More

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

Cancer and Aging Medical Oncologist
Cedars-Sinai Cancer

Manager, Clinical Research
Northwell Health Cancer Institute

Director of the Division of Medical Oncology
The Ohio State University Comprehensive Cancer Center - James Cancer Hospital and Solove Research Institute

Director, Office of Community Outreach & Engagement
UCI Chao Family Comprehensive Cancer Center

Senior Community Health Educator
UCI Chao Family Comprehensive Cancer Center

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

Cancer Research Scientist
Stony Brook Cancer Center

Program Manager II, Research Systems and Data Reporting
The Tisch Cancer Institute at Mount Sinai

Biorepository and Tissue Analysis Operations Manager
Hollings Cancer Center, Medical University of South Carolina
 MEMBER MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS

2nd Annual Cancer Center Survivorship Research Forum: Implementing Equitable Cancer Survivorship Care
HYBRID EVENT
September 11-12, 2023
Stanford, CA

Women's Health and Cancer Conference
HYBRID EVENT
September 29, 2023
Burlington, VT

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Summit
INCLUDED WITH 2023 AACI/CCAF ANNUAL MEETING REGISTRATION
September 30, 2023
Salamander Washington DC (formerly Mandarin Oriental, DC)

1st Annual Catchment Area Data Conference: Beyond Definition
EARLY REGISTRATION OPEN
December 7-9, 2023
Richmond, VA

 AACI MEETINGS AND EVENTS

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

AACI Leadership Diversity and Development Workshop
SAVE THE DATE
March 11-13, 2024
Loews Chicago O'Hare Hotel
Rosemont, IL

2024 AACI/AACR Hill Day
SAVE THE DATE
May 16, 2024
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

2025 AACI/CCAF Annual Meeting
SAVE THE DATE
October 19-21, 2025
Salamander Washington DC