AACI HEADLINES

Champion for Cures Award to Recognize Jon M. and Karen Huntsman Family

The Jon M. and Karen Huntsman family will receive AACI's 2019 Champion for Cures Award, in recognition of its significant leadership in supporting efforts to cure cancer and in inspiring others to do the same. The Huntsman family’s first major gift to cancer research came in 1993 at $10 million, followed by a $100 million gift in 1995 that formally established and named the Huntsman Cancer Institute (HCI) at the University of Utah. In all, the family has donated or inspired donations totaling $1.4 billion to cancer. Read More

CRI Meeting Spotlight: Ciolino to Present on Changes to CCSG

Henry Ciolino, PhD, director of the office of cancer centers at the National Cancer Institute (NCI), will participate in a panel session at the 11th Annual AACI CRI Meeting that will highlight the NCI’s Cancer Center Support Grant (CCSG) submission guidelines and best practices for preparing a CCSG application. Dr. Ciolino will present on defining a cancer center’s catchment area, community outreach and engagement, and the updated funding opportunity announcement (FOA) that will go into effect in January 2020. Read More

AACI to Co-Host Congressional Briefing on HPV-Related Cancers

AACI is among eight partner organizations that will co-host a congressional briefing from 12:00 to 1:30 pm on Thursday, June 27. The briefing will provide an overview of the global impact of cancers related to human papillomavirus (HPV) and opportunities to reduce the burden of these cancers, both in the U.S. and worldwide. Read More
Rosen Inducted Into Association of American Physicians
City of Hope Comprehensive Cancer Center

City of Hope Provost and Chief Scientific Officer Steven T. Rosen, MD, has been inducted as a member of the Association of American Physicians (AAP). Dr. Rosen is a leader in the field of hematologic malignancies and has spent more than three decades improving treatment in myeloma, leukemia, and lymphoma. Read More

Colonna, Ley Elected to National Academy of Sciences
Siteman Cancer Center

Two physician-scientists at Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis and Siteman Cancer Center were elected to the National Academy of Sciences, one of the highest honors that can be awarded to a U.S. scientist or engineer. Marco Colonna, MD, and Timothy J. Ley, MD, were among the 100 new members and 25 foreign associates elected to the academy this year. Read More

Urology Professor Elected to National Association
UCLA Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center

Christopher Saigal, MD, professor of urology in the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, has been elected to the American Association of Genitourinary Surgeons in recognition of his accomplishments in the field. Dr. Saigal’s research in the field of shared decision making for prostate cancer focuses on empowering men to make informed treatment choices with which they're more satisfied. Read More

Margenthaler is President-Elect of The American Society of Breast Surgeons
Siteman Cancer Center

Julie Margenthaler, MD, a Washington University professor of surgery at Siteman Cancer Center, has been named president-elect of The American Society of Breast Surgeons. She will serve in the role until 2020, when she becomes president of the organization. Dr. Margenthaler has served as treasurer since 2017. Read More

Foundation Honors Native American Researcher
Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Center faculty researcher Rodney Haring, PhD, MSW, has been recognized with a Research Into Action Award from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation’s New Connections initiative. The award symbolizes what Dr. Haring has accomplished as a New Connections grantee, including a project in 2010 that looked at childhood obesity and oral health within Native American communities. Read More

AACR Taps Knudsen for Board of Directors

Sidney Kimmel Cancer Center at Jefferson Health

The members of the American Association for Cancer Research (AACR) have elected Karen E. Knudsen, PhD, executive vice president of Oncology Services and enterprise director of the Sidney Kimmel Cancer Center at Jefferson Health, to its Board of Directors. Dr. Knudsen is one of five world-renowned cancer researchers elected to the board for the 2019-2022 term. Read More

Researchers Appointed to National Scientific Leadership Roles

Huntsman Cancer Institute, University of Utah

Huntsman Cancer Institute CEO, Mary Beckerle, PhD, and HCI’s Senior Director of Pre-Clinical Translation, Martin McMahon, PhD, have been appointed to prominent advisory group positions within the National Institutes of Health. Read More

GRANTS & GIFTS

Grant Awarded for Cancer Health Equity Center

University of Florida Health Cancer Center

Project to Eradicate Hepatitis C in Kentucky County Gets $15 Million Grant

UK Markey Cancer Center

Cervical Cancer Prevention Aim of New $11 Million Grant

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

Over $5 Million Awarded to Investigate Pediatric Obesity and Cancer-Related Co-Morbidities

VCU Massey Cancer Center

Scientists Receive Grant for Lung Cancer Research
LEADERSHIP TRANSITIONS

Hennig Named Director of Oncology Advanced Practice
Duke Cancer Institute, Duke University Medical Center

Therese Hennig, MPAS, PA-C, advanced practice leader for the division of Hematologic Malignancies and Cellular Therapy, has been named director of Oncology Advanced Practice for Duke Cancer Institute. Hennig has been recognized for her clinical expertise and leadership and has been instrumental in the design of provider practice models within the division. Read More

Sociologist Promoted to Community Engagement Leadership Role
Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Center

Elizabeth Bouchard, PhD, has been promoted to associate director for community outreach and engagement at Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Center. In this new role, she will facilitate meaningful connections with area residents and partner organizations. Dr. Bouchard will work with other Roswell Park researchers and outreach specialists to take a deep dive into cancer issues that are important to Western New Yorkers. Read More

Jaffray Named Chief Technology and Digital Officer
University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center

The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center has named David Jaffray, PhD, as its first chief technology and digital officer. Jaffray will oversee MD Anderson's information services division and information security department. He will also hold a faculty appointment as professor of radiation physics with a joint appointment in imaging physics. Read More
Assistant Director of Finance, Administration Joins WVU

WVU Cancer Institute

The WVU Cancer Institute welcomes Mike Ridinger, RN, MBA, as assistant director of finance and administration and the administrator of Hematology/Oncology. Ridinger has more than 15 years of experience with health and medical systems. His background includes understanding and utilizing economic, financial, market, and industry segment data to identify key issues and implications for potential strategies and plans. [Read More]

Hall Named Chair of Clinical Genetics

Fox Chase Cancer Center, Temple Health

Michael Hall, MD, MS, has been named chair of the Department of Clinical Genetics at Fox Chase Cancer Center. An associate professor in the department, Dr. Hall will continue to serve in his other roles at Fox Chase, including director of Gastrointestinal Risk Assessment; and NCCN, Genetic Colorectal/Colorectal Cancer Screening Panel member. [Read More]

New Leader of Cancer Immunotherapy

UPMC Hillman Cancer Center

UPMC Hillman Cancer Center has appointed Jason Luke, MD, FACP, to direct the newly established Cancer Immunotherapeutics Center. A medical oncologist and clinical investigator, Dr. Luke specializes in early phase drug development for melanoma and solid tumors. He has been the lead investigator for numerous immunotherapies over the past several years. [Read More]
Enhanced Anticancer Compound May Allow for Precise Activation, Tracking of Treatment
The Wistar Institute

Learning From a Rare Disease
University of New Mexico Comprehensive Cancer Center

Medicaid Could Save $2.6 Billion Within a Year if Just 1 Percent of Recipients Quit Smoking
UCSF Helen Diller Family Comprehensive Cancer Center

New Target Found to Improve Response to Cancer Immunotherapy
University of Michigan Rogel Cancer Center

Search Progresses for Laboratory Test to Predict Spread of Breast Cancer
Sidney Kimmel Cancer Center at Johns Hopkins University

'Super-Hero' Stem Cells Survive Radiation to Regrow Muscles
UCSF Helen Diller Family Comprehensive Cancer Center

Bone Cells Suppress Cancer Metastases
Sidney Kimmel Cancer Center at Jefferson Health

How Cancer Hijacks Wound Healing to Create Its Own Blood Supply
University of Virginia Cancer Center

Newly Discovered Protein Explains Leukemia's Treatment Resistance
Robert H. Lurie Comprehensive Cancer Center of Northwestern University

Novel Role in Spatial Chromosome Organization Identified for Frequently Mutated Cancer Protein
The Wistar Institute

Partial Breast Irradiation Effective Option for Low-Risk Breast Cancer
The Ohio State University Comprehensive Cancer Center, James Cancer Hospital and Solove Research Institute

Study Aimed at Increasing Diversity Among Clinical Trial Participants
USC Norris Comprehensive Cancer Center

First Direct Evidence Found That Oxidative Stress Damage Shortens Telomeres
UPMC Hillman Cancer Center

Four Hallmarks of Metastasis Identified
The University of Kansas Cancer Center

New Method Opens Unexplored Realms for Liquid Biopsies
University of Michigan Rogel Cancer Center

Synthetic Biology Used to Target Cancer Cells While Sparing Healthy Tissue
Stanford Cancer Institute

Tumor Mutations May Predict Response to Immunotherapy
Sidney Kimmel Comprehensive Cancer Center at Johns Hopkins University

Air Pollution Poses Risks for Childhood Cancer Survivors
Huntsman Cancer Institute, University of Utah
Scientists Identify Genes Tied to Increased Risk of Ovarian Cancer
UCLA Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center

Could a Simple Blood Test Replace the Invasive Tissue Biopsy?
Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center

New Brain Tumor Imaging Technique Uses Protein Found in Scorpion Venom
Samuel Oschin Comprehensive Cancer Institute, Cedars-Sinai Medical Center

Computational Tool Enables Powerful Molecular Analysis of Biomedical Tissue Samples
Stanford Cancer Institute

OTHER NEWS

Cancer-Focused Psychology Fellowship Receives New Accreditation
The University of Kansas Cancer Center

The University of Kansas Cancer Center’s Clinical Health Psychology fellowship program, which focuses on onco-psychology, has earned national accreditation by the American Psychological Association (APA). It is one of only 10 APA-accredited clinical health psychology fellowship programs in the U.S., and one of only two accredited programs with a sub-specialty emphasis in psychological care for cancer patients. Meagan Dwyer, PhD, and her colleagues developed the fellowship program to meet the APA’s accreditation standards. Read More

Help to Quit
University of New Mexico Comprehensive Cancer Center

A new initiative at the UNM Comprehensive Cancer Center will offer cancer patients the tools they need to beat their smoking addiction. Led by Emrullah Yilmaz, MD, PhD, Linda Cook, PhD, and Antoinette Quintana, the UNM Cancer Center Smoking Cessation Program is part of the NCI's Cancer Center Cessation Initiative, better known as C3I. It has started with patients who have head and neck cancers and will expand over the next two years to include all patients. Read More

Touching Base Daily Helps BMT Patients Recover More Quickly
UMMC Cancer Center and Research Institute

The ability to daily monitor a bone marrow or stem cell transplant patient once they’re home is paying dividends, say members of the University of Mississippi Medical Center Bone Marrow Transplant unit. The unit is using remote patient monitoring tools developed by the UMMC Telehealth Center that were adjusted to monitor transplant patients after they leave the hospital. Read More

Clinical Trials Collaboration Launched with Beijing Friendship Hospital
Fox Chase Cancer Center, Temple Health

Fox Chase Cancer Center and Beijing Friendship Hospital in China have initiated a collaborative
agreement that will provide both institutions with added capability in cancer clinical trials. Under the agreement, Fox Chase will provide consultative services intended to enhance Beijing Friendship Hospital’s existing clinical trial capabilities. In the future, the Chinese hospital hopes to expand its own trials, while serving as a site for Fox Chase to conduct studies suitable for multiple, diverse populations. Read More

Texas Raises Tobacco Sales Age to 21
University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center

The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center applauds the Texas Legislature for passing Senate Bill 21, which raises the minimum legal sale age for all tobacco products from 18 to 21. The policy, which will go into effect on September 1, 2019, is an important step toward protecting the health of future generations and reducing the burden of tobacco use in Texas. Read More

Total Cancer Care Protocol Opened to Pediatric Patients
UK Markey Cancer Center

UK HealthCare recently opened the Oncology Research Information Exchange Network’s (ORIEN) Total Cancer Care Protocol to pediatric patients, becoming the first cancer program in the country to do so. ORIEN is an alliance of 19 major cancer centers that shares information to allow its members to push forward evidence-based cancer care to patients. The University of Kentucky Markey Cancer Center joined the network in 2017. Read More

UVA Partnering to Improve HPV Vaccination Rates in Western Virginia
University of Virginia Cancer Center

University of Virginia Health System is joining a coalition of health care organizations to improve vaccination rates in western Virginia for human papillomavirus (HPV). Virginia Center for Health Innovation is partnering with 40 pediatric and family medicine sites from UVA, Ballad Health, and Carilion Clinic to boost HPV vaccinations with the support of a $225,000 grant from Merck. Read More

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

Associate Director for Administration
Case Comprehensive Cancer Center

Research Nurse Manager, Quality Assurance and Education
Hollings Cancer Center, Medical University of South Carolina

Director, Office for Human Research Studies
Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, Harvard Medical School

MRI Guided Radiation Therapy Program Leader, Department of Radiation Oncology
Sidney Kimmel Cancer Center at Jefferson Health

AACI MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS

11th Annual AACI CRI Meeting
July 9-11, 2019
Chicago, IL

2019 AACI/CCAF Annual Meeting
MEMBER MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS

Imaging Science and Cancer Biology Symposium
June 21-23, 2019
Frederick, MD

Learn More

SITC Women in Cancer Immunotherapy Network Leadership Institute
August 19-20, 2019
Seattle, WA

Learn More

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

16th International Conference on Bioactive Lipids in Cancer, Inflammation, and Related Diseases
October 20-23, 2019
St. Petersburg, FL

Learn More

Artificial Intelligence in Oncology: Advancements and Policy
October 24, 2019
Cleveland, OH

Learn More