

DirectConnect

Inside Yale Cancer Center

November 26, 2013

Announcements

Commission on Cancer Reaccreditation

I am pleased to announce that we have received our official evaluation from our 2013 review from the American College of Surgeons Commission on Cancer. Thanks to the hard work by the cancer committee, led by Dr. David Fischer and with endless support from Terri Vega, we received a three-year accreditation with six commendations, the maximum number that an NCI Cancer Center can receive. We appreciate the diligence and commitment of the committee, who ensured our successful review for reaccreditation.

Yale Cancer Center Presents Annual Awards

I was pleased to be able to share last evening with many of you at our fifth annual Yale Cancer Center Conclave. It was an honor to be able to celebrate the accomplishments of so many of our goals for 2013, including the the successful renewal of our CCSG application. The highlight of the evening was the presentation of the Yale Cancer Center Lifetime Achievement, Clinical, and Research prizes. The senior leadership team reviewed the nominations and selected the recipients of these seven awards in recognition of their outstanding contribution to cancer care and research.

Bernard G. Forget, MD, Emeritus Professor of Medicine (Hematology), was honored with the **Yale Cancer Center Lifetime Achievement Award**. Dr. Nancy Berliner, Chief of Adult Hematology at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute and a former trainee and colleague of Dr. Forget's at Yale, presented the award to Dr. Forget.

Dr. Forget's research career focused on the study of the regulation of gene expression of hematopoietic cells, and the differential gene expression in highly enriched primitive hematopoietic stem cells. He continued his focus on the purification and manipulation of reconstituting hematopoietic stem cells for gene therapy and has published extensively in this area. In addition, Dr. Forget helped to build the fellowship program in Hematology at Yale through the 1970s and 80s, and mentored dozens of fellows in hematology throughout his career, training a generation of physician scientists in hematology. He was the architect of the bone marrow transplant program at Yale, along with Dr. Joel Rapoport, and cared for hundreds of patients on the hematology service at Yale-New Haven Hospital.

from the desk of

Thomas J. Lynch, Jr., MD
Director, Yale Cancer Center
Physician-in-Chief Smilow Cancer
Hospital at Yale-New Haven



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Closer to Free

closer to free

The fund to advance cancer research and enhance patient care

Links of Interest

CV Library

The CV library is a new resource available to our members, with CVs of post-docs and others looking for



Nancy Berliner, Bernard Forget, and Thomas Lynch

Stephan Ariyan, MD was honored with the **Yale Cancer Center Award for Clinical Excellence**. The award was presented by Dr. Mario Sznol, who commented, "Steve's accomplishments have always created a culture that demanded clinical excellence throughout the Melanoma Program." Dr. Ariyan is a Professor of Surgery and Dermatology and the Clinical Program Leader for the Melanoma Program at Smilow Cancer Hospital. He has cared for patients with melanoma at Yale since 1976.



positions at Yale. Please browse the listings if you have openings, and send the CVs you receive to share. [Learn More >>](#)

In the News

Read recent articles featuring experts from Yale Cancer Center.

[Read More >>](#)

Subscribe to Yale Cancer Center Answers on iTunes

Yale Cancer Center's weekly radio program on CT Public Radio is ranked number 2 in the world for cancer programs on iTunes. Subscribe to the show.

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Yale Cancer Center Grand Rounds

Video presentations from Yale Cancer Center members are now available online.

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DirectConnect Archives

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ASCO Connection Blog

Where do we go from here? Thoughts on Improving the Healthcare System

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Events

November 26; 9:30 AM Pathology Research in Progress Talks

BML 137

"A Role for Non-ubiquitinated FANCD2 and Rad51 in the Regulation of PCNA Monoubiquitination" and "Why Do Mammals Enucleate Their Red Cells? Role of Nuclear Protein Export"

Xiaoyong Chen, PhD and Amalia Avila Figueroa, PhD
[Learn More >>](#)

November 26; 12:00 PM Yale Cancer Center Genetics/Genomics Faculty Lunch

Mario Sznol, Stephan Ariyan, and Tom Lynch

Lisa Barbarotta, RN, MSN, AOCNS, APRN-BC received the second annual **Ruth McCorkle Oncology Advanced Practice Provider Award** presented by Ruth McCorkle. In the nomination letter, the physician who recommended Lisa stated that "her interactions with patients inspire him to be a better physician." Lisa is a role model for all members of the care team and works tirelessly to raise the bar on standard of care. She gives graciously of her time to benefit all patients at Smilow Cancer Hospital.



Tom Lynch, Cathy Lyons, Lisa Barbarotta, and Ruth McCorkle

Mario Sznol, MD received the **Yale Cancer Center Clinical Research Prize** for his paper *Nivolumab plus Ipilimumab in Advanced Melanoma* in the July 11, 2013 issue of the *New England Journal of Medicine*. Dr. Sznol is a Professor of Medicine (Medical Oncology), Vice Chief of the section of Medical Oncology, and the Clinical Research Program Leader for the Melanoma Program. Dr. Roy S. Herbst, Chief of Medical Oncology, presented the award.

Breast Medical Oncology
Conference Room
*"Epigenetic Regulators of
Breast Cancer Metastasis"
and "Abnormal Mouse
Embryogenesis in the
Presence of the Cancer:
Testis Ctcf (Boris)"*
Qin Yan, PhD, and James
McGrath, MD, PhD
[Learn More >>](#)

December 1; 6:00 PM
Yale Cancer Center
Answers
WNPR
Prostate Cancer Awareness
Joseph Kim, MD
[Learn More >>](#)

December 3; 9:30 AM
Pathology Research in
Progress Talks
BML 137
TBA
Rong Cong, PhD, and
Haifeng Zhang, PhD
[Learn More >>](#)

December 4; 4:00 PM
YCCI Symposia Conducting
Clinical Trial/Lessons
Learned and Useful Tips
Cohen Auditorium
*Getting to the Truth:
Research and the Learning
Health System*
Robert M. Califf, MD
[Learn More >>](#)

December 5; 5:00 PM
Yale Humanities in
Medicine/Howard Spiro
Lecture Series
TAC N-107
*With an Artistic Vision:
An Ophthalmologist Looks
at Visual Perception, the Arts
and Eye Disease*
Vincent deLuise, MD
[Learn More >> \(PDF\)](#)

December 5; 5:30 PM
YNHH/St. Raphael Campus
Free Prostate Screening Event
YNHH / Saint Raphael
Campus
[Learn More >> \(PDF\)](#)

December 6; 7:00 AM
Yale CME/New England
Otolaryngological Society
TAC N-107
New Technologies



Roy Herbst, Mario Sznol, and Thomas Lynch

Murat Gunel, MD received the **Yale Cancer Center Translational Research Prize** for his paper *Genomic Analysis of non-NF2 Meningiomas Reveals Mutations in TRAF7, KLF4, AKT1, and SMO* published in the March 1, 2013 issue of *Science*. Dr. Gunel is a Professor of Neurosurgery and Genetics and a member of the Genetics and Genomics Research Program. The award was presented to him by Dr. Frank Slack, co-director of the Genetics and Genomics Research Program.

in Otolaryngology
Ken Yanagisawa MD, FACS
[Learn More >> \(PDF\)](#)

December 6: 2:00 PM
YCC Special Seminar
WWW 208
Antitumor T-Cell Immunity Delays the Emergence of Melanoma Resistance to Vemurafenib: Defining the Principles of Combination Therapy from Mice to Humans
Nicolas Acquavella, MD
[Learn More >> \(PDF\)](#)

December 8; 6:00 PM
Yale Cancer Center Answers
WNPR
Translational Medicine
Theresa LaValle, PhD
[Learn More >>](#)

December 10; 12:00 PM
Yale Cancer Center Grand Rounds
Park Street Auditorium
Cancer and the Media: A Troubled Marriage
Robert Bazell
[Learn More >>](#)

Employment Opportunities

We seek your assistance in the recruitment of qualified Oncology Research Nurses to join the Cancer Center for full time research opportunities. Positions traditionally require a minimum of BSN and 4 years of research nursing experience with a strong preference within oncology. In lieu of research experience, trained oncology nurses with little or no research experience are considered for positions of the same level. Should you know of any potential candidates, please encourage them to go on-line to www.yale.edu/jobs and navigate to the STARS employment website in search of positions 18343BR and 18943BR, upload the resume and apply. They may also contact [Sandra Greer](#) for



Murat Gunel, Frank Slack, and Thomas Lynch

James B. Yu, MD and **Cary P. Gross, MD** shared the **Yale Cancer Center Population Science Research Prize** for their paper *Proton versus Intensity-Modulated Radiotherapy for Prostate Cancer: Patterns of Care and Early Toxicity* published in the January 2, 2013 issue of the *Journal of the National Cancer Institute*. Dr. Yu is an Assistant Professor of Therapeutic Radiology and Dr. Gross is a Professor of Medicine. Their research was done through the Yale Center for Cancer Outcomes, Public Policy, and Effectiveness Research. The award was presented to them by Dr. Roy Decker, Associate Professor of Therapeutic Radiology.

further information.

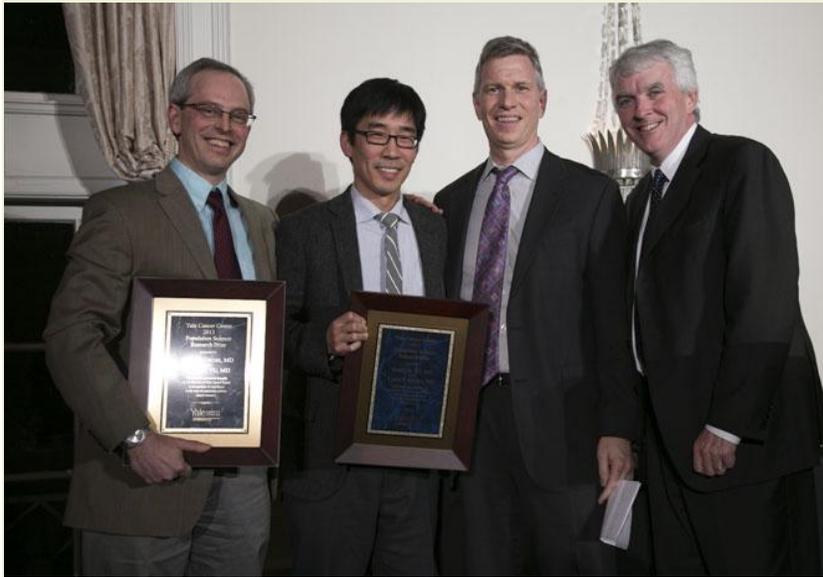
Submissions

Please submit your recent publication and grant announcements to:

Renee Gaudette
Director, Public Affairs and Marketing

renee.gaudette@yale.edu

 Forward to a Friend



Cary Gross, James Yu, Roy Decker, and Thomas Lynch

Don Nguyen, PhD received the **Yale Cancer Center Basic Science Research Prize** for his paper *Control of Alveolar Differentiation by the Lineage Transcription Factors GATA6 and HOPX Inhibits Lung Adenocarcinoma Metastasis* published in the May 23, 2013 issue of the *Cancer Cell*. Dr. Nguyen is an Assistant Professor of Pathology and a member of the Signal Transduction Research Program. The award was presented by Dr. David Stern, Professor of Pathology.



Don Nguyen, David Stern, Tom Lynch

Save the Date for our Holiday Party

I hope you will join us for our annual Yale Cancer Center and Smilow Cancer Hospital holiday party at the Peabody Museum on Wednesday, December 18 from 5:30-7:30 PM. Everyone is invited, along with their families, to join in this festive evening and celebrate the holiday season together. I look forward to seeing you all there!

[Learn More >>](#)

Notables

The American Cancer Society Board of Directors appointed **Dr. Vincent T. DeVita, Jr.** as an Honorary Life Member of the **American Cancer Society**. Dr. DeVita is currently finishing his term as the Society's President.

Sarah Goldberg, MD has been named a **SWOG Young Investigator**. Through the program, Dr. Goldberg will attend a research training course and will receive funding to attend several conferences.

Closer to Free

During this season of Thanksgiving, the **Closer to Free Fund** Annual Appeal will reach 360,000 people in Connecticut. We have already received very positive responses and contributions. If you receive a mailing, consider a gift or sharing it with a friend or neighbor. If a patient or colleague asks you about **Closer to Free**, tell them what it means to you.



Every gift, large or small, has a positive impact on the patients and their families, researchers and care providers - all of us who make up the **Closer to Free** community. Information about making a donation or organizing an event is available on the **Give Closer to Free website** or by contacting [Susan Frankenbach](#). Don't forget to "like" us on [Facebook](#)!

Funding and Award Opportunities

Yale School of Public Health Ovarian Cancer Research Grants

To provide funding for a pilot project in ovarian cancer prevention, detection, and survivorship research, which would ultimately lead to national peer-reviewed grants.

Application Deadline: December 2, 2013

[Learn More >>](#)

Tobacco Center of Regulatory Science 2014 Pilot Program

The Yale Tobacco Center of Regulatory Science (TCORS) is offering funding for pilot projects to initiate research relating to understanding tobacco additives and modified risk tobacco products through behavioral, molecular, laboratory, pharmacological, epidemiological, and economic sciences that involves humans (both clinical & epidemiological research) and animals (basic research). We are particularly interested in studies of menthol, flavors, and e-cigarettes and studies using novel techniques.

Up to 5 pilot projects will be funded at the level of \$25,000 to \$100,000 (direct costs only), with higher levels of funding available for projects that incorporate more expensive technologies (such as neuroimaging). The project must be completed in 1 budget year.

Application Deadline: December 16, 2013

[Learn More >>](#)

Edward Mallinckrodt, Jr., Foundation Mallinckrodt Scholars

- To support early-stage investigators engaged in basic biomedical research that has the potential to significantly advance the understanding, diagnosis, or treatment of disease.
- Candidates should hold an MD and/or PhD degree and must be an Assistant or Associate Professor in the fifth to eighth year of a tenure-track position.
- Candidate may have already received independent research funding (R01 or other major awards) for other projects.
- This award is designed to move the proposed Mallinckrodt project forward to the point where R01 or other independent funding can be obtained.
- \$100,000 per year for 4 years. (\$400,000)

Application Deadline: December 11, 2013

[Learn More >>](#)

Recent Publications

SomatiCA: Identifying, Characterizing and Quantifying Somatic Copy Number Aberrations from Cancer Genome Sequencing Data.

Chen M, Gunel M, Zhao H.

PLoS One. 2013 Nov 12;8(11):e78143.

[Read More >>](#)

'Race' and Prostate Cancer Mortality in Equal-access Healthcare Systems.

Graham-Steed T, Uchio E, Wells CK, Aslan M, Ko J, Concato J.

Am J Med. 2013 Dec;126(12):1084-8.

[Read More >>](#)

PPM1D Mutations in Circulating White Blood Cells and the Risk for Ovarian Cancer.

Akbari MR, Lepage P, Rosen B, McLaughlin J, Risch H, Minden M, Narod SA.

J Natl Cancer Inst. 2013 Nov 21.

[Read More >>](#)

Construction and analysis of multiparameter prognostic models for melanoma outcome.

Rothberg BE, Rimm DL.

Methods Mol Biol. 2014;1102:227-58.

[Read More >>](#)

Advances in surgical techniques in non-small cell lung cancer.

Kim AW, Detterbeck FC.

Semin Respir Crit Care Med. 2013 Dec;34(6):855-66.

[Read More >>](#)

Interaction of delta-like 1 homolog (Drosophila) with prohibitins and its impact on tumor cell clonogenicity.

Begum A, Lin Q, Yu C, Kim Y, Yun Z.

Mol Cancer Res. 2013 Nov 18.

[Read More >>](#)

The inherited bone marrow failure syndromes.

Chirnomas SD, Kupfer GM.

Pediatr Clin North Am. 2013 Dec;60(6):1291-310.

[Read More >>](#)

Helicobacter pylori Seropositivities and Risk of Pancreatic Carcinoma.

Risch HA, Lu L, Kidd MS, Wang J, Zhang W, Ni Q, Gao YT, Yu H.

Cancer Epidemiol Biomarkers Prev. 2013 Nov 14.

[Read More >>](#)

Surface modified nanoparticles enhance transurothelial penetration and delivery of survivin siRNA in treating bladder cancer.

Martin DT, Steinbach JM, Liu J, Shimizu S, Kaimakliotis HZ, Wheeler MA, Hittelman AB, Saltzman WM, Weiss RM.

Mol Cancer Ther. 2013 Nov 12.

[Read More >>](#)

Programmed death ligand-1 expression in non-small cell lung cancer.

Velcheti V, Schalper KA, Carvajal DE, Anagnostou VK, Syrigos KN, Sznol M, Herbst RS, Gettinger SN, Chen L, Rimm DL.
Lab Invest. 2013 Nov 11.

[Read More >>](#)

microRNAs in Cancer Cell Response to Ionizing Radiation.

Czochor JR, Glazer PM.
Antioxid Redox Signal. 2013 Nov 10.

[Read More >>](#)

Small RNAs Deliver a Blow to Ovarian Cancer.

Kasinski A, Slack FJ.
Cancer Discov. 2013 Nov;3(11):1220-1.

[Read More >>](#)

New possibilities and potential benefits for local control in locally recurrent pancreatic cancer.

Lloyd S, Chang BW.
J Gastrointest Oncol 2013;4(4):340-342.

[Read More >>](#)

Myocardial Infarction in a Young Man Received Chemotherapy for Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia

Cromwell C

[Read More >>](#)