

May 27, 2016

## Announcements

### YCC at ASCO

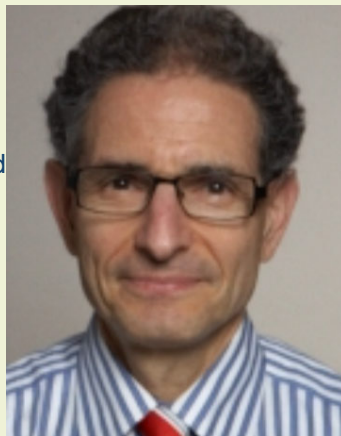
Yale Cancer Center will once again have the opportunity to share many exciting clinical and research advances at the annual American Society of Clinical Oncology meeting next weekend. The following is a full list of Yale Cancer Center's participation at this year's meeting, including our poster, oral abstract, and education sessions. Please take the time to support your colleagues if you're attending the meeting in Chicago next week.

[Download Session List >>](#)

### Mark Swidler, MD Joins Palliative Care

Please welcome Dr. Mark Swidler to Smilow Cancer Hospital. Dr. Swidler joined the Palliative Care

Program on May 15 as Associate Director and Director of Outpatient Palliative Care. He will oversee the palliative care services for our outpatient clinics at Smilow Cancer Hospital. His specialties are in Geriatric Medicine, Hospice, and Palliative Medicine. Prior to joining the faculty at Yale, Dr. Swidler was an Associate Professor in the Department of Geriatrics and Adult Development and Palliative Medicine at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai Medical Center.



*from the desk of*  
**Peter G. Schulam, MD, PhD**  
Director, Yale Cancer Center  
and Physician-in-Chief,  
Smilow Cancer Hospital (Interim)

# Yale NewHaven Health

## Smilow Cancer Hospital

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# Yale

**CANCER  
CENTER**

A Comprehensive Cancer Center Designated  
by the National Cancer Institute

### Recent News

Read recent articles featuring experts  
from Yale Cancer Center

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### LATEST ARTICLES:

## Mentoring our Students

Thank you to our Smilow Cancer Hospital Care Centers for their participation in a pilot program of inter-professional clinical education where groups of first year students (nursing, medical, and PA) were placed in our clinics under medical staff supervision for 3 hours a week during the spring and fall semesters. The students shadowed our staff to learn about the clinical environment, practiced taking histories, performed parts of the physical examination, and were mentored on quality improvement projects, which they presented at the end of the semester.

The projects completed this year were:

North Haven: *Hello? It's me. Communication in the Healthcare Workplace*

Trumbull: *Impact of Direct Communication on Practice Efficiency in Ambulatory Oncology*

Waterbury: *Waiting Room Time Study at Outpatient Oncology and Hematology Clinic*

Guilford: *Patient Wait Time at the Guilford Smilow Cancer Care Center*

Orange: *Assessing and Addressing Stress Before Patients' First Visit to a Specialist Setting*

The program was extremely well received by the students, and our Care Center medical staff, and will be fully implemented this year for all 240 first year students. We will expand our participation to include all of our Care Centers and our main campus under the direction of Anne Chiang and Cathy Lyons.

## Notables

**Alfred Lee, MD, PhD** was the recipient of this year's **Charles W. Bohmfalk Teaching Prize** for teaching in the basic sciences, in recognition of his efforts in teaching medical students. This is one of the most prestigious teaching awards at Yale School of Medicine. *Dr. Lee did an amazing job teaching hematology to the first-year medical students. While we only had one module of "scientific foundations" before hematology, Dr. Lee introduced us and engaged us in the subject artfully...Outside of his lectures, he was more than willing to allow students to shadow him and teach as we observed. Always patient and understanding, Dr. Lee was a great example to us as*



### Discovery to Cure women's reproductive cancers

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### Women's Health Research at Yale to fund four new studies

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*future physicians.* Dr. Lee was presented with the prize during commencement on Monday.

Congratulations to **Catherine Lyons, RN**, Executive Director of Patient Care at Smilow Cancer Hospital, who was welcomed home to her alma mater earlier this month. Cathy gave an inspirational commencement address at **Niagara University's College of Arts and Sciences**. The graduation class included the first cohort of four-year nursing students from Niagara since the program was reintroduced in 2012. Cathy received the St. Louise de Marillac Award for Outstanding Service during the ceremony.

**Melinda Irwin, PhD, MPH**, Associate Director of Population Sciences and Co-Director of Cancer Prevention and Control, has been awarded a **R25 Grant** from the NCI to fund a Training Grant to educate 20 junior faculty from around the country each summer through a training program at Yale in transdisciplinary and translational energy balance and cancer research. The R25 provides \$300,000 in direct costs each year for 5 years.

Congratulations to **Jonathan Ellman, PhD**, a member of Yale Cancer Center's Developmental Therapeutics Program, who was awarded the for the **Dylan Hixon '88 Prize for Teaching Excellence in the Natural Sciences and Mathematics** from Yale University. At least two of his students use the word "joy" to describe their experience with their teacher. Said one: "While the subject matter is certainly challenging, Professor Ellman's organized teaching style made learning organic chemistry a joy."

**Thomas Fynan, MD**, a Clinician in our North Haven Care Center, was recognized by Yale School of Medicine for his completion of the **Yale Medical Education Fellowship Program**. Dr. Fynan is currently working closely with Dr. Michael DiGiovanna to revamp the medical oncology curriculum.

**Jerry Malefatto, MD**, a Clinician in our Trumbull Care Center, received the **Clarence F. Heimann Leadership Award** from Trumbull First Selectman Timothy Herbst. Bill Jennings and Dr. Michael Ivy from Bridgeport Hospital presented Dr. Malefatto with the award at the Park Avenue Medical Center.



**Giving a Voice to Seriously Ill Patients Through Palliative Care**

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## Employee Profile: Elaine Scheinblum

At the Smilow Cancer Hospital at Yale New Haven Saint Francis Campus, Elaine Scheinblum, RN, works in the Women's Infusion Center delivering chemotherapy, performing blood draws, and providing overall support to patients. She began her career in nursing over 34 years ago and has been at Saint Francis for 21 of those years.



The Women's Infusion Center opened recently with the goal of providing a warm and friendly space for patients that is conducive to integrative care. Women are encouraged to communicate with one another and often provide support for each other. Elaine and her colleagues have created puzzle boards and have Bingo games that include family members as well, hoping to distract patients from why they are there, if only for a short period of time.

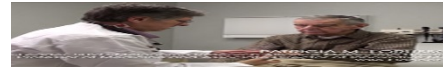
"Our motto is, 'this too shall pass' and I try to help patients see this as a bump in the road," said Elaine. "I have seen women with stage IV ovarian cancer live long and healthy lives. There are so many options for patients now that allow for high quality of life. We have targeted therapies that have increased our ability to give patients longer lives and I see patients go into remission, it is just amazing."

Elaine is always looking for opportunities to learn and grow. She will be studying abroad in Iceland next month looking at how care is delivered there by going out into the communities. She is very interested in nursing as a global network and how we can learn from each other to improve care. Next year she will graduate from the University of Hartford with her Master's in Nursing Education and is looking forward to sharing what she has learned and energizing a new generation.

"Elaine is a caring and compassionate nurse with a wealth of oncology knowledge & experience. Elaine is passionate about the patients and puts the patients at

**A tinkerer takes on cancer by hijacking the tiny garbage trucks inside every cell**

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**Dream Team Update: SU2C - Melanoma Research Alliance Dream Team**

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**LATEST POSTS:**

Congratulations to Smilow Cancer Hospital's Nurses - selected as Nurses of the Year by Business New Haven!

"It's a very challenging time for our patients, but I'm very lucky. I get to oversee the best people Yale New Haven Hospital has to offer. I know I'm very biased, but they are magnificent human beings in addition to being outstanding nurses," said Cathy Lyons, Executive Director of Patient Services and Chief Nursing Officer, Smilow Cancer Hospital.



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the center of everything she does. Over the past year, Elaine initiated a daily huddle with the staff at the Women's Center and each staff rotates in leading the daily huddle, which has helped with teamwork and communication," said Monica Fradkin, RN, MPH, Oncology Nursing Education Coordinator.

## Funding & Award Opportunities

All current funding opportunities are archived on the Yale Cancer Center website, and searchable by topic, funding agency, and due date. Please check the site often for new opportunities.

[Learn More >>](#)

### Pew-Stewart Scholars Program for Cancer Research

Yale Cancer Center is pleased to announce an internal competition for a new national grant program for recently appointed assistant professors to conduct cancer research. If you are eligible and plan to devote substantial effort to cancer research, please submit to Daniel DiMaio by June 6 a two-page a research project summary, curriculum vitae, and letter of support from you department/division chair. We will convene a committee of Yale Cancer Center leadership to select the Yale nominee.

**Application Deadline:** June 6, 2016

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### Department of Defense Peer Reviewed Cancer Research Program (PRCRP) Career Development Award Principal Investigator (PI):

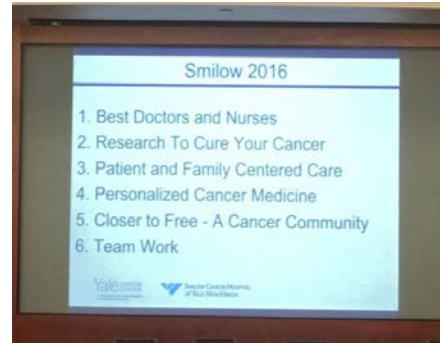
Independent early-career investigator within 10 years after completion of his/her terminal degree (excluding time spent in residency or on family medical leave) by the time of the application submission deadline.

**Designated Mentor:** Investigators at or above the level of Associate Professor (or equivalent); must have a proven publication and funding record in cancer research.

**Application Deadline:** June 8, 2016

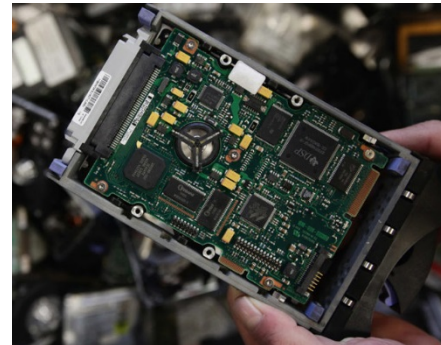
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Yale Cancer Center faculty celebrated our accomplishments from the past year and discussed future collaborations and research concentrations at our annual scientific retreat today. We look forward to sharing new outcomes and new advances soon!



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"Cancer isn't one disease; it's hundreds," writes Yale Cancer Center's Dr. Daniel Petrylak. Sharing data between centers will help speed up research breakthroughs.



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Learn more about Dr. Abhijit Patel - a member of our Radiobiology and Radiotherapy Research Program - and his research project funded by Tina's Wish - The Honorable Tina Brozman Foundation for Ovarian Cancer to look for early signs of ovarian cancer using DNA in blood samples. Dr. Patel's Q&A provides insight into his research and personal interests.

## Department of Defense Peer Reviewed Cancer Research Program (PRCRP) IDEA Award

Independent investigator with a faculty-level appointment (or equivalent).

- **Preproposal is required; application submission is by invitation only.**
- Supports innovative, untested, high-risk/potentially high-reward concepts, theories, paradigms, and/or methods in cancer research that are relevant to Service members, their families, and other military beneficiaries
- Emphasis on innovation and military relevance/impact
- **Must** address at least one of the FY16 PRCRP Topic Areas
- **Must** address at least one of the FY16 PRCRP Military Relevance Focus Areas
- Preliminary data not required

**Application Deadline:** June 8, 2016

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## Department of Defense Peer Reviewed Cancer Research Program (PRCRP) Translational Team Science Award

At least two and up to three PIs must partner in one overarching correlative or translational research study.

At least one of the PIs is encouraged to be a military or Department of Veterans Affairs investigator.

- **Preproposal is required; application submission is by invitation only.**
- Supports translational correlative studies associated with an **ongoing or completed** clinical trial and/or translational study that can lead to a future clinical trial or clinical application in cancer research that is relevant to Service members, their families, and other military beneficiaries
- Not intended to support high throughput screenings, sequencing, etc.
- **Must** address at least one of the FY16 PRCRP Topic Areas
- **Must** address at least one of the FY16 PRCRP Military Relevance Focus Areas
- Preliminary data is **required**

**Application Deadline:** June 8, 2016

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Yale Cancer Center is thrilled to announce that a new Ronald McDonald House Charities (RMHC) House is coming to our neighborhood! The new 30,000 square foot house will be directly across the street from our hospital and will provide 42 suites for families caring for their children at Yale New Haven Children's Hospital and Smilow Cancer Hospital at Yale New Haven. The new facility is scheduled to open next June and will be a wonderful addition for our families!




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**LATEST TWEETS:**

 [@DrRoyHerbstYale](#) presents on DARTs - Disease Aligned Research

### **NCCN: Phase I/II Clinical Trials and/or Correlative Studies with Duvelisib for Hematologic Malignancies**

The National Comprehensive Cancer Network (NCCN) has received a 2 Million Dollar research grant from Infinity Pharmaceuticals, Inc. (hereafter, "Grantor") to support NCCN Member Institution faculty for the performance of clinical and/or correlative studies of duvelisib in the treatment of hematologic malignancies. NCCN will serve as the funding organization for these grants that are available only to NCCN investigators.

**Application Deadline:** June 19, 2016

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### **NCCN and Peregrine Pharmaceuticals Grant**

National Comprehensive Cancer Network® (NCCN®) is pleased to announce that it has received a research grant from Peregrine Pharmaceuticals, Inc. to support NCCN investigator initiated clinical and correlative studies of bavituximab in combination with other therapeutic strategies for the treatment of solid tumors in adult patients. The overall aim of this RFP is to develop innovative studies of bavituximab to help determine the role of bavituximab in expanding efficacy and/or improving outcomes for patients treated with immunotherapy or with modalities that increase tumor antigenicity.

**Application Deadline:** June 23, 2016

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### **Damon Runyon Innovation Award**

The Damon Runyon-Rachleff Innovation Award is designed to provide support for the next generation of exceptionally creative thinkers with "high-risk/high-reward" ideas that have the potential to significantly impact our understanding of and/or approaches to the prevention, diagnosis or treatment of cancer.

The Innovation Award is specifically designed to provide funding to extraordinary early career researchers who have an innovative new idea but lack sufficient preliminary data to obtain traditional funding. It is not designed to fund incremental advances. The research supported by the award must be novel, exceptionally creative and, if successful, have the strong potential for high impact in the cancer field.


**Application Deadline:** July 1, 2016


[Learn More >>](#)

### **Lung Cancer Research Foundation Grants**


The Lung Cancer Research Foundation's grant program provides funding for innovative research focused on the prevention, diagnosis, treatment and cure of lung cancer. LCRF grants are awarded for

Teams - & translational research  
@YaleCancer Retreat

 @YaleCancer, Dr. Pat LoRusso and the SU2C Dream Team on the latest treatments for #melanoma

 Jonathan Rothberg honored in White House ceremony | Yale School of Medicine

 Great new neighbors! Ronald McDonald House Celebrates Groundbreaking for New \$11 Million Housevia @WTNH

 Thanks to @su2c's #melanoma dream team, "eureka moments" are in the works. Dr. Patricia LoRusso is a national PI

## **Closer to Free**

# **closer to free**

The fund to advance cancer research and enhance patient care

**May 27; 12PM**

**YCC Research in Progress Series**

NP4-101 B

TBA

Janaki Parameswaran, MD and Joseph Sokhn, MD

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**May 29; 6PM**

**Yale Cancer Center Answers**

WNPR

*Remember Me/Spouse Perspective*

Edward Cantor

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**May 31; 9:30AM**

projects focused on one or more of the following areas of lung cancer research: Basic science, Translational research, Clinical research, Supportive care, Quality of care/outcomes.

**Application Deadline:** July 1, 2016

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### **Yale SPORE in Skin Cancer Developmental Research Awards**

Developmental Research Program Awards are intended to support a broad spectrum of innovative pilot projects applicable to human skin cancer risk, prevention, diagnosis, prognosis, or treatment. To be funded, DRP projects must have promising translational research potential with application to human skin cancer, and there must be the expectation that they can evolve into, full projects with a clear translational component funded either within this SPORE or as independent R01 (or equivalent) grants.

**Application Deadline:** July 11, 2016

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### **BCA Young Investigator Grants**

To encourage a commitment to breast cancer research, BCA invites clinical doctors and research scientists whose primary focus is breast cancer and who are in the early stages of their careers to apply for funding for the Young Investigator Grant. This is a two-year grant for a total of \$125,000, with half the grant award being paid out each year.

**Application Deadline:** July 22, 2016

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## **Recent Publications**

### **Screen-identified selective inhibitor of lysine demethylase 5A blocks cancer cell growth and drug resistance.**

Gale M, Sayegh J, Cao J, Norcia M, Gareiss P, Hoyer D, Merkel JS, Yan Q.

Oncotarget. 2016 May 21.

[Read More >>](#)

### **Histopathologic Features of Multiple Cutaneous Squamous Cell Carcinomas of the Lower Leg.**

Munday WR, Leffell DJ, McNiff JM, Ko CJ.

J Cutan Pathol. 2016 May 25.

[Read More >>](#)

### **Pathology Research in Progress Talk**

TAC N-107

*Mesenchymal Regulation of Hair Follicle Epithelial Growth in Development and Carcinogenesis*

Peggy Myung MD, PhD

TBA

Oscar Colegio MD, PhD

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**May 31; 11AM**

### **World NO Tobacco Day**

YNHH Atrium

*Screening and Prevention*

[Read More >>](#)

**May 31; 12PM**

### **Yale Cancer Center Grand Rounds**

Park Street Auditorium

*Leveraging Premalignant Biology for Immune-Based Cancer Prevention*

Scott M. Lippman, MD

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**June 2; 8:30AM**

### **Medical Grand Rounds / 19th Annual Samuel O. Thier Lectureship in Health Policy**

LMP 1094

*Treating Tobacco Use Amid Controversy and Change: e-cigarettes and other Clinical Challenges*

Nancy Rigotti, MD

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**June 2; 2PM**

### **YCC/SCH Cancer Genetics and Prevention Program Meeting**

CGPP, Suites 107-109

TBA

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**June 7; 9:30AM**

### **Pathology Research in Progress**

TAC N-107

TBA

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**Supply and Demand for Radiation Oncology in the United States: Updated Projections for 2015 to 2025.**

Pan HY, Haffty BG, Falit BP, Buchholz TA, Wilson LD, Hahn SM, Smith BD.

Int J Radiat Oncol Biol Phys. 2016 Mar 5.

[Read More >>](#)

**The clinical significance of the MIF homolog d-dopachrome tautomerase (MIF-2) and its circulating receptor (sCD74) in burn.**

Kim BS, Stoppe C, Grieb G, Leng L, Sauler M, Assis D, Simons D, Boecker AH, Schulte W, Piecychna M, Hager S, Bernhagen J, Pallua N, Bucala R.

Burns. 2016 May 18.

[Read More >>](#)

**Renalase expression by melanoma and tumor associated-macrophages promotes tumor growth through a STAT3-mediated mechanism.**

Hollander L, Guo X, Velazquez H, Chang J, Safirstein R, Kluger HM, Cha C, Desir G.

Cancer Res. 2016 May 9.

[Read More >>](#)

**TRX-E-002-1 Induces c-Jun-Dependent Apoptosis in Ovarian Cancer Stem Cells and Prevents Recurrence In Vivo.**

Alvero AB, Heaton A, Lima E, Pitruzzello M, Sumi N, Yang-Hartwich Y, Cardenas C, Steinmacher S, Silasi DA, Brown D, Mor G.

Mol Cancer Ther. 2016 Apr 8.

[Read More >>](#)

**PSGL-1 Is an Immune Checkpoint Regulator that Promotes T Cell Exhaustion.**

Tinoco R, Carrette F, Barraza ML, Otero DC, Magaña J, Bosenberg MW, Swain SL, Bradley LM.

Immunity. 2016 May 17;44(5):1190-203.

[Read More >>](#)

**Economic Impact of Routine Cavity Margins Versus Standard Partial Mastectomy in Breast Cancer Patients: Results of a Randomized Controlled Trial.**

**June 7; 4PM**

**Palliative Care Grand Round and Conference**

WWW 208

*Integration of Palliative Care into Breast Cancer Self-Management and its Affect on Health Care Utilization*

Catherine Adams MD, PhD

*Catch 22: Ethics, Psychology, Religion in Surrogate Decision Making*

Leslie Blatt, APRN

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**June 7; 5PM**

**YCC Breast Clinical Lecture Series**

Smilow first floor conference room, 1-330

[Read More >>](#)

**June 9; 2PM**

**YCC/SCH Cancer Genetics and Prevention Program Meeting**

CGPP, Suites 107-109

TBA

[Read More >>](#)

**June 9; 5:30PM**

**Smilow Wellness Workshop**

Park Street Auditorium

*The Art of Resilience*

Maria Sirois, PsyD

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**Submissions**

Please submit your recent publication and grant announcements to:

**Renee Gaudette**

Director, Public Affairs and Marketing  
[renee.gaudette@yale.edu](mailto:renee.gaudette@yale.edu)

 Forward to a Friend

Chagpar AB, Horowitz NR, Killelea BK, Tsangaris T, Longley P, Grizzle S, Loftus M, Li F, Butler M, Stavris K, Yao X, Harigopal M, Bossuyt V, Lannin DR, Puzstai L, Davidoff AJ, Gross CP.

Ann Surg. 2016 May 17.

[Read More >>](#)

**Treatment of Patients with Positive Margins after Partial Nephrectomy.**

Kim SP, Abouassaly R.

J Urol. 2016 May 14.

[Read More >>](#)

**Cutaneous squamous cell carcinomas in solid organ transplant recipients: emerging strategies for surveillance, staging, and treatment.**

Kim C, Cheng J, Colegio OR.

Semin Oncol. 2016 Jun;43(3):390-4.

[Read More >>](#)