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News From the Association of American Cancer Institutes | January 2022

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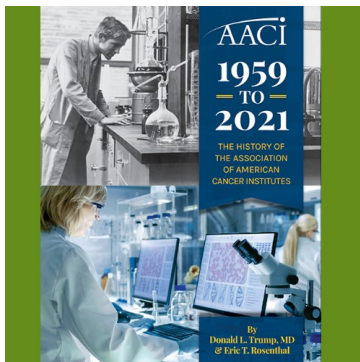
AACI HEADLINES

[Call for Abstracts: 14th Annual AACI CRI Meeting](#)



The AACI CRI Steering Committee is currently soliciting abstracts for the [14th Annual AACI CRI Meeting](#). This year's meeting theme will focus on innovation in cancer clinical research. The purpose of the abstracts is to inform meeting attendees about clinical trials, office challenges and solutions implemented at AACI cancer centers. [Read More](#)

[The History of the Association of American Cancer Institutes](#)



Inspired by the 50th anniversary of the National Cancer Act, AACI is pleased to share [The History of the Association of American Cancer Institutes](#). Written by **Donald L. Trump, MD**, and **Eric T. Rosenthal**, authors of *Centers of the Cancer Universe: A Half-Century of Progress Against Cancer* (Rowman & Littlefield, 2021), the AACI history is based on meeting minutes, other source documents and interviews with AACI past presidents. [Read More](#)

[Correction - December 2021 AACI Update](#)

Dr. Wendy Brewster is associate director of diversity, equity, and inclusion at **UNC Lineberger Comprehensive Cancer Center**. A story in the "Leadership Transitions" section of the December 2021 AACI Update misidentified her institution. [Read More](#)

AWARDS & HONORS

Investigators Win Life Sciences Award for AstroPath Cancer Mapping Technology

Sidney Kimmel Comprehensive Cancer Center at Johns Hopkins University

Johns Hopkins astrophysicist, Alexander Szalay, PhD, and Kimmel Cancer Center pathologist **Janis Taube, MD, MSc**, received a Life Sciences 2021 award for AstroPath at this year's Falling Walls Science Summit, an international event honoring research breakthroughs from across the globe. Their submission, "Breaking the Wall to Mapping Cancer Using Multispectral Microscopy," was selected from hundreds of entries. [Read More](#)

Scientists Named to Influential Researchers List

Siteman Cancer Center

Nine research members of Siteman Cancer Center were named to Clarivate's Highly Cited Researchers list of 2021. The nine, who are faculty members of Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis, demonstrate significant research influence among their peers. [Read More](#)

Greco Inducted as American College of Surgeons Fellow

Fox Chase Cancer Center, Temple Health



Stephanie Greco, MD, FACS, an assistant professor in the Department of Surgical Oncology at Fox Chase Cancer Center, became a Fellow of the American College of Surgeons during the convocation ceremony at the ACS Clinical Congress, held virtually in October. [Read More](#)

Rising Star Reflects on Winding Road to Cancer Disparities Research

VCU Massey Cancer Center



STAT News has named **Arnethea Sutton, PhD**, as one of this year's 27 STAT Wunderkinds – the news organization's award recognizing rising stars in biomedical research. When she arrived at VCU as an undergraduate in 2001, the first in her family to attend college, Dr. Sutton thought she'd be a pharmacist. Then, while earning her bachelor's degree, she switched to medical laboratory science, working in the pathology lab at VCU Health. [Read More](#)

Rogel Earns Rectal Cancer Accreditation

University of Michigan Rogel Cancer Center

The University of Michigan Health Rogel Cancer Center has earned a three-year accreditation from the National Accreditation Program for Rectal Cancer, a quality program of the American College of Surgeons' Commission on Cancer. [Read More](#)

Social Worker Selected as Emerging Palliative Care Leader

Sidney Kimmel Cancer Center at Jefferson Health

Rebecca (Becky) Cammy, LCSW, manager of social work at the Sidney Kimmel Cancer Center at Jefferson

Health, has been accepted into the Cambia Health Foundation's Sojourns Scholar Leadership Program. Cammy is one of 10 emerging interprofessional palliative care leaders carefully chosen through a rigorous selection process from a highly competitive national pool. [Read More](#)

GRANTS & GIFTS

[\\$30 Million Gift to Establish Center for Prostate Cancer](#)

[University of Michigan Rogel Cancer Center](#)

[\\$25 Million Gift to Accelerate Discovery at Renamed Legorreta Cancer Center](#)

[Legorreta Cancer Center at Brown University](#)

[\\$6 Million Gift Launches New CAR T Initiative](#)

[UCSF Helen Diller Family Comprehensive Cancer Center](#)

[Proton Therapy Treatment Facility is Part of Ongoing Expansion](#)

[Moffitt Cancer Center](#)

[Holcombe Invested as Inaugural J. Walter Juckett Chair in Cancer Research](#)

[The University of Vermont Cancer Center](#)

[Research to Examine Racial Disparities in Immunotherapy Effectiveness](#)

[Barbara Ann Karmanos Cancer Institute, Wayne State University](#)

[Translational Studies Have Potential to Find Lung Cancer Therapies](#)

[University of Illinois Cancer Center](#)

[New Grant Program to Support Community-Led Health Initiatives](#)

[VCU Massey Cancer Center](#)

LEADERSHIP TRANSITIONS

[Li Named Associate Director of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion](#)

[Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Institute](#)

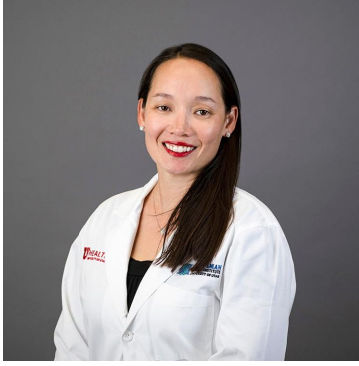


The Fred Hutch/University of Washington Cancer Consortium has named **Christopher Li, MD, PhD**, its first associate director of diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI). In this role, Dr. Li will coordinate and drive work that enhances DEI efforts across the consortium's partner institutions. [Read More](#)

[Werner Appointed New Senior Director of Clinical Research](#)

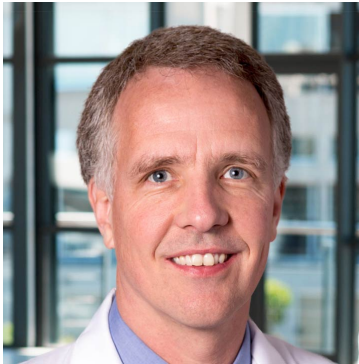
[Huntsman Cancer Institute, University of Utah](#)

Theresa L. Werner, MD, has been appointed to the position of senior director of clinical research. She has served as clinical trials office medical director since 2015, was a recipient of a National Cancer Institute (NCI) Cancer Clinical Investigator Team Leadership Award in 2016, and recently finished her three-year term as the chair of AACI's Clinical Research Innovation (CRI) steering committee. [Read More](#)



Skoracki Named Director of Breast Center

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



Roman Skoracki, MD, has been named medical director of the Stefanie Spielman Comprehensive Breast Center (SSCBC) at OSUCCC – James. He succeeds **William Farrar, MD**, current CEO of The James, who has served as the SSCBC medical director since its inception in 2011. [Read More](#)

Computational Biologist Will Lead Efforts to Integrate Data Science

Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center



Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center has named computational biologist **Robert Bradley, PhD**, scientific director of the Hutch's Translational Data Science Integrated Research Center. Dr. Bradley fills the role vacated earlier in 2021 by **Raphael Gottardo, PhD**, who launched the Translational Data Science IRC in 2018. [Read More](#)

Leadership Changes to Advance Innovation, Excellence

University of Florida Health Cancer Center

The University of Florida Health Cancer Center announces two leadership changes aimed at advancing innovation and excellence in cancer research, care, delivery, and education. In October, **Duane Mitchell, MD, PhD**, joined the center's executive leadership team as associate director for innovation and discovery and **Elias Sayour, MD**, was appointed co-leader of the Cancer Therapeutics & Host Response research program. [Read More](#)

RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS

Researchers Discover How Cells From Tumors Remain Dormant for Years Before Metastasis Occurs

The Tisch Cancer Institute at Mount Sinai

Supermeres May Carry Clues to Cancer, Alzheimer's Disease, and COVID-19

Vanderbilt-Ingram Cancer Center

Patent Awarded for Gene Transfer Technology That Could Transform

Cancer Therapies

Wilmot Cancer Institute, UR Medicine

Pathway Discovered That Allows Cancer to Bypass Oncology Treatments

City of Hope Comprehensive Cancer Center

Public Data Used to Find Hijacked Proteins That Let Tumor Cells Divide, Grow, and Conquer

Cedars-Sinai Cancer

Socioeconomic Status Influences Telehealth Use, Study Finds

The University of Kansas Cancer Center

Racial Disparities in Lung Cancer Outcomes Erased by Equal Access to Top Treatments

Duke Cancer Institute, Duke University Medical Center

Improved Treatment Options Found for Patients With Advanced Colorectal Cancer

City of Hope Comprehensive Cancer Center

Genetic Mutation Could Play Role in Improving Leukemia Treatment

University of Florida Health Cancer Center

Homing in on Shared Network of Cancer Genes

Wilmot Cancer Institute, UR Medicine

Research Contributes to FDA Approval of First-Ever Drug for Acute GVHD

Winship Cancer Institute of Emory University

T-DXd Analysis Shows Encouraging Results in Controlling Stable Brain Metastases in HER2-Positive Metastatic Breast Cancer

UCLA Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center

Colorectal Cancer Screening Lags Among Rural Women, Study Reveals

University of Virginia Cancer Center

Study Sets Framework for Precision Surveillance of Colorectal Cancer

Vanderbilt-Ingram Cancer Center

Venetoclax Combination Therapies Effective Against Challenging Subtypes of AML

The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center

Growth Hormone in Colon Found to Play Role in Aging Process

Cedars-Sinai Cancer

Research Leads to Unique Clinical Trial of Mesothelioma Treatment

The University of Vermont Cancer Center

Drug Compound Makes Pancreatic Cancer Cells More Vulnerable to Chemo

Siteman Cancer Center

Hematologists Present New Research on FLT3 Inhibitors, CART-19

Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Center

Does Cancer Immunotherapy Work Differently in Men Versus Women?

Sidney Kimmel Cancer Center at Jefferson Health

How AI and Machine Learning Will Contribute to Cancer Patient Care and Vaccine Design

Rutgers Cancer Institute of New Jersey

New Tool Shows Prognostic, Clinical Significance of Recently Approved Diagnostic Imaging Modality

UCLA Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center

Scientists Research New Device to Diagnose Skin Cancer

Huntsman Cancer Institute, University of Utah

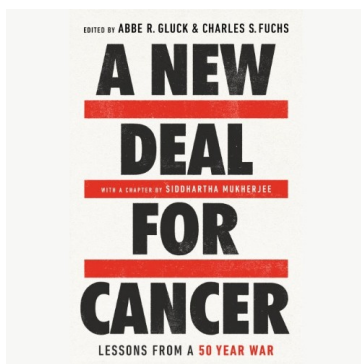
Team Identifies Accelerator of Treatment-Resistant Prostate Cancer

Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Center

OTHER NEWS & COVID-19

Experts Co-Author Book About War on Cancer

Yale Cancer Center, Yale School of Medicine



Several Yale Cancer Center faculty have authored chapters in a newly released book, *A New Deal For Cancer: Lessons from a 50 Year War*. In recognition of the 50th anniversary of the landmark signing of the National Cancer Act, the book reflects on the decades-long battle to eradicate the hundreds of complex diseases that fall within the umbrella of cancer. [Read More](#)

Hematologist Steven Coutre Dies at 62

Stanford Cancer Institute



Steven Coutre, MD, a professor of hematology at the Stanford School of Medicine, died November 9 in Palo Alto, California, from complications of leukemia and COVID-19. He was 62. The director of Stanford Health Care's hematology clinic, Coutre had a passion for rigorous science and was integral to the development of new therapies for blood disorders. [Read More](#)

New Center Dedicated to Blood and Marrow Transplants

Laura and Isaac Perlmutter Cancer Center at NYU Langone

NYU Langone Health's Laura and Isaac Perlmutter Cancer Center opened a new state-of-the-art center to treat people with blood cancers, including leukemia, lymphoma, and multiple myeloma. The new Transplantation and Cellular Therapy Center is part of the Blood and Marrow Transplant Program and the larger Center for Blood Cancers at Perlmutter Cancer Center, supported by an anonymous \$75 million gift. [Read More](#)

Pragmatic Tips on Setting Up a Comprehensive Cancer Center

Duke Cancer Institute, Duke University Medical Center

A new open-access book written by experts in the field of oncology, hematology, and stem cell transplantation—*The Comprehensive Cancer Center*—is now available for download. [Read More](#)

SHE in Oncology Program Provides Experience for Future Women in Science

[UK Markey Cancer Center](#)

Launched in the summer of 2021 with funding from the American Cancer Society, SHE in Oncology empowers Kentucky high school students who identify as female with experiences that give them insight about career interests and leadership opportunities in the field of oncology. [Read More](#)

COVID-19 Vaccine Effective in People With Cancer, Study Finds

[Stanford Cancer Institute](#)

The mRNA-based COVID-19 vaccines are effective at preventing infection in most cancer patients, according to a nationwide study of veterans diagnosed with cancer in the past decade. But the researchers found that some vaccinated patients, including those who had received therapies that suppressed their immune systems within six months before vaccination, were less protected than their peers from COVID-19 infection. [Read More](#)

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

Data Clinical Research Coordinator

[UC Davis Comprehensive Cancer Center](#)

Senior Clinical Research Coordinator

[UC Davis Comprehensive Cancer Center](#)

Medical Genetics, Director

[Cedars-Sinai Cancer](#)

Operations Administrator, Cancer Center Research

[Mayo Clinic Cancer Center](#)

Operations Administrator, Cancer Clinical Research Office

[Mayo Clinic Cancer Center](#)

Operations Administrator, Community Outreach & Engagement

[Mayo Clinic Cancer Center](#)

Director, Case CCC

[Case Comprehensive Cancer Center](#)

Research Practice Manager

[Duke Cancer Institute, Duke University Medical Center](#)

Administrative Director, Clinical Research Operations

[UCI Chao Family Comprehensive Cancer Center](#)

MEMBER MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS

Equity by Design in Clinical Research: Cancer Trials

SAVE THE DATE | WEEKLY WEBINAR SERIES

Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, Harvard Medical School

[March 8 - April 14, 2022](#)

AACI MEETINGS AND EVENTS

2022 AACI/AACR Hill Day

SAVE THE DATE | VIRTUAL MEETING

[June 15, 2022](#)

14th Annual AACI CRI Meeting

SAVE THE DATE

July 12 - 14, 2022

Loews Chicago O'Hare Hotel

Rosemont, IL

2022 AACI/CCAF Annual Meeting

SAVE THE DATE

October 2 - 4, 2022

InterContinental at the Plaza

Kansas City, MO



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3708 Fifth Avenue, Suite 503
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