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News From the Association of American Cancer Institutes | June 2023

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[Awards & Honors](#) | [Grants & Gifts](#) | [Leadership Highlights](#) | [Research Highlights](#) | [Other News](#)
[Job Opportunities](#) | [Meeting Announcements](#)

AACI HEADLINES

[VCU Massey Cancer Center Achieves NCI Comprehensive Status](#)



VCU Massey Cancer Center has been designated a Comprehensive Cancer Center by the National Cancer Institute (NCI). Massey's receipt of the highest level of recognition from the NCI places it among an elite group of cancer centers influencing a new standard of care through research, education, and community engagement. Massey's director, **Robert A. Winn, MD**, is the first African American to lead a cancer center to comprehensive status. Dr. Winn is AACI's vice president/president-elect. [Read More](#)

[Clinical Research Innovation Keynote: The Power of Positivity](#)



Ted A. James, MD, MHC, FACS, will present "The Power of Positivity: Building a Stronger, More Resilient Clinical Cancer Research Team" at 3:45 pm central time on **Tuesday, June 27**, during the **15th Annual AACI Clinical Research Innovation (CRI) Meeting** in Rosemont, IL. During this keynote, participants will gain valuable insights and learn actionable tactics for promoting a positive workplace culture, raising morale and retention, and improving outcomes. [Read More](#)

[Annual Meeting Keynote: NCI's Division of Cancer Prevention](#)

Philip E. Castle, PhD, MPH, will present "From Global Interventions to Individual Effort: NCI's Division of Cancer Prevention," during the **2023 AACI/CCAF Annual Meeting** in Washington DC. Dr. Castle, director of the Division of Cancer Prevention (DCP) at the National Cancer Institute (NCI), will provide an update on DCP/NCI initiatives to support research



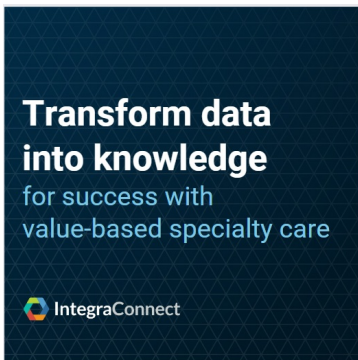
on novel interventions for cancer prevention, cancer screening, and symptom management. The keynote begins at 1:45 pm eastern time, **Sunday, October 1**. [Read More](#)

[Cancer Research Advocates Return to Capitol Hill](#)



On **Thursday, May 18**, AACI co-hosted the 2023 Hill Day with the American Association for Cancer Research (AACR) – the first in person since 2019. Eighty-five participants, including cancer center directors, researchers, oncologists, survivors, and other advocates, representing 27 states, attended meetings with legislators and staff on Capitol Hill. The group gathered to present a unified voice in support of stable funding increases for the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and the National Cancer Institute (NCI). [Read More](#)

[Integra Connect: A Value-Based, Precision Medicine Company](#)



At **Integra Connect**, we connect providers, payers, and life sciences with the experiences, outcomes, and costs of cancer they need to understand to improve care, embrace scientific advancements, manage costs, and deliver innovations for patients.

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

[Watch Our Webinar](#)

[Vitalief: Cultivating the Clinical Trial Office and Beyond](#)



Vitalief is a Functional Service Provider (FSP) offering robust solutions that help research organizations and clinical trial offices address the Healthcare Human Capital Epidemic.

**Consulting
Resourcing & Education
Managed Services**

Visit our booth at the **15th Annual AACI CRI Meeting, June 26-28!**

[Learn More](#)

NEWS FROM THE CENTERS

AWARDS & HONORS

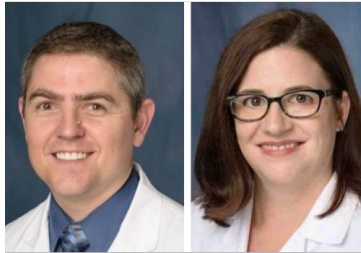
[Ashworth Honored for Research Contributions](#)



Alan Ashworth, PhD, FRS, president of the UCSF Helen Diller Family Comprehensive Cancer Center, has been recognized for his transformative contributions to cancer research. The American Society of Clinical Oncology honored him with the 2023 Science of Oncology Award and Lecture, and Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center named him for its C. Chester Stock Award Lectureship. [Read More](#)

[Leaders Honored as ASCO Advocacy Champions](#)

[University of Florida Health Cancer Center](#)



Thomas George, MD, FACP, and **Merry Jennifer Markham, MD, FACP, FASCO**, have been honored by the American Society for Clinical Oncology as Advocacy Champions for exemplifying cancer care advocacy in 2022. Dr. George is a member of AACI's Clinical Research Innovation (CRI) Steering Committee. [Read More](#)

[Skalka Receives Reimann Honor Award](#)

[Fox Chase Cancer Center, Temple Health](#)



In a ceremony honoring faculty at Fox Chase Cancer Center, **Anna Marie Skalka, PhD**, senior advisor to the president and professor emerita, was recognized with the Stanley P. Reimann Honor Award, the center's highest distinction. [Read More](#)

GRANTS & GIFTS

[Study of Cancer Metastasis Gets \\$35 Million Boost](#)

[Sidney Kimmel Comprehensive Cancer Center at Johns Hopkins University](#)

[Effects of Menthol, E-Cigarette Flavors Considered for People Who Currently Smoke Cigarettes](#)

[Hollings Cancer Center, Medical University of South Carolina](#)

[\\$3 Million Gift Funds Director of Cancer Research](#)

[The University of Arizona](#)

[Researchers Get \\$3 Million to Improve Survivorship Care for Younger Colorectal Cancer Patients](#)

[University of Michigan Rogel Cancer Center](#)

[Mao Awarded \\$1.6 Million Grant](#)

[University of New Mexico Comprehensive Cancer Center](#)

[State Legislators Thanked for Securing \\$1.5 Million in Funding](#)

[Fox Chase Cancer Center, Temple Health](#)

[HHMI Selects Byndloss as Early-Career Scholar](#)

[Vanderbilt-Ingram Cancer Center](#)

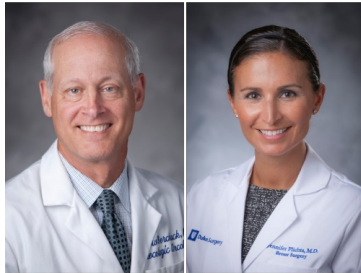
[Winship Catalyst Fund Bridges Research Funding Gap](#)

[Winship Cancer Institute of Emory University](#)

LEADERSHIP TRANSITIONS

[Berchuck, Plichta Named Cancer Genetics Co-Directors](#)

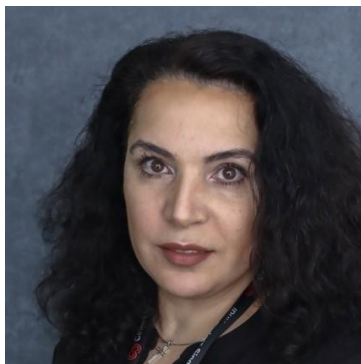
[Duke Cancer Institute, Duke University Medical Center](#)



Duke Cancer Institute faculty **Andrew Berchuck, MD**, and **Jennifer Plichta, MD, MS**, were recently named co-directors of cancer genetics at Duke Cancer Institute. Dr. Berchuck is chief of the Division of Gynecologic Oncology and Dr. Plichta is director of the Duke Breast Risk Assessment Clinic. [*Read More*](#)

[New OncoBiobank Director Appointed](#)

[Cedars-Sinai Cancer](#)



Cedars-Sinai Cancer welcomes **Karine Sargsyan, MD**, formerly director of one of the world's largest clinical biobanks, as scientific director of its OncoBiobank. Dr. Sargsyan is charged with leading biobank development and creating new strategies for the optimal deployment and use of the Cedars-Sinai Cancer Molecular Twin Precision Oncology Platform for both research and clinical practice. [*Read More*](#)

[Foucar Joins UNM](#)

[University of New Mexico Comprehensive Cancer Center](#)



Charles Foucar, MD, applies his problem-solving experiences in engineering and computer sciences to his work as a hematologist-oncologist at the UNM Comprehensive Cancer Center. Dr. Foucar holds a medical degree from Northwestern University and his research interests are in high-risk leukemias that can occur after treatment for other medical conditions or cancers. [*Read More*](#)

Wetter Named Inaugural Senior Director of Cancer Health Equity Science

Huntsman Cancer Institute, University of Utah



David W. Wetter, PhD, has been appointed inaugural senior director of cancer health equity science at Huntsman Cancer Institute. Dr. Wetter also serves as the director of the Center for Health Outcomes and Population Equity. [Read More](#)

Allen Named DUHS Vice President for Cancer Services

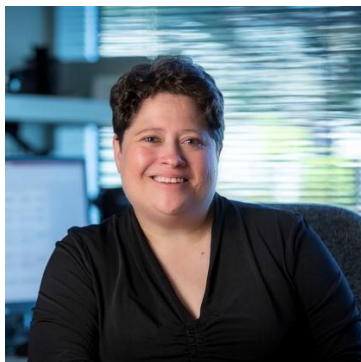
Duke Cancer Institute, Duke University Medical Center



Peter J. Allen, MD, has been named Duke University Health System vice president for cancer services. He will oversee clinical cancer care for Duke, working closely with Duke Cancer Institute Executive Director Michael Kastan, MD, PhD. Dr. Allen currently serves as the chief of the Division of Surgical Oncology. His research lab focuses on pancreatic cancer. [Read More](#)

Senior Director of Community Outreach and Engagement Named

Huntsman Cancer Institute, University of Utah



Rachel Ceballos, PhD, has been appointed senior director of community outreach and engagement at Huntsman Cancer Institute, associate professor in the Department of Family and Preventive Medicine, and a Huntsman Cancer Institute Endowed Chair in Cancer Research. [Read More](#)

Howe Appointed Associate Director of Cancer Research, Training, and Education

The University of Vermont Cancer Center



Alan Howe, PhD, associate professor of pharmacology, has been appointed to serve as associate director of cancer research, training and education coordination for the University of Vermont Cancer Center. Dr. Howe has been a member of UVM's Cell, Molecular, and Biomedical Sciences Graduate Program for nearly 20 years. [Read More](#)

[McKenna is New Chief Human Resources Officer](#)

[Moffitt Cancer Center](#)



Jack McKenna has joined Moffitt Cancer Center as the new chief human resources (HR) officer. In his role, he will lead the cancer center's HR team and oversee HR strategies and functions. McKenna has nearly 40 years of experience in human resources and organizational development, most recently serving as chief human resources officer at Universal Engineering Sciences, Inc., a national geotechnical engineering firm. [Read More](#)

RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS

[Long Telomeres Not 'Fountain of Youth' as Once Thought](#)

[Sidney Kimmel Comprehensive Cancer Center at Johns Hopkins University](#)

[A Metabolic Process in Cancer Cells Could Unlock a Possible Treatment for Glioblastoma](#)

[UCLA Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center](#)

[Gene p16 Drives Colorectal Cancer, Emerging as Target for Potential Therapies](#)

[Dan L Duncan Comprehensive Cancer Center at Baylor College of Medicine](#)

[Study Shows Immigrant Adults With Liver Cancer Have Higher Survival Rates Than Those Born in the U.S.](#)

[USC Norris Comprehensive Cancer Center](#)

[Rethinking the Protein Inhibitor Approach to Cancer Therapy](#)

[Stony Brook Cancer Center](#)

[A Simple Antibacterial Treatment Solves a Severe Skin Problem Caused by Radiation Therapy](#)

[Montefiore Einstein Cancer Center](#)

[Healthy Lifestyle Reduces Risk of Recurrence and Death in High-Risk Breast Cancer Patients](#)

[Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Center](#)

[Study Highlights Racial Disparities in Ovarian Cancer Risk for Women](#)

[Fred Hutchinson Cancer Center](#)

[Study Finds Cancer Cells Use a New Fuel in Absence of Sugar](#)

[University of Michigan Rogel Cancer Center](#)

[Study Identifies New Treatment Target for Metastatic Cancer](#)

[UK Markey Cancer Center](#)

[Microbiome Varies Widely in Tumors of People With Early Vs. Late-Onset Colorectal Cancer](#)

[Georgetown Lombardi Comprehensive Cancer Center](#)

[Scientists Create Most Powerful, Accurate Tool Yet to Research Deadliest Blood Cancer](#)

[The Tisch Cancer Institute at Mount Sinai](#)

[Ascending the 'Mount Everest' of Cancer Research](#)

[University of Florida Health Cancer Center](#)

[Excess and Rising Weight in Adulthood Associated With Increased Risk of Gastrointestinal Cancer](#)

[The Ohio State University Comprehensive Cancer Center - James Cancer Hospital and Solove Research Institute](#)

[Combined Delivery of Engineered Virus With Immunotherapy is Safe and Improves Outcomes in Subset of Patients With Glioblastoma](#)

[The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center](#)

[Delivering on the Promise of Personalized Breast Cancer Therapy](#)

[Dan L Duncan Comprehensive Cancer Center at Baylor College of Medicine](#)

[Potential New Strategy Identified to Prevent Side Effects From Immunotherapy](#)

[UCLA Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center](#)

[Scientists Discover Hidden Weakness in Deadly Brain Cancer](#)

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

[CAR T Cells Developed That Fight Prostate Cancer in Bone](#)

[Moffitt Cancer Center](#)

[Genomic Analysis of SCLC Tumors Reveals Subtypes, Offers Cues Toward Personalized Treatments](#)

[Vanderbilt-Ingram Cancer Center](#)

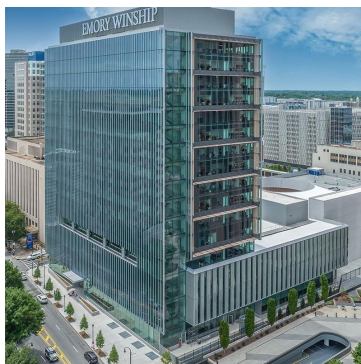
[Risk Biomarkers Could Predict Serious Side Effect of Stem Cell Transplant](#)

[Hollings Cancer Center, Medical University of South Carolina](#)

OTHER NEWS

[Winship Opens New Cancer Care Center in Midtown Atlanta](#)

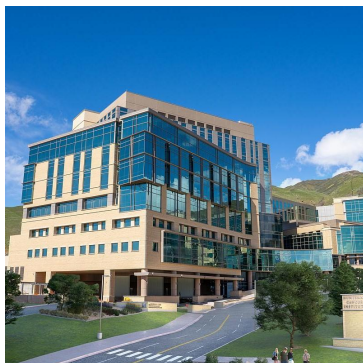
[Winship Cancer Institute at Emory University](#)



The new Winship Cancer Institute at Emory Midtown opened for patients May 9. Winship Cancer Institute designed the full-service center to support a unique model of patient-centered, multidisciplinary cancer care integrated with innovative research to provide the best patient outcomes and a personalized patient experience. [*Read More*](#)

[Major Expansion Provides Improved Cancer Care to Utah and Beyond](#)

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



Huntsman Cancer Institute has announced the opening of the Kathryn F. Kirk Center for Comprehensive Cancer Care and Women's Cancers. The center has an entire floor dedicated to breast and gynecologic cancers and additional space for the sophisticated treatment of blood and marrow transplant patients, including immunotherapies and clinical trial options.

[Read More](#)

[Allison Institute Announces Appointment of Inaugural Members](#)

[The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center](#)

The James P. Allison Institute at The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center announced the appointment of its first members, **James P. Allison, PhD**; **Padmanee Sharma, MD, PhD**; **Jennifer Wargo, MD**; **Sangeeta Goswami, MD, PhD**; and **Kenneth Hu, PhD**. In addition, **Garry Nolan, PhD**, will join the Allison Institute as an adjunct member. The institute was launched to drive breakthroughs that will integrate immunobiology across disciplines. [Read More](#)

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

[Multiple Job Opportunities](#)

[LSU-LCMC Cancer Center](#)

[Director of Cancer Clinical Program](#)

[Atrium Health Wake Forest Baptist Comprehensive Cancer Center](#)

[Assistant, Associate, or Full Professor in Otolaryngology](#)

[UK Markey Cancer Center](#)

[Associate or Full Researcher/Professor \(Director, Nutrition Shared Resources\)](#)

[University of Hawai'i Cancer Center, University of Hawai'i at Mānoa](#)

[Bioinformatics Analyst I](#)

[Fred Hutchinson Cancer Center](#)

[Cancer Bioengineering Faculty](#)

[The University of Arizona Cancer Center](#)

[Manager, Cancer Clinical Trials Office](#)

[Cardinal Bernardin Cancer Center, Loyola University Medical Center](#)

[Senior Manager, Grants and Scientific Writers](#)

[Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center, University of Miami Health System](#)

[Supervisor, Clinical Research](#)

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

[Assistant Director, Oncology Clinical Coordination Unit](#)

[Laura and Isaac Perlmutter Cancer Center at NYU Langone](#)

[Medical Oncologist, Gastrointestinal and Genitourinary Oncology](#)

[Cedars-Sinai Cancer](#)

[Regulatory Affairs Associate](#)

[Fred Hutchinson Cancer Center](#)

[Regulatory Coordinator I](#)

[Fred Hutchinson Cancer Center](#)

MEMBER MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS

[2023 Annual Conference of the Cancer Molecular Therapeutics Research Association \(CMTRA\)](#)

[July 23-27, 2023](#)

[Watkins Glen, NY](#)

AACI MEETINGS AND EVENTS

[15th Annual AACI CRI Meeting](#)

[REGISTER TODAY | VIRTUAL OPTION AVAILABLE](#)

[June 26-28, 2023](#)

[Loews Chicago O'Hare Hotel](#)

[Rosemont, IL](#)

[2023 AACI/CCAF Annual Meeting](#)

[REGISTER TODAY | VIRTUAL OPTION AVAILABLE](#)

[October 1-3, 2023](#)

[Salamander Washington DC \(formerly Mandarin Oriental, DC\)](#)

[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](#)



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