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## News From the Association of American Cancer Institutes | September 2023

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Awards & Honors | Grants & Gifts | Leadership Highlights | Research Highlights | Other News Job Opportunities | Meeting Announcements

## **AACI HEADLINES**

#### Sweasy Selected as AACI President-Elect; Three Cancer Center Leaders Join Board



Joann B. Sweasy, PhD, director of the University of Arizona Cancer Center, has been elected by AACI's membership to serve as vice president/president-elect of the AACI Board of Directors. Three new board members were also chosen: Edward Chu, MD, MMS; Raymond N. DuBois, MD, PhD; and Yolanda Sanchez, PhD. They will replace outgoing board members Roy A. Jensen, MD, and Cornelia Ulrich, MS, PhD. Dr. Sweasy is also finishing her term as a regular board member. *Read More* 

## Pasche Named Karmanos President and Chief Executive Officer



Karmanos Cancer Institute, in Detroit, has named **Boris C. Pasche, MD**, **PhD**, **FACP**, president and chief executive officer. Dr. Pasche assumes the role **Joseph Uberti, MD**, **PhD**, served on an interim basis following the retirement of **Gerold Bepler, MD**, **PhD**. Dr. Pasche joins Karmanos from Wake Forest Baptist Health in Winston-Salem, NC. *Read More* 

#### AACI to Present Public Service Award to Dunn, Klobuchar at Annual Meeting

AACI will present the 2023 Public Service Awards to U.S. Representative Neal Dunn (R-FL) and U.S. Senator Amy Klobuchar

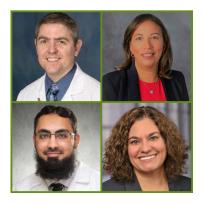


(D-MN) on Monday, October 2, during the AACI/CCAF Annual Meeting at the Salamander Washington DC. *Read More* 

## Urge Congress to Pass Fiscal Year 2024 Budget

With the end of the fiscal year approaching (September 30), Congress has not passed a Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 budget. To avert a shutdown, Congress must reach a bipartisan agreement to fund the government. AACI encourages you to write to your Members of Congress today to urge them to pass the FY 2024 budget and to prioritize cancer research funding. *Read More* 

## AACI CRI Steering Committee Announces New Members



This fall, AACI Clinical Research Innovation (CRI) will welcome Thomas J. George, Jr., MD, FACP, University of Florida Health Cancer Center, as the new CRI Steering Committee chair. CRI will also add three newly-elected members to the steering committee. They will formally assume their duties in October during the 2023 AACI/CCAF Annual Meeting in Washington, DC.

Pictured, clockwise from top left: Dr. Thomas J. George, Dina Aziz, Angela Campbell, and Dr. Muhammad Furquan.

**Read More** 

## **Register for the Catchment Area Data Conference**



VCU Massey Cancer Center will present the 1st Annual Catchment Area Data (CADA) Conference: Beyond Definition, December 7-9, in Richmond, VA. The conference is open to AACI members and all eligible staff, faculty, students, and post-doc trainees from cancer centers who provide education, resources, and support within their defined catchment area. The early bird registration rate ends Friday, September 15. Read More

## Integra Connect: A Value-Based Precision Medicine Company

# Transform data into knowledge

for success with value-based specialty care

**Integra Connect** offers oncology-specific solutions to improve care quality and research while also reducing costs with:

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

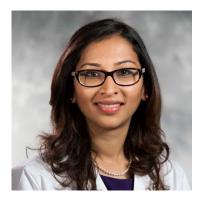
Get tips from VBC experts. Watch Now

IntegraConnect

#### **AWARDS & HONORS**

## **Shariff Receives Community Cancer Centers Innovator Award**

Duke Cancer Institute, Duke University Medical Center



Afreen Shariff, MD, has been selected by the Association of Community Cancer Centers as a 2023 Innovator Award recipient for her work on the effectiveness of electronic consults for immune-related endocrine toxicities. *Read More* 

#### Huq Receives Top Award From American Association of Physicists in Medicine

UPMC Hillman Cancer Center



**Saiful Huq, PhD, FAAPM, FInstP**, received the William D. Coolidge Gold Medal Award from the American Association of Physicists in Medicine for his distinguished career and significant impact on the science and practice of medical physics. *Read More* 

## Singh Named Fellow of the American Society for Radiation Oncology

**Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Center** 



Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Center Director of Radiation Research **Anurag Singh**, **MD**, has been named a 2023 American Society for Radiation Oncology (ASTRO) Fellow. ASTRO is the world's largest society for radiation oncology professionals. *Read More* 

**GRANTS & GIFTS** 

#### Siteman Earns Merit Extension From NCI Siteman Cancer Center

Project to Study How Sex Differences Affect Bladder Cancer Cedars-Sinai Cancer SALUD Study Examines Health Disparities for Latino Survivors of Childhood Cancertudy Examines Health Disparities for Latino Survivors of Childhood Cancer

Dan L Duncan Comprehensive Cancer Center at Baylor College of Medicine

#### \$3.5 Million Grant Received to Study New Technology for At-Home Cancer Care

Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center, University of Miami Health System

#### Head-and-Neck Team Leads Trial to Reduce Delays in Care Hollings Cancer Center, Medical University of South Carolina

\$2.5 Million Grant Aimed at Making Urine Test to Limit Use of Invasive Biopsies in Prostate Cancer Detection Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center, University of Miami Health System

Immunologist Receives New Innovator Award UPMC Hillman Cancer Center

## New Center to Promote Cancer Health Equity Research

Winship Cancer Institute of Emory University

#### LEADERSHIP TRANSITIONS

#### New President Appointed

City of Hope Comprehensive Cancer Center



Marcel van den Brink, MD, PhD, has been appointed president of City of Hope Los Angeles and National Medical Center, after serving 24 years at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center. Current president Michael Caligiuri, MD, a past president of AACI, will remain at City of Hope and transition to focus full time on his laboratory research. *Read More* 

## Associate Chief Medical Officer Hired

Fox Chase Cancer Center, Temple Health



Fox Chase Cancer Center is pleased to announce the hiring of **Nkemdilim Mgbojikwe, MD**, as associate chief medical officer. She joins the center from Johns Hopkins Hospital. *Read More* 

Chair, Vice Chair Named for Department of Immunology and Immunotherapy The Tisch Cancer Institute at Mount Sinai



**Miriam Merad, MD, PhD**, has been named chair, and **Brian Brown, PhD**, vice chair, of a newly established Department of Immunology and Immunotherapy at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai. Drs. Merad and Brown are integral members of Mount Sinai's Tisch Cancer Institute. *Read More* 

# Salloum Named Associate Director for Community Outreach and Engagement

University of Florida Health Cancer Center



**Ramzi Salloum, PhD**, a cancer implementation science researcher with a focus on tobacco control, has been named associate director for community outreach and engagement at the University of Florida Health Cancer Center. *Read More* 

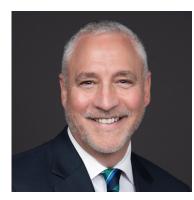
#### Fox Chase Welcomes New Senior Director of Pharmacy Fox Chase Cancer Center, Temple Health



Fox Chase Cancer Center is pleased to announce the hiring of **Dapo Amosu, MS, PharmD, DPLA**, as its new senior director of pharmacy. Dr. Amosu has more than 25 years of pharmacy experience, with significant expertise in hematology/oncology pharmacy, clinical research, and pharmacy management. *Read More* 

## Karmanos Welcomes New Chief Development Officer

Karmanos Cancer Institute, Wayne State University



Karmanos Cancer Institute welcomes **Arnold D'Ambrosio** as its new chief development officer. He brings the National Cancer Institutedesignated comprehensive cancer center over 30 years of donor relations, fundraising, and major gifts experience. *Read More* 

**Biotech Executive Returns to Lead Expansion of Cell Therapy Production, Industry Partnerships**  Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Institute



As work advances on a significant expansion of its cellular therapy production and research facilities, Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Center has named **Yeong "Christopher" Choi, PhD, MBA**, as senior vice president of industry partnerships and technical director of the center's Current Good Manufacturing Practice facility. *Read More* 

## **Tsai Named Chief of Surgical Oncology**

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



Susan Tsai, MD, has been named the chief of the Division of Surgical Oncology at The Ohio State University Comprehensive Cancer Center – James Cancer Hospital and Solove Research Institute. *Read More* 

## **DEIA Efforts Enhanced With New Hires**

University of Colorado Cancer Center



The University of Colorado Cancer Center is doubling down on its diversity, equity, inclusion, and access (DEIA) efforts, with the addition of DEIA Associate Director **Miria Kano**, **PhD**, and Deputy Associate Director **Curtis Henry**, **PhD**. *Read More* 

## New Leaders Named to Research Programs

#### Vanderbilt-Ingram Cancer Center

Vanderbilt-Ingram Cancer Center has seven new research program leaders. **Stacie Dusetzina, PhD, Eric Grogan, MD, MPH**, and **Daniel Barocas, MD, MPH**, lead the Cancer Health Outcomes and Control Research Programs; **Martha Shrubsole, PhD**, co-leads the Cancer Epidemiology Research Program; **Vandana Abramson** co-leads the Breast Cancer Research Program; and **Eben Rosenthal, MD**, and **Kristen Ciombor, MD, MSCI**, lead the Translational Research and Interventional Oncology Research Program. *Read More* 

**RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS** 

Birrer Contributes to Major Ovarian Cancer Discovery UAMS Winthrop P. Rockefeller Cancer Institute

**Clinical Trial Leads to FDA Approval of Novel Cord Blood Therapy** 

Duke Cancer Institute, Duke University Medical Center

## Study Finds Improved Survival for Incurable Brain Tumor

University of Michigan Rogel Cancer Center

Consent Document Translation Costs May Limit Clinical Trial Participation by Underrepresented Groups

UCLA Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center

Scientists Employ AI to Predict Brain Cancer Outcomes Stanford Cancer Institute

#### Estrogen Receptor Mutation Study Suggests Potential Treatments for Endometrial Cancers

Huntsman Cancer Institute, University of Utah

## New Machine-Learning Method May Aid Personalized Cancer Therapy

Sidney Kimmel Comprehensive Cancer Center at Johns Hopkins University

## **RNA Stability May Play a Role in Prostate Cancer**

Fred Hutchinson Cancer Center

#### Largest U.S. Study of E-Cigarettes Shows Their Value as Smoking Cessation Aid

Hollings Cancer Center, Medical University of South Carolina

## Understanding Epigenetic Changes in Glial Cells May Be Key to Combating Brain Tumors

Stony Brook Cancer Center

## Study Finds Many Rural Women Cancer Patients Receive Financial Support Through Social Networks

UAMS Winthrop P. Rockefeller Cancer Institute

## AI Tool Helps Predict Early Response and Survival in Patients With Metastatic Breast Cancer

Winship Cancer Institute of Emory University

## **Boosting Public Health Programs With Technology**

Huntsman Cancer Institute, University of Utah

## Findings Suggest Aerobic Exercise Relieves Pain for Ovarian Cancer Survivors

Yale Cancer Center, Yale School of Medicine

## Infants, Young Children Diagnosed With Brain Cancer Need More Detailed Assessments

Comprehensive Cancer Center, St. Jude Children's Research Hospital

#### Study Examines Increased Risk of Cancer Among Kentucky Cancer Survivors UK Markey Cancer Center

**Ovarian Cancer: New Biological Markers Found That May Predict** 

## Which Patients Won't Respond to Chemotherapy

The Tisch Cancer Institute at Mount Sinai

#### Researchers Create Powerful Cancer-Targeting Compound University of Florida Health Cancer Center

#### **Rewiring Cancer Cells to Self-Destruct**

Stanford Cancer Institute

Immune and Tumor Cell Tug-of-War Controls Anti-Cancer Activity Comprehensive Cancer Center, St. Jude Children's Research Hospital

# An Innovative Approach to Classifying Metastases in Patients With Colorectal Cancer

The University of Chicago Medicine Comprehensive Cancer Center

## Hallmarks of T Cell Exhaustion Found Within Hours of Tumor Exposure

Vanderbilt-Ingram Cancer Center

**OTHER NEWS** 

# David Alberts: a Legacy of Encouragement, Innovation and Scientific Rigor

The University of Arizona Cancer Center



**David Alberts, MD**, a founding member of the University of Arizona Cancer Center and a past member of AACI's Board of Directors, passed away on July 29 at the age of 83. He developed the center's Cancer Prevention and Control Program served as the center's director from 2005 until his retirement in 2013 and continued his work part-time until 2017. *Read More* 

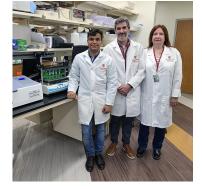
## State Approves \$815 Million Plan to Build Chicago's First Freestanding Cancer Care and Research Facility

The University of Chicago Medicine Comprehensive Cancer Center



The Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board approved the University of Chicago Medicine's plans to build an \$815 million, 575,000-square-foot building dedicated to cancer research and care on its medical campus on the city's South Side. *Read More* 

LILAC Grant Enables Purchase of Key Instruments to Assess Lipid Regulation in Cancer Stony Brook Cancer Center



**Daniel Canals, PhD**, has received a grant from the Long Island League to Abolish Cancer (LILAC) for the purchase of two cutting-edge instruments that enable him and colleagues to better understand how lipids are regulated in cancer, and in turn, the many functions that lipids perform in cancer cells. *Read More* 

## Immunotherapy Drug Combo Helps Extend the Lives of Patients With Metastatic Melanoma

#### UCLA Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center

A research team co-led by UCLA investigators has shown that an immunotherapy drug combination can be an effective second-line therapy for patients with an aggressive and deadly type of melanoma that is resistant to the widely used immunotherapy drugs known as PD-1 inhibitors. *Read More* 

#### <u>New Mexico Cancer Research Alliance to Focus on Delivering</u> <u>Clinical Trials Across State</u>

University of New Mexico Comprehensive Cancer Center

The New Mexico Cancer Care Alliance has rebranded as the New Mexico Cancer Research Alliance to strengthen its focus on delivering cancer clinical trials to New Mexicans. The state's small population is spread over a large area, presenting a daunting challenge to offer clinical trials across the state. *Read More* 

#### JOB OPPORTUNITIES

#### **Cancer and Aging Medical Oncologist**

Cedars-Sinai Cancer

#### Manager, Clinical Research

Northwell Health Cancer Institute

#### **Director of the Division of Medical Oncology**

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

## **Director, Office of Community Outreach & Engagement**

UCI Chao Family Comprehensive Cancer Center

#### **Senior Community Health Educator**

UCI Chao Family Comprehensive Cancer Center

## **Postdoc Training Opportunities**

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

# **Cancer Research Scientist**

Stony Brook Cancer Center

## Program Manager II, Research Systems and Data Reporting The Tisch Cancer Institute at Mount Sinai

## **Biorepository and Tissue Analysis Operations Manager**

Hollings Cancer Center, Medical University of South Carolina

#### **Protocol Review Specialist**

**Dartmouth Cancer Institute** 

#### **TSL Shared Resources Operations Manager**

Hollings Cancer Center, Medical University of South Carolina

#### Executive Vice President of Clinical Affairs and Physician-in-Chief Moffitt Cancer Center

#### Associate Director for Research Administration

UPMC Hillman Cancer Center

#### Chief, Division of Hematology/Oncology

Upstate Cancer Center, SUNY Upstate Medical University

MEMBER MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### 2nd Annual Cancer Center Survivorship Research Forum: Implementing Equitable Cancer Survivorship Care

HYBRID EVENT September 11-12, 2023 Stanford, CA

#### **Women's Health and Cancer Conference**

HYBRID EVENT September 29, 2023 Burlington, VT

#### **Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Summit**

INCLUDED WITH 2023 AACI/CCAF ANNUAL MEETING REGISTRATION September 30, 2023 Salamander Washington DC (formerly Mandarin Oriental, DC)

#### **1st Annual Catchment Area Data Conference: Beyond Definition**

EARLY REGISTRATION OPEN December 7-9, 2023 Richmond, VA

#### AACI MEETINGS AND EVENTS

## 2023 AACI/CCAF Annual Meeting

**<u>REGISTER TODAY | VIRTUAL OPTION AVAILABLE</u>** <u>October 1-3, 2023</u> Salamander Washington DC (formerly Mandarin Oriental, DC)

#### **AACI Leadership Diversity and Development Workshop**

SAVE THE DATE March 11-13, 2024 Loews Chicago O'Hare Hotel Rosemont, IL

## 2024 AACI/AACR Hill Day

SAVE THE DATE May 16, 2024 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

#### 2025 AACI/CCAF Annual Meeting

SAVE THE DATE October 19-21, 2025 Salamander Washington DC



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