

University of Chicago Cancer Research Center



MEMBER NEWS AND UPDATES

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UCCRC News: 2009 Medal of Freedom

The UCCRC would like to congratulate Janet Rowley, MD, for receiving the 2009 Presidential Medal of Freedom. President Barack Obama will award the Medal of Freedom, the nation's highest civilian honor, to Rowley and 15 others at a ceremony on Wednesday, August 12.

The medal recognizes "an especially meritorious contribution to the security or national interests of the United States, world peace, cultural or other significant public or private endeavors." Rowley receives the award for her discovery of recurring chromosomal abnormalities in leukemias and lymphomas - findings that have revolutionized how cancer is understood and treated. Among the ten previous recipients affiliated with the University of Chicago are scientist James Watson, economists Gary Becker and Milton Friedman, and historians Hanna Gray and John Hope Franklin.

UCCRC News: RTOG Nomination

The UCCRC would like to congratulate James Dignam, PhD, for being named the new Group Statistician for the Radiation Therapy Oncology Group (RTOG). Dr. Dignam will lead the RTOG's Statistics and Data Management Center. He will remain an Associate Professor of Biostatistics in the Department of Health Studies at the University of Chicago and a UCCRC Investigator. RTOG is a National Cancer Institute-funded national clinical trials group administered by the American College of Radiology.

UCCRC News: Facing the Mirror

Congratulations to Lori Ovitz who appeared on the July 15th noon edition of WGN news. Lori discussed her Facing the Mirror Program. She provides a unique program, free of charge, to cancer patients who want to feel and look more like themselves as they undergo radiation, chemotherapy, and other cancer therapies. Lori demonstrated the make-up techniques she has developed on two University of Chicago patients. (John M. Cunningham, MD, is treating one of the patients; Rita Nanda, MD, is treating the other.)

UCCRC Scientific Report

The UCCRC will publish its 2009 Scientific Report in September. The report will feature research and funding highlights from all six of our programs and cover existing and new research initiatives.

Upcoming Events

The UCCRC will participate in two events on Saturday September 12, 2009. Help to support the University of Chicago by signing up for one of the following teams:

(1) Join the UCCRC in celebrating and honoring children from our community who have been affected by childhood cancer. Sign up to participate in the 1st annual **Chicago CureSearch Milestones Walk** either as a participant or a virtual walker. This fundraising event unites people in the fight to reach the day when every child with cancer can be guaranteed a cure.

To register for this event, click [HERE](#), and type "The University of Chicago Comer Children's Hospital" in the team name section. On the day of the event, please arrive at Lincoln Park, Grove 13 (Lakefront, just North of the Diversey Driving Range) at 8:00 AM to check in.

The event is shaping up to be a great family walk to benefit our COG trials and patients. In conjunction with this walk date, the state of Illinois has officially declared Saturday September 12th Childhood Cancer Awareness day.

(2) Join the UCCRC **Chicago Lung Run** team. More than 1,500 runners, lung cancer survivors, and representatives of leading Chicago Hospitals have registered to participate. To sign up for this event, click [HERE](#). When you register online, enter "lungrun" when asked for a coupon code and your complimentary registration will be processed. The mission of the 5K Lung Run is to raise awareness of lung cancer and to raise much-needed funds for lung cancer research.

Questions, comments, or suggestions? Please contact: Paul Butera, PhD, at pbutera@medicine.bsd.uchicago.edu or (773)702-4636, or Martine Lamotte, at mlamotte@bsd.uchicago.edu or (773)702-2806.