

University of Chicago Cancer Research Center



MEMBER NEWS AND UPDATES

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UCCRC News: Schubitz Cancer Lecture

On Monday, May 4th, **Michelle M. Le Beau, PhD**, Director of the UCCRC presented the 29th Annual Schubitz award to **Margaret R. Spitz, MD, MPH**. The Simon M. Schubitz Cancer Prize and Lectureship, honors scientists responsible for groundbreaking advances in cancer research. Dr. Spitz delivered her lecture, "Prediction of Lung Cancer Risk and Outcome: an Integrative Epidemiological Approach" immediately after accepting her award.

During her 27-year career at M.D. Anderson, Dr. Spitz has conducted innovative epidemiology research that has helped propel M.D. Anderson's Cancer Prevention Program to international prominence. Dr. Spitz received her medical degree from the University of Witwatersrand Medical School in Johannesburg, South Africa, and her masters' of public health degree from the University of Texas School of Public Health, Houston. She joined the faculty in 1981, and was named Founding Chair of the Department of Epidemiology in 1995. Dr. Spitz has recruited an outstanding cadre of epidemiologists, and her department now includes 29 faculty members from more than 215 employees and a research budget of over \$20 million. Dr. Spitz served as Co-Chair of the NCI's Lung Cancer Progress Group and recently completed service on the NCI's Board of Scientific Advisors.

UCCRC News: ACS Walk and Roll

On Sunday May 17, the Medical Center and UCCRC are organizing a team to participate in the **2009 American Cancer Society Walk and Roll**. This fundraiser began in Chicago 37 years ago, and is growing every year. The objective is to promote healthy lifestyles that prevent both cancer and heart disease. The UCCRC encourages everyone to walk or bike along Chicago's Lakefront. Go to: <http://community.acsevents.org/site/TR?frid=18875&pg=entry> and click on Join a Team. Our team name is: University of Chicago, and our division is: Corporate Team. We ask that each participant raise a minimum of \$50 to receive a t-shirt, however, we would like to aim for an overall team goal of \$5,000. If you have friends or relatives interested in participating, they are invited to register under the University of Chicago Team.

Upcoming Seminars

► **UCCRC Translational Seminar Series**
Friday, May 8th, 2009, 12:00 - 1:00PM
P - 117 (Billings Auditorium)

Topic: Early Detection of Breast Cancer and Prostate Cancer: Studies of Patients and Animal Models

Presenter: Gregory Karczmar, PhD

Topic: sAB-RMD Technology - New Horizons for Imaging Dynamic Events in Live Cells

Presenter: Anthony Kossiakoff, PhD

► **UCCRC Seminar Series**

Friday May 15, 2009, 12:00 - 1:00 PM
BSLC 001

Topic: Immune Checkpoint Blockade in Cancer Therapy

Presenter: James P. Allison, PhD

► **Biomedical Sciences Cluster Committee on Cancer Biology Seminar Series**

Wednesday, May 20, 2009, 4:00PM
BSLC 205

Topic: Stem Cells Pathways and Cancer

Presenter: Michael Clarke, MD

UCCRC News: ASCO Reception

Please RSVP to the VIP Reception honoring the service of **Richard Schilsky, MD**, as he concludes his term as President of the American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO). The reception will be held in Orlando, FL on the evening of Sunday May 31st at 5:30 PM. Wine and beer and hors d'oeuvres will be served. The reception is sponsored by the Cancer Research Center, the Section of Hematology/Oncology (Medicine), and the Section of Pediatric Hematology/Oncology at the University of Chicago. To RSVP, email Paul Butera, PhD, at pbutera@bsd.uchicago.edu or Martine Lamotte at mlamotte@bsd.uchicago.edu.

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

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UCCRC News: Funding Opportunities Update

We currently have over 120 Funding Opportunities posted on the UCCRC web site, and continue to add to this list as we are made aware of new opportunities. If you become aware of an opportunity that may be of interest to your colleagues, please forward it to us for posting. Funding and award opportunities for cancer research with agency deadlines in May include: National Institutes of Health, AACR, Lungevity Foundation, Joan Scarangelo Foundation to Conquer Lung Cancer, Gateway for Cancer Research Foundation, Association of American Medical Colleges, and the American Society of Hematology. For more information, please visit our website at: http://funding.uccrc.org/funding_opportunity.

Community Outreach Update

► Community Engagement Centering on Solutions (CECOS) is working to target local community neighborhoods. Nutrition experts from the Medical Center have led tours of local grocery stores. These tours guide neighborhood residents throughout the different sections of the store, such as dairy, produce, breads, grains, meats, and snack foods. The nutritionists focus on cancer prevention through nutrition, and discuss making healthy lifestyle choices, and understanding nutrition labels and portion sizes. The CECOS team is working to make these supermarket tours a regular occurrence. The first tour took place in late March at Farmer's Best Market in Hyde Park.

Shared Research Facilities Update

► **Annual Core Facility Fair:** Chicago BioMedicine's (CBM) **Office of Shared Research Facilities (OSRF)** will hold its annual Core Facility Fair on Thursday, May 14th from 12:00-1:30PM in the GCIS Atrium. All research staff are invited to stop by for an opportunity to learn about the capabilities of the CBM's Shared Research Facilities. The technology and services offered by the Core Facilities are in an ongoing state of evolution designed to meet the needs of faculty researchers. Technical Directors and staff from over 22 core facilities and associated ancillary services will be available to discuss services. Refreshments will be served.

► **Optical Imaging Core Facility:** The Optical Imaging Core Facility (OICF) provides quantitative fluorescence and bioluminescence imaging services for *in vivo* and *in vitro* studies of small animals and specimens using three different imaging modalities. The facility's imaging instruments include the Xenogen IVIS 200 imaging system, the Olympus OV100 *in vivo* imaging system, and the VisEN Fluorescence Molecular Tomography imaging system. All three *in vivo* optical imaging systems allow for multiple images to be acquired from the same animal so users can track physiological changes occurring within an animal over the course of seconds to minutes, and days to weeks. Facility personnel have recently implemented hardware adaptations that will enable the imaging of animals transfected with certain viral vectors, which previously was not possible. Interested parties should contact the OICF Biomedical Director, Dr. Lynette Gerhold (lgerhold@uchicago.edu) for further information and assistance. Website: oicf.bsd.uchicago.edu.

► **Electron Microscopy: Cryopreservation and Tomography** The mission of The Electron Microscopy: Cryopreservation and Tomography facility is to develop techniques for preserving cellular structure with the highest degree of reliability. These techniques involve different methods for rapidly freezing samples in order to halt structural and biochemical activity in a short timeframe, thus preserving structure in the "live" state. Once preserved in the "live" state, it is possible to study the ultrastructure of these samples, using not only basic Electron Microscopy imaging techniques, but also state-of-the-art techniques such as : 1) 3-D electron tomography, and 2) immuno-cytochemistry. Interested investigators should contact the Technical Director, Joe Austin, PhD (Jotham@uchicago.edu) for further discussions as to the potential application of this technique. Website: tomocryo.uchicago.edu