Heather Cheng, MD, PhD awarded NCI Cancer Clinical Investigator Team Leadership Award

Heather Cheng, MD, PhD, Associate Professor in Medicine (Division of Oncology), University of Washington (UW), and Division of Clinical Research, Fred Hutch (FH), becomes the third Consortium researcher to be awarded an NCI Cancer Clinical Investigator Team Leadership Award. Dr. Cheng will use the award to work with colleagues to translate genitourinary cancer clinical trials into new formats, such as: patient friendly single-slide visual abstracts, concise, “tweet” friendly descriptions and short videos. These will be IRB-approved and disseminated to referring providers and patients to optimize communication of studies with the goal of enhancing referrals and accrual to clinical trials. Read more here.

CONSORTIUM PILOT AWARDS

The Cancer Consortium is pleased to announce the results of its annual Pilot Award Competition. This year, the Consortium was able to provide 12 awards totaling more than $1.25M. Please join us in congratulating this year’s Pilot Award recipients!

**2020 Pilot Awardees**
- Savannah Partridge, PhD (UW)
- Kerryn Reding, PhD, MPH (UW)
- Alpana Waghmare, MD (Seattle Children’s)

**2020 Safeway Pilot Awardees**
- Stacey Cohen, MD (UW)
- Brandon Hadland, MD, PhD (FH)
- Michael Haffner, MD, PhD (FH)
- Natasha Hunter, MD (UW)
- Stanley Lee, PhD (FH)
- Yasemin Sancak, PhD (UW)

**2020 Catchment Area Health Pilot Awardees**
- Marianne Dubard-Gault, MD (UW)
- Teresa Hyun, MD, PhD (FH)
- Parth Shah, PharmD, PhD (FH)

Cancer Consortium Administration welcomes Anissa Barker, Senior Program Manager

The Consortium Administration team is delighted to announce that Anissa Barker, MA, joined the team as Senior Program Manager starting on April 7th. Anissa comes to us from the Basic Science Division of the Hutch where she was a research administrator for almost 4 years. Anissa has extensive grant and data management experience which will be an asset to several Consortium projects. Welcome Anissa!

Seattle Translational Tumor Research Update

The newly formed Specimen Acquisition Network (SAN) brings together several research and healthcare institutions across the Pacific Northwest, including BC Cancer, Benaroya Research Institute, Fred Hutch, Legacy Health Systems, Oregon Health Sciences University, Swedish Cancer Institute, and UW Medicine.

The purpose of the SAN is to ensure that investigators across the broader Northwest research community have access to the specimens and specimen-associated data needed to conduct high-quality, cutting-edge research and accelerate progress towards prevention, earlier detection, and cures for cancer and other diseases. The SAN is accessible to anyone in the research community. Please email SAN@fredhutch.org for more information.
FROM THE OFFICE OF COMMUNITY OUTREACH & ENGAGEMENT

The OCOE held its annual community grant-writing workshop in January. The 2020 Community Grantees are:

- **Communities of Color Coalition**: Conducting survey to pinpoint prostate cancer needs in Snohomish County.
- **Cierra Sisters**: Sharing survivor digital stories to dispel cancer myths in the African American community.
- **American Cancer Society**: Provider education to increase HPV vaccine rates in Washington State.
- **Sea Mar Community Health Centers**: Increasing colorectal cancer screening rates among people of color through mail-in fecal immunochemical test (FIT) kit testing.

COVID-19 can’t stop these health equity warriors! The 2020 Beti Thompson Awardees are:

- Health Equity Research Award Recipient: Kemi Doll, MD, MSCR
- Community Health Trailblazer Award Recipient: Marcela Suárez Díaz

In case you missed it – check out the virtual ceremony on the OCOE Facebook page: [https://www.facebook.com/FHUWOCOE/](https://www.facebook.com/FHUWOCOE/)

NEWS FROM SHARED RESOURCES

Genetically Engineered Mouse Model (GEMM) Services starts at Fred Hutch

The GEMM services are part of the newly formed Preclinical Modeling Shared Resource (PMSR). The core is equipped with state-of-art services for developing and maintaining newly created disease models. The facility utilizes cutting-edge methods, including genome engineering technologies such as CRISPR/Cas9. Two staff members run daily operations of the program. In particular, Priti Singh, PhD, staff scientist, works closely with investigators in the early stages of a project to discuss the experimental design. She further assists after the model is developed by providing appropriate genotyping and breeding strategies. The GEMM core has successfully delivered several knockout mouse-lines in desired strain background to investigators and currently expanding its repertoire of gene editing projects (e.g., conditional knockouts, Rosa KIs).

**Current Services:**
- CRISPR mediated gene targeting in mouse
- One-cell embryo microinjections/electroporation
- Mouse sperm cryopreservation
- Strain rescue
- Sperm resuscitation service
- Embryo resuscitation service
- Speed expansion service
- Strain rederivation Service

**Shared Resources Staffing Updates/Cellular Imaging**

Shared Resources welcomes Peng Guo, PhD, as Director of the Cellular Imaging Shared Resource (CISR) Core, joining us from Albert Einstein College of Medicine in New York, and Lena Schroeder, PhD, as staff scientist, joining us from Yale University. The CISR is a Leica Microsystems Center of Excellence (CoE) and provides state of the art microscopy technologies and image analysis service and training to biomedical researchers with all levels of expertise. The core is also a comprehensive microscopy center that encompasses Light Microscopy modalities such as wide-field, confocal, multiphoton, super-resolution, light sheet microscopy and Electron Microscopy such as TEM and SEM. There are 5 staff members who aid with instrument maintenance and training, experimental design, assisted image acquisition as well as quantitative image data analysis. The CISR looks forward to being a knowledge resource for researchers in microscopy applications in biomedical science.