Summer 2015

Upcoming Events

Thanks to Diana Stafforini for presenting at the May Program meeting!

August 29
HCI Cancer Immunotherapy Conference (contact: Dr. Khong)

Sept. 21
Program meeting - June Round presenting (11:30-12:30)

October 7
Mechanisms of Metastasis Minisymposium – thanks to Doug & Sheri for organizing

Oct. 23-25
Translating Cancer Epidemiology: from cells to clinic and population (www.huntsmancancer.org/epiconference2015)

Nov. – TBA
HCI Strategic Planning Retreat (CRR will be represented; expect surveys in advance)

Recent Cancer-Focused Pubs (not all-inclusive)

Fascin1-dependent Filopodia are required for directional migration of a subset of neural crest cells.

ULK3 regulates cytokinetic abscission by phosphorylating ESCRT-III proteins.

EWS/FLI utilizes NXX2-2 to repress mesenchymal features of Ewing sarcoma.

Defective apical extrusion signaling contributes to aggressive tumor hallmarks.

COMP-1 promotes competitive advantage of nematode sperm.

ATR and a Chk1-Aurora B pathway coordinate postmitotic genome surveillance with cytokinetic abscission.

The prodomain of BMP4 is necessary and sufficient to generate stable BMP4/7 heterodimers with enhanced bioactivity in vivo.
Neugebauer JM, ... Christian JL (2015) PNAS 112:E2307

Squamous non-small cell lung cancer as a distinct clinical entity.

The BRAF kinase domain promotes the development of gliomas in vivo.

An ESCRT to seal the envelope.

A coiled-coil mimetic intercepts BCR-ABL1 dimerization in native and kinase-mutant chronic myeloid leukemia.
Woessner DW, Eiring AM, ... O'Hare T, Deininger MW, Lim CS (2015) Leukemia [Epub ahead of print]

Radotinib is an effective inhibitor of native and kinase domain-mutant BCR-ABL1.
Zabriskie MS, Vellore NA, Gantz KC, Deininger MW, O'Hare T (2015) Leukemia [Epub ahead of print]

CRR Members

Adam Frost, MD, PhD
Carol Lim, PhD
Charlie Murtaugh, PhD
Dan Fults, MD
Dean Li, MD, PhD
Diana Stafforini, PhD
Doug Grossman, MD, PhD
Gillian Stanfield, PhD
Guy Zimmerman, MD
Jan Christian, PhD
Jerry Spangrude, PhD
Jody Rosenblatt, PhD
June Round, PhD
Julie Kadrmas, PhD
Katie Ullman, PhD
Mary Beckerle, PhD
Matt Topham, MD
Matt VanBroeklin, PhD
Matt Williams, PhD
Michael Cohen, MD
Philip Moos, PhD
Rachel Factor, MD
Rod Stewart, PhD
Sheri Holmen, PhD
Tom O'Hare, PhD
Trudy Oliver, PhD
Wes Sundquist, PhD

*CRR leader
We are pleased to welcome Alana and Bryan Welm back to HCI! They will be rejoining us in August.

Congratulations to CRR member Carol Lim, who received a Distinguished Mentor Award from the University of Utah in recognition of her excellence and dedication as a mentor.

A gathering was held on July 9 at the Natural History Museum to honor Jon and Karen Huntsman and celebrate the recent recommendation for comprehensive status.

Note: When submitting manuscripts in which Cancer Center Supported Cores have been used, please include a statement along these lines in the acknowledgements: “We acknowledge the use of core facilities supported by P30 CA042014 awarded to Huntsman Cancer Institute.”

FYI, here are links to NCI RFAs and PAs.

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**New member**

**June Round, PhD,** is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Pathology and is the recipient of an NIH New Innovator award. Dr. Round is interested in the microbiome and its role in inflammation, which is now extending to include a cancer focus. Specifically, she has begun looking at how commensal microbial communities can influence colorectal cancer in collaboration with Mary Bronner, MD (ET).

**New Externally-Funded Projects (not all-inclusive)**

Carol Lim  
- **Super p53 for the Treatment of Ovarian Cancer**  
  DOD, Ovarian Cancer Research Prog. Pilot Award

- **Mitochondrially Targeted p53 DBD for Treatment of Ovarian Cancer**  
  NIH/NCI R21

Charlie Murtaugh  
- **Transcriptional regulators of the exocrine pancreatic phenotype**  
  multi-PI NIH R01, w/Ray MacDonald, UT Southwestern

**New CRR-Funded Projects**

Sundquist/Ullman  
- Cell cycle regulatory mechanisms during cytokinesis  
  -collaborator: Adam Frost

Grossman/Cannon-Albright  
- Identification and characterization of a novel melanoma susceptibility gene  
  -co-funded by Melanoma DOT  
  -collaborators: Deb Neklason (CCPS), Sheri Holmen

**Travel Awards:**
Sheri Holmen and Jae Hyuk Yoo, a trainee in Dean Li’s lab both had CRR Travel/Meeting awards to attend an AACR Meeting held in Salt Lake City: Integrating Clinical Genomics and Cancer Therapy.

Note: Three LOIs were received in response to an RFA for mini-grant projects. Final decisions will be made at the end of August.

**Leadership change:**

Doug Grossman, who has served as CRR co-leader since 2007, stepped down from this role as of July 1. He will focus instead on co-leading the Melanoma Disease Oriented Team, along with Sheri Holmen and Robert Andtbacka (ET). Doug has put tremendous energy into making the CRR Program flourish and his efforts are hugely appreciated by Katie, HCI Senior Leaders, and CRR members. **Thanks Doug!!**

Katie will lead the CRR Program solo for an interim time, until a new co-Leader is appointed.