News from the University of Arizona Cancer Center

Our mission is to prevent and to cure cancer.

Spring 2017
Honoring a Stellar Career

Please join us for a scientific session, tribute, and reception to honor Dr. David Alberts, Director Emeritus, University of Arizona Cancer Center and Regents Professor of Medicine.

Monday, May 8, 2017
University of Arizona Cancer Center, Kiewit Auditorium
1515 N Campbell Ave. | Tucson

Noon - 3:00 p.m.    Lunch and Scientific Symposium
3:00 - 4:00 p.m.    Tribute to Dr. David Alberts
4:00 - 5:30 p.m.    Hosted Reception (UACC Atrium)

RSVP online
by Thursday, May 4, 2017

You are invited to attend a Scientific Session and Retirement Reception from noon -- 5:30pm on May 8, 2017 at the University of Arizona Cancer Center to honor Dr. David S. Alberts, who is retiring after more than 40
years dedicated to cancer research and treatment. This Scientific Session and Reception is to honor him and the impact he has had on the University of Arizona Cancer Center and the University.

You can send messages to Dr. Alberts in care of: UA Cancer Center, Skin Cancer Institute, 1515 N Campbell Ave, Tucson, AZ 85724-5024 or betsey@email.arizona.edu. Messages will be bound and presented to Dr. Alberts at the reception.

Ioannis Stasinopoulos Joins the UACC Admin Team

Ioannis Stasinopoulos has joined the University of Arizona Cancer Center as a Research Development Administrator. In his new role, he will be working closely with the Associate Director of Administration on all functions related to the Cancer Center Support Grant. His immediate focus will include tracking progress against the Center’s Strategic Plan for 2015-2020, reporting requirements related to the CCSG as well as other UACC endeavors, and supporting functions that are key to NCI designation.

Ioannis comes to the University of Arizona from the NCI-designated University of Hawaii Cancer Center, where he focused on the CCSG, including meeting reporting requirements, accounting of research program grants and publications, strategic planning support of the center director and senior leadership, and the post-award management of the core grant. He also led all pre-award administrative functions for the submission of a $15 million program project proposal focusing on the discovery of bladder cancer biomarkers, currently pending with the NCI.

Ioannis earned a joint honors Bachelor's Degree in Biochemistry & Immunology from the University of Strathclyde in 1997 and a PhD in Translation Initiation from the University of Sussex in 2001. His dissertation focused on the translation initiation of picornaviruses, the early models for study of cap-independent internal ribosome entry. As a postdoctoral fellow and research associate at the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, Ioannis worked on the protein-protein interactions of the oncoprotein TWIST and its role in regulating p53. In the P50-funded imaging group, he
then focused on the role of the proinflammatory enzyme COX-2 on breast tumor formation in cells, mice, and human biopsy samples. He is first or equal-first author of 10 original peer-reviewed research publications.

Ioannis currently sits in room 2942B and you can reach him at 626-2762 and at istasinopoulos@email.arizona.edu.

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**Major Milestones**

We have a great team of faculty and staff here at the UACC, and the personal commitment and dedication by a number of our teammates is truly extraordinary.

A few have recently been recognized by the University of Arizona for milestone years of service:
Cyndi Thomson - 25 YEARS

Anne Cione - 25 YEARS

Jennifer Bea - 10 YEARS

Carroll Dendler - 10 YEARS

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Exciting News & Need to Know
Lisa Das, a student with the University of Arizona Cancer Biology Graduate Interdisciplinary Program, has image selected for the cover of *Journal of Cellular Biochemistry*

Volume 118, Issue 5, May 2017

Related Research Article: **Characterization of Laminin Binding Integrin Internalization in Prostate Cancer Cells**
PILLARS OF EXCELLENCE
Cynthia Thomson Named University Distinguished Outreach Faculty

Several University of Arizona faculty members, students, and alumni were honored as Pillars of Excellence in recognition of their contributions in research, service, teaching, and academic excellence.

The 2016 Regents’ Professors, University Distinguished Professors, and University Distinguished Outreach Faculty were recognized along with the UA’s 2017 Distinguished Scholars and several students in the Honors College.

The 10 faculty members and 10 students will have their names added to a plaque on the lower level of the main BookStore in the Student Union Memorial Center, joining more than 130 past honorees.

**Cyndi Thomson** was awarded The University Distinguished Outreach Faculty title which was established in 2003 by then-President Peter Likins to recognize those who have demonstrated excellence in the University’s outreach mission.

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**2017 Scientific Retreat**

The UA Cancer Center's annual Scientific Retreat went off with great success on April 21 at the Westward Look Resort in Tucson, AZ. Great scientists, strong research, and cross-campus collaboration are key to the UACC’s continued success as an NCI-designated comprehensive cancer center.
SHARED RESOURCE HIGHLIGHT - Biostatistics
The Biostatistics Shared Resource (BSR) at The University of Arizona Cancer Center brings together expertise in biostatistics, clinical trials, epidemiology, applied mathematics, statistical computing, and database applications.

BSR personnel have wide-ranging involvement across Cancer Center research activities, including clinical, translational, basic, and population-based research. Biostatistical collaboration and consultation have been provided for investigators in each of the Cancer Center Scientific Programs. The BSR is active in all phases of study design, operation, data management, statistical analysis, and manuscript preparation.

BSR ensures excellent and timely biostatistical support in the design and protocol development of laboratory, translational, clinical, and population-based anti-cancer research studies, and provides appropriate state-of-the-art statistical analysis, interpretation, and reporting. It supports UACC clinical trials by serving on the Scientific Review Committee and the UACC Data and Safety Monitoring Board.

Provided services include:

- Clinical protocol development
- Statistical database applications
- Data analysis and reporting
- Statistical consultation and collaboration
- Statistical support for development of funding applications

Currently the BSR consists of a Director (Dr. Denise Roe), three PhD-level biostatisticians (Dr. Haiyan Cui, Dr. Paul Hsu, Dr. Chengcheng Hu), four masters-level statisticians, a masters-level computer scientist, two data
managers/programmers, and a program coordinator. Two additional Biostatistics faculty members, **Drs. Melanie Bell** and **Jin Zhou** recently joined the Biometry/Biostatistics Section in the Mel and Enid Zuckerman College of Public Health. They are developing statistical collaborations with UACC members.

Recruitment activities in Biostatistics are enhancing the breadth of biostatistical support of Cancer Center activities, allowing the fostering of the philosophy that productive research requires high quality biostatistical collaboration. Biostatistics faculty have had significant success in attracting funding for biostatistics-related Cores in a number of long-term research projects in the Cancer Center, and in addition, BSR biostatisticians serve as co-investigators on numerous other funded studies. Collaboration of Biostatistics personnel with Cancer Center investigators on the design, conduct, analysis, and interpretation of cancer studies continues to enhance the quality of the research.

Those interested in meeting with BSR personnel or prices should contact: **Angela Wakeham** - email: awakeham@email.arizona.edu or phone: (520) 626-2077.

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**Shared Resources To Enhance Research Efforts**

The University of Arizona Cancer Center supports eight Shared Resources funded by the Cancer Center Support Grant, intended to provide access to technology that enhances the research productivity of the Cancer Center and provides a basis for scientific interaction and consultation, as well as access to services that facilitate the research and strengthen the administrative and organizational cohesion of the center.

**Biostatistics**  
**Analytical Chemistry**  
**Behavioral Measurement and Interventions**  
**Bioinformatics**  
**Cancer Imaging**  
**Experimental Mouse**  
**Flow Cytometry**  
**Genomics**
Proteomics
Tissue Acquisition and Cellular/Molecular Analysis

Current Funding Opportunities

If you are interested in pursuing any of these funding opportunities, please contact Deborah McDonnell at dmcdonnell@uacc.arizona.edu.

Fostering Research Training and Education Programs for High School and Undergraduate Students at NCI-designated Cancer Centers (Admin Supp) (PA-17-241)
Application due date: April 28, 2017

Cancer Tissue Engineering Collaborative: Enabling Biomimetic Tissue-Engineered Technologies for Cancer Research (R01) (PAR-17-171)
Application due date: May 5, 2017

Quantitative Imaging Tools and Methods for Cancer Therapy Response Assessment (UG3/UH3) (PAR-17-128)
Application due date: May 9, 2017

Quantitative Imaging Tools and Methods for Cancer Response Assessment (U01) (PAR-17-129)
Application due date: May 9, 2017

V Foundation BRCA Research Collaborative Grants
LOI due to dmcdonnell@uacc.arizona.edu
May 12, 2017

Mechanisms of Disparities in Chronic Liver Diseases and Cancer (R21) (PAR-17-150)
Mechanisms of Disparities in Chronic Liver Diseases and Cancer (R01) (PAR-17-151)
Application due date: May 22, 2017

IDeA Networks of Biomedical Research Excellence (INBRE) (P20) (PAR-17-160)
Application due date: May 22, 2017

Centers of Excellence in Genomic Science (CEGS) (RM1) (PAR-16-436)
National Human Genome Research Institute
Application Receipt/Submission Date(s): May 23, 2017; May 21, 2018; May 20, 2019, by 5:00 PM local time of applicant organization. All types of non-AIDS applications allowed for this funding opportunity announcement are due on these dates. Applicants are encouraged to apply early to allow adequate time to make any corrections to errors found in the application during the submission process by the due date.

NCI Youth Enjoy Science Research Education (YES) Program (R25)
PAR-17-059
Application due dates: May 25, 2017

National Cancer Institute Program Project Applications (P01) (PAR-16-457)

Innovative Molecular and Cellular Analysis Technologies for Basic and Clinical Cancer Research (R21) (RFA-CA-17-010)
Application due dates: May 26, 2017; September 26, 2017

Advanced Development and Validation of Emerging Molecular and Cellular Analysis Technologies for Basic and Clinical Cancer Research (R33) (RFA-CA-17-011)
Application due dates: May 26, 2017; September 26, 2017

Innovative Technologies for Cancer-Relevant Biospecimen Science (R21) (RFA-CA-17-012)
Application due dates: May 26, 2017; September 26, 2017

Physical Sciences-Oncology Network (PS-ON): Physical Sciences-Oncology Projects (PS-OP) (U01) (PAR-15-021)
Application due date: May 26, 2017
Shared Instrumentation Grant (SIG) Program (S10)  
(PAR-17-074)  
Application due date: May 31, 2017

Shared Instrumentation for Animal Research (SIFAR) Grant Program (S10)  
(PAR-17-075)  
Application due date: May 31, 2017

High-End Instrumentation (HEI) Grant Program (S10)  
(PAR-17-076)  
Application due date: May 31, 2017

(UG3/UH3) NIH Health Care Systems Research Collaboratory - Demonstration Projects for Pragmatic Clinical Trials  
(RFA-RM-16-019)  
Application due date: June 2, 2017

Reducing Health Disparities among Minority and Underserved Children (R01)  
(PAR-17-118)  
Application due date: June 5, 2017, October 5, 2017

Collaborative Research Projects to Enhance Applicability of Mammalian Models for Translational Research (Collaborative R01)  
(PAR-17-244)  
Application due date: June 5, 2017

Research Projects to Enhance Applicability of Mammalian Models for Translational Research (R01)  
(PAR-17-245)  
Application due date: June 5, 2017

Secondary Analysis and Integration of Existing Data to Elucidate the Genetic Architecture of Cancer Risk and Related Outcomes (R01)  
(PA-17-239)  
Application due date: June 5, 2017

Mechanisms of Alcohol-associated Cancers (R01)  
(PA-17-220)  
Application due date: June 5, 2017

SBIR Phase II Bridge Awards to Accelerate the Development of Cancer Therapeutics, Imaging Technologies, Interventional Devices, Diagnostics, and Prognostics toward Commercialization (R44)  
(RFA-CA-17-024)  
Application due date: June 6, 2017
NCI Mentored Patient-Oriented Research Career Development Award to Promote Diversity (K23)  
(PAR-16-399)  
No LOI required  
Application due date (Standard): June 12, 2017

NCI Mentored Clinical Scientist Research Career Development Award to Promote Diversity (K08)  
(PAR-16-400)  
No LOI required  
Application due date (Standard): June 12, 2017

NCI Mentored Research Scientist Development Award to Promote Diversity (K01)  
(PAR-16-401)  
No LOI required  
Application due date (Standard): June 12, 2017

(R01) Program to Assess the Rigor and Reproducibility of Exosome-Derived Analytes for Cancer Detection  
(PAR-16-276)  
Application due dates: June 13, 2017; October 13, 2017; June 13, 2018; October 15, 2018; June 13, 2019

(R21) Program to Assess the Rigor and Reproducibility of Exosome-Derived Analytes for Cancer Detection  
(PAR-16-277)  
Application due dates: June 13, 2017; October 13, 2017; June 13, 2018; October 15, 2018; June 13, 2019

Program to Assess the Rigor and Reproducibility of Exosome-Derived Analytes for Cancer Detection (R01)  
(PAR-16-276)  
Application due dates: June 13, 2017; October 13, 2017; June 13, 2018; October 15, 2018; June 13, 2019; LOI 30 days before due date

Program to Assess the Rigor and Reproducibility of Exosome-Derived Analytes for Cancer Detection (R21)  
(PAR-16-277)  
Application due dates: June 13, 2017; October 13, 2017; June 13, 2018; October 15, 2018; June 13, 2019; LOI 30 days before due date

Oncology Co-Clinical Imaging Research Resources to Encourage Consensus on Quantitative Imaging Methods and Precision Medicine (U24)  
(PAR-16-385)  
Application due date(s): June 14, 2017; November 17, 2017; June 14, 2018
Activities to Promote Research Collaborations on Immune-Related Adverse Events (APRC-irAEs) Associated with Cancer Immunotherapy (Admin Supp) (PA-17-248)
Application due date: June 15, 2017

Secondary Analysis and Integration of Existing Data to Elucidate the Genetic Architecture of Cancer Risk and Related Outcomes (R21) (PA-17-243)
Application due date: June 16, 2017

Mechanisms of Alcohol-associated Cancers (R21) (PA-17-219)
Application due date: June 16, 2017

Neoantigen-Based Therapeutic Targeting of Head and Neck Cancers (R01) (RFA-DE-18-004)
Application due date: June 19, 2017

Application due date: June 19, 2017

Research Answers to NCI's Provocative Questions (R01) (RFA-CA-17-017)
Application due date: June 28, 2017

Research Answers to NCI's Provocative Questions (R21) (RFA-CA-17-018)
Application due date: June 28, 2017

Early Phase Clinical Trials in Imaging and Image-Guided Interventions (R01) (PAR-17-167)
Application due date: June 28, 2017

Department of Defense DUIRP BAA https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=292128
Application due date: July 7, 2017

(U01) Biological Comparison in Patient-Derived Models of Cancer (PAR-16-344)
Application due dates: September 6, 2017; March 7, 2018; September 6, 2018; March 6, 2019
Limited Competition for NIH-Industry Program: Discovering New Therapeutic Uses for Existing Molecules (UG3/UH3)  
(RFA-TR-17-002)  
Application due date: September 15, 2017

Academic-Industrial Partnerships to Translate and Validate in vivo Cancer Imaging Systems (R01)  
(Synopsis 1)  
(PAR-17-093)  
Application due date: October, 3, 2019

Fundamental Mechanisms of Affective and Decisional Processes in Cancer Control (R01)  
(PAR-16-380)  
Application due date(s): October 10, 2017; April 11, 2018; October 10, 2018; April 11, 2019, October 11, 2019

Oncology Co-Clinical Imaging Research Resources to Encourage Consensus on Quantitative Imaging Methods and Precision Medicine (U24)  
(PAR-16-385)  
Application due date(s): November 17, 2016; June 14, 2017; November 17, 2017; June 14, 2018

NCI Mentored Patient-Oriented Research Career Development Award to Promote Diversity (K23)  
(PAR-16-399)  
No LOI required  
Application due date(s): Standard

NCI Mentored Clinical Scientist Research Career Development Award to Promote Diversity (K08)  
(PAR-16-400)  
No LOI required  
Application due date(s): Standard

NCI Mentored Research Scientist Development Award to Promote Diversity (K01)  
(PAR-16-401)  
No LOI required  
Application due date(s): Standard

Gateway for Cancer Research  
https://www.gatewaycr.org/research/apply-for-a-grant/  
Applications accepted on rolling basis

Pancreatic Cancer Action Network - NCI, Frederick National Laboratory for Cancer Research KRAS Travel Scholarship  
2017 research funding opportunities
Application due date: rolling

If you are interested in pursuing any of these funding opportunity, please contact Deboragh McDonnell at dmcdonnell@uacc.arizona.edu.

Call for Collaborations

This section is intended to provide a platform for UACC Members to propose collaborative efforts with each other. Any and all ideas are welcome. Contact Cody Cassidy with your proposal to be posted here.

Share Your Stories and Ideas

Please send news items, announcements, calls for collaborations, upcoming events, comments, and anything else that you can think of to Cody Cassidy, ccassidy@uacc.arizona.edu.
The University of Arizona Cancer Center
PO Box 245024, Tucson, AZ 85724-5013

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