A message for you from Dr. Bepler:
I am pleased to share the preliminary recommendation received from the National Cancer Institute site visitors who were here May 12 to review our Cancer Center Support Grant. They have recommended a five-year renewal as an NCI-designated comprehensive cancer center at the requested amount. Please note that this is a preliminary recommendation that requires review and endorsement by NCI’s parent committee for cancer centers. We hope to receive final word in the next couple of months.

We are honored by and proud of this recommendation. This is a tribute to everyone’s hard work, dedication, and commitment to our patients and our mission.

Gerold Bepler, M.D., Ph.D.

Congratulations to two graduate students who delivered their public lectures this cycle as follows:

Lisa M Abernathy (Dr. G Gali Hillman, Advisor)
“Soy isoflavones mediate radio protection of normal lung tissue by modulating the radiation induced inflammatory response” Wednesday July 22 delivered at the Mazurek Medical Commons

Amelie L Hardaway (Dr. Izabela Podgorski, Advisor)
“Adipocyte induced inflammation in prostate tumor progression in bone: role of CXCR2 and osteopontin signaling axes” Friday July 24 at 1 PM Public lecture delivered at 2268 Scott Hall

Dr. Benjamin Kidder from the NIH will be joining the faculty of Wayne State University as a member of the Tumor Biology and Microenvironment Program, October 2015. Dr. Kidder’s research interests lie in epigenetic mechanisms of stem cell function, cancer biology, reprogramming/transdifferentiation, and regenerative medicine as they relate to cancer. His laboratory will be on the 8th floor, Hudson Webber.

Drs. Shijie Sheng and Larry Lum announced the Tumor Biology and Microenvironment Program Retreat on November 18, 2015. The Institute wide retreat finalized the future focus of our cancer center and provided two themes and the basis of work relative to those themes within the TBM Program. This year’s retreat will focus on Metabolism and Bone Metastasis and Immunology and Immunotherapeutics. Poster participation is strongly encouraged from our students. The confirmed keynote speakers are Dr. Deborah Fowell, a basic immunologist from the University of Rochester; Dr. Ormond MacDougald who leads work on bone metastasis biology from the University of Michigan and Dr. Joseph Uberti who has pioneered our work in bone marrow transplant.

New Funding $$

Our Tumor Biology and Microenvironment Program member, Dr. Chunying Li and his colleagues received a new five year R01 from the NIH "Chemokine Signaling in EPC Angiogenesis: A Role of Lysine Methylation". Collaborators include: Zhe Yang (Biochemistry), Gen Sheng Wu (Pathology/Oncology), Xuequn Chen and Fei Sun (Physiology).

The hypothesis is that lysine methylation of CXCR2 by the histone methyltransferase SMYD1 regulates EPC homing and angiogenesis through modulating CXCR2 activation and signaling. The specific aims of this project are: first, to examine the effect of SMYD1 in modulating CXCR2-mediated EPC migratory and angiogenic activities; and second, to characterize the molecular mechanism by which SMYD1 regulates CXCR2-mediated EPC function.

Dr. Mustapha Kandouz, assistant professor, Pathology, received one of only three awards from the American Cancer Society, Karmanos Cancer Institute Investigator Research Grants. Dr. Kandouz’ new study is a departure from his previous work, titled “Ehd3 loss in glioma stem cells: Roles in gliomagenesis”.

Public link to abstracts on Pub Med TBM Program, Q3, 2015:
http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/sites/myncbi/1FYGjcDKXgCAs/collections/48507620/public/
Recent National and International presentations, abstracts and posters

July 31, 2015
“Advances in Cancer Immunotherapy Meeting”, sponsored by the Society of Immunotherapy for Cancer, Dearborn, Michigan

Our Program members participating:
Drs. Abhinav Deol, Jessica Back, Wei-Zen Wei, Lawrence G. Lum, Gail Hillman, and Ulka Vaishampayan

The primary goal of this meeting is to educate cancer care providers on current treatments with immunotherapies. The one day course may benefit anyone who is interested in studying immunotherapy. The meeting is geared to bring fundamentals of immunotherapy to local oncology people.

September 17 – 20, 2015
“Membrane-anchored serine proteases special symposium”; William F. Bolger Center, Potomac, MD

Our Program member Dr. Karin List is noted as a symposium organizer for the American Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology (ASBMB) special symposium. The meeting program and registration information can be found here: http://www.asbmb.org/SpecialSymposia/Proteases/

August 28 – 29, 2015 First European Meeting on Bone Marrow Adiposity, Lille, France

Our Program member Izabela Podgorski, Ph.D. will serve as a session chair at this first international meeting highlighting research that seeks to understand bone marrow adiposity and its contribution to systemic and local energy metabolism.

The meeting objective is to foster exchanges between researchers sharing interest in this field. The format is two days convening world experts to discuss issues such as the phenotype and functions of bone marrow adipocytes, adipogenic differentiation, the microenvironment of bone marrow adipocytes, the characterization, imaging, physiopathology and involvement of bone marrow adipocytes in osteoporosis, diabetes, malignant diseases and therapeutic perspectives. Link for more information and program contents: http://bma2015.sciencesconf.org/

Our Program leadership extends congratulations and salutations to our Program members, Margarida Bernardo, Sijana Dzicic, Xiaohua Li, Shijie Sheng, Dr. Wael Sakr and Jessica Back and their colleagues at Wayne State Department of Pathology, Peking University and Wake Forest School of Medicine. As you may be aware, Cancer Research is a very highly respected cancer research journal (Impact score 9.329). Their new manuscript has been published in “Cancer Research” titled “Maspin expression in prostate tumor cells averts stemness and stratifies drug sensitivity”. Their findings suggest that “maspin reduces prostate tumor cell plasticity, and enhances tumor sensitivity to salinomycin which may hold promise in overcoming tumor cell heterogeneity and plasticity.”

Hot off the Press –

SELECTION OF PUBLICATIONS

Cote ML, Ruterbusch JJ, Olson SH, Lu K, Ali-Fehmi R

Risk factor analysis of recurrence in low-grade endometrial adenocarcinoma. Hum Pathol. 2015 Jun 30. PMID: 26264257


Arking R

Sujkowski A, Bazzell B, Carpenter K, Arking R, Wessells RJ

Approximately June 27, 2015 – September 22, 2015
Patel S, Kilburn B, Imudia A, Armand DR, Skafar DF

Fritz R, Kohan-Ghadr HR, Sacher A, Bolnick AD, Kilburn BA, Bolnick JM, Diamond MP, Drewlo S, Armand DR
 Trophoblast Retrieval and Isolation from the Cervix (TRIC) is unaffected by early gestational age or maternal obesity. Prenat Diagn. 2015 Aug 19. PMID: 26288006

Medler S, Ansari A

Batchu RB, Gruzdyn OV, Qazi AM, Kaur J, Mahmud EM, Weaver DW, Gruber SA

No abstract available
Saeed H, Almardini N, Jacques SM, Qureshi F

Gasparski AN, Beningo KA

 Maspin Expression in Prostate Tumor Cells Averts Stemness and Stratifies Drug Sensitivity. Cancer Res. 2015 Jul 24. PMID: 26208903

Ziv-Av A, Giladi ND, Lee HK, Finniss S, Cazacu S, Xiang C, Ben-Asher HW, deCarvalho A, Mikkelsen T, Poisson L, Brodie C
 RTVP-1 promotes mesenchymal transformation of glioma via a STAT-3/IL-6-dependent positive feedback loop. Oncotarget. 2015 Jul 18. PMID: 26267319

Ji K, Heyza J, Cavallo-Medved D, Sloane BF

 Phase II trial of carboplatin, everolimus and prednisone in metastatic castrate resistant prostate cancer pretreated with docetaxel chemotherapy: A Prostate Cancer Clinical Trial Consortium Study. Urology. 2015 Sep 12. PMID: 26375845

Faucette AN, Pawlitz MD, Pei B, Yao F, Chen K

Carruthers NJ, Parker GC, Gratsch T, Caruso JA, Stemmer PM
 Protein Mobility Shifts Contribute to Gel Electrophoresis Liquid Chromatography Analysis. J Biomol Tech. 2015 Jul 22. PMID: 26229520


Chukkapalli S, Levi E, Rishi AK, Datta NS
 PTHrP attenuates osteoblast cell death and apoptosis induced by a novel class of anti-cancer agents. Endocrine. 2015 Aug 11. PMID: 26260694


Approximately Wednesday, June 27, 2015 – September 22, 2015


Feldman G 

Bannick AA, Laufman JD, Edwards HL, Ventimiglia J, Feldman GL 

Talwar H, Rosati R, Li J, Kissner D, Ghosh S, Madrid FF, Samavati L. 

Jagged1 heterozygosity in mice results in a congenital cholangiopathy which is reversed by concomitant deletion of one copy of Poglut1 (Rumi).  Hepatology. 2015 Aug 1. [Epub ahead of print]  PMID: 26235536


Wang L, Feng S, An L, Gu G, Guo Z 

Liao G, Burgula S, Zhou Z, Guo Z 

Mandal SS, Liao G, Guo Z 

Clinical chorioamnionitis at term VI: acute chorioamnionitis and funisitis according to the presence or absence of microorganisms and inflammation in the amniotic cavity.  J Perinat Med. 2015 Sep 1.  PMID: 26352071

Najy AJ, Dyson G, Jena BP, Lin CY, Kim HC 

Hawley ST, Newman L, Griggs JJ, Kosir MA, Katz SJ 
Evaluating a Decision Aid for Improving Decision Making in Patients with Early-stage Breast Cancer.  Patient. 2015 Jul 16.  PMID: 26178202

Kowluru A, Kowluru RA 

Mishra M, Kowluru RA 
Epigenetic Modification of Mitochondrial DNA in the Development of Diabetic Retinopathy.  Invest Ophthalmol Vis Sci. 2015 Aug 1;56(9):5133-42. doi: 10.1167/iosvs.15-16937.  PMID: 26241401

Approximately June 27, 2015 – September 22, 2015
Kowluru RA, Mishra M

Duhaime MJ, Page KO, Varela FA, Murray AS, Silverman ME, Zoratti GL, List K

Zou Y, Jayasuriya S, Manke CW, Mao G

No abstract available

Yang Z, Sun F, Li C

Harazono Y, Kho DH, Balan V, Nakajima K, Hogan V, Raz A
Extracellular galectin-3 programs multidrug resistance through Na+/K+-ATPase and P-glycoprotein signaling. Oncotarget. 2015 Jun 17. PMID: 26158764

Ahmad A, Ginnebaugh KR, Yin S, Bollig-Fischer A, Reddy KB, Sarkar FH

Khan SN, Shaieb F, Najafi T, Kavdia M, Gonik B, Saed GM, Goud PT, Abu-Soud HM

Fletcher NM, Awonuga AO, Neubauer BR, Abusamaan MS, Saed MG, Diamond MP, Saed GM

Sarkar FH

Wei WZ, Jones RF, Juhasz C, Gibson H, Veenstra J
Evolution of animal models in cancer vaccine development. Vaccine. 2015 Aug 1. PMID: 26241945
cancer immunotherapy and real-time PET imaging enables mechanistic monitoring of host immunity. Strategic utilization of these new tools will expedite cancer vaccine development.

Yong CS, Sharkey J, Dussico B, Venville B, Wei WZ, Jones RF, Slaney CY, Mir Arnau G, Papenfuss AT, Schröder J, Darcy PK, Kershaw MH
Embryonic Lethality in Homozygous Human Her-2 Transgenic Mice Due to Disruption of the Pds5b Gene. PLoS One. 2015 Sep 3;10(9):e0136817. PMID: 26334628


Belotte J, Fletcher NM, Saed MG, Abusamaan MS, Dyson G, Diamond MP, Saed GM


Approximately June 27, 2015 – September 22, 2015