

THE  
**University of Vermont**  
C A N C E R C E N T E R

**UPDATE:** The eALERT will be sent semi-monthly rather than weekly. Please send submissions for the eALERT to [Sarah Keblin](#) by 4 PM Wednesday for submission in the current issue.

*Thursday, January 22, 2015*

[UVM Cancer Center Call for Proposals: ACS Institutional Research Grant](#)

[UVM Athletics' Rally Against Cancer Games and Events](#)

[UVM Cancer Center Going Red for Heart Health](#)

[Stowe Weekend of Hope Call for Participation](#)

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## Event Spotlight

Monday, January 26

Rally Against Cancer

**CALL FOR PROPOSALS: ACS IRG  
Funding Opportunities for Early-Career  
Investigators**



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## Celebrity Server Event

**Buffalo Wild Wings  
South Burlington, VT**

**5:30 - 9 PM  
Proceeds to Benefit the  
UVM Cancer Center**

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## Save the Date

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**January 2015**

*National Cervical Cancer  
Screening Month*

**23-24** [Vermont Burlesque Festival](#), benefiting the University of Vermont Cancer Center; Barre and South Burlington performances.

**24-25** [Neuroscience, Behavior, and Health Research Forum](#); Dudley Davis Center at UVM.

**26** Vermont Athletics' hosts **Celebrity Server Night at Buffalo Wild Wings to benefit the UVM Cancer Center; 5:30 PM to 9 PM.**

**27** Hem/Onc Fellows Conference 8-8:30 AM; Hem/Onc Journal Club: Mary Cushman, MD, PhD, 8:30-9 AM; Larner Learning Center (MedEd 100--new space near the Dana Medical Library).

**30** **Biochemistry Seminar Series:** Jonathan Gordon, PhD; Given C443, 12 noon.

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The University of Vermont Cancer Center has been awarded an Institutional Research Grant (IRG) from the American Cancer Society. Grant applications are now being invited from junior faculty for the award of research grants up to \$30,000 for one year and renewable for a second year contingent upon the progress of the project.

Funded research may cover the cancer continuum and should emphasize transdisciplinary, translational investigation via the three program areas of the Cancer Center: Molecular Mechanisms of Malignancy, Host Factors and Tumor Progression, and Cancer Control and Population Health Sciences. The application must be a collaboration between a laboratory or behavioral scientist and a physician investigator. Investigators from the University of Vermont, and the Albany College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences Vermont campus are eligible to apply.

These grants are intended for new investigators (within six years of first independent academic appointment) who do not have an active, nationally competitive research grant (e.g., from NIH, NSF, ACS).

Deadline for Submission is **February 13, 2015**

The application package, ACS IRG guidelines and instructions, and other required forms can be found at the UVM Cancer Center [website](#).

Please contact Nikola Gorcikova at the UVM Cancer Center at 656-4417 or [Nikola.Gorcikova@med.uvm.edu](mailto:Nikola.Gorcikova@med.uvm.edu) with questions.

## Rally Against Cancer: Buffalo Wild Wings Celebrity Server Event and UVM Basketball

## February 2015

*National Cancer  
Prevention Month*

**3 UVM Cancer Center Grand Rounds;** Jaya Sharma, MD; Reardon Classroom (MedEd 300), 8-9 AM.

**14 UVM Rally Against Cancer Men's Basketball,** 2 PM.

**18 UVM Rally Against Cancer Women's Basketball,** 7 PM.

**19-20 [Clinical Cancer Immunotherapy Symposium: Translating Cancer Therapy from Promise to Reality](#);** part of the Molecular Med Tri-Con; San Francisco, CA.

**28 [Tubbs Romp to Stomp Snowshoe event to benefit Susan G. Komen VT/NH](#);** Stratton Mountain Vermont, 9 AM to 1 PM>

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## March 2015

*National Cancer  
Prevention Month*

**16-17 [Micro RNA Conference: microRNAs as Predictive Cancer Biomarkers](#);** Hyatt Regency, Cambridge, MA.

**17 J. Walter Juckett Distinguished Lecture,** featuring Michelle Le Beau, PhD, Professor at the University of Chicago Comprehensive Cancer Center.

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## May 2015

*Brain Tumor Awareness/*



UVM Health Network CEO John Brumsted, MD (at center), represents the UVM Cancer Center at the UVM Men's Hockey puck drop on January 16, 2015

UVM Athletics, with the support of Otter Creek Awnings and Vermont Custom Closets, will continue its series of Rally Against Cancer events, Monday, January 26 with a Celebrity Server event to help raise awareness and support for breast cancer research and education efforts at the UVM Cancer Center.

### RALLY AGAINST CANCER SCHEDULE

**Monday, January 26, 5-9 PM:**

**Celebrity Server Event at Buffalo Wild Wings**

Cancer Center members and staff are encouraged to attend this fun evening event--bring family and friends to enjoy some refreshment or a meal and be served by star UVM Athletes and coaches!

**Saturday, February 14, 2 PM: Men's Basketball vs. University of Maryland B.C.** (email [Charlie](#) for tickets)

**Wednesday, February 18, 7 PM: Women's Basketball vs. Maine** (email [Charlie](#) for tickets)

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## UVM Cancer Center to Go Red for Heart Health Month

It's that time of year again! February 6, 2015 is national Wear Red Day! The University of Vermont Cancer Center

*Cancer Research Month/  
Skin Cancer Detection and  
Prevention Month/National  
Women's Health Month*

**1-2** [NE Genitourinary Oncology Symposium](#); Hilton Hotel, Burlington, VT.

**1-3** [Stowe Weekend of Hope](#):  
SAVE THE DATE!

**4 SAVE THE DATE Genomic Instability Cancer Meeting**; Jackson Laboratories, Bar Harbor, ME.

**8** [Northeastern Breast Cancer Symposium](#); Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center, Lebanon, NH, 8 AM to 5 PM. For more information, or to register, [click here](#).

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## June 2015

*Men's Health Awareness Month*

**26 SAVE THE DATE: 1st Annual Men's Health and Cancer Conference presented by the UVM Cancer Center**; Medical Education Center, UVM College of Medicine.

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invites staff, providers, researchers and friends to join in raising awareness and showing support for the American Heart Association's (AHA) annual Go Red for Women Campaign. UVM Cancer Center member and national board member for the AHA, Mary Cushman, MD, PhD, is leading the effort at the UVM Medical Center and Cancer Center to build awareness around the importance of heart health.

UVM Cancer Center colleagues are encouraged to join the effort by:

- **Wearing Red!** By Wearing red we show our cohesive support for an issue that impacts many of our patients and colleagues.
- **Donating!** For a \$5 donation to the AHA's Go Red for Women Campaign you can wear jeans on Go Red Day! [Click here](#) to donate to the team effort.
- **Joining us for a picture and parade!** At 3 PM on Feb. 6th we will take a picture of Cancer Center Go Red participants outside of the hem/onc clinic. The photo will be followed by a "Red Parade" through the third floor lobby to demonstrate to our patients and colleagues that we believe in the importance of heart health.

Heart disease and stroke continue to be the number one killers women, followed by cancer, according to national statistics. The connection between heart health and cancer survivorship is becoming increasingly clear. Our own Susan Lakoski, MD will appear on an upcoming episode of *Across the Fence* to discuss this topic!

For more information about the UVM Cancer Center's Go Red efforts, email [Hannah Eldred](#).



UVM Cancer Center members Go Red in 2014

## Stowe Weekend of Hope Call for Participation

UVM Cancer Center staff, providers and researchers are encouraged to participate in the annual [Stowe Weekend of Hope](#), taking place on May 1-2, 2015 in Stowe, VT. The event, presented by the Stowe Area Business Association, provides an educational and inspirational weekend retreat for cancer survivors and their families.

This is an excellent opportunity for UVM Cancer Center members to have an educational impact for patients here in Vermont and throughout New England.

If you are interested in presenting on a cancer-related topic at the Stowe Weekend of Hope, please contact [Sarah Keblin](#).

## Waiting Room Updates Planned for Hem/Onc Clinic

The Hematology and Oncology clinic has announced planned updates to their patient waiting area. The upgrades, funded through support from the Victoria Buffum Endowment at the UVM Medical Center, are aimed at enhancing the patient experience and are the result of direct patient feedback cultivated over the last year. There is a design board in the clinic employee break room with proposed changes which will be displayed until January 30. Clinic employees are encouraged to provide

feedback on the proposed changes to either Nick Jaidar or Kate Devine as they look to implement change that will be meaningful and effective.

Waiting room enhancements to include:

- Installation of new carpet, paint and accent tile flooring
- Volunteer desk at the entrance of the waiting room
- HD TV for patient education, entertainment, etc.
- Artwork
- Coffee and Snack Station (where the water cooler currently is located)
- Modern fabric that is comfortable, welcoming and safe for patients
  - Harmonious design with radiation oncology (Garden Pavilion)
  - Bariatric chairs, ergonomic functionality, space for wheel chairs and accessory desks

## Publications and Announcements

\*Please send announcements and publication notices to [Sarah Keblin](#) for inclusion in the eALERT and other promotional material\*

### Recent Publications by UVM Cancer Center Members:

[Proteome of the insulin-secreting Min6 cell porosome complex: Involvement of Hsp90 in its assembly and function.](#) Rajagopal A, Kulkarni S, Lewis KT, Chen X, Maarouf A, Kelly CV, **Taatjes DJ**, Jena BP. J Proteomics. 2015 Jan 30; 114:83-92. doi: 10.1016/j.jprot.2014.11.010. Epub 2014 Nov 20. PMID: 25464371.

[Could lncRNAs be the missing links in control of mesenchymal stem cell differentiation?](#) **Tye CE, Gordon JA**, Martin-Buley LA, **Stein JL, Lian JB, Stein GS**. J Cell Physiol. 2015 Mar; 230(3):526-34. doi: 10.1002/jcp.24834. PMID: 25258250.

[Runx2-smad signaling impacts the progression of tumor-induced bone disease.](#) Zhang X, Akech J, **Browne G**, Russell S, Wixted JJ, **Stein JL, Stein GS, Lian JB**. Int J Cancer. 2015 Mar 15; 136(6):1321-32. doi:

10.1002/ijc.29094. Epub 2014 Aug 5. PMID: 25053011.

[The associations of adipokines with selected markers of the renin-angiotensinogen-aldosterone system: the multi-ethnic study of atherosclerosis](#). Allison MA, Jenny NS, McClelland RL, **Cushman M**, Rifkin D. J Hum Hypertens. 2015 Feb;29(2):127-33. doi: 10.1038/jhh.2014.40. Epub 2014 Jun 12. PMID: 24919752.

## Funding Opportunities

Green indicates NEW

- [NIH Predoctoral Training in Biomedical Big Data Science \(T32\)--limited competition award/internal selection at UVM required](#); interested persons should submit a letter of interest to UVM's [Hilda Alajajian](#) by **January 26, 2015**; **final applications will be due to NIH by March 1, 2015**.
- [Alliance Cancer Control Program Junior Faculty Award Funds](#); deadline for application is **February 1, 2015**.
- [UVM Cancer Center Call for Proposals Through the ACS IRG](#); the UVM Cancer Center is accepting proposals from early-career investigators for pilot projects through a recently awarded American Cancer Society Institutional Research Grant; grants are for 1-year, up to \$30,000, with possible renewal; deadline for application to the UVM Cancer Center is **February 13, 2015**.
- [Veterans of Foreign Wars Postdoctoral Cancer Research Fellowship](#); \$100,000 award, application must be **postmarked by March 1, 2015**.
- [NIH Office of Research Infrastructure Programs Shared Instrumentation Grant Program--limited competition award](#); for upgrade or purchase of single, expensive instrument with cost between \$50,000 and \$600,000; UVM will coordinate applications so as not to duplicate requests. If interested in applying, **notify UVM's [Hilda Alajajian](#), with description of equipment, by March 2, 2015**.
- [UVM SPARK-VT Pilot Projects Call for Proposals](#); objective of projects is to help bring innovation to

the marketplace, award amounts from \$20,000 to \$50,000; deadline for submission is **March 6, 2015**.

- [Taub Foundation Grants Program for Myelodysplastic Syndromes \(MDS\)](#); \$600,000 over three years; deadline for initial proposal is **March 17, 2015, noon**.
- [American Cancer Society \(ACS\): RFA for research projects addressing "The Role of Health Policy and Health Insurance in Improving Access to and Performance of Cancer Prevention, Early Detection, and Treatment Services"](#); deadline for applications are **April 1 and October 15, 2015**.

[UVM Cancer Center Research Grants](#)

**A full list of all organizations designated by the NCI as providing peer-reviewed funding can be found [here](#).**

## Ongoing Events

**Cancer Biology and Technology Seminar Series** (an integrated part of the Biochemistry Seminar Series)  
Second Friday of each month at Noon, Given C443.

**Environmental Pathology and Carcinogenesis Seminar Series**  
Mondays at Noon, HSRF 200

**UVM Cancer Center Grand Rounds**  
1st, 2nd, 3rd, 5th  
Tuesday 8-9am, MedEd 300

Please refer to the UVM Cancer Center Website for information regarding regularly scheduled tumor board meetings. Information can be found [here](#).

VCC Leadership:  
Gary S. Stein, PhD, Co-Director  
Claire F. Verschraegen, MD, Co-Director  
Kate Webster, Administrative Director  
Sarah Keblin, Communications Manager