

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, February 5, 2015

[Reminder: Internal Deadline for ACS IRG Applications](#)

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Event Spotlight

Vermont Athletics Rally
Against Cancer

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

Men's and Women's Basketball

Saturday, Feb. 14th
Wednesday, Feb. 18th

(tickets available to UVM Cancer
Center members and staff;
contact [Charlie Brooks](#)
)

Save the Date

February 2015

*National Cancer
Prevention Month*

6 Biochemistry Seminar

Series: Brian Eckenroth, PhD,
"Structural Investigations of
Tumor-Associated
Polymorphisms of DNA
Polymersase β ;" Given C443, 12
Noon.

9 SPARK-VT Proposal

Development Workshop; no
RSVP required; 401 Dudley H.
Davis Center, 12 Noon; contact
sparkvt@uvm.edu for more
info.; NOTE: SPARK-VT
proposals are due March 6.

10 Hematology Problems

Conference: Mary Tang, MD;
Reardon Classroom (Med Ed
300), 8-9 AM.

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

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



THE OFFICIAL SPONSOR OF BIRTHDAYS*

A reminder that the deadline for applying for an internal
grant through the ACS IRG 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 with questions.

Call for Information: Documenting Collaborative Partnerships at the UVM Cancer Center

The UVM Cancer Center is asking all members to
participate in cataloging collaborative work being done
here at the UVM Cancer Center across all disciplines and
arenas. The information is valuable in assessing
strengths, opportunities, and in pursuing funding. This is
also a part of a larger effort to evaluate membership
metrics.

Members should send a list of all collaborations (internal
and external) to [Kate Webster](#) by end-of-day Friday,
February 6. Information should include names of
collaborators as well as their UVM Department or the
name of their external institutions.

Questions and responses can be sent to [Kate Webster](#) by
email or at 656-2137.

Technology Entrepreneurship & Commercialization Course Offered

UVM will be offering a 3 credit course this fall titled
"Technology Entrepreneurship & Commercialization"
focused on bridging the gap between researchers and
business in order to "create new value with new
technologies."

Please contact [Erik Monsen, Ph.D.](#), UVM Department of
Business Administration, for more information.

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>

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: "Genetic Pathways Leading to Therapy-Related Myeloid Neoplasms;" Davis Auditorium, 12 noon.

27 [Cancer Nanotechnology Symposium: Targeting, Diagnostics and Therapy](#); Dartmouth College, 7:45 AM to 4 PM. For more info. [click here](#).

May 2015
*Brain Tumor Awareness/
Cancer Research Month/
Skin Cancer Detection and
Prevention Month/National
Women's Health Month*

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

Rally Against Cancer: Men's and Women's Basketball Tickets Available



UVM Athletics, with the support of Otter Creek Awnings and Vermont Custom Closets, will continue its series of Rally Against Cancer events, Saturday, February 14, 2015 with a men's basketball game. Women's basketball will Rally Against Cancer on February 18! Please come represent the UVM Cancer Center at these games. For free tickets, please contact [Charlie Brooks](#).

Basketball Rally Games:

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)

UVM Cancer Center to Go Red for Heart Health Month

The University of Vermont Cancer Center 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 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

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](#).

12 J. Walter Juckett Distinguished Lecture: Louise Strong, MD, Professor of Genetics at the University of Texas, MD Anderson Cancer Center; Davis Auditorium, 12 noon.

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; 8-12.

October 2015

Breast Cancer Awareness Month

2 SAVE THE DATE: 18th Annual Breast Cancer Conference.

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 appeared on WCAX/UVM's *Across the Fence* to discuss this topic! [Click here](#) to see the episode.

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](#).

UVM Cancer Center in the NEWS

Research on breast density and supplemental screening, led by **Brian Sprague, PhD** and recently published in the *Annals of Internal Medicine*, was highlighted in a recent issue of [JAMA](#) News.

Gerald Davis, MD and Matthew Kinsey, MD, MPH, appeared on WCAX/UVM's Across the Fence on Monday, February 2 to discuss lung cancer. [Click here](#) to view the episode.

Susan Lakoski, MD appeared on WCAX/UVM's Across the Fence to talk about heart health and cancer, including her recent research in this area. [Click here](#) to view the episode.

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:

Mesenchymal Stromal Cells Expressing TRAIL Inhibit Tumor Growth and Alter the Tumor Microenvironment of Human Malignant Mesotheliomas in a Mouse Xenograft Model. Lathrop MJ, Sage EK, Macura SL, Brooks EM, Bonenfant NR, Sokocevic D, MacPherson MB, Beuschel SL, Dunaway CW, **Shukla A**, Janes SM, Steele C, **Mossman BT, Weiss DJ**. *Cancer Gene Therapy*, 22, 44-54, 2015.

Indications for distinct pathogenic mechanisms of asbestos and silica through gene expression profiling of the response of lung epithelial cells. Timothy N Perkins, Paul M Peeters, **Arti Shukla**, Ingrid Arijs, **Julie Dragon, A. Emiel**, FM Wouters, Niki L Reynaert, **Brooke T Mossman** *Human Molecular Genetics*, 2014.
PMID: 25351596

[DNA-Pairing and Annealing Processes in Homologous](#)

[Recombination and Homology-Directed Repair.](#)

Morriscal SW. Cold Spring Harb Perspect Biol. 2015 Feb 2; 7(2). pii: a016444. doi: 10.1101/cshperspect.a016444. Review.PMID: 25646379.

[Exploratory use of docetaxel loaded acid-prepared mesoporous spheres for the treatment of malignant melanoma.](#)

Kaiser S, MacPherson MB, **James TA**, Emery A, Spiess P, **van der Vliet A**, Landry CC, **Shukla A.** Cancer Nanotechnol. 2015; 6: 1. Epub 2015 Jan 24. PMID: 25642297.

[Targeting of Runx2 by miRNA-135 and miRNA-203 Impairs Progression of Breast Cancer and Metastatic Bone Disease.](#)

Taipaleenmaki H, **Browne G**, Akech J, Zustin J, van Wijnen AJ, **Stein JL**, Hesse E, **Stein GS**, **Lian JB.** Cancer Res. 2015 Jan 29. pii: canres.1026.2014. [Epub ahead of print] PMID: 25634212.

Funding Opportunities

Green indicates NEW

- [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**.
- [UVM College of Medicine Internal Grant Program and Bridge Support Program \(March 2015 Cycle\)](#); contact [Michael Toth](#) for more information.
- [Veterans of Foreign Wars Postdoctoral Cancer Research Fellowship](#); \$100,000 award, application must be **postmarked by March 1, 2015**.
- [Damon Runyon Fellowship Award \(Damon Runyon Postdoctoral Research Fellowships\)](#); please coordinate submissions by sending a letter of interest to Kate Webster by **March 1, 2015**.
- [Student Training and Research in Immunology \(STaRT\)](#); deadline is **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