

CENTRE FOR TRANSLATIONAL CANCER RESEARCH

From Cell to Clinic Issue 5 September, 2015

Our Mission

The Western Centre for Translational Cancer Research is a diverse and growing network of researchers who seek to minimize the burden of Cancer.

Our Vision

To foster collaborative multi-disciplinary teams to

- ◇ prevent cancer
- ◇ detect cancer earlier
- ◇ develop better cancer treatment

CANCER HAS GONE TO THE DOGS (AND CATS)!

Medical, Radiation and Surgical Oncology Veterinary specialists presented a special Oncology Grand Rounds at LRCP and enlightened our basic, translational and clinical cancer researchers about their innovative veterinary programs in Oncology. Led by Dr. Gordon Kirby, Associate Dean, Research & Innovation, University of Guelph, Ontario Veterinary College (OVC), visiting faculty included: Drs. Paul Woods (Medical Oncology), Michelle Oblak (Surgical Oncology), Brenda Coomber (Tumor Biology), Byram Brindle (Immunotherapy) Geoff Wood, (Comparative Pathology), Alicia Vilorio-Petit (Tumor Biology), Tony Mutsaers (Medical Oncology & Tumour Biology) & Alex zur Linden (Radiology & Imaging). Topics included; the University of Guelph Institute for Comparative Cancer Investigation <http://ovc.uoguelph.ca/icci>, cancer care to pets at OVC, surgical oncology for the veterinary patient, the companion animal tumor bank resource, a feline mammary carcinoma biotherapy trial, studies in canine osteosarcoma, canine mammary cancer and osteosarcoma and biomarkers for targeted drug application (cetuximab, sunitinib and toceranib). The visit is leading to some ongoing discussions between Western and OVC Cancer Researchers.



PROFILING RESEARCH EXCELLENCE AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

The 2015 CTCR Translational Cancer Research Poster Award at Oncology Research & Education Day went to **Nicole Pinto**, a graduate student working with **Dr. Anthony Nichols**. Congratulations on your excellent poster! "*Highly effective agents identified in genetically characterized anaplastic thyroid cancer cell lines*".



Matthew Lowerison, PhD candidate supervised by **Dr. James Lacefield** and **Dr. Ann Chambers** is the recipient of the 2015 Young Investigator award sponsored by FUJI-FILM Visual Sonics Inc.

Kurtis Dekker, PhD candidate with **Drs. Jerry Battista** and **Kevin Jordan** won the IOMP Medical Biophysics Award for best student presentation: http://www.schulich.uwo.ca/biophysics/about_us/news/2015_phd_trainee_kurtis_dekker_wins_prestigious_award.html

Matt Piaseczny and **Dr. Alison Allan**—interviewed by CTV for 3 D model of breast cancer and lung metastasis; see the video here: <http://london.ctvnews.ca/video?clipId=592768>

OUTSTANDING RESEARCH & RECENT PUBLICATIONS

Congratulations to **Dr. Alison Allan and Dr. Shawn Li** recipients of **Canadian Breast Cancer Foundation** funding, see here: <http://www.cbcbf.org/ontario/YourDollarAtWork/Grants/Pages/2015-FundedGrants.aspx>

CIHR Grant Recipients: Dr. Anthony Nichols:

"Mechanisms of resistance and sensitivity to PI3K inhibition in head and neck cancer" (2015-2020); **Dr. Joe Mymryk** (Co-applicant **Dr. A. Nichols**) "Identification and characterization of mechanisms that contribute to human papillomavirus induced disease" (2015-2020) and **Dr. Sam Asfaha**: CIHR grant entitled: "Dclk1 positive tuft cells are a cellular origin for inflammation-associated cancer in the gut"(2015-2020).

Schulich Collaborative Seeds Research Grants: Congratulations to **Dr. Moshmi Bhattacharya**, PI (Physiology and Pharmacology) and **Dr. Muriel Brackstone Co-I** (Surgery & Oncology) - "*KISSIR signalling in breast cancer metastasis*" and **Dr. Hon Leong**, PI (Surgery) and **Dr. Ting Yim Lee**, (Robarts/Medical Imaging); **Dr. Len Luyt** (Oncology); **Dr. Jim Koropatnick** (Oncology); **Dr. Chris Pin** (Paediatrics) **Co-I's** - "*Peptides Specific for Glypican-3 as Next-Generation Imaging Tools for Improved Non-invasive Imaging of Hepatocellular Carcinoma*".

Dr. Lazo-Langer published in the NEJM; "Screening for Occult Cancer in Unprovoked Venous Thromboembolism" NEJM 2015 Aug 20;373(8):697-704

UPCOMING EVENTS

SAVE THE DATE: 13th Annual Oncology Research & Education Day: June 17, 2016

Translational Cancer Research Seminars—start October, 2015, watch here for details: <http://www.uwo.ca/oncology/CIHR/STP/index.htm>

Institute of Cancer Research Summer 2015 Bulletin: Read here...<http://media.campaigner.com/media/19/191560/ICR%20Summer%20Newsletter%202015.pdf>

2015 Terry Fox Run

Event Details: *Sunday Sept 20, 2015*



WELCOME NEW CENTRE FOR TRANSLATIONAL CANCER RESEARCH MEMBERS

Dr. Rithwik Ramachandran, Physiology & Pharmacology, Rithwik holds a Movember Discovery Grant (PCC) <http://www.prostatecancer.ca/Research/What-We-re-Funding/Funding-Innovation>

Welcome to Western!

For Membership contact Sandra Kleinstiver at: sandra.kleinstiver@lhsc.on.ca 519-685-8500 ext 53550 (LRCP) or 519-661-2111 ext 81565 (Western) or Dr. Glenn Bauman, Centre Director at: glenn.bauman@lhsc.on.ca