Welcome to the CRI email newsletter. These are distributed twice a year to update CRI affiliates.

Scroll down for information on:
- Research Highlights (Publications, New Funding, Spotlight)
- Upcoming Events
- New Members

Please also visit our website at https://cancerresearch.uci.edu for updates between newsletters, and to access the Research Resources page for preparing grant applications.

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**Publication Highlights**

“Glucagon regulates the stability of REV-ERBα to modulate hepatic glucose production in a model of lung cancer–associated cachexia.” Science Advances paper featuring Dr. Selma Masri

“Structure-Based Design of CDC42 Effector Interaction Inhibitors for The Treatment of Cancer” Cell Reports paper featuring Drs. Robert Edwards, Anand Ganesan and Christopher Hughes

“Diversity upon diversity: linking DNA double-strand break repair to blood cancer health disparities.” Trends in Cancer paper featuring Dr. Nicholas Pannunzio

“Synthetic lethality of cyclin-dependent kinase inhibitor Dinaciclib with VHL-deficiency allows for selective targeting of clear cell renal cell carcinoma” Cell Cycle Paper featuring Dr. Olga Razorenova

“Spatial transcriptomics using combinatorial fluorescence spectral and lifetime encoding, imaging and analysis” Nature Communications Paper featuring Drs. Marian Waterman, Anand Ganesan, and Weian Zhao

“Targeting the PSGL-1 Immune Checkpoint Promotes Immunity to PD-1 Resistant Melanoma” Cancer Immunology Research Paper featuring Dr. Roberto Tinoco

“Maksim Plikus Explores the Curiosities of Skin”

“3’aQTL-atlas: an atlas of 3’UTR alternative polyadenylation quantitative trait loci across human normal tissues” Nucleic Acids Research paper featuring Dr. Wei Li
NEW FUNDING

- **Nick Pannunzio** was awarded a R01 “Ph-Like ALL disparities in the Hispanic and Latinx community” which was then converted to an **R37 MERIT award**! [NCI R37CA266042]
- **Angela Fleischman** was awarded a R01 that received an outstanding merit designation and was then converted to a **R37 MERIT award**!
- **Selma Masri** got a new R01 with **Marian Waterman** as co-PI, “Circadian Clock and Myc-dependent Regulation of Cellular Transformation” [NCI R01 CA259370]
- **Scott Atwood** received a research award from the American Cancer Society to investigate “Tumors on a Knife’s Edge: Modulating Cancer Cell Fate in the Skin”
- **Wenqi Wang** received a research award from the American Cancer Society to investigate “Mechanistic Characterization of the Hippo Tumor Suppressor pathway in DNA Repair”
- **$40K Anti-Cancer Challenge Pilot Project Awards** were granted to the following CRI affiliates: **Peter Kaiser, Nicholas Pannunzio, Christopher Halbrook, Angela Fleischman, Sora Tanjasiri, Gina Lee, Zhuoli Zhang, Edward Nelson, Wenqi Wang, and Mei Kong**

SPOTLIGHT

**Congratulations to Aimee Edinger** for receiving the Carol Conner Equity Advisor Impact Award for her contributions as an Equity Advisor at UCI.

Equity Advisors promote an inclusive culture for faculty and graduate study excellence.

**NEW MOLECULE COULD HELP TREAT TUMORS**

Researchers at UCI and the Italian Institute of Technology have developed a molecule that shows promising anti-cancer activity against a wide range of tumor cell types. UCI’s research was led by the laboratory of **Dr. Anand Ganesan**, a professor of dermatology and biological chemistry. Read More

**Selma Masri** has received the prestigious 2022 Johnson & Johnson WiSTEM2D Scholars Award for Science. The program recognizes one scholar in each STEM2D discipline: Science, Technology, Engineering, Math, Manufacturing and Design, and provides each recipient with $150,000 in research funding and three years of mentorship from Johnson & Johnson. Six diverse, international female recipients were selected out of a competitive global applicant pool that garnered more than 650 applications from 40 countries.

**UCI-led Team Develops New Biopsy Technology for Analyzing Multiple Tumor Tissue Biomarkers**

“The MOSAICA technology is a next-generation biopsy tool that will enable scientists and clinicians to simultaneously profile many biomarkers in cells and tissues. The ability to characterize the cellular composition, function, and interaction within complex tumors will inform personalized disease diagnosis and therapeutic treatment,” says **Weian Zhao, PhD. Read more**
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event Description</th>
<th>Date/Time</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Anti-Cancer Challenge Webinar on Sarcomas</strong> presented by Warren Chow, MD, Jeremy Harris, MD and Russell Stitzlein, MD</td>
<td>April 21, 2022 1:00-2:00 PM</td>
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<td><strong>Interdisciplinary Cancer Research (IDCR) Training Grant Retreat</strong></td>
<td>April 22 -24, 2022 La Jolla, California</td>
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<td><strong>CFCCC Biotechnology, Imaging &amp; Drug Development Program proudly presents:</strong></td>
<td>April 26th, 2022</td>
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<td><em>Start-up Creator Series Part I</em></td>
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<td><em>Patients &amp; Physicians Panel</em></td>
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<td><strong>The CRI Campus Wide Symposium on Basic Cancer Research with Keynote by Dr. Heather Christofk</strong></td>
<td>May 6th, 2022 105 Sprague Hall 11:00 – 4:15 pm</td>
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<td><strong>Special Reception Honoring Former CRI Director, Marian Waterman</strong></td>
<td>May 6th, 2022 105 Sprague Hall 4:30 – 6:00 pm</td>
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<td><strong>CRI Hosted Retirement Party for Nita Driscoll</strong> Please join us as we celebrate Nita and her 37+ years of service</td>
<td>May 10th, 2022 Sprague Hall Atrium 3:00 pm – 5:00 pm</td>
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<td><strong>University of California Pancreatic Consortium Virtual Symposium</strong></td>
<td>May 13, 2022 8:30-12:00 PM</td>
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<td><strong>CFCCC Biotechnology, Imaging &amp; Drug Development Program proudly presents:</strong></td>
<td>June 9th, 2022 Beall Applied Innovation 2:00 – 4:00 PM</td>
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<td><em>Start-up Creator Series Park II Innovators Respond – Pitch Day</em></td>
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<td><strong>CRI’s Youth Science Fellowship Program “Host Labs Needed”</strong></td>
<td>June 27 – August 5th, 2022</td>
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<td><strong>CRI’s Virtual Certificate Program “Virtual”</strong></td>
<td>July 6 – August 24th, 2022</td>
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<td><strong>The Anti-Cancer Challenge In-Person Event</strong> Support the CRI Team, The OncoSlayers</td>
<td>October 8th, 2022 Aldrich Park</td>
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CAREER & PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- GPS-STEM
  CLICK HERE TO GO TO THE WEBSITE

- UCI Shared Research Resources for Grant Writing
  CLICK HERE TO GO TO THE WEBSITE

- My UC Career
  CLICK HERE TO GO TO THE WEBSITE

- Health and Wellness Resources
  CLICK HERE TO GO TO THE WEBSITE

NEW CRI AFFILIATES

- Thomas Burke • Dongbao Chen •

Reminders

- Labs needed for Summer 2022 Youth Science Fellowship Program. Email Krystina Jarema if you volunteer kjarema@uci.edu

- T32 Interdisciplinary Cancer Research Program is collecting Postdoc Nominations on a rolling basis. Contact PI: David Fruman dfruman@uci.edu for more information

You are receiving this email because you are a CRI Affiliate. If you would like to have anything published, please email us at CRI@uci.edu.

Next Publication will be Fall 2022.

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