January 2011

IU Simon Cancer Center receives national accreditation for providing top-quality care to breast cancer patients

The IU Simon Cancer Center has been granted a three-year full accreditation by the National Accreditation Program for Breast Centers (NAPBC).

Administered by the American College of Surgeons, the NAPBC gives accreditation only to those centers that have voluntarily committed to provide the highest level of quality breast care and that undergo a rigorous evaluation process and review of their performance. During the survey process, the center must demonstrate compliance with standards established by the NAPBC for treating women who are diagnosed with the full spectrum of breast disease.


Rager

"The NAPBC certification provides an independent assessment of the breast program at IU Simon Cancer Center," **Erika Rager**, MD, MPH, said. "Our full three-year accreditation confirms that we provide breast patients with the full range of services to meet their needs and the highest quality of care. From initial diagnosis through treatment and follow-up care, breast patients can be confident that we will meet all of their needs with the highest quality and compassion."

Receiving care at a NAPBC-accredited center ensures a patient will have access to:

• Comprehensive care, including a full range of state-of-the-art services
• A multidisciplinary team approach to coordinate the best treatment options
• Information about ongoing clinical trials and new treatment options
• And, most importantly, quality breast care close to home

Visit the National Accreditation Program for Breast Centers for more information.

January 2011

A request for IUSimon Cancer Center Pilot Projects: Focus on basic science

The IU Simon Cancer Center (IUSCC) is inviting proposals for basic science cancer research pilot projects.

Funding will be allocated from the IU Simon Cancer Center, using the ITRAC mechanism/process, and will be allocated based on need up to $50,000. We are particularly interested in receiving applications from investigators who, with this additional support, are likely to obtain extramural peer-reviewed funding. Projects with inter-programmatic collaborative teams are encouraged. Successful applicants can request additional funds after completion of their current milestone for further project development. Applicants may have received prior or current extramural research funding, but the proposed project should be separate from previous or current funded projects.

Resources available to investigators include access to the IU Simon Cancer Center translational coordinators for "mapping." The mapping process will also involve a determination of the amount of funds required for each process/benchmark such that funds will be given out as necessary to move the project to the next benchmark/process or milestone.

To schedule the project mapping, which must be completed prior to the application submission date, contact Crystal Banks and/or Mary Murray. For further details of ITRAC, contact Mark Kelley.

Deadlines for mapping requests must be scheduled by:

- For spring review: March 1, 2011
- For fall review: Aug. 1, 2011

Final applications are due by April 8, 2011, and Sept. 2, 2011. The body of the proposal should not exceed three pages plus one page for Aims and should address the translational nature and future clinical application of the project, as well as include the project map/budget. Proposals need to follow NIH formatting guidelines of Helvetica or Arial fonts, 11 point or larger font size, and ½-inch margins. A budget will be generated during the mapping process. Proposals should not include percent effort (salary) for the principal investigator. An electronic copy in .pdf format should be submitted and should include:

- Abstract (NIH format; 30 lines)
- Aims (1 page)

Significance
- Innovation
- Approach
- Project map
- NIH biosketch

The Significance, Innovation, and Approach sections should not exceed three pages. Aims page can be up to one page. Abstract should be standard NIH format length (30 lines).

Applications will be reviewed by the IUSCC Leadership Council and additional expert reviewers as necessary. Final funding decisions will be made by the IUSCC Executive Committee based on the review evaluations and rankings.

Criteria for review:

- Scientific merit
- Cancer relatedness
- Evidence of multidisciplinary approach
- Potential for translation
- Potential for subsequent peer reviewed funding

The timetable is:

For spring review

- Mapping request before or by March 1, 2011
- Completed application (must include completed map): April 8, 2011
- Funding start date: June 1, 2011

For fall review

- Mapping request before or by Aug. 1, 2011
- Completed application (must include completed map): Sept. 2, 2011
- Funding start date Nov. 1, 2011

Applications should be sent to:
Elizabeth Parsons
Grants Coordinator
eparsons@iupui.edu
278-0078

January 2011

Core spotlight

Protein Analysis Research Center

If you're in need of proteomics services, check out the resources of the Protein Analysis Research Center (PARC).

Proteomics is the study of the structure and function of proteins, including the way they work and interact with each other inside cells.


Wang

Mu Wang, PhD, director of PARC, said: "Proteomics has evolved a lot. We have shifted from discovery-based proteomics to more target-based proteomics or targeted assays. We can actually target roughly 30 proteins of interest in a single assay using a targeted proteomics platform, and we are capable of applying any new platforms that have been developed to do research."

As one example, Wang said in the past few years the research has moved away from 2D-gel electrophoresis. "Our focus is now on mass spectrometry-based assays to discover and validate potential biomarker candidates," Wang explained.

Protein Analysis Research Center

Mu Wang, PhD, director.

Questions? Contact Dr. Wang at 278-0296.

PARC recently moved back to the IU School of Medicine campus. It is now located in the VanNuys Medical Science Building, Room 0005.

Overall, PARC provides cutting-edge proteomic technologies, applications, and expertise for academic investigators at the lowest possible cost. It offers protein and proteomic analysis services for protein identification, characterization, and quantification.

PARC personnel will work with investigators to develop quality protocols including sample collections that will produce high quality data.

PARC also provides collaborative research and development of new technological platforms for proteomics research. The center offers numerous mass spectrometry-based methods for protein and proteomic analyses. Some mass spectrometry-based protein/proteomic analysis include:

• Protein digestion
• Abundant protein removal in serum/plasma samples
• Mass spectrometry analysis for protein identification (e.g., unknown gel band), quantification (e.g., biomarker discovery and validation), and characterization (e.g., PTM analysis)
• LifeMarker assays (off-shelf targeted protein assays)

Last spring, PARC moved back to the IU School of Medicine campus after having been in the Emerging Technologies Center for the past five years. It is currently located in the VanNuys Medical Science Building, Room 0005.

For more information, visit Protein Analysis Research Center.

January 2011

News briefs

IUSCC's first-ever scientific report online

The IU Simon Cancer Center's first-ever scientific report is now available online at www.cancer.iu.edu/news. Click on "IUSCC Scientific Report" on the right-hand menu. All cancer center members will receive a hard copy through campus mail in the coming days.


scientific report

New Web site offers one-stop access to research-related services, resources

The Office of the Vice President for Research has launched a new and important Web tool created for use by IU research faculty, chairs, center directors, and the staff who work with them. The new site integrates all the different campus and intercampus components and services that form the full Office of the Vice President for Research.

The Web site, which will be continuously updated with new services and relevant information, is called the Indiana University Research Gateway.

This site offers faculty, researchers, and staff on all IU campuses streamlined, one-stop access to all research-related services and resources, including information on internal IU funding opportunities, external funding opportunities, research proposal development, grants administration, compliance, workshops and training, and a convenient opt-in subscription page for timely e-letters and announcements about new funding opportunities.

New policy affects proposals with deadlines of Jan. 30 and later

Jorge José, vice president for research, has announced the implementation of a new policy designed to facilitate accurate and timely submission of funding proposals to external agencies. For all proposals with external deadlines of Jan. 30, 2011 or later, all administrative documents must be submitted at least five (5) business days before the external agency's deadline; narrative and technical elements of proposals must be submitted two (2) days in advance of the external agency deadline. The full policy is available online.

13th annual Amelia Project is Feb. 26 at University Place

The 13th Annual Amelia Project, designed to bring together

scientists and clinicians working on research in breast cancer, will be held Feb. 26 at University Place Conference Center.

The meeting has a long history of bringing together institutions, fostering collaboration across institutional boundaries, enhancing research through collegial sharing, and encouraging and educating pre- and post-doctoral candidates.

The keynote speaker is Patricia S. Steeg, PhD, Chief, Women's Cancers Section, Laboratory of Molecular Pharmacology Center for Cancer Research, National Cancer Institute.

To participate, simply send in an abstract of your work (not the poster) by Feb. 12. For details and to register, visit Amelia Project.

Reminders

- **Membership criteria changes**
  IU Simon Cancer Center membership criteria, benefits, and responsibilities have been updated. Membership in the IU Simon Cancer Center is open to full-time faculty of Indiana University or IUPUI who contribute on some level to the overall mission of the cancer center in areas of research, education, patient care, or community outreach. Learn more.

- **Miss a Combined Seminar Series?**
  Did you miss a Combined Seminar Series? You can now watch it online. A full listing of past Seminar Series events is here. Also, speakers for the 2010-11 academic year have been announced. You can find the schedule here.

- **Grants available to researchers**
  For the latest grant opportunities, visit the Funding Opportunities page on the IUSCC Web site.

- **IU Simon Cancer Center seeks high school, college applicants for summer research program**
  Do you know of high school or college students who have an interest in cancer research? If so, tell them about the IU Simon Cancer Center's 2011 Summer Research Program. The cancer center's annual Summer Research Program, held in partnership with the IUPUI Center for Research and Learning, places students with a mentor physician or researcher for nine weeks (June 1 to July 29) on the IUPUI campus. Additional information and an online application is available at www.cancer.iu.edu/srp. Applications are due Feb. 11.

Cancer center members in the news

- **Douglas Rex**, MD, wrote "Can We Fix Colonoscopy? ... Yes!" It appears in the November 2010 issue of *Gastroenterology*.

- **Lisa Hess**, PhD, and colleagues wrote "Pilot Study of the Prospective Identification of Changes in Cognitive Function During Chemotherapy Treatment for Advanced Ovarian Cancer." It appeared in the November/December 2010 issue of *The Journal of Supportive Oncology*.


Hess

- The first patient has been dosed in a Phase I, single arm, dose escalation study at the IU Simon Cancer Center of intravenous (IV) palifosfamide (ZIO-201) in combination with etoposide (VP-16) and cisplatin/carboplatin (platinum) in the treatment of small cell lung cancer (SCLC) and other cancers. The Phase I study is expected to enroll 12 to 15 patients and will assess the safety of the palifosfamide/etoposide/platinum regimen for the planned randomized Phase II study in SCLC patients with extensive disease where the etoposide/platinum combination is standard of care. **Lawrence Einhorn**, MD, is the principal investigator. "The efficacy data and low toxicities observed with palifosfamide in clinical and preclinical studies together with the known activity of ifosfamide in SCLC provide strong rationale for studying palifosfamide in combination with the standard of care for this extraordinarily difficult to treat cancer," Dr. Einhorn said. "Small cell lung cancer in particular is a disease in urgent need of more effective and better tolerated treatment options."


Pradhan

- **Kamnesh Pradhan**, MD, MS, and colleagues reported on the largest series of collected pediatric primary CNS lymphoma (PCNSL). They concluded the outcome of children and adolescents seems to be better than in adults in the Jan. 15, 2011, issue of *Clinical Cancer Research*.

- **Kenneth Kesler**, MD; **Karen Rieger**, MD; **Sunil Badve**, MBBS, MD; **Oscar Cummings**, MD; and colleagues wrote "Prediction of Postoperative Recurrence-Free Survival in Nonsmall Cell Lung Cancer by Using an Internationally Validated Gene Expression Model" for Clinical Cancer Research.


Zhang

- BioCrossroads' Indiana Seed Fund has committed $250,000 to biotech start-up Aarden Pharmaceuticals. Based in Indianapolis but drawing key parts of its veteran entrepreneurial team from San Diego, Aarden is developing novel technologies to attack difficult-to-treat diseases through focus on specific intracellular disease targets. The BioCrossroads investment will support the company to advance its lead program, a tuberculosis (TB) treatment, through the pre-clinical development stage. Aarden's scientific platform comes through the work of **Zhong-Yin Zhang**, PhD, an internationally recognized expert in the field of protein tyrosine phosphatases (PTPs), a large family of signaling

enzymes that regulate a wide array of essential cellular processes. Dr. Zhang's work is based on novel chemistry that allows drugs to work more effectively in finding their targets.

- "Paclitaxel Plus Bevacizumab in Patients with Chemosensitive Relapsed Small Cell Lung Cancer (SCLC): A Safety, Feasibility and Efficacy Study," by **Shadia Jalal**, MD**; Lawrence Einhorn**, MD; **Bryan Schneider**, MD; and **Nasser Hanna**, MD; appeared in the December 2010 issue of the *Journal of Thoracic Oncology*.

- **Nasser Hanna**, MD, and colleagues wrote "Randomized, Double-Blinded, Multicenter, Phase II Study of Pemetrexed, Carboplatin, and Bevacizumab with Enzastaurin or Placebo in Chemonaïve Patients with Stage IIIB/IV Non-small Cell Lung Cancer: Hoosier Oncology Group LUN06-116." It appeared in the November 2010 issue of the *Journal of Thoracic Oncology*.

New members

Timothy Corson, PhD
Department of Ophthalmology
Associate member, Experimental and Developmental Therapeutics

Aparna Jotwani, MD
Department of Medicine
Associate member, breast cancer

Kandice Ludwig, MD
Department of Surgery
Affiliate member

Sharmila Roy-Chowdhury, MD
Department of Surgery
Affiliate member