

Winship Roundup

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Winship Members Receive NCI Informatics Award





Lee Cooper (left) and David Gutman

Two Winship Cancer Institute researchers are receiveing a \$3.5 million Informatics Technology for Cancer Research (ITCR) U24 award from the National Cancer Institute. **David Gutman**, MD, PhD and **Lee Cooper**, PhD, assistant professors in the Departments of Neurology, Biomedical Informatics, and Biomedical Engineering, will use the five-year award to develop software tools to help researchers gain new insights from cancer imaging data.

The award will set the stage for novel applications in human cancer research, both at Winship as well as for the cancer research community as a whole.

Their work is focused on digital microscopy images of tissue slides that have traditionally been used by pathologists for diagnostic purposes. Advances in technology allow these slides to be stored as digital images, producing massive databases that can be explored using data analytics algorithms. "Our goal is to build tools to identify visual patterns in these images that can help us better understand cancer biology, or to improve accuracy of cancer prognosis," says Gutman. "This award is unique because it lets us take the tools we have developed beyond our labs to create an open-source resource for the cancer research community at large."

ITCR awards are intended to build tools to address the growing number of "big data" problems impeding cancer research. "All areas of medicine are experiencing an explosion of data, but this is especially true in cancer," says Cooper. "Transforming cancer data into knowledge that can benefit patients is one of the major challenges facing cancer researchers today. Building the technology needed to learn from image data is an important piece of that challenge. The information contained in images complements genomics in many ways."

This award is one of five ITCR projects focused on cancer image data nationally and is the first in the Southeast region.

Berg Named Winship Associate Director for Population Sciences

Carla J. Berg, PhD was named associate director for population sciences at Winship Cancer Institute. Berg, an associate professor in the Department of Behavioral Sciences and Health Education at Emory's Rollins School of Public Health, will be responsible for the strategic growth of population science activities at Winship. Population science studies in cancer examine patterns and behaviors relating to cancer prevention, detection and treatment.



Braves President Named Winship 5K Grand Marshal

John Schuerholz, legendary president of the Atlanta Braves, will serve as grand marshal of the 5th annual Winship Win the Fight 5K run/walk to be held on Saturday, October 3. Schuerholz was successfully treated for prostate cancer last summer at Winship at Emory Saint Joseph's Hospital.

"It is an honor to preside over the 5th annual Winship Win the Fight 5K," says Schuerholz. "As a cancer survivor, it's important to me that the money raised at this event will stay right here in our community to benefit cancer research at Winship."

Registration is officially open for the Winship 5K, which starts and ends on the Emory campus, at the McDonough Field complex on Asbury Circle, and winds through the beautiful historic neighborhood of Druid Hills. Registration is \$35 for non-chipped timed runners and walkers and \$40 for a timing chip.

"We are very excited that John Schuerholz will join thousands of others in supporting the Winship 5K this year," says Walter J. Curran, Jr., MD, Winship's executive director. "In the five years since the event was started, we've raised over \$1.6 million to fund critical cancer research projects at Winship."

For details on the Winship Win the Fight 5K visit winship5K.emory.edu or call (404) 727-6175.

ASCO 2015

Nearly two dozen physician investigators from Winship Cancer Institute will present their research at the American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO) meeting in Chicago, May 29-June 2. The annual conference attracts more than 30,000 oncology professionals from around the world. Educational sessions feature world-renowned faculty discussing state-of-the-art treatment modalities, new therapies, and ongoing controversies in the field. Science sessions present the latest ground-breaking research in oral and poster format.

Save the Date

The Multiple Myeloma Research Foundation (MMRF) is hosting a free educational program on Saturday, May 16 from 9:30am - 2:30pm at the Emory Conference Center Hotel. The program is for patients, caregivers, and health care providers interested in learning more about the latest and most promising treatment options for multiple myeloma. Speakers include Winship's Jonathan Kaufman, MD and Sagar Lonial, MD, who will serve as program chair for the event. To register and for more information visit themmrf. org or contact Sara Tyghter at (203) 652-0219 or tyghters@themmrf.org.

winshipcancer.emory.edu











Recurrent Prostate Study Now Enrolling Patients

Have you previously had surgery to treat prostate cancer, but think the cancer has returned? Has your doctor recommended radiation therapy as the next step in your care?

A voluntary research study is being conducted to help men with recurring prostate cancer by using advanced imaging technology called FACBC to guide radiotherapy and determine the best pos-



sible course of treatment. This study would be added as an extra layer in your ongoing cancer treatment. Winship is looking for patients to participate in this clinical trial.

"By participating in this study, patients may have the opportunity to have an FACBC scan. The precision of this type of scan could help guide more effective treatment for patients whose cancer has returned," says Ashesh Jani, MD, radiation oncologist and principal investigator.

Participants must meet specific eligibility criteria:

- You are over 18 years of age.
- You had surgery (prostatectomy) to treat your prostate cancer.
- Your doctor suspects that the cancer has returned (as indicated by a rising PSA).
- Radiation therapy is now being considered as the next step in your care.

The trial is open at these locations: Winship Cancer Institute on the Clifton Road campus, Winship at Emory University Hospital Midtown, Winship at Emory Saint Joseph's Hospital and Georgia Cancer Center for Excellence at Grady.

For more information or to enroll, contact Ashesh Jani, MD at (404) 778-3827 or abjani@emory.edu.

Infusion Center "Cruise Week"

Cheers to the creative teams from Winship's infusion center that transformed each infusion bay into a festive port-of-call for the annual Cruise Week decorating event. This year's destinations include Morocco, Hawaii, India, Italy, Disney, Pacific Ocean, Key West, Under the Sea, the Mississippi River, Africa and the Netherlands.



Winship nurses Cathy Davis, Diana Adrian, Marva Ollivierre Sargeant and Michelle Walker bring Key West to Clifton Road.

Congratulations

On May 12, the Atlanta Journal Constitution will host the 9th Nursing **Excellence Awards** celebrating Georgia nurses who have gone above and beyond. Among this year's 10 honorees is Winship nurse clinician Tan Colbert, who works with lung cancer specialist Suresh Ramalingam, MD. "We are fortunate to have Tan at Winship," says Ramalingam. "Her ability to address complex patient issues in a calm and compassionate manner is a model for everyone. She works hard and ensures that no patient problem is left for another day. It is no surprise that she is adored by her patients and team members alike."