

July 1, 2015 | vol. 4 issue 9

Winship Researcher Named to National Cancer Advisory Board



President Barack Obama recently announced his intent to appoint Emory University Robert W. Woodruff Professor of Nursing **Deborah Watkins Bruner, PhD, RN, FAAN**, associate director of cancer outcomes research at Winship Cancer Institute as one of five new members of the National Cancer Advisory Board (NCAB).

"I am honored that these talented individuals have decided to serve our country. They bring their years of experience and

expertise to this Administration, and I look forward to working with them," said President Obama in a White House press release.

The NCAB and the President's Cancer Panel are the only advisory bodies at either the National Institutes of Health or the Department of Health and Human Services whose members are appointed by the President. The primary task of the NCAB is to advise the Secretary of Health and Human Services, the Director of the National Cancer Institute (NCI), and ultimately the President of the United States on a range of issues affecting the nation's cancer program and, specifically, NCI operations. The NCAB reviews and recommends grants and cooperative agreements following technical and scientific peer review.

"We are extremely proud of Dr. Bruner for her appointment to this presidential advisory board," says Linda McCauley, PhD, RN, FAAN, dean of the Nell Hodgson Woodruff School of Nursing. "Dr. Bruner is one of the nation's preeminent oncology researchers and we know she will play an important role in helping our nation advance cancer research and improve the quality of life of Americans with cancer."

Bruner has devoted her research to improving outcomes for cancer patients. Her areas of focus are quality of life and symptom management across cancer sites, as well as decision-making for cancer therapies. She also is internationally known for her research in sexuality after cancer therapy.

Bruner is also a professor of radiation oncology at Emory University School of Medicine. She is internationally recognized for her trailblazing leadership within the NCI-cancer clinical trials research network for scientifically measuring the cancer patient experience and incorporating that experience into improvements in care.

"Dr. Bruner's contributions to Winship and to NRG Oncology have defined new methods of evaluating cancer clinical trials and patient outcomes," says **Walter J. Curran, Jr., MD**, executive director of Winship Cancer Institute. "We are delighted that President Obama has recognized her abilities and the contributions she will make to the NCAB. The NCAB has significant influence in guiding the nation's strategies against cancer, and Dr. Bruner will be an invaluable advisor to the President and other national leaders on our research policies."

Owonikoko Selected for ASCO Leadership Development Program



Taofeek Owonikoko, MD, PhD, a clinician and researcher at Winship, has been selected to participate in the 2015-2016 American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO) Leadership Development Program. Launched in 2009, the year-long program is designed to train future leaders in medicine by providing practicing oncologists with leadership skills training, networking opportunities, and mentorship from ASCO leaders.

Owonikoko, an associate professor in the Department of Hematology and Medical Oncology at the Emory School of Medicine, is one of sixteen participants selected for the program based on his leadership experience and commitment to making a difference in the oncology community.

"I am honored to have been selected for this prestigious program," says Owonikoko, whose research interest is in the areas of lung and thyroid cancer. "The ASCO Leadership Development Program is a valuable opportunity for formal leadership training that will enable me to give back and create change within ASCO, Winship Cancer Institute and the oncology community as a whole."

New NCI Grant to Study Survivorship

Lead investigators from Winship Cancer Institute and the Mayo Clinic have been awarded an \$11 million grant from the National Cancer Institute (NCI) that is one of the first of its kind for developing the infrastructure to study cancer survivorship. Winship investigator **Christopher R. Flowers, MD**, director of the Emory Lymphoma Program and associate professor in the Department of Hematology and Oncology, and James Cerhan, MD, professor of epidemiology and chair of the Department of Health Sciences Research at Mayo, collaborated with a group of international lymphoma experts to create the Lymphoma Epidemiology of Outcomes (LEO) cohort study that will start enrolling patients in July. The five-year grant will involve a total of 12,000 non-Hodgkin lymphoma patients who will be followed for long-term prognosis and survivorship. The goal of LEO is to identify novel approaches to improve cancer survivors' length of life and quality-of-life.

winshipcancer.emory.edu



Meet Winship's Breast Cancer Physician Team at the Glenn Family Breast Center

Patients can be seen at all Winship locations: Clifton Road Campus, Emory University Hospital Midtown, Emory Johns Creek Hospital, Emory Saint Joseph's Hospital, and Georgia Cancer Center for Excellence at Grady. New faculty are denoted with a (*).

Medical Oncology



Laronna Colbert, MD



J. William Eley, MD, MPH



Keerthi Gogineni, MD, MSHP



Joan Kramer, MD*



Satyanarayan Reddy, MD



William Read, MD



Jane Lowe Meisel, MD



Elisavet Paplomata, MD



Suchita Pakkala, MD



Stephen Szabo, MD*



Meena Thirunavu, MD*

Radiation Oncology



Shannon Kahn, MD



Karen Godette, MD



Mylin Torres, MD



David Yu, MD, PhD

Radiology



Michael Cohen, MD, FACR



Anna Holbrook, MD



Mary Newell, MD



Cletus Arciero, MD, FACS*



Grant Carlson, MD

Surgical Oncology



Sheryl Gabram-Mendola, MD, MBA, FACS



Monica Rizzo, MD, FACS



Toncred Styblo, MD

Sanda Speaks at Braves' Prostate Cancer Awareness Day



Winship's **Martin Sanda, MD** addressed the crowd at Turner Field on Father's Day, Sunday, June 21 for the Atlanta Braves Prostate Cancer Awareness Day. The annual event honors those who have battled prostate cancer and raises funds to support research and education.