

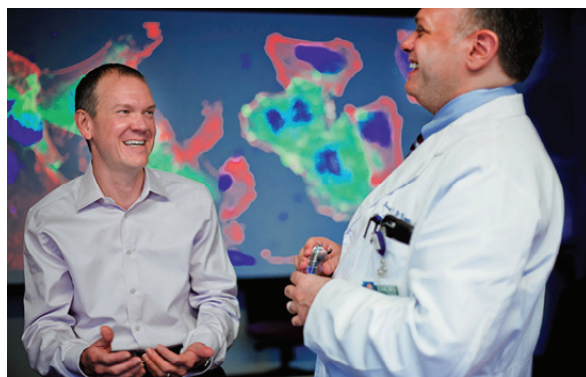
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Winship Among Top 25 Cancer Programs in U.S.

For the second year in a row, Winship Cancer Institute of Emory University is one of the top 25 best cancer programs in the nation according to new rankings by *U.S. News & World Report*. The annual list, released July 21, ranks cancer care at Emory University Hospital through Winship the 22nd best in the country, a two-point jump from 2014.

"It is a real honor and a tribute to our hard working team that Winship continues to be one of the best cancer centers in the country," says **Walter J. Curran, Jr., MD**, executive director of Winship.

Winship is ranked number one in Georgia for cancer care and among the top three centers in the Southeast. It is the only cancer program in the state to be named in the top 50 in the country in the magazine's annual survey of the nation's best hospitals. Emory University Hospital is ranked number one in Georgia and metropolitan Atlanta.



Denis Brosnan (left) is in remission from colorectal cancer after enrolling on a clinical trial designed by Winship associate director for clinical research Bassel El-Rayes, MD (right).

New Leader of Cancer Prevention and Control Program



Timothy L. Lash

Winship has named **Timothy L. Lash**, DSc, MPH, professor of epidemiology in the Rollins School of Public Health and Winship member, as the new leader for the Winship Cancer Prevention and Control (CPC) Research Program. His position takes effect immediately. **Andrew H. Miller**, MD will continue to serve as co-leader of the program. Lash replaces **Roberd "Robin" Bostick**, MD, MPH who has served as leader of the CPC Program since 2008.

Lash joined Emory University in 2013. His research focuses on molecular biomarkers that predict cancer recurrence. He also is interested in age-related disparities in the quality of cancer care.

Earlier this year, Lash was among a select group that received the Emory 1% Award recognizing faculty whose competitive research grant application is ranked in the first percentile. Lash also serves as the editor-in-chief of *Epidemiology*. He previously held faculty appointments at Wake Forest University School of Medicine, the University of Aarhus in Denmark, and Boston University's Schools of Public Health and Medicine.

Langston to Serve as Interim Chair

Amelia "Amy" Langston, MD, medical director and section chief of the Bone Marrow and Stem Cell Transplant Program, has agreed to serve as interim chair of the



Department of Hematology and Medical Oncology effective August 10, 2015. She succeeds **Fadlo R. Khuri**, MD who served as department chair from 2008-2015. Khuri is leaving Emory to become president of the American University of Beirut. Langston joined the faculty of the Emory School of Medicine in 1998.

Congratulations

Fadlo R. Khuri, MD was elected to the Academy of Sciences for Lebanon.

Omer Kucuk, MD was elected to the Turkish National Academy of Sciences (Turkiye Bilimler Akademisi or TUBA).

In Remembrance



Ian Copland, PhD, Laboratory Director of the Emory Personalized Immunotherapy Center (EPIC) and assistant professor in the Department of Hematology and Medical Oncology, passed away unexpectedly on July 15. He was 42 years old.

Copland joined Emory University in the summer of 2010 from McGill University. He was part of a Winship team that was recognized earlier this year during the Emory Tech Transfer awards for achievements in advancing medical technologies.

"Ian was a great colleague and a terrific scientist who will be sorely missed," says **Jacques Galipeau**, MD, director of EPIC.

Copland is survived by his wife and two children.

winshipcancer.emory.edu



Winship Researchers Awarded \$200,000 for Childhood Cancer Research

Two cancer researchers from Winship have been awarded \$100,000 grants from the St. Baldrick's Foundation to support their work in finding new therapeutic approaches to treating childhood cancers.

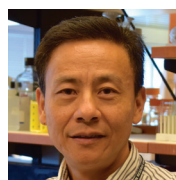
Erwin Van Meir, PhD, leader of Winship's Cancer Cell Biology Research Program and program director of the Emory Graduate Program in Cancer Biology, is receiving a \$100,000 "Heroes for Hannah" St. Baldrick's Research Grant for investigating a new brain tumor suppressor pathway. This is the second St. Baldrick's grant Van Meir has received for his work on medulloblastoma, the most common malignant brain tumor found in children. This research project in Van Meir's lab will be led by research associate **Dan Zhu**, PhD.



Erwin Van Meir

"We are grateful to the St. Baldrick's Foundation who has helped us initiate a new line of research in our laboratory to probe the importance of a novel tumor suppressor (BAI1) in medulloblastoma," said Van Meir. "We hope our findings will open new avenues for treatment of children with this disease."

Cheng-Kui Qu, MD, PhD, a Winship member, professor in Emory's Department of Pediatrics and researcher for the Aflac Cancer and Blood Disorders Center of Children's Healthcare of Atlanta, is receiving a \$100,000 St. Baldrick's Foundation Research Grant



Cheng-Kui Qu

to support his work on finding a way to kill cancer cells at the root of juvenile myelomonocytic leukemia (JMML), a fatal childhood malignancy. Relapse is the main cause of treatment failure for this leukemia and Qu's research is exploring a novel approach to target the leukemic precursor stem cells that cause relapse.

"This grant allows me to continue this exciting research and move closer to developing therapeutics for this devastating disease," said Qu.

The grants will support fundamental scientific research that is vital to Winship's mission of translating scientific discovery into advanced cancer treatments and clinical care. The St. Baldrick's Foundation is a volunteer-driven charity committed to funding the most promising research to find cures for childhood cancers.

What's Behind the Brown Door?

A new and improved Winship Cancer Institute Patient and Family Resource Center on the Clifton campus will open its doors on Tuesday, July 28 in a new location. Previously situated around the corner from Mocha Delites café, visitors can now find the newly constructed resource center at the first floor entrance by the concierge desk. The center will continue to be the hub for patient information regarding cancer prevention, diagnosis, treatment and survivorship as well as support group and volunteer activities. **DaVida Lee-Williams**, center director, says "we are excited about offering our patients and caregivers the same great experience in a more central location." Construction is underway on a new lab draw area in the former center location. For anyone looking for the Boutique, be sure to follow directions to Tufts House, around the corner from Winship/Clinic C.

