



## Potential Bone Marrow Donors Step Up to Save Lives

The Lurie Cancer Center and the National Marrow Donor Program (NMDP) combined forces to register marrow donors on the Northwestern Medical Campus. Every day over 6,000 men, women and children desperately search the NMDP Registry for a matching bone marrow donor. Thanks to the success of the campaign held May 7th and 9th, 106 new names have been added to the list of prospective donors.

The project was initiated by Northwestern Medical Student Training Program student Amanda Redig, who was inspired by her research related to signaling pathways in AML. All that's required to register is an easy, painless cheek swab. "After spending nearly three years working with patient samples in the laboratory, it occurred to me that there was no reason we shouldn't hold a bone marrow registration drive for the faculty and staff of the Lurie Cancer Center and NMH," says Redig. "Everyone here is committed to fighting the disease, and we have the same diversity among our faculty, staff and students as the population of patients needing transplants."

The NMDP is dedicated to providing hope and delivering a cure to people who need a life-saving marrow transplant. Every donor added through the combined efforts of Redig, Northwestern's Stem Cell Transplant Program and the Lurie Cancer Center has the potential to save a life. "What was particularly exciting," says Redig, "was seeing the number of people who brought a friend or family member when they came to register. It is truly a testament to the power of the ripple effect!"



Photo courtesy of Northwestern Memorial Hospital

## Lurie Cancer Center Honored with Renewal of NCI Designation

The Lurie Cancer Center has again been honored by the National Cancer Institute with the renewal of its status as an NCI-designated Comprehensive Cancer Center. This prestigious designation, first received in 1998, recognizes the Lurie Cancer Center as a center of research excellence in the basic, clinical, and prevention, control and population sciences as well as an important community and regional resource with respect to cancer information, cancer education and cancer outreach. All NCI designated centers are reviewed periodically to confirm that they continue to meet the required standards of achievement.



## IN THIS ISSUE:

- Lurie Cancer Center News - 2
- Professional Programs - 3
  - Patient Events - 3
  - Awards and Honors - 4
- Tumor Cell Biology Seminars - 5
  - Grand Rounds - 5
- New Members and Staff - 6

# Cancer Center News and Notes

## Cancer Research Alliance Gives Individuals the Power to Change the Face of Cancer

One dollar donated to the Cancer Research Alliance's Infinite Power of One campaign can do more to eliminate cancer than you might imagine. The Cancer Research Alliance brings 12 of the best cancer centers in the world, including the Lurie Cancer Center, together to raise funds for research of potentially life-saving treatments and protocols. Each donation will be given infinite power when combined with the other dollars generated. Visit CRA's sponsor, [www.celebrations.com/CURE](http://www.celebrations.com/CURE) between now and Father's Day, June 15th, to join the fight. Each donor will be invited to download his/her photo to the "Celebrate Healing Mosaic," which can be passed along to include family and friends - allowing them to add their own infinite power to the fight against cancer.

## Mary J.C. Hendrix, PhD, Named to NIH Council of Councils

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) recently announced the appointments to the NIH Council of Councils. The Council is made up of 27 members selected from the NIH Institute and Center (IC) advisory councils and advisory committees to the NIH Office of the Director. The Council will advise the NIH Director on cutting-edge trans-NIH priorities and matters related to the policies and activities of the Division of Program Coordination, Planning, and Strategic Initiatives, established by the NIH Reform Act 2006, and the Office of Portfolio Analysis and Strategic Initiatives (OPASI). The Council also will act as an external advisory panel to the IC Directors during the concept approval stage of the review process for trans-NIH initiatives. Dr. Hendrix will serve as liaison to the National Cancer Institute.



## Clinical Psychologist Joins Supportive Oncology Team

Clinical psychologist [Stacy Sanford, PhD](#), assistant professor in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at the Feinberg School of Medicine, has joined the Lurie Cancer Center's supportive oncology team. Her interests include psycho-oncology, behavioral sleep medicine and chronic pain management. The Supportive Oncology Program is an important service within the Lurie Cancer Center, committed to improving the quality of life of our patients and their families.

Sanford comes to Northwestern from a post-doctoral fellowship at St. Jude Children's Hospital in Memphis, Tennessee. She received her B.S. in psychology from the University of Alabama and her MS and PhD from the University of Memphis.

## 15th annual Cancer Survivors' Celebration & Walk

What could be better than spending a sunny summer Sunday in the park? Please plan to join us on Sunday, June 1st for the 15th annual Cancer Survivors' Celebration & Walk, and celebrate National Cancer Survivors Day with colleagues, cancer survivors, their friends and families. Festivities will begin at 8 a.m. and the walk will step off at 9. In addition to a walk along the lakefront, your registration includes a t-shirt, picnic lunch, entertainment, chance to sign the dedication wall, kids activities and more.



Sunday, June 1  
Grant Park (Columbus Dr. & Balbo Dr.)  
No pledges required

Contact 312.695.1304 or [cancer.northwestern.edu/walk](http://cancer.northwestern.edu/walk) for online registration and information about other registration locations.

# Professional Programs & Patient Events

Throughout the year the Lurie Cancer Center offers Continuing Medical Education (CME) programs on various cancer specialties. Below is a list of programs scheduled for the remainder of 2008. For specific dates or more information about these programs, visit [cancer.northwestern.edu/education](http://cancer.northwestern.edu/education) or call 312.695.1304.

## Professional Programs

### Distinguished Lecturer

June 3, 2008

Lurie Medical Research Center  
Michelle LeBeau, PhD

### Distinguished Lecturer

June 12, 2008

Children's Memorial Research Center  
Nicholas Gaiano, PhD

### Scientific Poster Session (Posters and Wine)

June 25, 2008

Lurie Medical Research Center  
[cancer.northwestern.edu/posters](http://cancer.northwestern.edu/posters)

### 2008 ASCO Review

June 27, 2008

Northwestern Memorial Hospital, 3rd floor  
Chair: William Gradishar, MD  
[cancer.northwestern.edu/asco](http://cancer.northwestern.edu/asco)

### Onco-Biotechnology Summit

July 24-25, 2008

Lurie Medical Research Center  
[cancer.northwestern.edu/oncobiotech](http://cancer.northwestern.edu/oncobiotech)

### 10th Annual Lynn Sage Breast Cancer Symposium

October 23-26, 2008

The Fairmont Hotel  
Chair: William Gradishar, MD  
[lynnsagebreastcancer.org](http://lynnsagebreastcancer.org)

### 12th International Conference on Differentiation Therapy and Innovative Therapeutics in Oncology

November 1-4, 2008

Chairs: Jonathan Licht, MD and Martin Tallman, MD

### 11th Annual Oncology Nursing Conference

December 5, 2008

Wyndham Hotel  
Chair: Coleen O'Leary, RN, BSN, OCN  
[cancer.northwestern.edu/nursing](http://cancer.northwestern.edu/nursing)

The Lurie Cancer Center is committed to educating the public about cancer prevention and treatment, and offers a wide range of community events and patient programs throughout the year. For more information about these programs visit [cancer.northwestern.edu/events](http://cancer.northwestern.edu/events) or call 312.695.1304

## Patient Programs and Events

### 15th Annual Cancer Survivors' Celebration & Walk

June 1, 2008

Grant Park  
[cancer.northwestern.edu/walk](http://cancer.northwestern.edu/walk)

### Chronic Lymphocytic Leukemia (CLL)

#### Lecture and Discussion

June 18, 2008

Robert H. Lurie Medical Research Center  
Host: Steven T. Rosen, MD

### Lymphoma Workshop: Understanding Lymphoma Basics and Current Treatment Options

Sheraton Chicago Hotel and Towers

June 28, 2008

Chairs: Leo Gordon, MD and Stephanie Gregory, MD

### 2008 Ovarian Cancer Survivors Course

July 19, 2008

Robert H. Lurie Medical Research Center  
Host: Julian Schink, MD

### Lynn Sage Breast Cancer Town Hall Meeting

October 26, 2008

The Fairmont Hotel  
Chair: William Gradishar, MD  
[cancer.northwestern.edu/townhall](http://cancer.northwestern.edu/townhall)

### Monthly Cancer Support & Advocacy Information Fairs

*Galter Pavillion, 21st Floor - 11 am to 2 pm*

June 9 - Featured topic: Prostate Cancer

July 9 - Featured topic: Pancreatic Cancer

August 13 - Featured topic: Myeloma

September 10 - Featured topic: Leukemia and Lymphoma

October 7 - Featured topic: Breast Cancer

# Awards and Honors

**Richard Longnecker, MD**, professor of microbiology-immunology at the Feinberg School of Medicine and director of the Lurie Cancer Center's Viral Oncogenesis Basic Science Program has been named the John Edward Porter Professor in Biomedical Research.

**Toru Ouchi, PhD**, was awarded an Investigator Initiated Research Grant from the Susan G. Komen foundation to study the early events of mammary carcinogenesis. In addition, he received a pilot grant from the Avon Foundation and a RO1 grant from the NIH.

**Joseph Shega, MD**, assistant professor of medicine at the Feinberg School of Medicine received the Junior Faculty Career Development Award from the National Palliative Care Research Center. Shega will investigate relationships among cognitive impairment, non-cancer pain, and functional status in community dwelling seniors.

---

**National Nurses' Week is celebrated annually from May 6 (also known as National Nurses' Day) through May 12 (the birthday of Florence Nightingale).**

**Rhonda Abdullah, RN**, received the Martin Luther King Humanitarian Award from NMH for her dedication to patient care and community health awareness.

**Barbara Holmes Gobel, RN, MS, AOCN**, oncology clinical nurse specialist, received the Nursing Spectrum Excellence Award for mentoring. The Nursing Spectrum Excellence Awards recognize extraordinary contributions nurses make to their patients, each other, and the profession.

**Lindsay Knust, RN**, received the Nursing Excellence Award for the Department of Women's Health.

**Joanna Lamott, RN, Jessica Palis, RN and Megan Edmonds, RN** were named Chapman Nurse Scholars in Oncology. The Chapman Nurse Scholar Program allows nurses and staff educators to take time away from their jobs to research ways to enhance nursing practice and patient care.

**Colleen O'Leary, RN, MSN, OCN** received a scholarship from the Illinois Medical Oncology Society to attend ONS Congress where she will receive the National Oncology Nurse of the Year Award.

**Abby Viall, RN, BSN**, won the Nursing Excellence Award for oncology from NMH.

**Sarah Witt, RN, BSN, OCN**, received a scholarship from the Illinois Medical Oncology Society to attend ONS Congress. Witt also received the 2008 Compassionate Care Award from NMH.

**Gayle Woloschak, PhD**, received the 2007 Research Recognition Award from The American Cancer Society's Illinois Division.

**Rebekah Worden, RN, Jennifer Hofmeister, RN and Maureen Swiderski, RN**, won scholarships from NMH to attend the ONS Congress.



From left: Abby Viall, Sarah Witt, Colleen O'Leary and Barbara Holmes Gobel

# Tumor Cell Biology Seminars

Robert H. Lurie Medical Research Center, Baldwin Auditorium, 303 East Superior, Chicago, IL  
Thursdays - 1:00 pm to 2:00 pm

**There will be no TCB seminars after May 29 until September**

## Grand Rounds

Grand Rounds are on Fridays from 8 am to 9 am in the Gray Seminar Room of the Lurie Research Medical Center, 303 E. Superior, Chicago, IL (unless otherwise noted). Contact Denise Marshall at 312.695.1392 or [d-marshall4@northwestern.edu](mailto:d-marshall4@northwestern.edu).

### **June 6 Hematology/Oncology Training Group Lectures**

Matt Joseph, MD, Kari Wisnski, MD

Fellows, Division of Hematology/Oncology - Northwestern University, Feinberg School of Medicine

Jennifer McNeer, MD - Fellow, Department of Pediatrics

Children's Memorial Hospital - Chicago, IL

### **June 13 Hematology/Oncology Fellows Lectures**

Ken Carson, MD, Lili Wang, MD, and Shuo Ma, MD

Fellows, Division of Hematology/Oncology - Northwestern University, Feinberg School of Medicine



**NORTHWESTERN**  
UNIVERSITY

**Accreditation Statement:** Northwestern University's Feinberg School of Medicine is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education to provide continuing medical education for physicians.

**Credit Designation Statement:** The Northwestern University's Feinberg School of Medicine designates this educational activity for a maximum of *1.0 AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)*<sup>™</sup>. Physicians should only claim credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

# Cancer Center Appoints New Members

Steven T. Rosen, MD, FACP, Director of the Robert H. Lurie Comprehensive Cancer Center of Northwestern University, announces the following full member appointments:

**Brian Hitsman, PhD**, is an assistant professor in the Department of Preventive Medicine, Feinberg School of Medicine. His primary research interest and activities focus on clinical trials of smoking cessation treatments combining psychological and pharmacological therapies; and human laboratory studies of cognitive, emotional, behavioral, and neurobiological processes associated with cigarette smoking persistence. His office is in 680 N. Lake Shore Dr., #1220, Chicago.

Contact Dr. Hitsman at 312.503.2073 or [b-hitsman@northwestern.edu](mailto:b-hitsman@northwestern.edu)

**Andrew Larson, PhD**, is an assistant professor in the Department of Radiology, Feinberg School of Medicine. His current research interests include the development, validation, and clinical translation of magnetic resonance imaging techniques for guidance of liver-directed oncologic therapies, prediction and early detection of therapy response, and non-invasive assessment of hepatic function and staging of hepatocellular lesions. His office is in 737 N. Michigan Ave., #1610, Chicago.

Contact Dr. Larson at 312.926.3499 or [a-larson@northwestern.edu](mailto:a-larson@northwestern.edu)

**Gangjian Qin, MD**, is an assistant professor in the Department of Medicine, Feinberg School of Medicine. His research focuses on the E2F family of transcription factors with respect to ischemic and tumor angiogenesis. Another area of interest is in adult and tumor stem cells, particularly the identification of genes and molecular pathways that are crucial for tissues repair or tumor metastasis. His office is in Tarry, 303 E. Chicago Ave., #14-751, Chicago.

Contact Dr. Qin at 312.503.1652 or [g-qin@northwestern.edu](mailto:g-qin@northwestern.edu)

**Sergey M. Troyanovsky, PhD**, is an associate professor in the Department of Dermatology, Feinberg School of Medicine. The research in his laboratory is focused on more complete understanding of how cadherin adhesion (one of most critical elements of cell-cell adhesion complex) is changed during tumor progression and how these changes contribute to tumorigenesis. His office is in Ward, 303 E. Chicago Ave., #9-031, Chicago.


Contact Dr. Troyanovsky at 312.503.9275 or [s-troyanovsky@northwestern.edu](mailto:s-troyanovsky@northwestern.edu)

**Ximing Yang, MD, PhD**, is a professor in the Department of Pathology, Feinberg School of Medicine. His specific area of interest is in pathogenesis and diagnosis of prostate cancer, kidney cancer and bladder cancer, particularly the identification of new molecular markers for these cancers. His office is in Feinberg, 251 E. Huron St., #7-338, Chicago.

Contact Dr. Yang at 312.926.3213 or [xyang@northwestern.edu](mailto:xyang@northwestern.edu)

Keep up with Lurie Cancer Center News and Programs by visiting:

**Click Here**



[www.cancer.northwestern.edu](http://www.cancer.northwestern.edu)

# w e l c o m e



# s t a f f

**Rosie Miles-Jamison**  
Clinical Research Coordinator  
Clinical Research Office

**Megan Mitchell**  
Manager, Education Programs  
Public Affairs

**Pei Shao**  
Research Tech II  
Pathology Core Facility

**Lyndsey Schorr**  
Research Study Program Coordinator II  
Pathology Core Facility

## Robert H. Lurie Comprehensive Cancer Center News

**Office of Public Affairs and Communications**  
676 N. St. Clair, Suite 1200 - Chicago, IL 60611 - 312.695.1304

**Director**  
Steven T. Rosen, MD, FACP

**Director, Public Affairs and Communications**  
Sharon Markman

**Editorial Advisor**  
Tim Volpe

**Managing Editor**  
Jennifer Bowker

**Design**  
Michael Miller

Send news and events to the editor:  
[j-bowker@northwestern.edu](mailto:j-bowker@northwestern.edu) or 312.695.0502

### Lurie Cancer Center Weekly Updates

Information to be considered for inclusion in the Cancer Center's weekly e-mail updates must be received at least one week in advance. Submit suggestions to Denise Marshall at [d-marhsall4@northwestern.edu](mailto:d-marhsall4@northwestern.edu).