There has been unprecedented progress in our understanding of pancreatic cancer in recent years. This new era has brought us many extraordinary advances in the basic science of pancreatic cancer, ranging from genomics to the exciting new technologies that are rapidly changing our approaches to the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of this disease. As a follow-up to the very successful AACR Special Conference on Pancreatic Cancer in 2012, this conference will once again engage the world leaders in pancreatic cancer research and provide ample time for discussion.

The AACR would like to thank the following organizations for their generous support of this conference.

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Conference Program

Sunday, May 18

7:00 p.m.-8:30 p.m.  Opening Plenary Session
Celestin Ballroom

Dynamics and evolution of pancreatic cancer from inception to invasion
Christine A. Iacobuzio-Donahue, Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, New York, NY

Remarks
Robb Lamont, Survivor-Advocate, Tampa Bay, FL

8:30 p.m.-10:00 p.m.  Opening Reception
Bywater Pool Deck & Bar

Monday, May 19

7:00 a.m.-8:00 a.m.  Continental Breakfast
Storyville Hall

8:00 a.m.-10:30 a.m.  Plenary Session 1: Development
Celestin Ballroom
Session Chairperson: Howard C. Crawford, Mayo Clinic Florida, Jacksonville, FL

Cellular origins of pancreatic ductal adenocarcinoma
Maike Sander, University of California - San Diego, San Diego, CA

Pancreatic cancer may be initiated by Dclk1+ cells and regulated by adrenergic signaling
Timothy C. Wang, Columbia University, New York, NY

Translating genetic discoveries to patient care
Ralph H. Hruban, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD

Identification and characterization of factors required for KRAS-driven pancreatic tumorigenesis
Brian C. Lewis, University of Massachusetts Medical School, Worcester, MA

Downregulation of PTF1A is a crucial and rate-limiting step in pancreatic cancer initiation*
Nathan Michael Krah, University of Utah, Salt Lake City, UT

DCLK1-positive cells represent a unique pancreatic cellular lineage in a subset of intraductal papillary mucinous neoplasms*
Gloria H. Su, Columbia University Medical Center, New York, NY

*Short talks from proffered papers.
10:30 a.m.-10:50 a.m.  Break  
Storyville Hall

10:50 a.m.-1:05 p.m.  Plenary Session 2: Inflammation/Stroma  
Celestin Ballroom  
Session Chairperson: Timothy C. Wang, Columbia University, New York, NY

Innate immune signaling in pancreatic tumor microenvironment  
George Miller, New York University School of Medicine, New York, NY

Tumor-stroma dynamics in pancreatic cancer  
Mikala Egeblad, Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory, Cold Spring Harbor, NY

Vitamin D: Shining light on pancreatic cancer  
Ronald M. Evans, Salk Institute for Biological Sciences, La Jolla, CA

Targeting the microenvironment: Challenges and opportunities  
George A. Fisher, Stanford Cancer Center, Stanford, CA

Mesenchymal stem cells in pancreatic cancer possess unique properties in promoting tumor growth and metastasis*  
Meghna Waghray, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI

1:05 p.m.-2:30 p.m.  Lunch Break (lunch on your own)

2:30 p.m.-4:45 p.m.  Plenary Session 3: Impacts of Heterogeneity in Tumor Progression  
Celestin Ballroom  
Session Chairperson: Christine A. Iacobuzio-Donahue, Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, New York, NY

Generation of intratumoral heterogeneity via RNA-DNA differences in pancreatic cancer  
Andrew Rhim, University of Michigan Medical School, Ann Arbor, MI

Stem cell signals in cancer growth and progression  
Tannishtha Reya, University of California - San Diego, San Diego, CA

Acinar cell transdifferentiation sets the stage for early tumor heterogeneity  
Howard C. Crawford, Mayo Clinic Florida, Jacksonville, FL

Clonal composition and clonal selection during PanIN progression*  
Kelly J. Lafaro, Johns Hopkins Hospital, Baltimore, MD

p120 catenin mediated epithelial-to-mesenchymal plasticity determines the metastatic potential of pancreatic ductal adenocarcinoma*  
Maximilian Reichert, Perelman School of Medicine, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA

Remarks  
Kerri Kaplan, The Lustgarten Foundation, Bethpage, NY

Remarks  
Julie M. Fleshman, Pancreatic Cancer Action Network, Manhattan Beach, CA

*Short talks from proffered papers.
Tuesday, May 20

7:00 a.m.-8:00 a.m.  Continental Breakfast
Storyville Hall

8:00 a.m.-10:00 a.m.  Plenary Session 4: Diagnostics
Celestin Ballroom
Session Chairperson: Andrew M. Lowy, University of California - San Diego, San Diego, CA

Diagnosis and treatment of pancreas cancer
Raghu Kalluri, The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, TX

Circulating tumor DNA
Luis A. Diaz, Johns Hopkins Kimmel Comprehensive Cancer Center, Baltimore, MD

New methods of PET imaging pancreas cancer
Jason S. Lewis, Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, New York, NY

The ampullary adenocarcinoma, its molecular characterization and differentiation from the pancreatic ductal adenocarcinoma, duodenal adenocarcinoma, and cholangiocarcinoma*
Marie-Claude Gingras, Baylor College of Medicine, Houston, TX

Transcriptome meta-analysis identifies new 5-gene classifier for early detection of pancreatic cancer*
Towia Aron Libermann, Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, Boston, MA

10:00 a.m.-10:30 a.m.  Break
Storyville Hall

10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.  Plenary Session 5: Metabolism
Celestin Ballroom
Chairperson: Alec C. Kimmelman, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, Boston, MA

Transcriptional control of the autophagy-lysosome system drives amino acid metabolism in pancreatic cancer
Nabeel M. Bardeesy, Massachusetts General Hospital Cancer Center, Boston, MA

Obesity, inflammation, and pancreatic cancer
Guido E.M. Eibl, UCLA David Geffen School of Medicine, Los Angeles, CA

The role of autophagy in pancreatic cancer development
Kevin M. Ryan, Cancer Research UK Beatson Institute, Glasgow, United Kingdom

Pulling out all the stops: Exploiting macropinocytosis inhibition for the treatment of pancreatic cancer*
Cosimo Comisso, New York University School of Medicine, New York, NY

Plac8 links oncogenic mutations to regulation of autophagy and is critical to pancreatic cancer progression*
Aram Hezel, University of Rochester, Rochester, NY
12:30 p.m.-3:00 p.m.  Poster Session B and Lunch
Storyville Hall

3:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m.  Plenary Session 6: Immunology
Celestin Ballroom
Session Chairperson: Dafna Bar-Sagi, New York University School of Medicine, New York, NY

Harnessing the immune reaction associated with pancreas carcinoma for therapy
Gregory L. Beatty, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA

The basis of immune suppression in murine pancreatic ductal adenocarcinoma
Douglas T. Fearon, Cancer Research UK Cambridge Research Institute, Cambridge, United Kingdom

Innate immune cell PI3K gamma as a target for suppression of pancreatic ductal carcinoma
Judith A. Varner, Moores Cancer Center, San Diego, CA

Re-engineering immunity to treat pancreas cancer*
Ingunn M. Stromnes, Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center, Seattle, WA

CD4+ T lymphocyte ablation prevents pancreatic carcinogenesis in mice*
Yaqing Zhang, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI

Wednesday, May 21

7:00 a.m.-8:00 a.m.  Continental Breakfast
Storyville Hall

8:00 a.m.-10:00 a.m.  Plenary Session 7: New Therapies
Celestin Ballroom
Session Chairperson: Eileen O'Reilly, Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, New York, NY

Targeting Ras
Gregory L. Verdine, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA

Oncogenic Kras and the pancreatic cancer microenvironment
Marina Pasca di Magliano, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI

Targeting K-Ras signaling in pancreatic cancer
Mariano Barbacid, Spanish National Cancer Research Center (CNIO), Madrid, Spain

Identification of tumorigenic cells and therapeutic targets in pancreatic neuroendocrine cancers*
Geoffrey Wayne Krampitz, Stanford University School of Medicine, Stanford, CA

Pancreatic tumor stem cells resistant to inhibition of oncogenic signaling are dependent on mitochondrial function*
Andrea Viale, The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, TX

*Short talks from proffered papers.
10:00 a.m.-10:30 a.m.  Break  
Storyville Hall

10:30 a.m.-12:15 p.m.  Plenary Session 8: Clinical Science Trials  
Celestin Ballroom  
Session Chairperson: David A. Tuveson, Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory, Cold Spring Harbor, NY

Pancreatic adenocarcinoma and altered whole-body metabolism
Brian M. Wolpin, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, Boston, MA

Clinical trials in locally advanced pancreatic cancer (LAPC)
Christopher H. Crane, The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, TX

BRCA-mutated pancreas adenocarcinoma: Emerging therapeutic implications
Eileen M. O’Reilly, Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, New York, NY

PTEN-Long and gemcitabine combination treatment as a therapeutic for pancreatic cancer*
Roshan Ara Ahmed, Columbia University Medical Center, New York, NY

*Short talks from proffered papers.