2014 AACR-Aflac, Incorporated Scholar-in-Training Awards

*For Associate Members of the AACR presenting outstanding proffered papers. Support for AACR Scholar-in-Training Awards is part of Aflac, Incorporated's generous support of activities for young scientists within the AACR.*

Brian J. Altman, Ph.D., University of Pennsylvania Abramson Cancer Center, Philadelphia, PA, United States. **Abstract #2953.** Rev-erbα modulates Myc-driven cancer cell growth and altered metabolism.

W. Nathaniel Brennen, Ph.D., Sidney Kimmel Comprehensive Cancer Center at Johns Hopkins, Baltimore, MD, United States. **Abstract #699.** Mesenchymal stem cells (MSC) as cell-based vectors for PSA-activated proaerolysin to sites of prostate cancer.

Lai N. Chan, Ph.D., University of California, San Francisco, San Francisco, CA, United States. **Abstract #2447.** Lineage-specific metabolic reprogramming in BCR-ABL1-driven leukemia.

Salim Akhter Chowdhury, M.Sc., Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, PA, United States. **Abstract #5338.** Inferring evolutionary models of tumor progression from single-cell heterogeneity data.

Brian D. Crompton, M.D., Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, Boston, MA, United States. **Abstract #999.** The genomic landscape of pediatric Ewing sarcoma.

Maria Gkotzamanidou MD, PhD, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, Harvard Medical School, Boston, MA, United States. **Abstract #4762.** Deficient double strand breaks repair of bone marrow plasma cells correlates with better clinical outcome of multiple myeloma patients.

Yoku Hayakawa, M.D., Ph.D., Columbia University, New York, NY, United States. **Abstract #4795.** CCK2R marks gastric antral stem cell and mediates antral carcinogenesis.

Amanda Cernosek Herrmann, B.S., The University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, TX, United States. **Abstract #646.** Bi-specific T-cell engaging antibody activates T-cells to target the tumor associated antigen PR1.

Chun-Hao Huang, B.S., Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, New York, NY, United States. **Abstract #2935.** RNAi screen identifies therapeutic targets in hepatocellular carcinoma.

Carl J. Koschmann, M.D., University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI, United States. **Abstract #995.** Loss of ATRX decreases survival and improves response to DNA damaging agents in a novel mouse model of glioblastoma.

Andrew A. Lane, M.D., Ph.D., Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, Boston, MA, United States. **Abstract #433.** Triplication of HMGN1 promotes B cell acute lymphoblastic leukemia (B-ALL) through suppression of H3K27me3.
Wenqing Li, Ph.D., National Cancer Institute, Rockville, MD, United States. Abstract #286. Epigenome-wide association study of normal lung tissues identifies hypomethylation of multiple CpG sites associated with cigarette smoking.

De-Chen Lin, Ph.D., Cedars-Sinai Medical Center, New York, New York. Abstract #2225. Comprehensive molecular characterization of esophageal squamous cell carcinoma.

Piro Lito, M.D., Ph.D., Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, New York, NY, United States. Abstract #4758. Disruption of CRAF-mediated MEK activation is required for effective MEK inhibition in KRAS mutant tumors.

Pravin J. Mishra, Ph.D., National Cancer Institute-National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, MD, United States. Abstract #994. Integrated embryonic transcriptome analyses identify key melanoma metastasis regulator.

Sohei Nakayama M.D., Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, Boston, MA, United States. Abstract #968. β-catenin plays an important role in lung tumor development induced by EGFR mutations.

Naga Poojitha Ojamies, M.Sc., Institute for Molecular Medicine Finland (FIMM), Helsinki, Finland. Abstract #982. Analysis of clonal evolution of leukemia in vivo following novel targeted treatments.

Kim H. T. Paraiso, M.S., H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center/University of South Florida, Tampa, FL, United States. Abstract #1610. MAPK inhibitor resistance leads to ligand-independent Ephrin A2 receptor signaling and the formation of new melanoma metastases.

Sarit Schwartz, Ph.D., Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, New York, NY, United States. Abstract #4774. The antitumor effects of PI3K beta inhibitors in PTEN negative prostate cancer are enhanced by inhibition of reactivated PI3K alpha signaling.

Marina Sharifi, B.A., University of Chicago, Chicago, IL, United States. Abstract #321. Autophagy is required for focal adhesion turnover, tumor cell motility and metastasis.

Zachary E. Stine, Ph.D., University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA, United States. Abstract #2957. Inhibition of glutaminase induces slows tumor growth cell autonomously and promotes survival in a MYC driven hepatocellular carcinoma mouse model.

James P. Sullivan, Ph.D., Massachusetts General Hospital, Charlestown, MA, United States. Abstract #4004. Molecular characterization of circulating glioblastoma cells identifies a mesenchymal-like tumor cell subpopulation.

Mianen Sun, Ph.D., The University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, TX, United States. Abstract #2224. Identification of molecular drivers of human hemangioblastoma.

BaoHan T. Vo, Ph.D., St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital, Memphis, TN, United States. Abstract #2977. Myc and Miz1 in medulloblastoma.
Kipp A. Weiskopf, M.Phil., Stanford University School of Medicine, Stanford, CA, United States. **Abstract #3629.** Overcoming macrophage immunosuppression in small cell lung cancer with high-affinity SIRPa variants.

David M. Woods, Ph.D., Moffitt Cancer Center & Research Institute, Tampa, FL, United States. **Abstract #4090.** Inhibition of class I histone deacetylases promotes robust and durable enhancement of PDL1 expression in melanoma: rationale for combination therapy.

Stephanie Z. Xie, Ph.D., Princess Margaret Hospital, University Health Network, Toronto, ON, Canada. **Abstract #4792.** Elucidating stem cell specific metabolic pathways in normal and malignant hemopoiesis to target human acute myeloid leukemia stem cells.

Chunzhang Yang, Ph.D., Surgical Neurology Branch (SNB), National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke (NINDS), Bethesda, MD, United States. **Abstract #4399.** Somatic HIF2A mutations identified in a new syndrome with multiple paragangliomas and somatostatinomas associated with polycythemia.

Haluk Yuzugullu, Ph.D., Dana Farber Cancer Institute, Boston, MA, United States. **Abstract #4775.** PI3K-p110β is required for leukemic transformation and HSC depletion in the absence of Pten.

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**2014 Avon Foundation-AACR International Travel Grants**

*For presenters from countries where opportunities for scientific advancement are limited whose proffered papers relate to breast cancer or other female cancers.*

Damian E. Berardi, M.S., Angel H. Roffo Institute of Oncology, Buenos Aires, Argentina. **Abstract #209.** Pharmacological inhibition of Protein Kinase C Alpha (PKCα) and All Trans Retinoic Acid (ATRA) synergize to inhibit the proliferation, migration and cancer stem-like properties of a triple negative mammary cancer model.

Chong Chen, Ph.D., Peking Union Medical School, Beijing, China. **Abstract #3046.** Lin28B mediated IKK-β sustains the stemness of breast cancer stem cell via regulating Wnt/TCF4 and miR-34a/LEF1 signaling pathway.

Rafid S. Jabir, M.Sc., Universiti Putra Malaysia, Serdang, Malaysia. **Abstract #5563.** Docetaxel-induced mucositis in breast cancer patients: Association with plasma alpha-1-acid glycoprotein level and SLCO1B3 genotype.

Sian Siu Soo, B.S., Cancer Research Initiatives Foundation (CARIF) and University of Malaya (UM)", Subang Jaya, Selangor, Malaysia. **Abstract #5493.** Metformin synergizes 5-fluorouracil, epirubicin, and cyclophosphamide (FEC) sensitivity in breast cancer stem cells and non-stem breast cancer cells.

Rocio S. Tascon, M.S., Angel H. Roffo, Buenos Aires, Argentina. **Abstract #5297.** Role of p38 MAPK signaling pathway in the inhibition of breast tumor progression induced by Glypican-3 (GPC3).
Tingting Wang, M.D., Cancer Science Institute of Singapore, National University of Singapore, Singapore, Singapore. Abstract #2630. Simvastatin induced apoptosis and suppressed proliferation of breast cancer through deactivating PI3K/Akt/mTOR pathway.

2014 AACR-Bristol-Myers Squibb Oncology Scholar-in-Training Awards

Bristol-Myers Squibb has graciously donated funds to the AACR to support early-career investigators who will be presenting meritorious proffered papers.


Sebastian Bender, Ph.D., German Cancer Research Center (DKFZ), Heidelberg, Germany. Abstract #3084. Epigenetic deregulation in H3.3-K27M mutant pediatric high-grade gliomas.

Mélanie Desbois, M.S., Gustave Roussy, Villejuif, France. Abstract #2577. RLI, a sushi-IL-15Rα/IL-15 fusion protein, is a potent immunomodulatory agent on NK and CD8+ T cells and synergizes with anti-PD1 treatment in preclinical mouse tumor models.

Jason A. Dubovsky, Ph.D., The Ohio State University, Columbus, OH, United States. Abstract #2591. Ibrutinib can reverse established chronic graft-versus-host disease which is dependent upon IL-2 inducible T cell kinase (ITK) and Bruton's Tyrosine Kinase (BTK) driven lymphocyte activation.


Christopher Kim, Ph.D., M.P.H., National Cancer Institute, Bethesda, MD, United States. Abstract #2184. Past use of coal for cooking is associated with all-cause mortality in the prospective Shanghai Women’s Health Study.

Andressa Sodré Laino, M.S., H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center/University of South Florida, Tampa, FL, United States. Abstract #2564. Histone deacetylase 6 is a novel target for enhancing T-cell function during anti-tumor response and tumor-peptide vaccination.

Fides D. Lay, B.S., University of Southern California, Los Angeles, CA, United States. Abstract #4780. The effects of the global loss of DNA methylation on the functional organization of the epigenome.

Frédéric Lessard, Ph.D., Université de Montréal, Montréal, Quebec, Canada. Abstract #2246. Senescence as a result of impaired ribosome biogenesis.
Khadijah A. Mitchell, M.S., Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, Baltimore, MD, United States. Abstract #4779. DNMT3B (a de novo DNA methyltransferase) epigenetically regulates gene expression, independent of its DNA methyltransferase activity.

Kristin A. Moy, Ph.D., M.P.H., National Cancer Institute, National Institutes of Health, Rockville, MD, United States. Abstract #2183. Serum alpha-tocopherol, beta carotene and cancer survival in the ATBC Study.

David J. Oliver, B.S., University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC, United States. Abstract #5104. Identification of cancer-specific COPI inhibitors and their associated apoptotic cell death pathways.

Meredith S. Shiels, Ph.D., Division of Cancer Epidemiology and Genetics, National Cancer Institute, Bethesda, MD, United States. Abstract #2920. Circulating inflammation markers and subsequent lung cancer risk: a discovery and replication study.

Venktesh S. Shirure, Ph.D., University of California, Irvine, Irvine, CA, United States. Abstract #4806. Angiogenesis is independently influenced by interstitial flow and concentration gradients of tumor secreted morphogens.

Geok Choo Sim, Ph.D., University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, TX, United States. Abstract #2549. Defective STAT1 activation associated with impaired IFN-γ production in lymphocytes from metastatic melanoma patients treated with HD IL-2.

**2014 AACR-Gerald B. Grindey Memorial Scholar-in-Training Award**

For a meritorious proffered paper in the field of preclinical science. The late Dr. Grindey was a dedicated member of the AACR and a distinguished scientist at Eli Lilly and Company. The Gerald B. Grindey Memorial Fund was established in his honor and has been entrusted to the AACR to be used toward educational programs for young scientists engaged in preclinical research.

Ziyue Karen Jiang, Ph.D., University of California, Los Angeles, Los Angeles, CA, United States. Abstract #111. In search of a lead fluorescent tracer for PSCA-expressing prostate cancer - a comprehensive analysis of imaging agents and dyes.

**2014 AACR-GlaxoSmithKline Outstanding Clinical Scholars**

AACR-GlaxoSmithKline Outstanding Clinical Scholars are promising young cancer researchers who are the authors of outstanding proffered papers related to clinical research.
Abstract #864. Increased rates of radiation pneumonitis in patients receiving stereotactic ablative radiotherapy for central versus peripheral lung tumors.

Victoria L. Chiou, M.D., National Cancer Institute, Bethesda, MD, United States. Abstract #CT337. Phase I/ Ib study of the PARP inhibitor (PARPi) olaparib (O) with carboplatin (C) in triple negative breast cancer (TNBC) at low genetic risk (NCT00647062).

Michael P. Chu, M.D., Cross Cancer Institute, University of Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada. Abstract #4628. Acid suppression therapy impairs sunitinib efficacy in renal cell cancer (RCC).

David A. Drew, B.S., University of Connecticut Health Center, West Hartford, CT, United States. Abstract #3240. Proximal human aberrant crypt foci as surrogate markers of colorectal cancer risk.

Wade T. Iams, M.D., Vanderbilt University Medical Center, Nashville, TN, United States. Abstract #2942. NRAS mutation as a predictor of response to immune-based therapies in patients with metastatic melanoma.

Han Sang Kim, M.D., Yonsei Cancer Center, Seoul, The Republic of Korea. Abstract #CT229. A phase II and biomarker study of an irreversible pan-human EGF receptor (HER) tyrosine kinase inhibitor dacomitinib in patients with recurrent and/or metastatic squamous cell carcinoma of head and neck (R/M-SCCHN).

Ganesh Moorthy, M.Pharm., University of Cincinnati, Cincinnati, OH, United States. Abstract #4629. Physiologically Based Pharmacokinetic Model and Correlative In Vitro Assessment of Metabolism-Based Interaction between Everolimus and PI3K/mTOR inhibitor BEZ235.

Akinyemi I. Ojesina, M.D., Ph.D., Dana-Farber Cancer Institute / Broad Institute, Cambridge, MA, United States. Abstract #4692. Relationships between somatic genomic alterations, tumor stage and progression-free survival in cervical cancer.

Erika J. Schneble, D.O., San Antonio Military Medical Center, San Antonio, TX, United States. Abstract #2899. Immunologic effects of a HER2 peptide (GP2) vaccine booster in previously vaccinated breast cancer patients.

Yangyang Song, Ph.D., University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong, Hong Kong. Abstract #3865. ATOH8 depletion can reprogram non-cancer stem cells into cancer stem cells.

Yuexiang Wang, Ph.D., Brigham & Women’s Hospital/Harvard Medical School, Boston, MA, United States. Abstract #1572. Dystrophin Is a Tumor Suppressor in Human Cancers with Myogenic Programs.

2014 AACR-GYRIG Scholar-in-Training Awards
Get Your Rear in Gear Philadelphia has graciously donated funds to the AACR to support young investigators who will be presenting meritorious proffered papers relating to colorectal cancer research.

Madeline Hewish, Ph.D., Institute of Cancer Research, London, United Kingdom. Abstract #2931. Cancer cells deficient in DNA Mismatch Repair (MMR) are selectively sensitive to inhibition of the DNA Dependent Protein Kinase (DNA-PK).


Jonathan M. Kocarnik, Ph.D., M.P.H., University of Washington, Seattle, WA, United States. Abstract #2187. Colorectal cancer survival is not associated with genetic variants related to risk of other cancers: The GECCO study.

Sebastian Schölch, M.D., Technische Universität Dresden, Dresden, Germany. Abstract #67. Establishment and in-depth characterization of a genetically engineered mouse model of metastatic colorectal cancer.

Stephanie L. Stenzel, Ph.D., M.P.H., University of Southern California, West Des Moines, IA, United States. Abstract #1267. Coffee consumption and the risk of colorectal cancer.

2014 AACR-MEG Scholar-in-Training Awards

For meritorious proffered papers in molecular epidemiology, supported by the Molecular Epidemiology Working Group (MEG) of the AACR. The mission of MEG is to increase knowledge about cancer and chronic disease etiology, thereby promoting the cure and prevention of cancer and the improvement of public health. In addition to travel support, award recipients receive a free one-year membership in the Working Group.


Ying Han, B.S., University of Southern California, Los Angeles, CA, United States. Abstract #5064. Pleiotropy analysis identifies a novel prostate cancer variant at 6p21.33: The PAGE, PRACTICAL, and BPC3 Consortium.


2014 AACR-Millennium Scholar-in-Training Awards
Millennium: The Takeda Oncology Company has graciously donated funds to the AACR to support early-career investigators who will be presenting meritorious proffered papers.

Aris T. Alexandrou, B.S., University of California, Sacramento, CA, United States. Abstract #5107. The role of PERIOD2 for radioprotection against ionizing radiation in mice bone marrow.

Asfar S. Azmi, Ph.D., Wayne State University, Detroit, MI, United States. Abstract #1771. Novel small molecule pak4 allosteric modulators with activity against pancreatic cancer.

Lauren A. Barclay, B.A., Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, Boston, MA, United States. Abstract #2954. A noncanonical mechanism for BCL-2 inhibition of pro-apoptotic BAX.

Kathryn Hughes Barry, Ph.D., M.P.H., National Cancer Institute, Bethesda, MD, United States. Abstract #288. DNA methylation patterns in peripheral blood and the relationship with cancer susceptibility loci at chromosome 8q24.

Marisa A. Bittoni, Ph.D., The Ohio State University, Columbus, OH, United States. Abstract #5043. Physical activity and the risk of lung cancer death: Results from the Third National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey.


Luc de Waal, M.S., Dana-Farber Cancer Institute / Broad Institute, Watertown, MA, United States. Abstract #4596. An integrated genomic characterization of the target of a small molecule identifies a novel cancer dependency.

Xavier Deschênes-Simard, Ph.D., University of Montréal, Montréal, Quebec, Canada. Abstract #3895. Tumor suppressor activity of the ERK/MAPK signaling: inhibition of cell reprogramming by degradation of specific proteins.

Dinorah Friedmann-Morvinski, Ph.D., The Salk Institute, La Jolla, CA, United States. Abstract #1914. Functional characterization of oncogenic-induced dedifferentiation in neurons and astrocytes using DP-seq.

Ge Gao, Ph.D., Mayo Clinic, Rochester, MN, United States. Abstract #4147. Mate pair sequencing reveals that Human papillomavirus integration into the human genome in oropharyngeal squamous cell carcinoma is rare and different from cervical cancer.

Julie George, Ph.D., Department of Translational Genomics, University of Cologne, Cologne, Germany. Abstract #1542. Comprehensive genome and transcriptome analyses on small cell lung cancer.

Orsolya Gircz, Ph.D., Albert Einstein College of Medicine, Bronx, NY, United States. Abstract #4781. Integrated epigenomic profiling reveals widespread demethylation in melanoma and reveals CSF-1 Receptor as an aberrant regulator of malignant growth and invasion.
Jennifer Howes, B.S., Institute of Cancer Research, Sutton, United Kingdom. Abstract #2730. RNAi knockdown or chemical inhibition of anaphase-promoting complex components is synthetic lethal with HSP90 inhibition.

Shigeru Kawabata, M.D., Ph.D., Department of Oncology, Johns Hopkins Bayview Medical Center, Baltimore, MD, United States. Abstract #2927. Rapamycin decreases expression of thymidylate synthase and enhances the response to pemetrexed in preclinical studies and a Phase I/II clinical study of subjects with non-small cell lung cancer.


Stacey L. Lehman, B.S., Perelman School of Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA, United States. Abstract #487. The Integrated Stress Response kinase GCN2 regulates cell proliferation and survival through combined transcriptional and translational control of p21 (Cip1/Waf1).

Uday Bhanu Maachani, Ph.D., Radiation Oncology Branch, National Cancer Institute, NIH, Bethesda, MD, United States. Abstract #849. Profiling signaling networks using reverse phase protein arrays: Validating FOXM1 as a potential target to radiosensitize glioblastoma (GBM) stem cells.


Nneka E. Mbah, B.S., University of Toledo College of Medicine and Life Sciences, Toledo, OH, United States. Abstract #1343. Non-apoptotic death induced in glioma cells by the indole-based chalcone, MOMIPP, involves disruption of endolysosomal trafficking and ER stress.

Orestis A. Panagiotou, M.D., Biostatistics Branch, Division of Cancer Epidemiology & Genetics, National Cancer Institute, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, MD, United States. Abstract #2157. Causal effects of delaying smoking initiation on subsequent lung cancer risk.

S. Michael Rothenberg M.D., Ph.D., Massachusetts General Hospital Cancer Center, Charlestown, MA, United States. Abstract #4773. Inhibition of mutant EGFR in lung cancer cells triggers SOX2-FOXO6 dependent survival pathways.

Diana Seidel, M.Sc., University Medicine Greifswald, Pediatric Hematology/Oncology, Greifswald, Germany. Abstract #2808. GD2-specific genetically engineered NK cell therapy is effective in a drug-resistant neuroblastoma xenograft mouse model.

Wei Jie Seow, Sc.D., National Cancer Institute, Rockville, MD, United States. Abstract #4160. Telomere length in white blood cell DNA and lung cancer: a pooled analysis of three prospective cohorts.

Raffaella Spina, Ph.D., Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, OH, United States. Abstract #3040. Forced astroglial differentiation depletes glioblastoma stem cells.
Hui Tian, Ph.D., University of Texas, Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas, Dallas, TX, United States. Abstract #4619. Protein palmitoylation in non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC): DHHC5 palmitoyltransferase as a potential therapeutic target.

Christopher J. Walker, Ph.D., The Ohio State University, Columbus, OH, United States. Abstract #1540. CCCTC-binding factor (CTCF) mutation in endometrioid endometrial carcinoma (EEC): Master epimutator contributing to biologic aggressiveness?.

Melissa Ann Wilson, M.D., Ph.D., University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA, United States. Abstract #933. Copy number changes are associated with BRAF and NRAS mutations and response to treatment with carboplatin, paclitaxel and sorafenib.

Yifeng Xia, Ph.D., Salk Institute for Biological Studies, La Jolla, CA, United States. Abstract #2973. Mouse models of lung cancer mediated by lentiviral gene delivery.

2014 AACR-Pezcoller Foundation Scholar-in-Training Awards

The Pezcoller Foundation supports these awards in order to enhance participation in the programs and activities of the AACR by predoctoral students, medical students and residents, postdoctoral and clinical fellows, or the equivalent residing in Europe and to provide these outstanding Scholar-in-Training Awardees with an opportunity to share their research findings with the international cancer research community at the AACR Annual Meeting.

Simon J. Dovedi, Ph.D., University of Manchester, Manchester, United Kingdom. Abstract #5034. The anti-tumor immune response generated by radiation therapy may be limited by tumor cell adaptive resistance and can be circumvented by PD-L1 blockade.

Marina Martello, Ph.D., Department of Experimental, Diagnostic and Specialty Medicine - Institute of Hematology "L. e A. Seràgnoli", Bologna, Italy. Abstract #3884. Gene Expression Profiling and Copy Number Alterations of circulating clonotypic B cells of Multiple Myeloma newly diagnosed patients reveals pathways potentially involved in the development and in the disease persistence.

Tea Pemovska, M.Sc., Institute for Molecular Medicine Finland, FIMM, Helsinki, Finland. Abstract #4763. The tyrosine kinase inhibitor axitinib targets T315I gatekeeper-mutant Philadelphia chromosome positive leukemias in vitro and in vivo.


Anna Wojtuszkiewicz, M.Sc., VU University Medical Center, Cancer Center Amsterdam, Department of Pediatric Oncology/Hematology, Amsterdam, The Netherlands. Abstract #4764. Transfer of regulatory protein networks via extracellular vesicles as a candidate mechanism of apoptosis-resistance in acute myeloid leukemia.

2014 AACR-Prostate Cancer Foundation Scholar-in-Training Awards

The Prostate Cancer Foundation Scholar-in-Training Awards are awarded to promising young cancer researchers who are the authors of outstanding proffered papers relating to advanced prostate cancer.

Izhar S. Batth, B.S., University of Texas Health Science Center San Antonio, San Antonio, TX, United States. Abstract #3315. RON-mediated hijacking of AR signaling in androgen-independent prostate cancer.

Jeremy J. McGuire, B.A., Moffitt Cancer Center/University of South Florida, Tampa, FL, United States. Abstract #3595. Mesenchymal stem cells play crucial roles in the generation of osteogenic prostate to bone metastases.

Xiangqi Meng, Ph.D., Van Andel Institute, Grand Rapids, MI, United States. Abstract #4839. TGF-β signaling in osteoclasts promotes, but in osteoblasts inhibits prostate cancer induced bone lesions.

2014 AACR-SIC Scholar-in-Training Awards

The AACR-SIC Scholar-in-Training Awards are a partnership between AACR and the Italian Cancer Society (SIC). AACR and SIC sponsor these awards in order to enhance participation by young investigators who are members of SIC, and to provide these outstanding Scholar-in-Training Awardees with an opportunity to share their research findings with the international cancer research community at the AACR Annual Meeting.

Giulia Bertolini, Ph.D., Fondazione IRCCS Istituto Nazionale Tumori, Milan, Italy. Abstract #3898. Disseminated cells from primary lung cancers contain a distinct cancer initiating subpopulation with mesenchymal-like features.


Manuela Ferracin, Ph.D., University of Ferrara, Ferrara, Italy. Abstract #4785. miR-125b targets erythropoietin and its receptor and their expression correlates with metastatic potential and ERBB2/HER2 expression.

Gaia C. Ghedini, M.S., Fondazione IRCCS Istituto Nazionale dei Tumori, Milan, Italy. Abstract #2637. Role of d16HER2 splice variant in HER2-positive breast cancer.
Maria Rita Milone, B.S., Centro Ricerche Oncologiche Mercogliano, Mercogliano, Italy. Abstract #5311. Proteomic characterization of zoledronic acid-resistant prostate cancer cells identified key proteins in cytoskeleton organization and cancer stem cell markers associated with a very aggressive phenotype.

2014 AACC-Susan G. Komen® Scholar-in-Training Awards

Susan G. Komen® has graciously donated funds to AACR to support early-career investigators who will be presenting meritorious proffered papers relating to breast cancer research.

Elizabeth Alli, Ph.D., Stanford University School of Medicine, Los Gatos, CA, United States. Abstract #2966. Targeting defective DNA repair as a novel chemoprevention strategy for BRCA1-mutated breast cancer.

Tommaso De Marchi, M.Sc., Erasmus University Medical Center, Rotterdam, The Netherlands. Abstract #1611. 4-protein signature predicts outcome to tamoxifen treatment in estrogen receptor positive recurrent breast cancer.

Erik T. Goka, B.S., University of Miami Miller School of Medicine, Miami, FL, United States. Abstract #2962. Loss of the E3 ubiquitin ligase HACE1 results in enhanced Rac1 signaling contributing to breast cancer progression.

Yuqi Jing, Ph.D., University of Miami, Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center, Miami, FL, United States. Abstract #701. In vivo anti-metastatic effects of uPAR retargeted oncolytic measles virus.

Elham Kharazmi, M.D., Ph.D., German Cancer Research Center (DKFZ), Heidelberg, Germany. Abstract #1290. Survival in familial breast cancer: novel findings based on a nationwide prospective cohort study.

Curtis Chun-Jen Lin, Ph.D., Department of Systems Biology, The University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, TX, United States. Abstract #354. The replication stress response defect is associated with tumor-initiating cell formation.

Yajing Liu, Ph.D., University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI, United States. Abstract #3893. Interleukin 6 and interleukin 8 inhibitors when used in combination with docetaxel, inhibits tumor progression in mouse model of triple-negative breast cancer.

Abeer M. Mahmoud, M.D., Ph.D., University of Illinois at Chicago, Chicago, IL, United States. Abstract #5569. Ki67 is an independent prognostic marker in breast cancer even after accounting for molecular subtype.


Kara N. Maxwell, M.D., Ph.D., Abramson Cancer Center, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA, United States. Abstract #1291. High and moderate penetrance germline mutations in a number of genes are responsible for a small proportion of familial breast cancer risk in BRCAx families.
Martina S. McDermott, Ph.D., Translational Cancer Therapeutics Program, Department of Drug Discovery and Biomedical Sciences, South Carolina College of Pharmacy, University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC, United States. Abstract #2101. Role of CDK8 in estrogen receptor signaling in breast cancers.

Mugdha Patki, Ph.D., Karmanos Cancer Institute/Wayne State University, Detroit, MI, United States. Abstract #2111. Role of gene repression by estrogen in invasiveness of breast cancer cells.


Sneha Sundaram, Ph.D., University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Chapel Hill, NC, United States. Abstract #5040. Weight loss prevents obesity-associated basal-like breast cancer progression: Role of hepatocyte growth factor/c-Met.

Ciric C.W. To, Ph.D., Geisel School of Medicine at Dartmouth, Hanover, NH, United States. Abstract #2965. Olaparib and veliparib as effective PARP inhibitors for cancer prevention in a BRCA1-deficient mouse model.

Marie de Asis Tuazon, M.S., University of California, Davis, Davis, CA, United States. Abstract #1292. Identification of BRCA1 and BRCA2 founder mutations in population isolates from Colombia.

Jun Wang, Ph.D., University of Massachusetts Amherst, School of Public Health and Health Sciences, Amherst, MA, United States. Abstract #1270. Lifetime alcohol consumption and risk of breast cancer, by tumor androgen receptor expression.

2014 AACR-Warner Fund Scholar-in-Training Award

The Warner Fund has graciously donated funds to the AACR to support an early-career investigator who will be presenting a proffered paper relating to cholangiocarcinoma.

Qun Jiang, Ph.D., National Cancer Institute, Frederick, MD, United States. Abstract #3618. Ikkα modulates primary sclerosing cholangitis and intrahepatic cholangiocarcinoma.