

AACR on Campus-Malaysia (AACRoC-MY) - KUCHING

PROGRAM

Date: 13th-14th November 2025

Venue: Ranyai Ballroom, Level 4, The Waterfront Hotel, Kuching, Sarawak

Day 1: 13th November 2025 (Thursday)

7:30 – 8.30 am	Registration
8.45 – 8.55 am	Opening and arrival of Guest of Honour
8.55 – 9.00 am	Welcome speech by Chairperson <i>Prof. Dr. Cheong Sok Ching, Cancer Research Malaysia</i>
9.00 – 9.05 am	Opening remarks by Chair, AACR Global Affairs Committee <i>Prof. Dr. Elizabeth M. Jaffee, Sidney Kimmel Cancer Center at Johns Hopkins</i>
9.05 – 9.20 am	Opening speech by Guest of Honour <i>Datuk Amar Prof. Dr. Sim Kui Hian, Deputy Premier of Sarawak, Minister of Public Health, Housing and Local Government, Sarawak</i>
9.20 – 9.40 am	Officiating ceremony and photo session
9.40 – 10.10 am	Coffee Break and Poster Session
10.10 – 11.10 am	SESSION 1: ADVANCEMENT AND INNOVATION IN CANCER IMMUNOTHERAPY
10.10 - 10.20 am	Topic introduction by local expert Prof. Edmund Sim Ui Hang, Universiti Malaysia Sarawak (UNIMAS)
10.20 – 10.50 am	“Advancement of cancer immunotherapy: focusing on cancer vaccines and immune checkpoint inhibitors”

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10.50 - 11.10 am	<p>Prof. Dr. Elizabeth M. Jaffee, Sidney Kimmel Cancer Center at Johns Hopkins</p> <p>Q&A and discussion</p>
<p>11.10 – 12.10 pm</p> <p>11.10 – 11.20 am</p> <p>11.20 – 11.50 pm</p> <p>11.50am – 12.10 pm</p>	<p>SESSION 2: LEVERAGING CANCER GENOMICS FOR PRECISION ONCOLOGY</p> <p>Topic introduction by local expert Dr. Mohamad Hazwan Fikri, Cancer Research Malaysia</p> <p>“Transforming precision oncology by unlocking the power of cancer genomics in the era of AI” Dr. Paul C. Boutros, NCI-designated Cancer Center at Sanford Burnham Prebys Medical Discovery Institute</p> <p>Q&A and discussion</p>
<p>12.10 – 2.00 pm</p> <p>1.10 – 2.00 pm</p>	<p>Networking Lunch & Poster Session</p> <p>Poster session</p>
<p>2.00 – 3.00 pm</p> <p>2.00 – 2.10 pm</p> <p>2.10 – 2.40 pm</p> <p>2.40 – 3.00 pm</p>	<p>SESSION 3: EARLY DETECTION, PREVENTION, SCREENING AND IMPLEMENTATION</p> <p>Topic introduction by local expert Prof. Dr. Cheong Sok Ching, Cancer Research Malaysia</p> <p>“Effective strategies in cancer prevention, screening and implementation” Prof. Dr. Electra D. Paskett, The Ohio State University Comprehensive Cancer Center</p> <p>Q&A and discussion</p>
3.00 – 4.00 pm	SESSION 4: INNOVATIONS AND BEST PRACTICES IN EARLY CLINICAL TRIAL DESIGN

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3.00 – 3.10 pm	Topic introduction by local expert Dr. Voon Pei Jye, Sarawak General Hospital
3.10 – 3.40 pm	“Latest innovations, best practices and challenges in early-phase clinical trial design” Dr. Timothy Yap, The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center
3.40 – 4.00 pm	Q&A and discussion
4.00 – 4.30 pm	Coffee Break and Poster Session
4.30 – 5.25 pm	<p>SESSION 5: PANEL DISCUSSION - CANCER DISPARITIES, ADVOCACY AND CARE [Chair: Prof. Dr. Cheong Sok Ching, Cancer Research Malaysia]</p> <p>Panel speakers: Prof. Dr. Elizabeth M. Jaffee, Sidney Kimmel Cancer Center at Johns Hopkins Prof. Dr. Electra D. Paskett, The Ohio State University Comprehensive Cancer Center Dr. Voon Pei Jye, Sarawak General Hospital (SGH) Dr. Chew Lee Ping, Sarawak General Hospital (SGH) Mr. Chris Cheng, Society for Cancer Advocacy and Awareness (SCAN)</p> <p>Session description: <i>This session will explore the global challenges and discuss the economical-social determinants contributing to unequal cancer outcomes, effective advocacy strategies to influence policy changes, and best practices in cancer care delivery. The panelists will share their extensive experiences and diverse perspectives, providing actionable insights and advice tailored to the context of Malaysia and Southeast Asia. This session promises to be a valuable opportunity for local scientists, healthcare professionals, and advocates to learn from global leaders and apply these insights to make a meaningful impact on cancer care in their respective area.</i></p>

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	<p>Take Home Learning:</p> <p><i>Attendees will leave with a comprehensive understanding of the factors contributing to cancer disparities, and learn effective advocacy strategies to promote equitable cancer care and influence health policy. They will discover best practices and innovative approaches in cancer care that can be adapted to local contexts, and understand the importance of collaboration between researchers, healthcare providers, policymakers, and communities. Attendees will gain valuable knowledge on how to address these challenges in reducing cancer disparities and improving cancer care in their communities. Additionally, attendees will receive practical advice and actionable insights from global experts on implementing strategies to reduce cancer disparities and improve patient outcomes in the region.</i></p>
5.25 – 5.30 pm	Closing remarks for Day 1

Day 2: 14th November 2025 (Friday)

8.00 – 8.30 am	Check-in
8.30 – 9.30 am	<p>SESSION 6: SCHOLARLY PUBLISHING IN CANCER RESEARCH</p> <p>Title: Scholarly Publishing in Cancer Research</p> <p>Speaker: Dr. Lisa Situ, Assistant Editor of <i>Cancer Discovery</i>, AACR</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Publishing in the AACR journals • Writing a manuscript • Navigating the editorial process and peer review
9.30 – 10.30 am	<p>SESSION 7: Successful Grantsmanship and Grants Administration</p> <p>Title: Successful Grantsmanship and Grants Administration</p>

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	<p>Speaker: Dr. Yixian (John) Zhang, Vice President, Research and Grants Administration, AACR</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Grant Writing ▪ Grant Application ▪ Assessing Impact ▪ AACR Grants and Awards Programs
10.30 – 11.30 am	Coffee Break and Poster Session
11.30 – 11.50 am	<p>SESSION 8: DEFEATING CANCER THROUGH GLOBAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING</p> <p>Title: Introduction to TYAN & YSN-ASM</p> <p>Speakers: Dr. New Siu Yee, The World Academy of Sciences (TWAS) Young Affiliates Network (TYAN) Asst. Prof. Ts. Dr. Michelle Teo Yee Mun, Young Scientist Network-Academy of Sciences Malaysia (YSN-ASM)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Focusing on initiatives and resources to support young scientists' professional development.
11.50 – 12.50 pm	<p>SESSION 9: PANEL SESSION - RESEARCH INTEGRITY IN CANCER RESEARCH</p> <p><i>[Chair: Asst. Prof. Ts. Dr. Michelle Teo Yee Mun, Young Scientist Network-Academy of Sciences Malaysia (YSN-ASM)]</i></p> <p>Panel speakers: Dr. Paul C. Boutros, NCI-designated Cancer Center at Sanford Burnham Prebys Medical Discovery Institute Dr. Timothy Yap, The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center Dr. Lisa Situ, Assistant Editor, AACR Cancer Discovery</p>

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	<p>Dr. Yixian (John) Zhang, Vice President, Research and Grants Administration, AACR Prof. Collet Dandara, TWAS Young Affiliates Network (TYAN)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conflicts of Interest • Data Management Practices • Mentor and Trainee Responsibilities • Emerging Applications of Artificial Intelligence in Cancer Science • Participant Diversity and Inclusion • Participant Rights and Well-Being
1.00 – 2.00 pm	Lunch
2.00 – 3.30 pm	Poster and networking session
3.30 – 4.30 pm	Closing and award ceremony
3.30 – 3.50 pm	Feedback collection and participants sharing
3.50 – 4.10 pm	<p>Best Poster Award announcement and prize presentation - by Dr. Isabel Fong Lim, Co-chair of Scientific Committee</p>
4.10 – 4.15 pm	<p>Closing speech - by Prof. Edmund Sim Ui-Hang, Vice co-chair, AACR on Campus-Malaysia</p>
4.15 – 4.30 pm	Closure video and wrap up

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