

THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY COMPREHENSIVE CANCER CENTER –  
ARTHUR G. JAMES CANCER HOSPITAL AND RICHARD J. SOLOVE RESEARCH INSTITUTE



TOWARD A CANCER-FREE WORLD  

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2015 ACCOMPLISHMENTS REPORT



# The James



**THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY**  
COMPREHENSIVE CANCER CENTER



Welcome to the 2015 Accomplishments Report of The Ohio State University Comprehensive Cancer Center – Arthur G. James Cancer Hospital and Richard J. Solove Research Institute (OSUCCC – James), where we are working to create a cancer-free world, one person, one discovery at a time by integrating groundbreaking research with personalized patient care and excellence in education.

2015 was filled with notable achievements, but two things stand out: completing our first full year in the new James Cancer Hospital and Solove Research Institute that opened in December 2014, and earning from the National Cancer Institute a perfect score of 10 and the institute's highest rating, "exceptional," following a site review that led to our redesignation as a comprehensive cancer center (see story, page 3).

Earning that designation while acclimating to our transformational cancer hospital was a remarkable achievement stemming from the dedication of our world-class faculty, staff and volunteers. We adapted quickly to our state-of-the-art facility—one of the most advanced cancer hospitals in the world—and continued to provide the science-based and compassionate care for which we are so widely known.

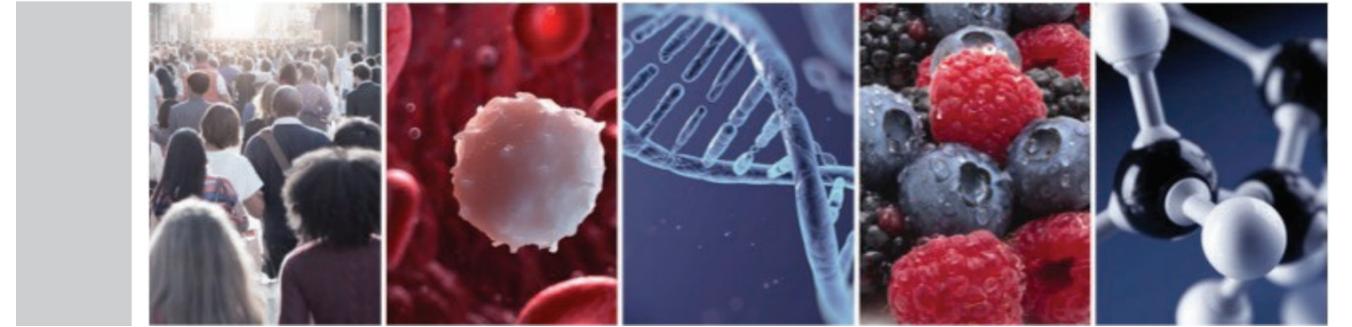
This Accomplishments Report highlights our achievements and activities of 2015, including:

- Peer-reviewed research studies that were published in prestigious scientific journals and have helped advance knowledge about this disease;
- Large grants that our medical scientists received for cancer research;
- Our success in recruiting some of the most brilliant minds in cancer research and care to Ohio State;
- Prominent awards earned by our medical scientists, administrators and programs;
- Far-reaching initiatives such as co-anchoring the Oncology Research Information Exchange Network (ORIEN) and launching a free "Introduction to the Science of Cancer" online course to encourage a global commitment to cancer prevention;
- The continuing success of Pelotonia, an annual grassroots bicycle tour that in 2015 raised a record \$23,659,675 and boosted the event's overall seven-year funding total to over \$106 million for cancer research at the OSUCCC – James.

With more than 300 multidisciplinary cancer researchers and a new cancer hospital that brings researchers and clinicians into closer working proximity than ever before, the OSUCCC – James is superbly positioned to change the landscape of cancer care in Ohio and beyond. This report reflects our efforts toward that end.

Michael A. Caligiuri, MD  
Director, The Ohio State University  
Comprehensive Cancer Center  
CEO, James Cancer Hospital and  
Solove Research Institute

John L. Marakas Nationwide Insurance Enterprise  
Foundation Chair in Cancer Research



The National Cancer Institute (NCI) awarded the OSUCCC – James a perfect score of 10 and the institute's highest descriptor, "exceptional," following a 2015 site review that resulted in Ohio State's redesignation as a comprehensive cancer center—a designation the university has competitively maintained since 1976.

The renewal means that the OSUCCC – James will retain its status as one of only 45 CCCs in the nation and will receive another five years of NCI multimillion dollar core grant funding support for scientific leadership and administration, shared technology and services, and development.

It was the second consecutive time in 10 years that the OSUCCC – James has earned the NCI's "exceptional" rating, having also done so in 2010.

"For over a year, leadership and members of our Comprehensive Cancer Center—from all corners of campus—worked as a team to submit, in January 2015, a more than 1,800-page competitive application to renew our NCI designation," says OSUCCC Director and James CEO **Michael A. Caligiuri, MD**.

"In May 2015, an NCI-selected peer-review team of cancer experts from across the nation visited us for a day and a half to further evaluate all aspects of our center," Caligiuri adds. "This paralleled the peer-review process that we completed in 2010, when the NCI first bestowed upon us its highest merit descriptor of 'exceptional' and a numeric score of 12. The best possible score is 10."

Caligiuri says the OSUCCC – James' perfect score on the 2015 five-year competitive renewal application for CCC status "moves us firmly into an elite group of cancer centers in the country. Our 'exceptional' rating represents amazing peer recognition that now spans a decade. I congratulate all of our faculty and staff for the incredible work they have done and continue to do in advancing cancer research and, ultimately, cancer care."

Caligiuri also appreciates the central Ohio community "that works tirelessly on our behalf to help support our innovative research efforts through their incredible leadership and fundraising efforts. The OSUCCC – James is very fortunate to have such wonderful partners helping us pursue our vision of a cancer-free world."



Deliang Guo, PhD

### Ohio State Cancer Study Called ‘Key Breakthrough and Insight for 2015’

The American Cancer Society (ACS) featured a study by researchers at the OSUCCC – James as one of “10 key breakthroughs and insights for 2015.” The study, “Glucose-Mediated N-glycosylation of SCAP is Essential for SREBP-1 Activation and Tumor Growth,” was published in the journal *Cancer Cell*. The researchers identified a key pathway used by cancer cells to make lipids (fats) by integrating oncogenic signaling, fuel availability and lipid synthesis to support cell division and rapid tumor growth. They found a molecule in that pathway that, if blocked, could cripple lipid production by cancer cells and slow tumor growth—a possible new strategy for treating a lethal brain cancer called glioblastoma multiforme and other malignancies. Principal investigator was **Deliang Guo, PhD**.



John C. Byrd, MD



Amy J. Johnson, PhD

### Researchers Contribute to ASCO’S Choice for ‘Cancer Advance of the Year’

OSUCCC – James scientists played a key role in some of the recent research that has helped transform treatment for chronic lymphocytic leukemia (CLL)—a transformation that the American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO) called the “Cancer Advance of the Year” for 2015. ASCO’s *Clinical Cancer Advances 2015* noted that four new therapies, including two targeted drugs and two immunotherapies, had been approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration in just a year’s time for CLL, the most common form of adult leukemia. Much of the research leading to approval of the drug ibrutinib, one of the two targeted agents, was performed by scientists at the OSUCCC – James, including **John C. Byrd, MD**, **Amy J. Johnson, PhD**, and several others.



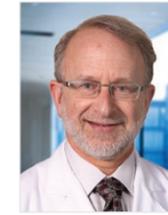
Ramesh Ganju, PhD

### Breast Study Highlighted as Breaking Advance in Cancer Literature

A study led by researchers at the OSUCCC – James and published in the journal *Cancer Research* was selected by that journal for inclusion in “Breaking Advances: Highlights From Recent Cancer Literature,” a compendium of articles from many prestigious journals. **Ramesh Ganju, PhD**, was corresponding author for the study. The Breaking Advances citation, written by *Cancer Research* editors, says the OSUCCC – James study reveals how RAGE (receptor for advanced glycation end products), a multifunctional receptor associated with inflammation and cancer, contributes to breast cancer progression and metastasis. In the study abstract, the scientists report that RAGE expression is widely upregulated in aggressive triple-negative breast cancer (TNBC) cells, both in primary tumors and lymph node metastases. Overall, their results highlight RAGE as a candidate biomarker and therapeutic target for TNBC.

### Genetic Biomarker May Predict Patients’ Response to Immunotherapy Drug

Changes that knock out genes involved in the repair of damaged DNA might predict which patients will respond to certain immunotherapy drugs, according to data from a study co-authored by scientists at the OSUCCC – James and published in the *New England Journal of Medicine*. The finding comes from an ongoing phase II trial examining the effectiveness of the drug pembrolizumab. **Richard Goldberg, MD**, is principal investigator of the local arm of this national trial and a co-author of the study. Defects in these so-called “mismatch repair genes” were originally discovered in 1993 by a team that included **Albert de la Chapelle, MD, PhD**. Mutations in mismatch repair genes occur in both sporadic and hereditary forms of colorectal, endometrial (uterine), stomach, biliary tract, pancreatic, ovarian and small intestine cancer.



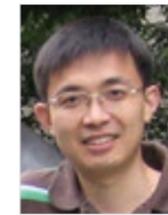
Richard Goldberg, MD



Albert de la Chapelle, MD, PhD

### Studies Suggest Ways to Inhibit Oncogenes, Enhance Tumor-Suppressor Activity

Two studies by scientists at the OSUCCC – James suggest new approaches for treating cancer by inhibiting overactive cancer-promoting genes and by enhancing the activity of sluggish tumor-suppressor genes. The findings were reported in the journals *Nature Communications* and *Nature Genetics*. Principal investigator for both studies was **Qianben Wang, PhD**. The *Nature Communications* paper focused on oncogenes that are activated by dexamethasone-bound glucocorticoid receptor (GR) in triple-negative breast cancer (TNBC). This study combined extensive genomic datasets in TNBC cells and breast cancer gene expression datasets from more than 2,000 patients. The *Nature Genetics* study, jointly supervised by Wang and a second principal investigator, Wei Li, PhD, of Baylor College of Medicine, focused on tumor-suppressor genes, which normally protect cells from becoming cancerous. The work suggested that tumor-suppressor activity might be enhanced in cancer cells by prolonging a step in the gene-expression process called the transcription-elongation phase.



Qianben Wang, PhD



Kami Maddocks,  
MD



Jennifer  
Woyach, MD

### Researchers Detail Reasons for Ibrutinib Discontinuation in CLL

About 10 percent of patients with chronic lymphocytic leukemia (CLL) discontinued therapy with the Bruton's tyrosine kinase (BTK) inhibitor drug known as ibrutinib because of disease progression during clinical trials, according to a study at the OSUCCC – James that was published in the journal *JAMA Oncology*. Kami Maddocks, MD, was first author on the study, and Jennifer Woyach, MD, was senior author. Ibrutinib (marketed as Imbruvica®) is the first drug designed to target BTK, a protein essential for CLL-cell survival and proliferation. The drug is approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for treating certain patients with CLL and mantle cell lymphoma. Much of the clinical and basic-science research that led to FDA approval was performed by scientists at Ohio State.



Arnab  
Chakravarti, MD

### Study Supports IDH Gene as Prognostic in Rare Brain Cancer

New findings suggest that a gene called *IDH* might be a prognostic marker for a rare form of brain cancer called anaplastic astrocytoma. Patients in this study, part of the multi-institutional phase III clinical trial RTOG 9813, who had a mutated *IDH* gene lived an average of 7.9 years after diagnosis versus 2.8 years for patients with unaltered *IDH*. Some 300 patients were involved in the dual-arm trial, which evaluated the efficacy of radiation therapy plus either of two chemotherapy drugs: temozolomide and nitrosourea. Arnab Chakravarti, MD, of the OSUCCC – James, was the trial's translational research national study chair and a co-author of the findings, which were presented at the 2015 meeting of the American Society of Clinical Oncology.

### CanDL Database Shines Light on Clinically Important Cancer Gene Mutations

Many clinical trials use genome sequencing to learn which gene mutations are present in a patient's tumor cells. This is important because targeting the right mutations with the right drugs can stop cancer in its tracks. But it can be difficult to determine whether there is evidence in the medical literature that particular mutations might drive cancer growth and could be targeted by therapy, and that other mutations might be of no consequence. To help molecular pathologists, laboratory directors, bioinformaticians and oncologists identify key mutations that drive tumor growth in tissues obtained in clinical studies, researchers led by principal investigator Sameek Roychowdhury, MD, PhD, have designed a freely accessible online database called the Cancer Driver Log (CanDL).



Sameek  
Roychowdhury,  
MD, PhD

### Oncologists Should Use Dual-Delivery Treatment More Often for Ovarian Cancer

Less than half of ovarian cancer patients eligible for a combined chemotherapy regimen that can significantly improve survival actually receive it, according to a study authored by researchers from six leading cancer centers, including the OSUCCC – James. This study was the first outside of a clinical trial to analyze whether chemotherapy delivered using two routes—one into the abdomen, or intraperitoneally (IP), and the other intravenously (IV)—can improve survival in women with stage III ovarian cancer after surgery to remove the tumor. The researchers reported their findings in the *Journal of Clinical Oncology*. David O'Malley, MD, of the OSUCCC – James, served as senior author of the study.



David O'Malley,  
MD

### Study Shows Potential for Immunotherapeutic Strategy Against Lung Cancer

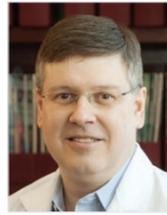
A preclinical multi-institutional study co-led by researchers at the OSUCCC – James supports the development of a molecular strategy to stimulate the body's antitumor immunity in lung cancer and improve the effectiveness of therapy that targets lung tumors containing *EGFR* gene mutations. Mikhail Dikov, PhD, was a co-corresponding author for the study, which was published in the journal *Cancer Research*. David Carbone, MD, PhD, was a co-author. The study involved manipulating interaction between Notch proteins, which help regulate cellular processes and immune responses, and a Notch receptor molecule called DLL1 in mouse models of human lung cancer. Researchers found that activating Notch signaling using clustered DLL1, combined with a drug (erlotinib) that targets *EGFR* gene mutations, significantly improved progression-free survival in the mice—offering preclinical support for the development of multivalent DLL1 to stimulate antitumor immunity.



Mikhail Dikov,  
PhD



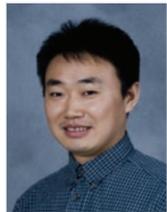
David Carbone,  
MD, PhD



Steven Devine,  
MD

### Study Rejects Biologic Age as Limiting Factor for Stem Cell Transplants

More than 40 percent of older patients with acute myeloid leukemia (AML) can remain in long-term cancer remission through a modified, less aggressive approach to donor stem cell transplantation, according to the results of a phase II multi-center study led by oncologists at the OSUCCC – James. **Steven Devine, MD**, led the study, which was published in the *Journal of Clinical Oncology*. AML is an aggressive blood cancer that is life threatening and is typically diagnosed in patients older than 60. The data represents new hope in a disease where the five-year survival rate is often below 10 percent, despite achieving initial remission. “This new data offers strong support against using biological age as a limiting factor for stem cell transplantation in AML patients who are otherwise well positioned to tolerate and achieve long-term remission with this approach,” says Devine, principal investigator of the national clinical trial.



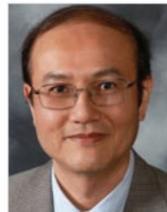
Xiaoming  
(Shawn) He, PhD

### ‘Nanobombs’ Might Deliver Agents That Alter Gene Activity in Cancer Stem Cells

Researchers at the OSUCCC – James have developed nanoparticles that swell and burst when exposed to near-infrared laser light. Such “nanobombs” might overcome a biological barrier that has blocked development of agents that work by altering the activity of genes in cancer cells. The agents might kill cancer cells outright or stall their growth. **Xiaoming (Shawn) He, PhD**, was principal investigator for this study, published in the journal *Advanced Materials*. He and colleagues used human prostate cancer cells and human prostate tumors in an animal model. The nanoparticles were equipped to target cancer stem-like cells (CSCs), which are cancer cells that have properties of stem cells. CSCs often resist therapy and are thought to play an important role in cancer development and recurrence. The therapeutic agent in the nanoparticles was a form of microRNA called miR-34a.



Tanios Bekaii-  
Saab, MD



Ching-Shih  
Chen, PhD

### Experimental Drug May Prevent Life-Threatening Muscle Loss in Cachexia

New data describes how an experimental drug can stop life-threatening muscle wasting (cachexia) associated with advanced cancers and restore muscle health. The experimental agent, known as AR-42 while in testing, was developed and tested in preclinical studies at the OSUCCC – James. Corresponding authors for the study, published in the *Journal of the National Cancer Institute*, were **Tanios Bekaii-Saab, MD**, and **Ching-Shih Chen, PhD**. AR-42, developed in Chen’s lab, is part of a class of drugs known as histone deacetylase (HDAC) inhibitors, which are designed to block proteins that help mediate skeletal muscle breakdown. HDAC proteins also tend to drive the pathways in cancer cells that lead to aggressive malignancies. AR-42 is unique among HDAC inhibitors because it appears to have beneficial effects on muscle health and function.

### Drug Shows Potential as Safe and Effective for Treating CLL

Clinical results published in the *New England Journal of Medicine* show that the new drug acalabrutinib (ACP-196) promotes high response rates that are durable in patients with chronic lymphocytic leukemia (CLL) while producing minimal side effects. The preclinical and clinical efforts for this project reported with ACP-196 were led by **John C. Byrd, MD**, and **Amy J. Johnson, PhD**. ACP-196, a second-generation Bruton’s tyrosine kinase (BTK) inhibitor, works by permanently binding BTK, which is part of a chain of proteins that relays growth signals from the surface of CLL cells to genes in the cell nucleus, enabling cancer cells to survive and grow. By blocking BTK, the drug halts these growth signals, and the CLL cells die. Data reported in this study suggests that, unlike the first-generation BTK inhibitor (ibrutinib), acalabrutinib more selectively blocks the BTK pathway without disrupting other pathways important for preserving platelet and immune function, thereby preventing/minimizing some side effects associated with cancer treatment.



John C. Byrd,  
MD



Amy J. Johnson,  
PhD

### Tumor DNA Testing Can Improve Lynch Syndrome Testing at Any Age

Research at the OSUCCC – James suggests that many cases of Lynch syndrome could go undetected with current recommendations for age restrictions and testing methods. Lynch syndrome is an inherited genetic condition that predisposes mutation carriers to certain cancers, most commonly colorectal and endometrial (uterine), but also ovarian, stomach and other gastrointestinal tract cancers. In this study, published in the *Journal of Clinical Oncology*, researchers show that 24 percent of Lynch syndrome mutation carriers were diagnosed with endometrial cancer over age 60; however, it has been recommended that tumor studies to screen for Lynch syndrome be limited to patients 60 or younger. As a result of this data, researchers encourage Lynch syndrome testing in all newly diagnosed endometrial cancer patients regardless of age. **Paul Goodfellow, PhD**, was corresponding author for this study.



Paul Goodfellow,  
PhD



Daniel Jones, MD, PhD



Anil Parwani, MD, PhD, MBA



Sharyn Baker, PharmD, PhD



Alex Sparreboom, PhD



Rajgopal Govindarajan, DVM, PhD



Karen Patricia Williams, PhD

### Ohio State Gains Prominent Molecular Pathology and Pharmaceutical Chemistry Experts

Ohio State's cancer program was boosted by the recruitment of five senior medical professionals with cancer expertise. Daniel Jones, MD, PhD, and Anil Parwani, MD, PhD, MBA, were appointed to leadership roles for specialized pathology services in the College of Medicine's Department of Pathology and at the OSUCCC – James. Sharyn Baker, PharmD, PhD, Alex Sparreboom, PhD, and Rajgopal Govindarajan, DVM, PhD, were hired to prominent positions in the College of Pharmacy's Division of Pharmaceutics and Pharmaceutical Chemistry. Their work also will benefit the OSUCCC – James. Another new senior faculty member is Karen Patricia Williams, PhD, who has joined the faculty of Ohio State's College of Nursing as Nursing Distinguished Professor of Women's Health and as director of the Center for Women, Children and Youth. Williams also is a member of the Cancer Control Program at the OSUCCC – James. Her research interest is in cancer prevention and control, with a focus on cancer disparities.

### Croce and Byrd Receive NCI 'Outstanding Investigator Awards'

The National Cancer Institute (NCI) issued a pair of Outstanding Investigator Awards (R35) to help two prominent cancer researchers at Ohio State further their groundbreaking work in cancer genetics and leukemia therapy. The prestigious multimillion-dollar awards, which provide long-term support for experienced investigators with outstanding records of productivity who propose to conduct exceptional research, will go to Carlo Croce, MD, and John C. Byrd, MD. It was the first time an investigator from Ohio State has received an R35 award. Croce will receive nearly \$6.5 million over seven years for "Cancer Gene Discovery to Identify Targetable Targets," and Byrd will receive nearly \$6.4 million over seven years for "Targeted Therapy for Leukemia."



Carlo Croce, MD



John C. Byrd, MD

### OSUCCC – James Co-Leads Large Grant Study to Benefit Brain Cancer Patients

The OSUCCC – James is co-leading a federally funded collaborative study to uncover the genomic mechanisms of radiation therapy resistance in patients with glioblastoma, the most common and deadliest form of primary brain cancer. The U.S. Department of Defense awarded a \$3.5 million, five-year grant to support this multi-institutional study, called "Genetic Evolution of Glioblastomas During Radiation and Temozolomide Therapy." The study involves researchers at The Broad Institute of Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) and Harvard, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute in Boston, Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland and the OSUCCC – James. Arnab Chakravarti, MD, professor and chair of the Department of Radiation Oncology at Ohio State, is a co-principal investigator. In their project abstract, the investigators say their study aims to determine how glioblastomas become resistant to radiation and temozolomide by examining genetic changes that these tumors undergo during treatment.



Arnab Chakravarti, MD

### Scientists Land 4 NCI Grants for Cancer Control and Survivorship Studies

The National Cancer Institute (NCI) awarded four R01 grants collectively totaling more than \$10.48 million to help teams of OSUCCC – James researchers further their studies in cancer control and survivorship. Two of the grants were for more than \$3 million and two were for more than \$2 million. The grants went to principal investigators Electra Paskett, PhD, MSPH ("Comparative Effectiveness of Interventions to Improve Screening Among Rural Women"); Janice Kiecolt-Glaser, PhD, ("Aerobic Capacity, Depression and Inflammatory Responsivity in Cancer Survivors"); Tonya Orchard, PhD, MS, RD ("Effect of N-3 Fatty Acids and Sugars on Chemotherapy-Induced Cognitive Deficits"); and A. Courtney DeVries, PhD ("Affective Consequences of Chemotherapy").



Electra Paskett, PhD, MSPH



Janice Kiecolt-Glaser, PhD



Tonya Orchard, PhD, MS, RD



A. Courtney DeVries, PhD



Quintin Pan,  
PhD

### Molecular Targeting Strategy in Head and Neck Cancer is Subject of Grant Study

A \$2.42 million grant from the National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research will help principal investigator **Quintin Pan, PhD**, and colleagues examine a new molecular targeting strategy to reactivate tumor-suppressor genes that have been silenced in head and neck squamous cell carcinoma (HNSCC) related to human papillomavirus (HPV) infection. In their project abstract, the researchers say evidence has implicated HPV infection as a major risk factor for HNSCC—in particular oropharyngeal SCC—and that high-risk HPV16 is the most frequent HPV type detected in HNSCC. Epidemiological data, they add, indicate that HPV-positive HNSCC has increased three-fold in the past three decades in the United States and Europe. The scientists say their new molecular targeting strategy—disruption of the HPV16E6/E7-p300 interaction—could reactivate both the *p53* and *pRb* tumor-suppressor genes that have been silenced in HPV16-positive HNSCC, setting the stage for developing small molecules that could target HV16-positive HNSCC.



Carlo Croce, MD

### Grant Will Help Team Study Strategy to Curb Cachexia

A team led by principal investigator **Carlo Croce, MD**, is using a five-year, \$2.14 million grant from the National Cancer Institute to probe the molecular mechanics of cachexia in lung cancer. Cachexia is unintentional weight loss resulting from a reduction in lean body mass and body fat, a syndrome that may accompany the development and growth of malignant tumors. Croce and his study team note that cachexia leads to poor quality of life, poor response to treatment and reduced survival in patients with lung cancer, the leading cause of cancer death among men and women in the United States. In their project abstract, the investigators state that there are no therapeutic strategies to curb cancer-associated cachexia, but they have identified a mechanism “by which cancer-derived circulating microRNAs induce muscle cell death and cachexia.” They plan to target select circulating microRNAs as a new therapeutic strategy for lung cancer-associated cachexia.

### Caligiuri Joins White House Meeting on ORIEN Collaboration in Cancer Research

OSUCCC Director and James CEO **Michael A. Caligiuri, MD**, joined a small group of medical officials who met in January 2016 at The White House with senior members from the offices of President Barack Obama and Vice President Joe Biden to discuss how the Oncology Research Information Exchange Network (ORIEN) can be a model for national collaboration in cancer research. Founded and anchored by Moffitt Cancer Center in Tampa, Fla., and the OSUCCC – James, ORIEN is a unique research partnership among North American cancer centers that recognizes that collaboration and access to data are keys to cancer discovery. To date, 11 prominent cancer centers have joined ORIEN. Each member has adopted the Total Cancer Care® (TCC) protocol to share de-identified data from consenting patients and match eligible patients to clinical trials.



Michael A.  
Caligiuri, MD

### Collaboration is Key in Fully Integrated Cancer ED

Among the many extraordinary features of the new James Cancer Hospital and Solove Research Institute is an oncology-specific emergency department (ED)—one of only a few in the country—that opened in April 2015 with a highly skilled cancer ED team and a state-of-the-art treatment process that are fully integrated with The Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center ED. “The James Cancer ED is unique in that it operates side-by-side within a comprehensive academic medical center ED,” says **Richard Goldberg, MD**, physician-in-chief at The James, noting that ED physicians and nurses trained in oncology staff the department, working alongside the standard ED medical teams. The James Cancer ED staff is expert in treating such oncologic emergencies as treatment-associated infections, dehydration, fever, tumor lysis syndrome, surgical problems such as bowel or kidney obstruction, or pain and weakness due to brain tumors or spine metastases.



Richard  
Goldberg, MD

### OSUCCC – James Gives Block Lectureship Award to Johns Hopkins Nobel Laureate

**Carol Greider, PhD**, a Nobel Laureate researcher at Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine who helped discover telomerase, an enzyme that maintains telomeres (chromosome ends), visited Ohio State in March 2015 to accept the 21st Herbert and Maxine Block Memorial Lectureship Award for Distinguished Achievement in Cancer. Greider lectured on “Telomeres and Telomerase: How Basic Science Discoveries Lead to Clinical Impact.” The OSUCCC – James presents the Block Award to an individual whose contributions to cancer patient care or education have received worldwide recognition. The recipient then visits Ohio State to accept the award and lecture about his or her work. The award is \$25,000, one of the largest prizes given by an academic institution in the field of cancer.



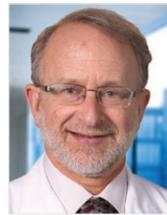
Carol Greider,  
PhD



Clara D. Bloomfield, MD

### Bloomfield Wins 2016 Margaret L. Kripke Legends Award

Clara D. Bloomfield, MD, a Distinguished University Professor at Ohio State who also serves as cancer scholar and senior adviser to the OSUCCC – James, received the 2016 Margaret L. Kripke Legends Award from the Office of Women Faculty Programs at MD Anderson Cancer Center in Houston, Texas. Established in 2008 in honor of Margaret L. Kripke, PhD, for her advocacy for and promotion of women in academic medicine and science, this national award is presented annually to an individual—male or female—for ongoing support and extraordinary dedication to enhancing the careers of women in cancer medicine and cancer science. Bloomfield is an internationally recognized clinical scientist whose groundbreaking research on adult leukemia and lymphoma—described in more than 1,000 publications over a career of more than 40 years—has changed the way medical professionals think about and treat patients with these diseases. **ALSO**, Bloomfield was honored as one of 12 winners in the 2015 Giants of Cancer Care awards program sponsored by *OnLive*, a Web resource for physicians and other health professionals who focus on treating cancer. **In addition**, she was featured in the July 10 edition of *The ASCO Post* in a story titled “Clara D. Bloomfield, MD, FASCO: Never One to Back Down From a Challenge.”



Richard Goldberg, MD

### Goldberg Receives National Prize for Clinical and Research Leadership

Richard Goldberg, MD, an internationally renowned gastrointestinal oncologist and physician-in-chief at the OSUCCC – James, received the 2015 Bob Pinedo Cancer Care Prize from the Society for Translational Oncology (STO) at the STO Fifth Annual Meeting, which was hosted by the OSUCCC – James at Ohio State. The \$50,000 award recognizes Goldberg’s clinical and research leadership in gastrointestinal oncology, as well as his compassionate care of patients. He delivered the keynote address at the annual meeting. Among his achievements, Goldberg has led a national intergroup study, N9741, as part of an international phase III study of oxaliplatin, irinotecan and 5-fluorouracil in combinations for first-line treatment of advanced colorectal cancer. This study, conducted at centers in the United States and Canada, resulted in approval of oxaliplatin for clinical use and helped change the standard of care for patients with advanced colorectal cancer.

### Byrd Collects 2 National Awards for Research in CLL

John C. Byrd, MD, director of the Division of Hematology at Ohio State and co-leader of the Leukemia Research Program at the OSUCCC – James, received the 2015 Charles G. Moertel Lecture Award from the Alliance for Clinical Trials in Oncology at the Alliance Spring Group Meeting in Chicago. The Alliance presents the award annually to an investigator whose research within the National Cancer Institute (NCI) National Clinical Trials Network has a major impact on community cancer practice. As the 2015 recipient, Byrd lectured at the Spring Group Meeting on the transformative potential of the drug ibrutinib to change the treatment landscape of chronic lymphocytic leukemia (CLL). **ALSO**, Byrd was named as the 2015 recipient of the American Society of Hematology (ASH) William Dameshek Prize for his contributions to the development of transformative treatments for CLL, most notably rituximab and ibrutinib.



John C. Byrd, MD

### Paskett Delivers 2015 AACR Distinguished Lecture on Cancer Health Disparities

Electra D. Paskett, PhD, MSPH, associate director for population sciences and co-leader of the Cancer Control Program at the OSUCCC – James, received the 2015 American Association for Cancer Research (AACR) Distinguished Lecture award on the Science of Cancer Health Disparities. As recipient of this national honor, Paskett presented an award lecture at the Eighth Annual AACR Conference on the Science of Cancer Health Disparities in Racial/Ethnic Minorities and the Medically Underserved, which was held in Atlanta, Ga. Her lecture focused on her current work in addressing cancer disparities.



Electra D. Paskett, PhD, MSPH

### Surgeon Accepts ‘Gentle Giant Award’ From Pituitary Network Association

Daniel Prevedello, MD, director of Ohio State’s Minimally Invasive Cranial Surgery Program, received a Gentle Giant Award from the Pituitary Network Association at its Gentle Giant Award Reception and Dinner, held in April 2015 at Ohio State. The reception and dinner followed Ohio State’s Pituitary Symposium: Updates and Current Management, a daylong conference that provided a comprehensive review of surgical and medical treatments and management of pituitary conditions. The Gentle Giant Award honored Prevedello for his exemplary accomplishments in pituitary medicine. He is internationally recognized in minimally invasive surgery for brain, pituitary and skull-base tumors. His surgical practice encompasses the full spectrum of brain and skull-base tumors, both benign and malignant, treated with minimally invasive and conventional approaches.



Daniel Prevedello, MD



Arnab Chakravarti, MD

### Chakravarti Appointed to Chair NIH Cancer Biomarkers Study Section

**Arnab Chakravarti, MD**, professor and chair of the Department of Radiation Oncology at Ohio State, was appointed to chair the National Institutes of Health (NIH) Cancer Biomarkers Study Section (CBSS). **In addition**, he received the American College of Radiology Oncology (ACRO) Distinguished Service Award at ACRO's 2015 annual meeting in Washington, D.C. The award recognized his sentinel leadership contributions to ACRO, especially in chairing the previous two ACRO annual meetings. **Also**, Chakravarti received a Congress Lectureship at the 2015 meeting of The International Congress for Radiation Research (ICRR) held in Kyoto, Japan. He presented "Novel Personalized Care Strategies in Radiation Oncology," an invited ICRR talk on prostate cancer and gliomas.



Jeff Walker, MBA

### Walker Serves in 2 National Oncology Leadership Roles

**Jeff Walker, MBA**, senior executive director for administration at the OSUCCC – James, served a one-year term on the National Comprehensive Cancer Network (NCCN) Executive Committee. He was elected to the term effective March 13, 2015, by the Board of Directors for the NCCN, a non-profit alliance of 27 leading cancer centers that establishes national clinical oncology practice guidelines. Ohio State is a charter member of the NCCN. The NCCN Executive Committee manages and administers NCCN affairs and transacts all regular business between NCCN board meetings. **Walker is also** serving a three-year term as treasurer of the Association of American Cancer Institutes (AACI). That term began in January 2015.



Christin Burd, PhD

### Burd is Recipient of Prestigious Damon Runyon-Rachleff Innovation Award

**Christin Burd, PhD**, assistant professor in the Department of Molecular and Cellular Biochemistry and the Department of Molecular Genetics at Ohio State, and a member of the OSUCCC – James, is among seven scientists nationwide with novel approaches to fighting cancer who were named as 2016 recipients of the Damon Runyon-Rachleff Innovation Award. This grant, for \$300,000 over two years, goes to early-career scientists whose projects have the potential to impact cancer prevention, diagnosis and treatment. The foundation says the award "funds cancer research by exceptionally creative thinkers with 'high-risk/high-reward' ideas who lack sufficient preliminary data to obtain traditional funding." **Yung Lie, PhD**, deputy director and chief scientific officer for the Damon Runyon Cancer Research Foundation, confirmed that Burd is the first person at Ohio State and in Ohio to receive the Damon Runyon-Rachleff Innovation Award. Burd proposes mutation-specific studies in a variety of tumor types, starting with melanoma, thyroid cancer and acute myeloid leukemia.

### Winter Featured in *Cancer Today* Cover Story

**Jessica Winter, PhD**, a professor in the Department of Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering and the Department of Biomedical Engineering at Ohio State, was featured in the **cover story** in the winter 2015/2016 issue of *Cancer Today*, a publication of the American Association for Cancer Research. The story chronicles her journey as a scientist and cancer survivor. Winter is a leader in nanobiotechnology who in 2014 was elected as a fellow in the American Association for the Advancement of Science for her contributions to biomedical engineering, particularly the synthesis and development of magnetic quantum dots for cell imaging and separation. This area of study is being applied more and more to such healthcare applications as cancer detection and diagnosis.



Jessica Winter, PhD

### OSUCCC – James Launches 'Introduction to the Science of Cancer' Online Course

The OSUCCC – James in October 2015 launched a free online course called "Introduction to the Science of Cancer" to encourage a global commitment to cancer prevention. In this course, oncologists and researchers at the OSUCCC – James explain the scientific basis of cancer and key cancer concepts in a series of videos and present them in accessible, user-friendly terms. The course has five modules that focus on basic background information, diagnosis, treatment, prevention and research. The goal is to encourage cancer prevention globally to reduce the expected rise in cancer incidence in coming years due to the growth and aging of the world population. The course is open to anyone who wants a better understanding of cancer—particularly in under-resourced areas—such as nurses, nursing and medical students, secondary-school teachers, reporters/editors, social workers, and community- and ministry-of-health personnel. **Darrell E. Ward, MS**, associate director for cancer communications, led development of the course, which will be available in May through iTunes U. For more information or to register, visit [go.osu.edu/scienceofcancer](http://go.osu.edu/scienceofcancer).



Darrell E. Ward, MS

### Ohio State Selected for National Pancreatic Consortium and Gains NPF Center Designation

The Ohio State University has been selected as one of 10 members of a national Consortium to Study Chronic Pancreatitis, Diabetes and Pancreatic Cancer (CSCPDP). Funding for this award will be \$2.3 million over five years. **Darwin Conwell, MD**, is principal investigator (PI) for the consortium project at Ohio State, where the co-PIs are **Tanios Bekaii-Saab, MD**, **Phil Hart, MD**, and **Greg Lesinski, PhD**. **In addition**, Ohio State's multidisciplinary pancreas program, which treats both cancerous and non-cancerous conditions, has been designated as a National Pancreas Foundation (NPF) Center, one of 30 hospitals nationwide and the only adult hospital in Ohio to earn this distinction.



Darwin Conwell, MD



Tanios Bekaii-Saab, MD



Phil Hart, MD



Greg Lesinski, PhD



Kris Kipp, MSN, RN

### Cancer Rehabilitation Specialty Program Earns CARF Accreditation

The Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities, or CARF International, accredited The Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center for three years in nine rehabilitation programs, including the Cancer Rehabilitation Specialty Program. CARF indicated that the medical center is the first in Ohio, second in the nation and third in the world to achieve Cancer Rehabilitation Specialty accreditation. Also accredited were the Inpatient Rehabilitation Program, Brain Injury Specialty Program, Spinal Core System of Care, Stroke Specialty Program, Interdisciplinary Outpatient Medical Rehabilitation Program, Outpatient Medical Rehabilitation Program, Outpatient Brain Injury Specialty Program, and Outpatient Spinal Core System of Care. **Kris Kipp, MSN, RN**, executive director of cancer patient services and chief nursing officer at the OSUCCC – James, called the Cancer Rehabilitation Specialty accreditation “an excellent example of patient-focused collaboration and the results that can be achieved together.”



Heather Hampel, MS, LGC

### 3-Year Accreditation Granted for Human Genetics Sample Bank

The Human Genetics Sample Bank at the OSUCCC – James received a three-year accreditation from the College of American Pathologists (CAP) for the following services: Biorepository General; General Specimen Processing; Nucleic Acid Extraction; Specimen Collection/Procurement; Specimen Distribution and Agreement; Specimen Informatics; and Specimen Storage. **Heather Hampel, MS, LGC**, associate director for the Division of Human Genetics at Ohio State and associate director for biospecimen research at the OSUCCC – James, says the accreditation is valid through June 2018 and represents “the gold standard of biorepository accreditation.”

### Ohio State Earns LEED® Gold Certification for New James

The U.S. Green Building Council has awarded LEED® GOLD certification to Ohio State for the new home of the James Cancer Hospital and Solove Research Institute, which opened in December 2014. LEED, an acronym for Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design, is a rating system that guides the nation’s building industry and provides standards for environmental and economic efficiency.



### Pelotonia 15 Boosts 7-Year Total Over \$106 Million for Ohio State Cancer Research

Riders, virtual riders and donors in Pelotonia 15, the seventh installment of an annual bicycle tour that generates money for cancer research at the OSUCCC – James, raised a record **\$23,659,675** during the 2015 tour, bringing the total amount raised since the event’s inception in 2009 to **\$106,055,015**. Thanks to the event’s major sponsors, every dollar raised goes directly to research. To celebrate this achievement, special guest Sheryl Crow performed at Pelotonia’s year-end celebration at The Schottenstein Center on Nov. 18, 2015. To view the 2015 Pelotonia Investment Report, visit the OSUCCC – James website at [cancer.osu.edu](http://cancer.osu.edu).



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