2016 Postdoctoral Candidate Pelotonia Fellows

Bo Xu
Project – A novel oncolytic HSV-1 carrying CDH1 improves the efficacy of virotherapy by enhancing viral spread

Chumming Cheng
Project – The Molecular Mechanism of EGFR Signaling via mTOR Promotes SCAP/SREBP-1 Activation and Tumor Growth

Jiangsheng Xu
Project – Dual-targeting and mitochondria-immobilizing nanoparticle drug delivery to overcome the multidrug resistance in cancer stem cells

Kunal Chatterjee
Project – Identification and characterization of two novel tRNA nuclear exporters in Saccharomyces cerevisiae

Malik Al-Afyouni
Project – Ru(II) Complexes for Multi-Action Photoinduced Cell Death and Imaging

Rakesh Pathak
Project – Engineering Albumin-Mimic Nanoparticles for Pancreatic Cancer Therapy

Stephanie Wilson
Project – Is Inflammation Impacted by Pain and Sleep Disturbance in Breast Cancer Survivors? Identifying Modifiable
Risk Factors to Improve Survivors’ Longevity, Health, and Quality of Life
2015 Postdoctoral Candidate Pelotonia Fellows

Blake Hildreth, DVM, PhD
Project – Investigation of the role of the transcription factor PU.1 in breast cancer bone metastasis

Regina Nostramo, PhD
Project – Role of the Tumor Suppressor Protein USP10 and Stress Granules on Cell Survival

Laura Barreyro, PhD
Project – Inhibition of innate immune signaling as a therapeutic approach in myelodysplastic syndromes (MDS) and acute myeloid leukemia (AML)

Bahadir Batar, PhD
Project – Synthetic lethal strategy to eliminate Fhit-deficient cancers early during progression

Kimberly Bowen, PhD
Project – Vagal Tone, Inflammation, and Metabolic Risk in Breast Cancer Survivors

Ruchira Datta, PhD
Project – Quantitative Modeling of Signaling Interactions in the Breast Tumor Microenvironment

Fabienne McClanahan, MD, PhD
Project – Correction of Immune Defects by Ibrutinib in the Setting of Aging-Related Immune Dysfunction in CLL
Tomoya Muto, MD, PhD
Project – Cooperative effect of innate immune pathway activation and concurrent epigenetic mutations in myelodysplastic syndrome stem cells

Marlena Ryba, PhD
Project – A Computerized Cognitive Behavioral Therapy for Cancer Patients with Major Depressive Disorder

Onur Egriboz, PhD
Project - Role of STAT3 in Pten-deficient endometrial cancer
2014 Postdoctoral Candidate Pelotonia Fellows

Raul Araya-Secchi, PhD
Project – Resolving the structural determinants of fat cadherins’ function in cancer

Michael Berberoglu, PhD
Project – Regulation of myogenic precursor cells in zebrafish skeletal muscle and in Rhabdomyosarcoma

Valerie Coffman, PhD
Project – Mechanical modeling of directed pronuclear migration and rotation in the early C. elegans embryo

HongSheng Dai, PhD
Project – Potentiating oncolytic virotherapy through a systemic study of the interaction between oHSV1 viral proteins and Natural Killer cells

James Dowdle, PhD
Project – The Molecular Basis for Variable Penetrance in Rb Mutant Cancer

Senthil Damodaran, PhD
Project – Genomic and proteomic alterations mediate secondary resistance to fibroblast growth factor receptor targeting

Amit Srivastava, PhD
Project – The regulation of translesion DNA synthesis in ovarian cancer stem cells
Anna Tessari, PhD
Project – Role of microRNAs in gemcitabine-resistant metastatic breast

Youwei Wang
Project – Use of Combination of FLT3L and AMD3100 to Mobilize Donor Grafts Favorable for Hematopoietic Stem Cell Transplantation
2013 Postdoctoral Candidate Pelotonia Fellows

Gregory Adams, PhD
Project: Thrombin promotes prostate cancer progression

William Cantara, PhD
Project: Structural characterization of the 5'-UTR of the oncogenic HTLV-1 retrovirus

Dalia Elgamal, PhD
Project: PRMT5 dysregulation as a driver event in Richter's transformation

Luiz Henrique de Lima Araujo, MD
Project: Circulating microRNAs in non-small cell lung cancer treated with Vandetanib

Alena Jamie-Ramirez, PhD
Project: Oncolytic virotherapy and immunotherapy for the treatment of brain tumors

Divya Kensanakurti, PhD
Project: Role of PAK4 in Epithelial-to-Mesenchymal Transition and Stemness in Malignant Gliomas

Kara Keplinger, MD
Project: P21-activated kinase as a therapeutic target in Papillary Thyroid Cancer

Priya Londhe, PhD
Project: Microvesicle induced cell death in cancer cachexia
Annette Ratcliff, PhD
Project: Defining the Role of Fatty Acid Synthase in HTLV-1 Replication and T lymphocyte Transformation

Eric Samordnitsky, PhD
Project: Modeling acquired resistance to molecularly-targeted cancer therapies through next generation sequencing

Gina (Bernardo) Sizemore, PhD
Project: Evaluating fibroblast-specific PDGFR-alpha in the promotion of mammary tumorigenesis

Ramon Sun, PhD
Project: Glucose-dependent repression of pyruvate dehydrogenase activity enhances tumor metabolism.

Christopher Walker, PhD
Project: Identification and Characterization of Novel Mutations in Endometrial Carcinoma

Hai Wang, PhD
Project: A hybrid nanoparticle system for targeted co-delivery of chemo, gene, and photothermal therapies
2012 Postdoctoral Candidate Pelotonia Fellows

**Timothy Chlon, PhD**  
Project: Exploring the Role of the Fanconi Anemia Pathway in Somatic Cell Reprogramming through Human Papillomavirus Oncogenes

**Roberta Galli, PhD**  
Project: Control of Microvesicles Secretion: A New Approach in Cancer Treatment

**Sigurdis Haraldsdottir, MD**  
Project: Incidence of Lynch Syndrome and the microsatellite instability pathway in colorectal cancer patients in Iceland

**Tiffany Hughes, PhD**  
Project: The role of aryl hydrocarbon receptor activation in multiple myeloma

**Zeenia Kaul, PhD**  
Project: Tumor-specific plasticity in mechanisms of telomere maintenance

**Nikola Kovinich, PhD**  
Project: New Frontiers in the Chemical Arsenal Against Cancer: Combining Modules of Semi-Synthesis and Synthetic Biology

**Joseph Markowitz, MD, PhD**  
Project: Inhibiting immune suppressor cells in pancreatic cancer
Antonio Perez-Castro, PhD  
Project: The control of PTEN protein stability and its role in endometrial cancer

Vasudha Shukla, PhD  
Project: Influence of biomechanical forces in the lung on EGFR signaling and response to therapy

Lawrence Shirley, MD  
Project: Targeting the Warburg Effect to Overcome Gemcitabine Resistance in Pancreatic Cancer

Jared Talbot, PhD  
Project: Zebrafish models of SIX1-mediated muscle metastasis

Nissar Wani, PhD  
Project: Role of S100A7/RAGE in breast cancer metastasis to bone
2011 Postdoctoral Candidate Pelotonia Fellows

Dinesh Ahirwar, PhD
Project: Analyzing the role of chemokine CXCL12 in breast cancer progression and metastasis

Christopher DeFraia, PhD
Project: Genetic dissection of the maintenance, initiation and re-initiation of epigenetic silencing

Kenechi Ebede, MD
Project: DNA Repair Mechanisms and Inflammation-Associated Intestinal Cancer In Vivo

Ann-Kathrin Eisfeld, MD
Project: The genomic basis for BAALC overexpression in AML

Seyed Ali Hosseini, MD, PhD
Project: Chromosome fragility in epithelial cells: role in replication stress and cancer initiation

Lisa Jaremka, PhD
Project: Socioeconomic status, depression, social support, and herpesvirus latency among breast cancer survivors

Alice S. Mims, MD
Project: Manipulating microRNA Expression to Improve Outcomes in Cytogenetically Normal Acute Myeloid Leukemia
Alberto Rocci, MD  
Project: Absolute microRNA expression in plasma cells and serum of multiple myeloma patients: diagnostic and prognostic implications

Yuliang Wang, PhD  
Project: Mechanical Determinants Permissive for Epithelial-to-Mesenchymal Transition

Yuh-Ying Yeh, PhD  
Project: Autophagy as a Mechanism of Drug Resistance in CLL
2010 Postdoctoral Candidate Pelotonia Fellows

Aruna Battu  
Project: Role of histone modifications in cancer pathogenesis

Hemant Bid  
Project: Dual Targeting of the Type 1 Insulin like Growth Factor Receptor and its Ligands as an Effective Anti angiogenic Strategy for Sarcomas

Enrico Caserta  
Project: Tumor Suppression Functions of PTEN in Stromal Cells

Nancy Engelmann  
Project: Novel 13 C Tomato Carotenoids for Absorption and Metabolism Studies in Humans

Daniel Kiss  
Project: Relationship of cytoplasmic processing bodies to the re-activation of microRNA-silenced mRNAs

I-Lu Lai  
Project: Potentiation of the Antiproliferative Activities of PARP Inhibitors in TNBC cells via Chemical Genetic Silencing of BRCA1/2 by Novel Energy Restriction-Mimetic Agents

Jiang Li  
Project: Molecular Mechanism of DNA Repair by (6-4) Photolyase
Markus Mair  
Project: Genetic Dissection of the Tumor Microenvironment  

Chelsea Martin  
Project: Pharmacologic inhibition of PI3 Kinase in genetically engineered mouse models of PTEN mutation-associated tumorigenesis  

Daisuke Ogawa  
Project: Pharmacologic inhibition of PI3 Kinase in genetically engineered mouse models of PTEN mutation-associated tumorigenesis  

Thierry Pecot  
Project: Imaging of Mammary Glands in Mouse Models of Breast Cancer  

Parvathi Ranganathan  
Project: Regulation of Acute Graft-Versus-Host Disease by microRNA-155  

Shantibhushan Senapati  
Project: Role of E2F7-8 in Hepatocyte Endoreplication and Hepatocellular Carcinoma (HCC)  

Anil Singh  
Project: The PTEN Protein Interactome and Its Role in Tumor Progression
Takayuki Uchida
Project: Role of mouse ORC1 in endoreplication

Mumtaz Yaseen
Project: NF-κB Signaling and Metabolic Regulation of Sarcomas