STEPHENSON CANCER CENTER RESOURCE GUIDE

OU Health | Stephenson Cancer Center

The UNIVERSITY *of* OKLAHOMA HEALTH SCIENCES

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OUHSC OFFICE OF RESEARCH ADMINISTRATION (ORA)

The Office of Research Administration (ORA) serves as a central resource to support the research community at the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center (OUHSC) by providing a variety of high quality services and expertise to the researchers and administrators on both the Oklahoma City and Tulsa campuses. Its mission is to provide administrative support to the investigators in their pursuit of research and other scholarly endeavors while ensuring compliance with federal, University, and sponsor guidelines and regulations. The Office of Research Administration (ORA) offers comprehensive grant management services to support researchers throughout the entire grant lifecycle.

Services:

- **Grants:** Submits proposals for grants and contracts to public agencies (federal, state, or local government) and private non-profit research organizations.
- **Contracts:** Assists faculty and staff with a variety of agreements related to externally sponsored activities.
- **Industry Research:** Reviews, negotiates, and executes all legal agreements and contracts related to industry research.
- **Clinical Trials:** Resources for clinical research coordinators and departmental administrative staff to start or manage industry sponsored research.

Training and Resources:

- ORA offers various training sessions, including Grants 101 and workshops on grant writing, to help faculty and staff build their skills in grant proposal preparation and management.
- We provide resources and guidance on navigating the proposal routing and submission process through our SoonerTrack system.

Website:

Contact:

hscora@ouhsc.edu

We offer personalized assistance through our general inbox, directing inquiries to the appropriate team members based on the type of request (e.g., grant, subaward, industry clinical trial).

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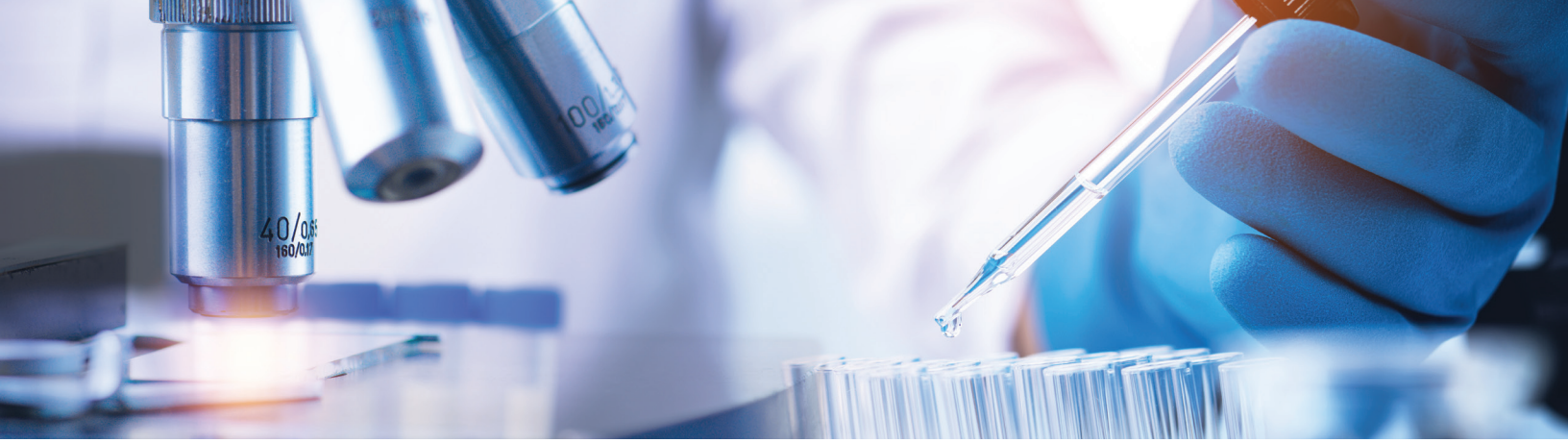

OKLAHOMA SHARED CLINICAL AND TRANSLATIONAL RESOURCES (OSCTR)

The OSCTR provides resources to aid in the development and execution of clinical and translational research for investigators at OSCTR partner institutions.

Services:

- OSCTR Research Navigator: Serves as an initial point of contact to integrate with institutional services (e.g., IRB, grants accounting, and ORA) and clinical research services to help develop junior investigators' new and ongoing clinical research efforts. OSCTR Profiles provides campus research networking information.
- Biostatistics, Epidemiology and Research Design Consultations: Faculty are available for research design, statistical analyses. novel methodology development and training opportunities are also provided.
- Clinical Trials/Research: Full-time staff members and dedicated space assist investigators to expand the availability and management of human subjects research and clinical trials. Regulatory, OnCor and financial management support of studies can also be provided. Support for Clinical Research Informatics Office personnel provides assistance with study design, queries, and CRIOC review.
- Registries and Repositories: Assist with the development of registries and repositories of clinical research information and/or samples from patients or healthy control and tribal populations. Supports RedCap instance and projects.
- Tribal Engagement Unit: Identifies collaborative research projects that address tribal health priorities and advances scientific knowledge while assisting investigators to navigate tribal and IHS IRB submissions.
- Community Engagement and Outreach: Accelerates engagement with rural and underrepresented populations through practice-based research networks focused on dissemination and implementation research.
- Pilot Projects: Identifies and funds five innovative pilot projects by early stage investigators each year to support clinical and translational research projects that focus on health issues of concern to Oklahomans. Mentoring teams provided.
- Professional Development: Provides didactic training opportunities in various aspects of clinical and translational research for junior investigators, clinicians, and scientists new to clinical research. These include a Master's in Clinical and Translational Science (CTS), online Certificate in CTS, and Translating Practice into Research programs with varying time commitments.

Contact:
OSCTR PI / Program Director: Judith James, MD, PhD
judith-james@ouhsc.edu

Administrative Director: Timothy VanWagoner, PhD
timothy-vanwagoner@oushc.edu

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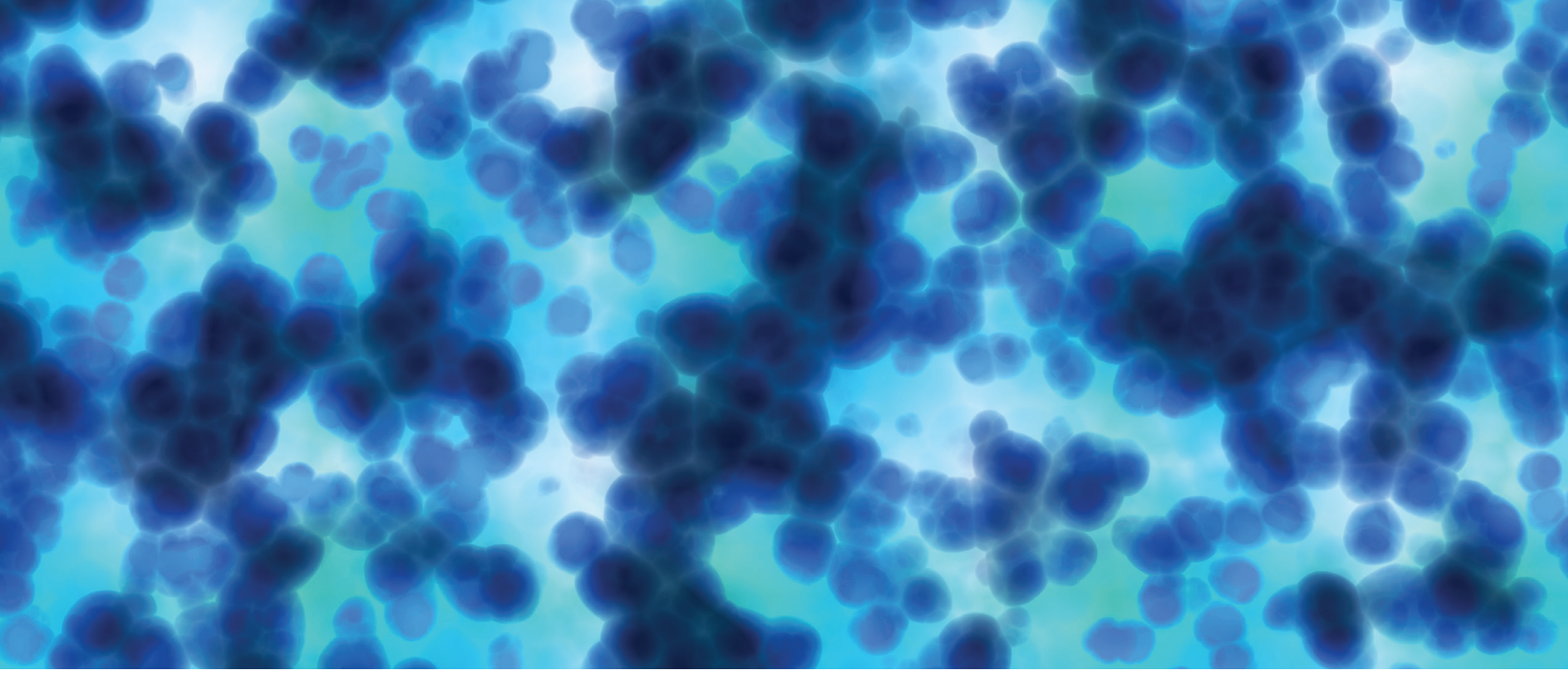

CANCER BIOLOGY PROGRAM

Overall Program Goal

The overall goal of the Cancer Biology (CB) Program is to foster research in basic mechanisms that define normal and neoplastic cell growth to gain new insights into cancer prevention, diagnosis and treatment. Program members bring a diverse range of transdisciplinary expertise in basic cancer mechanisms, including: the functions of oncogenes and tumor suppressor genes; regulators of cell cycle and apoptosis; regulators of angiogenesis and metastasis; and aberrant signaling that leads to chemo-resistance. The CB Program seeks to channel these transdisciplinary interests in a collaborative, team-based approach. Specific attention is placed on conducting basic mechanisms research related to priority cancers identified by the COE Core that place a particularly heavy cancer burden on Oklahoma (the SCC catchment area).

Specific Program Aims

1. Cancer signaling pathways. To elucidate the mechanisms of intracellular signaling pathways and the role of oncogenic and tumor-suppressing genes involved in normal and neoplastic cells.
2. Tumor microenvironment. To investigate the functional mechanisms informing tumor cell-stroma interactions in cancer initiation, progression and metastasis.
3. Mechanisms of chemoresistance. To uncover the mechanisms of resistance, including signaling molecules and pathways, relevant to drug resistance and cancer treatment.

Program Meeting Times

3rd Thursday of the month, 12 noon –1 p.m. lunch meeting

Focus Areas & Collaboration Opportunities

Cancer cachexia, tumor metabolism, immuno-oncology, targeting chemoresistance. Faculty mostly working on these themes in pancreatic, lung, ovarian and breast cancer.

Website

Contact:

Min Li, PhD: li-min@ouhsc.edu
Resham Bhattacharya, PhD: bhattacharya-resham@ouhsc.edu

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CANCER PREVENTION AND CONTROL PROGRAM

Overall Program Goal

The goal of the Cancer Prevention and Control (CPC) Program is to understand and address high-impact cancers and cancer-related disparities in Oklahoma (SCC catchment area), with a focus on disparities in the state's American Indian (AI), Black / African American (Black/AA), rural, and other socioeconomically disadvantaged populations.

Specific Program Aims

1. Identify the molecular, genetic, environmental, behavioral and social risk factors that contribute to high cancer incidence and disparities in Oklahoma.
2. Develop, evaluate, and implement interventions to reduce cancer incidence and mortality.
3. Improve cancer outcomes by enhancing care coordination, delivery, and survivorship.

Program Meeting Times

First Tuesday of the Month 3-4p; Zoom or hybrid meetings (SCC 5th Floor)

Collaboration Opportunities

Key areas of growth: tobacco, cancer survivorship (symptom monitoring/management, patient reported outcomes), policy (e.g., tobacco, food/nutrition), implementation science, obesity (e.g., physical activity/nutrition interventions), health disparities/equity, mobile health, cancer screening

Website

Contact:
Darla Kendzor, PhD: darla-kendzor@ouhsc.edu
Tim VanWagoner, PhD: timothy-vanwagoner@ouhsc.edu
C.V. Rao, PhD: cv-rao@ouhsc.edu

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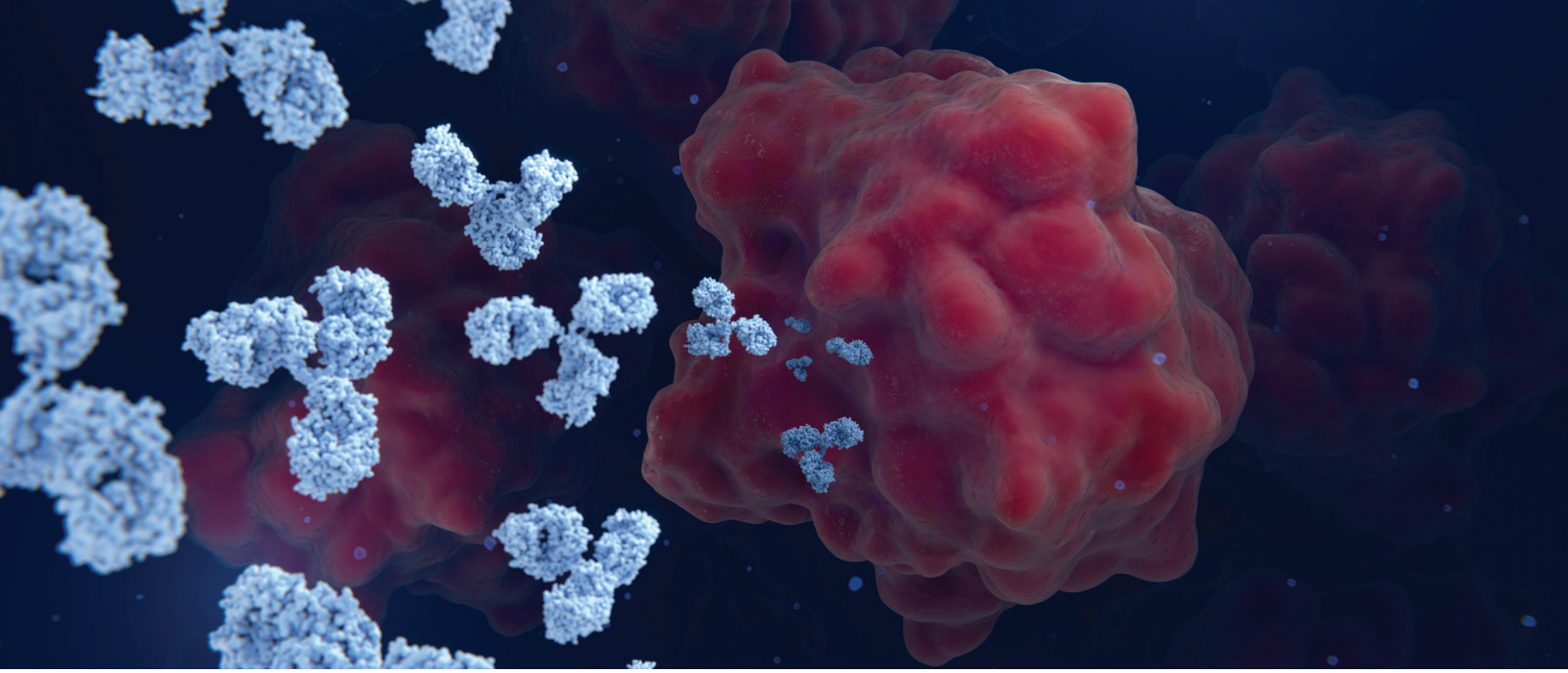

CANCER THERAPEUTICS PROGRAM

Overall Program Goal

The overarching goals of the Cancer Therapeutics (CT) program are to advance the translation of ideas through:

1. the development and translation of new therapeutic agents;
2. biotechnology approaches (i.e., new therapies or drug-delivery vehicles, innovative imaging technologies, and data analysis systems) to enhance new cancer treatments and diagnostics; and
3. to develop and initiate innovative clinical trials with focus on priority cancers.

Specific Program Aims

1. Drug Development and Delivery: To foster the development and translation of new therapeutic agents.
2. Biotechnology: To utilize biotechnology to develop new cancer treatments and diagnostics.
3. Developmental Therapeutics: To develop and initiate innovative clinical trials with a focus on priority cancers.

Program Meeting Times

Meets bi-monthly, via zoom on the 3rd Tuesday of the month, from 4:00–5:00 PM.

Website

Contact:

Kathleen Moore, MD: kathleen-moore@ouhsc.edu
Lacey McNally, PhD : lacey-mcnally@ouhsc.edu

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ACCESS AND OPPORTUNITY CORE

Overall Goal

Our mission is to enhance research-driven, patient-centered cancer care at OU Health Stephenson Cancer Center by harnessing the rich perspectives, backgrounds, and experiences within our scientific and clinical workforce. We aim to drive innovation in cancer research and improve healthcare outcomes by investing in students, scientists, and clinicians passionate about increasing equitable access to cutting-edge treatments and support for all individuals impacted by cancer in Oklahoma. We welcome collaborations with cancer researchers, clinicians, and institutions interested in fostering access and opportunity in research and clinical practice. Reach out to discuss partnership opportunities and joint projects.

Specific Aims

1. Monitor and evaluate the participation of individuals from all backgrounds within the research workforce, center leadership, and advisory boards.
2. Promote policies and processes that enable and support a workplace in a cancer center for people of various lived experiences.
3. Support career-enhancing research opportunities for junior, early- and mid-career researchers from underserved backgrounds to prepare them for successful academic careers.
4. Establish infrastructure and utilize institutional resources to expand the pathway for trainees and students with different backgrounds through education and mentoring opportunities, with an emphasis on utilizing special opportunities in the catchment area.

Core Programs and Activities

- Developing Research Initiatives Through Versatile Oncology Exploration (D.R.I.V.E.) Program
- Inclusion Diversity Equity Action Survey
- Climate and Culture Survey
- Quarterly Faculty Dinners
- Monthly Cultural Oncology Lunch and Learn Series
- April 2025 Structural Competence Training
- Leadership Central
- mHealth Workshop Scholarship

Ways to Get Involved

- Participate in one or all our great programs. Watch your inbox for upcoming information and opportunities.

Contact:
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CANCER RESEARCH TRAINING AND EDUCATION COORDINATION (CRTEC) CORE

Overall Goal

The Cancer Research Training and Education Coordination (CRTEC) Core houses educational and professional development programs for high school students, undergraduates, post baccalaureate scholars, graduate students, post-doctoral students and medical fellows and faculty. CRTEC seeks to promote and strengthen the broad range of education and training opportunities across the cancer center.

Specific Aims

1. Provide effective oversight, planning and coordination for education, training and career enhancement throughout the cancer center pathway from middle school to junior faculty.
2. Leverage existing institutional programs to extend the reach and impact of cancer-focused education, training and career enhancement activities at the SCC.
3. Enhance the participation of women and minorities from historically underrepresented groups in education pathway and career development programs.

Core Programs and Activities

- See page two for full listing of CRTEC programs and activities

Ways to Get Involved

- Volunteer to serve as a mentor and host a trainee in your lab.
- Participate in one of the many training programs offered throughout the year.

Website:

Contact:

Rajagopal Ramesh, PhD: rajagopal-ramesh@ouhsc.edu
Stevie Warner, MA, MHR: stevie-warner@ouhsc.edu
General Questions: scccrtec@ouhsc.edu

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Cancer Research Training & Education Coordination (CRTEC) Programs at the OU Health Stephenson Cancer Center, University of Oklahoma Health Sciences

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The University of Oklahoma Health Sciences

High School Programs

YES OKLAHOMA

The Native American Youth Enjoy Science (YES Oklahoma; NCI R25CA274172) Program aims to engage up to 12 Native American high school rising juniors and seniors in an intensive summer internship that allows them to gain up to seven college credit hours, 60+ hours of hands-on laboratory training and professional networking activities. The program also engages four middle and high school science teachers in high needs communities by providing curriculum development, materials and supplies, and salary compensation.

YES Oklahoma also has outreach engagement locally, nationally and globally. An example of YES innovation is our placed-based health education materials in Indigenous languages. Overwhelmingly, our Tribal partners have valued these materials with a total of 47 completed posters/social media posts featuring 23 different phrases created in nine languages across seven language families in North, Central, and South America.

BE4NANO

The Bionanotechnology Engagement for Native Americans in Oklahoma (BE4NANO; NSF 2048130) aims to inspire successful careers as scientists and engineers in underserved and underrepresented student populations through engagement of at minority HS junior students in bionanotechnology via classroom and campus visits and summer camps and by creating an academic and social support network for undergraduates within the institution to facilitate academic success and professional development.

BRIDGE

The Building Research and Investment in Developing the Next Generation (BRIDGE) began its first 8-week summer program for OKC metro rising juniors and seniors to gain valuable job and laboratory training. Four students were hired in summer 2024 as research assistants and completed safety trainings, professional development activities, OUHSC O-Boarding, and over 200 hours of mentored research.

CURE JR.

OU Health Sciences Center and Stephenson Cancer Center provide an annual one-day program for 30+ Oklahoma high school students to learn about careers in cancer research and medicine. Participants learned directly from medical professionals and researchers about Colon Cancer, Public Health, Nursing, Biomedical Engineering, and Oncology as well as discussion on their personal career paths. Additional hands-on STEM activities included: cancer cell microscopy and tumor observation, bio-nanotechnology, marshmallow challenge, and a tour in our giant inflatable colon.

HS Summer Program Participants Learning About Colon Cancer in Our Inflatable Colon

Pre- & Post-Baccalaureate Programs

CURE

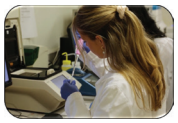
Established in 2010, the Cancer Undergraduate Research Experience (CURE) Program enables outstanding undergraduate students on a biomedical science career path to work alongside experienced cancer investigators to encourage their interests in and preparation for careers in cancer research and medicine.

Participants receive intensive hands-on training and experience in active cancer research laboratories over 9-weeks. In addition, the scholars also can take part in enrichment sessions, research seminar series, tumor boards, and many other exciting opportunities.

CURE Participant Presenting Their Poster

During the program, participants gain experience in oral and poster presenting via competitions which builds on their ability to organize, interpret and communicate research topics.

DiCR



DiCR Participant in the Laboratory

The Diversity in Cancer Research (DiCR; ACS INTR-23-1253708-01-DICR) Undergraduate Research Internship was established in 2022 to advance the diversity and inclusivity in cancer research-related careers and immerse the next generation of clinicians and scientists into an experience that will ignite innovation, problem-solving, and skills to assist in addressing inequality within cancer prevention, treatment and care.

Participants receive intensive hands-on training and experience in active cancer research laboratories over 10-weeks. In addition, the scholars also can take part in enrichment sessions, research seminar series, tumor boards, and many other exciting opportunities. During the program, participants gain experience in oral and poster presenting via competitions which builds on their ability to organize, interpret and communicate research topics.

STRONG

In 2024 the SCC launched the Scientific Training in Oncology (STRONG; ACS DICR POST-BACC-23-1156971-01-DPBACC) Post-baccalaureate Program. This program aims to increase diversity in the cancer-related workforce by increasing the number of under-represented groups in the biomedical field. The goal of this program is to expose fellows to cancer research and provide career development activities that will assist with preparing for entrance into professional schools and the pursuit of careers in biomedical sciences, data science, population health, public health or other health professions.

STRONG Participants and Program Staff at ACS Retreat in Atlanta, GA

The STRONG program is designed as a two-year cancer research experience. Along with laboratory exposure, scholars take part in graduate level coursework, seminar series, career development workshops and many other opportunities.

Graduate, Medical, & Post-Doctoral Programs

Oncology Sciences

The OU Health Stephenson Cancer Center has partnered with the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences (OUHS) Graduate College to introduce a degree granting graduate level program in oncology sciences. The Department of Oncology Sciences was created in 2022. The degree program and curriculum is planned to begin admissions in Fall of 2025.

TEIGAN Summer Program

Through a generous endowment fund from a donor, the TEIGAN Summer Program was implemented in 2023. The purpose of this summer program is to allow for an OU Medical Student with a passion in women's oncology to gain insight and experience in clinical and basic research in cancers that affect the female population such as breast, ovarian, cervical, endometrial, etc. The medical student joins a research laboratory for 8-weeks and is assigned a project. The student is given the opportunity to be engaged in near-peer mentoring, oral presentations, poster presentations, tumor boards, and many more activities.

ASCEND

Medical Student and Other Summer Participants at the Oral Presentation competition.

The Aspiring Scientists Engaged in Cancer Treatment (ASCEND) summer program began in summer of 2024. This program allows for up to 4 OU Medical Students to engage in clinical and basic research. The OU Health Stephenson Cancer Center understands that it is important for future clinicians to also have some basic knowledge in the realm of bench to bedside research.

ASCEND participants dedicate 8-weeks to a mentored research experience with peers and gain laboratory, oral presentation, poster presentation, and mentoring skills along with many other activities.

Postdoctoral Fellows

The OU Health Stephenson Cancer Center partners with the OUHS Graduate College's Office of Postdoctoral Affairs to support career & professional development for postdoctoral fellows. Fellows are provided opportunities to participate in seminars, workshops, the annual GREAT symposium, and the Preparing Future Faculty program. Postdocs are encouraged to have a voice and join CRTEC, SCC, and OUHS organized committees.

Clinical Fellowships

The OU Health Stephenson Cancer Center has partnered with the OU College of Medicine to implement and manage several oncology focused clinical fellowship programs including Gynecology Oncology, Hematology Oncology, Pediatric Oncology, Radiology Oncology, and Urology Oncology. These fellowships allow for clinicians to receive intense, specialized training in both the clinical aspect and the research aspect of treating cancer. This training consists of clinical trial exposure including creating investigator-initiated trials (IITs), tumor board participation, basic science laboratory research, and many more.

Hematology Oncology Fellows and Program Staff

Career Development Programs

ACS-IRG

The American Cancer Society Institutional Research Grant (ACS-IRG; ACS IRG-23-1143225-04-IRG) is a pilot award program providing seed funding for newly independent investigators to initiate cancer research projects. The intent is to support these junior faculty researchers in obtaining preliminary results that will enable them to compete successfully for national research grants.

DRIVE

The OU Health Stephenson Cancer Center initiated the Developing Research Initiatives through Versatile Oncology Exploration (DRIVE; NCI 3P30CA225520-07S2) program in 2023. This program focuses on supporting early-stage investigators (ESI) by hosting a series of grant writing workshops that assists participants with their first NIH grant application. This series of workshops breaks down the sections of the grant proposal and allows for peer-to-peer and mentored feedback to the participants. The goal is to increase funding rates of ESIs.

EMERGE

EMERGE: Cultivating Cancer Team Leadership is an initiative that was started in 2024. The program's overall goal is to develop best practices for enhancing the oncology leadership pathway by providing opportunities for career development and mentorship for existing and emerging cancer center leaders. Skill building activities consist of core leadership, developing and empowering the team, and knowing yourself to be able to lead others.

OCME

The OU Health Stephenson Cancer Center has partnered with Oklahoma Center for Mentoring Excellence (OCME; NIGMS U54GM104938) office to offer mentoring training and workshops to graduate students, postdoctoral fellows and faculty that engage in mentoring the next generation of the cancer workforce. These workshops focus on topics such as maintaining effective communication, aligning expectations, assessing understanding, addressing equity and inclusion, fostering independence, and promoting professional development.

PROMOTE

The OU Health Stephenson Cancer Center developed the Postdoctoral Researchers in Oncology Moving Towards Excellence (PROMOTE) program to have a formal mechanism to retain promising researchers as junior faculty. This program offers up to three junior faculty positions annually. The Cancer Center supports this program by providing salary, lab space, start-up funds, mentoring, grant development and other resources.

Research & Travel Awards

The Trainee Research Awards is for graduate students, professional students, and other oncology focused trainees. The objective of this award program is to enhance trainee career development opportunities and/or to augment resources towards basic, translational, clinical trial, or community-based cancer projects. Projects supported include preliminary data for grant applications, dissertation projects, etc.

Travel awards are available for trainees to attend national meetings in which the trainee is presenting oral or poster presentation.

Seminars, Conferences, Workshops and Consortium Activities

OK CAN TRAIN

Oklahoma Cancer Training (OK CAN TRAIN) is a bi-monthly seminar series that is managed by graduate students and research postdoctoral fellows. This series hosts an external speaker to present their research and discuss career pathways.

Trainee Lunch & Learn Series

The Lunch & Learn series is focused on topics relevant to trainees who are pursuing independent research careers. Examples are language barriers and skills, finance management, CV writing, interview skills, managing cultural differences, handling stress and burnout, etc.

Leadership Workshop

Research Engagement and Resource Forum

2024 ANNUAL CANCER RESEARCH SYPOSIUM
MARCH 1, 2024

OK Symposium on Pancreatic Cancer Cachexia
Hosted by OU Health Stephenson Cancer Center

Southwest Regional CRTEC Consortium

END CANCER
Emerging Nanotechnology & Drug Delivery Applications for Cancer

Web of Life Conference
April 25-26, 2024

IOCRC
International Ovarian Cancer Research Consortium

For additional information please contact our CRTEC office at SCCCRTEC@OUHSC.EDU

Acknowledgements

The CRTEC Core is grateful to our programs' sponsors and supporters. Our programs are supported by grants from NCI (5P30CA225520, R25 R25CA274172); NSF (2048130); ACS (INTR-23-1253708-01-DICR, DICR POST-BACC-23-1156971-01-DPBACC, IRG-23-1143225-04-IRG); NIGMS (U54GM104938), Presbyterian Health Foundation (PHF) as well as by the OU Health Stephenson Cancer Center and our generous donors.

CRTEC Staff with Summer Programs' Participants at Summer Retreat Event

COMMUNITY OUTREACH AND ENGAGEMENT CORE

Overall Goal

The goal of the Community Outreach and Engagement (COE) Core at the Stephenson Cancer Center (SCC) is to engage communities in research and provide direct outreach services to advance the SCC's mission-driven efforts to eliminate cancer in Oklahoma. As the only NCI-Designated Cancer Center in Oklahoma, the SCC serves the entire state, which has among the highest proportions of American Indian and rural residents in the nation. These and other underserved communities have distinct challenges related to cancer prevention, diagnosis, treatment and supportive care. The COE Core oversees and facilitates efforts to address priority cancers and cancer problems prevalent in these communities and throughout the state.

Specific Aims

1. To monitor and evaluate the Oklahoma Catchment Area (OKCA) cancer burden and disparities through surveillance of cancer incidence, mortality, survival and risk factors.
2. To engage communities throughout Oklahoma in bidirectional communication to stimulate planning of SCC, NCI and other cancer research and control efforts relevant to the OKCA.
3. To communicate community needs to SCC leadership, research programs, and Clinical Trials Office / PRMS to catalyze research focusing on priority cancers and cancer problems affecting the OKCA.
4. To collaboratively implement and disseminate SCC cancer control activities and policies to reduce cancer burden throughout the OKCA and beyond.

Core Programs and Activities

- NIMHD U19 Grant Awarded –- Improving Cancer Outcomes with Native American Communities (ICON
- National Cancer Institute Cancer Screening Research Network (CSRN)- Oklahoma, Tribal, Rural and Urban Cancer Screening Trial (OK TRUST) Access Hub
- Cancer InFocus
- Mobile Fleet- Low-dose CT Lung Screening and Mobile Mammography Vehicles

Ways to Get Involved

- Opportunities to present research at the Community Advisory Boards quarterly meetings
- Attend community outreach events
- Allow the Patient Research Advocacy Program to review research proposals prior to submitting your application

Website:

Contacts:

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Stephanie Pharr, MS: stephaniepharr@ouhsc.edu

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BIOSTATISTICS AND RESEARCH DESIGN SHARED RESOURCE (BRD SR)

Overall Goal

The Biostatistics and Research Design Shared Resource provides biostatistical and research design consultation and support for SCC members. The BRD SR supports SCC members through all phases of project development, including the design, implementation, conduct, analysis, and reporting of results.

Services/Supports

- Refining the question of interest
- Defining covariate and outcomes of interest
- Developing databases and data collection forms (paper or electronic)
- Sample size calculations
- Randomization plans and implementation
- Grant & manuscript writing with a focus on the statistical methods and results
- REDCap survey and data collection
- Instrument/survey development
- Creation and analysis of complex survey sampling frameworks
- Data Analysis and interpretation
- Novel analysis methods
- Planning, writing, and analysis for early phase trials
- Geographic Information Systems (GIS) spatial analysis
- Genetic epidemiology and bioinformatics
- Resident and fellow seminars available on request
  - o Epidemiology
  - o Biostatistics
  - o Trial implementation
  - o Data collection

Website:

Contact:

Scientific Director: Sara Vesely, PhD:
sara-vesely@ouhsc.edu

To request services:

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MOBILE HEALTH SHARED RESOURCE (mHEALTH)

The Mobile Health Technology Shared Resource (mHealth SR) facilitates the development of advanced mobile applications to prevent cancer (e.g., smoking cessation), supplement cancer treatments, and improve quality of life for cancer survivors. Also, the mHealth SR aims to reduce barriers that hamper engagement with effective treatments (e.g., lack of transportation, rural residence, disease-related stigma); thereby, expanding prescribed treatments to non-metropolitan areas and underserved groups.

The mHealth SR is currently staffed by 10 employees including 6 computer scientists and engineers. Over the past 9 years, the mHealth SR has developed and expanded the InsightTM mHealth Platform, which enables researchers with no computer science or programming background to build, test, and launch technology-based assessment and intervention tools (smartphone, tablet, sensors [e.g., wearable activity monitor]) via a mobile application (Android, iOS) on a HIPAA compliant platform. Data are encrypted within the smartphone application and automatically and securely uploaded into the secure mHealth server. Notably, InsightTM works offline (e.g., in Airplane mode) after initial application download.

Accomplishments: To date, the mHealth SR has supported > 110 studies (> 60 with NIH funding) worth > $70 million in total grant funding.

Services: The mHealth SR offers two service tiers:

Ecological Momentary Assessment (EMA)
The EMA service tier enables researchers to create surveys of varying lengths (e.g., brief daily diary, 200-item baseline) that can be prompted or self-initiated on participant smartphones and tablets at fixed (e.g., 30 minutes after waking), random, and participant selected times. Surveys can be created in virtually any language.
Just-in-Time Adaptive Intervention (JITAI). Fig. 1
The JITAI service tier enables researchers to use a robust feature set to assess risk in real-time (e.g., medication side effects, imminent smoking lapse) and provide tailored intervention content (e.g., text-based messages, video content).

JITAI Service Tier Features Include:
(1) Algorithm builder – enables researchers to intervene upon variables/symptoms in real-time (e.g., suggest ways to cope with stress when risk for smoking lapse is high). (2) Encrypted email – used to automatically email clinic/research staff when specific situations or symptoms are detected. (3) Unique message delivery (e.g., text, video, audio, website) when prespecified algorithm, date/time, on-demand or incoming sensor data criteria are met. (4) Automated randomization of participants into groups, re-randomization of participants into new groups (e.g., SMART designs), and randomization of moments to prompt (or not) specific interventions at specific times (e.g., micro-randomized trial designs). (5) Image uploader – allows participants to send encrypted pictures (e.g., cancerous moles, tobacco ads). (6) One-click phone call integration to link patients with important others (e.g., nursing staff, case managers).

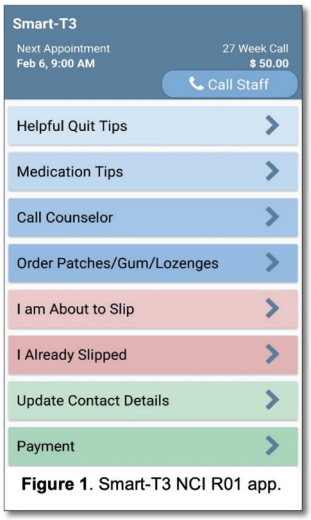

Figure 1. Smart-T3 NCI R01 app.

Project Requests:

Contact:
Scientific Director: Michael Businelle, PhD:
michael-businelle@ouhsc.edu

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MOLECULAR BIOLOGY AND CYTOMETRY RESEARCH SHARED RESOURCES (MBCR SR)

The MBCR SR is an institutionally managed, centralized facility that provides state-of-the-art technology and high-quality expertise for OUHSC investigators, including a variety of specialized services for SCC members. These include genomics services for all next generation sequencing techniques including bulk, single cell, and spatial transcriptomics as well as bioinformatics support for large multi-omic data sets. Additionally, flow cytometry and cell sorting analysis are offered.

Services

- Genomics – Next Generation Sequencing
- Metabolomics
- Bioinformatics
- Flow Cytometry and Imaging
- Proteomics
- High Containment Laboratory

Cancer Functional Genomics Core

Variable gene expression, across the genome, significantly impacts both the progression and prognosis of cancer. This core offers technology to provide accurate and reliable expression data in support of cancer-focused research.

Biomedical Structure and Function Laboratory Services

- Molecular cloning
- Protein over-expression, purification, or both
- 15-well crystallization tray for crystal size optimization
- Crystal handling services
- 96-well crystallization tray with robot for finding initial lead
- X-ray computation services
- 24-well crystallization tray for crystal size optimization
- Molecular modeling services by Dr. Mather

Website:

Contact:

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Muralidharan Jayaraman, PhD:
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Blaine Mooers, PhD:
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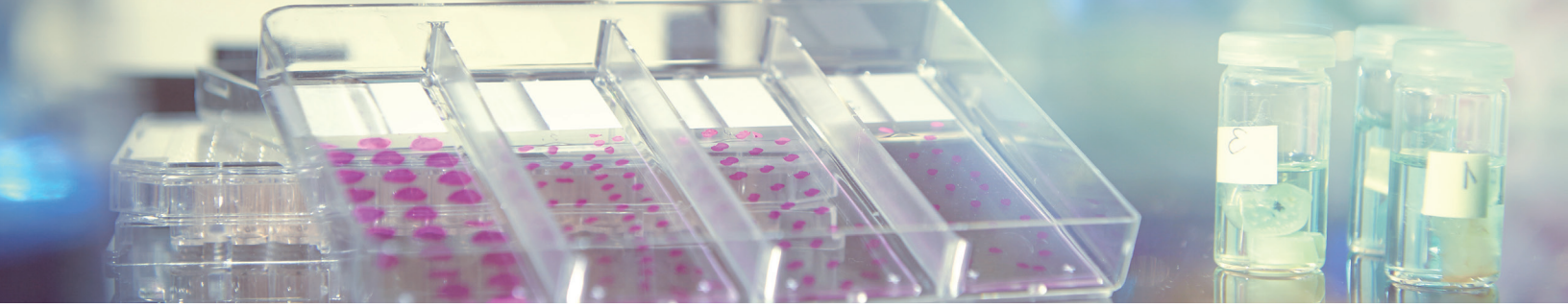

TISSUE PATHOLOGY & BIOSPECIMEN SHARED RESOURCE (TPB SR)

Major Functions

1. Provides comprehensive histology services
2. Collect and annotate fresh biospecimens and serves as an interface between our scientists and the pathology department.

Histology Services

Histology service can be obtained using iLab.

1. Assistance in interpretation of pathologic processes, staining results, and provide advices on design of experiments.
2. Conventional histology service: processing, embedding, sectioning of paraffin or frozen blocks, conventional staining such as hematoxylin-eosin, trichrome, and others, and obtaining paraffin cores from blocks for PCR and other molecular tests.
3. Construction of tissue microarray TMA) or cell block microarray using an automated TMA construction machine.
4. Automated multiplex immunohistochemistry, immunofluorescence, and in situ hybridization using chromogen or fluorescence probes that can detect microRNA, RNA 50–300 nt, and 300–1,000 nt.
5. Bright-field and fluorescence (up to 7 channels) whole slide scanning.
6. User operated whole slide scan based image analysis using HALO or Leica-Aperio image analysis software.
7. Digital conventional photomicrography: bright-field, fluorescent, and polarized light.
8. Laser capture microscopic dissection, RareCell ISET for isolating of circulating tumor cells.

Biospecimen Services

Biospecimen arm services can be obtained by contacting Dr. Fung.

1. Use of pre-existing, annotated human tissue in the biospecimen bank. This includes tissue and fluid.
2. Use of fresh and/or fixed gross specimen for research.
3. Assist in prospective collection of tissue. Collection protocol can be tailored to the need of the investigator.
4. Assist in search, including creation of search list, and retrieval of archival formalin fixe paraffin embedded materials from the Department of Pathology.
5. Assist in assurance of quality including percentage of viable tumor of archival material.
6. Assist in targeting for TMA construction.
7. Assist in scanning in hematoxylin-eosin slides including human archival materials and experimental samples slides for easy access simultaneously for multiple investigators or for other studies such as AI imaging studies.

Website:

Request TPB SR Services:

Contact:

- Scientific Director: Kar-Ming Fung, MD, PhD: karming-fung@ouhsc.edu
- Personnel includes a research pathologist and technical staff that provide histology and imaging services

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OFFICE OF CANCER RESEARCH
CCSG SUPPORT AND PROGRAM ENGAGEMENT

Office of Cancer Research

The Office of Cancer Research is the central administrative unit of the Stephenson Cancer Center (SCC) that provides support for external grant submissions, scientific writing and editing, CCSG support and program engagement, CCSG data management, and assistance with SCC strategic initiatives and internal grants.

CCSG Support and Program Engagement

The Project Coordinator Core supports SCC's CCSG research programs (e.g., Cancer Biology, Cancer Prevention and Control, Cancer Therapeutics). The core provides administrative, logistical, and membership support, ensuring successful research initiatives and access to essential resources.

Services Include:

- Cancer Center Membership: Offering networking and funding opportunities within a collaborative environment.
- Administrative Support for Shared Resources: Tissue Pathology and Biospecimen (TPB), Molecular Biology and Cytometry Research (MBCR), Mobile Health Technology (mHealth), Biostatistics and Research Design (BRD)
- Research Program Support: Facilitating meetings, seminars, communication, and data tracking.

Contact:
Office of Cancer Research, General Inquiries
Phone: 405-271-4892 | Email: cancerresearch@ouhsc.edu

Program Administrator, Marcy LaFerr:
marcenella-laferr@ouhsc.edu

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OFFICE OF CANCER RESEARCH
PROPOSAL SERVICES

Office of Cancer Research

The Office of Cancer Research is the central administrative unit of the Stephenson Cancer Center (SCC) that provides support for external grant submissions, scientific writing and editing, CCSG support and program engagement, CCSG data management, and assistance with SCC strategic initiatives and internal grants.

Proposal Services

The Proposal Services Team supports SCC members and trainees throughout the entire grant application process. We collaborate with the OUHSC Office of Research Administration (ORA) to route projects through SoonerTrack for review and approval. Post-award, we assist with progress reports.

Services Include:

- Providing document checklists
- Budget preparation
- Subcontract document management
- Compiling "Other Support" documents
- Formatting biosketches
- Uploading and compiling documents in the correct application format
- Routing applications through SoonerTrack
- Communicating with ORA and sponsors on the principal investigator's behalf

Contact:
Proposal Services Manager, Shane Magness, MBA:
shane-magness@ouhsc.edu
Team Inbox: SCC-ProposalServices@ouhsc.edu

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OFFICE OF CANCER RESEARCH
PUBLICATION MANAGEMENT

Office of Cancer Research

The Office of Cancer Research is the central administrative unit of the Stephenson Cancer Center (SCC) that provides support for external grant submissions, scientific writing and editing, CCSG support and program engagement, CCSG data management, and assistance with SCC strategic initiatives and internal grants.

Publication Management

We assist SCC members with managing publications for NIH grant progress reports, ensuring compliance with NIH policies. We also provide support for managing NCBI accounts and linking publications to funding through the NIHMS system.

Contact:
Senior Data Coordinator, Jessica Berg, MLIS:
jessica-berg@ouhsc.edu

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OFFICE OF CANCER RESEARCH
SCIENTIFIC WRITING AND EDITING

Office of Cancer Research

The Office of Cancer Research is the central administrative unit of the Stephenson Cancer Center (SCC) that provides support for external grant submissions, scientific writing and editing, CCSG support and program engagement, CCSG data management, and assistance with SCC strategic initiatives and internal grants.

Scientific Writing and Editing

We offer comprehensive scientific writing and editing services, including development, writing, and proofreading for grants, manuscripts, and other documents.

Services Include:

- Grant development, writing, editing, and proofreading
- Manuscript development, writing, editing, and submission support
- Writing, editing, and proofreading of miscellaneous documents

Contact:

Associate Professor of Research, Daniel Morton, PhD:

daniel-morton@ouhsc.edu

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OFFICE OF CANCER RESEARCH
STRATEGIC INITIATIVES & INTERNAL GRANTS

The Office of Cancer Research is the central administrative unit of the Stephenson Cancer Center (SCC) that provides support for external grant submissions, scientific writing and editing, CCSG support and program engagement, CCSG data management, and assistance with SCC strategic initiatives and internal grants.

Strategic Initiatives and Internal Grants

The Strategic Initiative Team manages SCC's targeted and multi-component infrastructure grants, including CCSG and other key grants. The team also oversees SCC's internal grant programs, coordinating pilot grants and supporting multidisciplinary research.

Services Include:

- Project Management:
  - o Proposal planning with timelines and checklists
  - o Document coordination and status updates for principal investigators
  - o Resource allocation through the Office of Cancer Research
  - o Coordination of planning meetings and campus collaborations
- Pilot Grants:
  - o Outlining solicitations with Program Leaders
  - o Coordinating application intake and review processes
  - o Managing grant awards and account setup
  - o Conducting annual surveys to measure program impact
  - o Providing regular reports to Program Leaders

Internal Funding Opportunities

Website:

Contact:

Strategic Initiatives Manager, Alexandra C. LeGrant, CRA:
alexandra-legrant@ouhsc.edu

Team Inbox:
SCC-InternalGrants@ouhsc.edu

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CENTER FOR BIOMEDICAL RESEARCH EXCELLENCE (COBRE)

The COBRE program is dedicated to advancing cancer research by exploring therapeutic resistance and identifying mitigating strategies to overcome it. By targeting critical vulnerabilities in cancers, the program aims to enhance the efficacy of treatments, ultimately improving outcomes for cancer patients in Oklahoma and across the nation.

PI & Director: Danny N. Dhanasekaran, PhD: danny-dhanasekaran@ouhsc.edu

Cores:

Cell and Tissue Analysis Core

Director: Muralidharan Jayaraman, PhD, MBA: muralidharan-jayarman@ouhsc.edu

This core provides support for cell and tissue based research, focusing on Cell and Tissue Analysis three specific aims:

1. To provide consultation on experimental design and interpretation of results for cell and tissue analysis.
2. To provide comprehensive cell and tissue analysis.
3. To provide cell line authentication and mycoplasma testing service.

Provided Services:

- Tissue Microarray (TMA) Construction
- Bio-Rad Real-Time PCR System
- Immunofluorescence Staining
- Seahorse Flex Analyzer
- Specialized Staining
- Rare Cell ISET CTC Isolation System
- TUNEL (Terminal deoxynucleotidyl transferase dUTP Nick-End Labeling)
- Human Cell Line Authentication and Mycoplasma Testing
- RNAscope (Chromogen/Fluorescence), miRNAscope, and BaseScope Analyses

Cell and Molecular Imaging Core

Director: Jihee Ha, PhD: jihee-ha@ouhsc.edu

The Cell and Molecular Imaging Core will accomplish three aims:

1. To provide consultation and assistance for studies related to cell and molecular imaging.
2. To provide image based analysis to monitor gene expression and function in cancer cells.
3. To assist in high-throughput and high-content imaging of live cells.

Equipment and services:

- Agilent Bioanalyzer
- Nikon Microscope System
- Agilent Surescan Scanner
- Olympus Inverted Microscope System
- EVOS Fluorescent Inverted Microscope
- PerkinElmer IVIS Spectrum Bioluminescence Imaging System
- Gelcount Colony Counter
- PerkinElmer Operetta System

Pilot Project Program

COBRE offers three annual Pilot Grant Awards aimed at mentoring and funding Junior faculty in cancer research. This program is designed to cultivate the next generation of independent cancer researchers by providing both the resources and mentorship needed to advance their careers.

- Dr. Priyabrata Mukherjee (Chair, Pilot Project Program): priyabrata-mukherjee@ouhsc.edu
- Dr. Resham Bhattacharya (Mentor): resham-bhattacharya@ouhsc.edu
- Dr. Ralf Janknecht (Mentor): ralf-janknecht@ouhsc.edu

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CLINICAL TRIALS OFFICE (CTO)

The Clinical Trials Office provides centralized management and support services for all aspects of clinical trials research at the Stephenson Cancer Center.

Services

- Regulatory submissions and monitoring
- Protocol design and development
- Monitoring protocol compliance
- Budget development and contract negotiation
- Screening and enrollment of eligible patients
- Data collection, monitoring and reporting
- Adverse event reporting
- Coordination of patient treatment on research study
- Maintaining an online library of up-to-date protocol, consent and amendment documents
- Biospecimen acquisition
- Training and education of staff
- Clinical research information

Contact:
Executive Director, Sarah Wilson:
sarah-a-wilson@ouhsc.edu

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POST AWARD FINANCE TEAM (PAF)

The SCC Post Award Finance Team (PAF) is responsible for the day-to-day financial management of SCC faculty's external awarded grant funding, pilot projects and other SCC designated financial commitments, like salary savings or start-up funds.

The PAF team works closely with the SCC Proposal Services and SCC Strategic Initiative teams.

The PAF team consists of eleven grant managers and two accounting coordinators to help support you.

Services:

- Effort allocations/payroll salary sources
- SoonerTrack routing for grant related sub-awards and contractor agreements
- Required monthly reconciliation reports for grant and SCC commitment accounts
- Pre-reviews of grant Time/Effort Certifications (eCRT)
- Works with ORA and GCA
- Assists PIs with grant rebudget or no-cost extension requests
- Reviews spending for financial compliance with sponsor regulations

Contact:
scc-postawardfinance@ouhsc.edu

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