16ᵗʰ Annual Spotlight on Early Career Investigators—
A Cancer Research Mini-Symposium

Chair: Laura Fejerman, PhD, Assistant Director for Education, Training, and Career Development
UC Davis Comprehensive Cancer Center

Thursday, April 28, 2022

Time	Event
1:30PM – 2:30PM	**Poster Session with refreshments**
2:30PM – 2:35PM	Welcome: Laura Fejerman, PhD and Primo "Lucky" Lara, MD
2:35PM – 2:55PM	**Keynote Address:** Shehnaz K Hussain, PhD. *My Path in Cancer Epidemiology Forged by Mentorship, Opportunity, and Serendipity*
2:55PM – 3:00PM	Q&A
3:00PM – 3:10PM	Nicole Halmai, PhD. *Establishing and Characterizing Patient-Derived Models from Racial/Ethnic Minority Gastric Cancer Patients to Advance Cancer Precision Health Equity*
3:10PM – 3:15PM	Q&A
3:15PM – 3:25PM	Christina Theodorou, MD. *Factors Associated with Unplanned Readmissions in Pediatric Surgical Oncology Patients*
3:25PM – 3:30PM	Q&A
3:30PM – 3:40PM	Abd-elrahman Hassan. *Effect of Engineered Placental Mesenchymal Stem Cells and Bone Marrow-Derived Mesenchymal Stem/Stromal Cells on the Proliferation of Neuroblastoma Cells*
3:40PM – 3:45PM	Q&A
3:45PM – 4:00PM	**BREAK with refreshment**
4:00PM – 4:10PM	Wen-Hsin Chang, PhD. *Repression of PRMT5-Mediated Dimethylation Stabilizes Vimentin and Promotes Metastasis in MTAP-Loss Lung Cancer*
4:10PM – 4:15PM	Q&A
4:15PM – 4:25PM	Brandon Nguyen. *High Levels of CD47 Expression in Thymoma and Thymic Carcinoma*
4:25PM – 4:30PM	Q&A
4:30PM – 4:40PM	Aryana Razmara. *Allogeneic Natural Killer Cells and Palliative Radiotherapy in the Treatment of Canine Cancer*
4:40PM – 4:45PM	Q&A
4:45PM – 4:55PM	**BREAK**
4:55PM – 5:00PM	Presentation Winners Announced and Closing Remarks from Laura Fejerman, PhD

Poster Sessions 1:30PM – 2:30PM

#	Presenter and Presentation
1	Naod Kelete. *Cancer Variations and Disparities in the Central Valley*
2	Tarek Bacha. *Effect of a Ketogenic Diet on Pancreatic Carcinogenesis in Mice*
3	Orli Algranatti. *Salmeterol Xinafoate, Selectively Triggers Death on Glioma Cells*
4	Maria Munoz. *Development of a Spontaneously Metastatic Soft-Tissue Sarcoma Model*
5	Brian Pham. *Genomic Landscape of SMARCA4-deficient Lung Tumors by Clinical RNA Sequencing*
6	Ed O'Donnell. *Targeting of Soft Tissue Sarcoma Cancer Stem Cells Improves Doxorubicin-Sensitivity in Vitro*
7	Nianxin Yang. *Nuclear Receptor ROR-Gamma Promotes Aberrant Cholesterol Homeostasis in Advanced Prostate Cancer*
8	Sarah Wang. *Identifying the Role of Pdzrn3 Hypermethylation in Pancreatic Cancer Metastasis*
9	Xiong Zhang. *Epigenetic Regulator BRD4 Inhibition Disrupts Neuronal Signaling to Suppress NEPC Progression*
10	Julia Persky. *Characterization of Natural Killer and Cytotoxic T Cell Immune Infiltrates in Pancreatic Ductal Adenocarcinoma*
11	Su Yeon Lee. *Predictive Factors for Oncologic Diagnosis in Pediatric Patients Undergoing Open Cervical Lymph Node Biopsy*
12	Lauren Farley. *Inhaled Recombinant Human IL-15 in Dogs with Naturally Occurring Pulmonary Metastases from Osteosarcoma or Melanoma: A Phase 1 Study of Clinical Activity and Correlates of Response*
13	Ariel Yen, Weijie Ma. *A First-In-Human Phase I Open-Label Study of a Novel Cancer Vaccine LabVax 3(22)-23 and Adjuvant GM-CSF in Patients with Advanced Stage Adenocarcinomas*
14	Sylvia Cruz. *Characterization of the Tumor Immune Microenvironment in Soft Tissue Sarcoma Patients Undergoing Surgery*
15	Hemali Panchal. *Low Lymphocyte Counts are Associated with Poor Clinical Outcomes in Hospitalized Cancer Patients Receiving Immune Checkpoint Inhibitors*
16	Nema Bassiri. *Lymphocyte-Sparing Radiotherapy: Reducing Dose to Lymphocyte-Related Organs at Risk in Locally Advanced Lung Cancer*
17	Matt Lara. *A Phase Ia Study of Ceritinib + Trametinib in Patients with Advanced ALK Positive Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer (NSCLC): Preliminary Results*
18	Julianne Cooley. *Identifying Late-Stage Cervical Cancer Presentation in California: A Machine Learning Approach*
19	Skylar Foust. *Comparative Analysis of Biotin Ligases AirID, UltraID, and TurboID for Mechano-Transduction*
20	Gustavo Costa. *Y-90 PET Imaging Post Liver Radioembolization: System Modeling with Monte Carlo Simulations*

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21 Gabriella Lai. *Deciphering Force-Induced Interactions of Keratin and Cten Using in Vitro Microneedle Stretch*

22 Carlos Ruvalcaba. *Modeling of Catheter Microsphere Injection for Patient Specific Y-90 Radioembolization*

23 Karen Zhao. *Defining the Minimum Force Sensitive Sequence of Tensin 3*

24 Hanna Koster. *Critical Evaluation of Mass Spectrometry and Raman Spectroscopy for Liquid Biopsy Cancer Diagnostics*