

Fellows In Focus

Spring 2008

The University of Texas M. D. Anderson Cancer Center
Cancer Prevention Research Training Program
www.CancerPreventionTraining.org

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS
MD ANDERSON
CANCER CENTER



FUNDING UPDATE: R25T CA057730 “M. D. Anderson Education Program in Cancer Prevention” – Full-time fellowship support for Predoctoral and Postdoctoral trainees

3

Meet some of our
Trainees

4

Congratulations!

6

News You Can Use

8

Events

9

From The Mouths...

10

Current Trainees

The good news: Our R25T multi-year training grant received funds from the NCI to support the program for years 16 to 20. The bad news: Year 16 was cut by 18.5%, an amount equal to the funding support for two postdoctoral fellows and three pre-doctoral fellows each year. In past, cuts to our training grant awards have averaged 2 to 3%.

This large cut to the R25T budget at M. D. Anderson is typical of cuts to some recent program awards to other institutions that we have learned about. To us, this signals either the loss of favored and protected status of extramural grants funded by the NCI Cancer Training Branch (<http://www.cancer.gov/researchandfunding/training>), the inability of the NCI leadership to stretch its dollars for training the next generation of scientists and clinicians, other harbingers of difficult times for trainees and training, or all of the above. Over the past few years, in spite of a flat NCI budget, the NCI Executive Committee had provided additional funds at the end of the fiscal year to its Cancer Training Branch to fund a few more programs and junior scientists, even when other extramural programs at the NCI had to make deep cuts to grant awards. Apparently now, the extramural training programs are experiencing the same reductions as research grant awards.

Although the number of individuals affected in our program is small relative to the numbers in training across the country, such decisions will have negative long-term downstream effects on both the growth of the workforce in cancer prevention and control as well as the pace of progress in research and in application. Layer this on top of the worrying results of a report released earlier in 2007 from the American Society for Clinical Oncology forecasting a major shortage of medical oncologists for 2020 (<http://www.asco.org/portal/site/ASCO/menuitem.5d1b4bae73a9104ce277e89a320041a0/?vgnnextoid=d84712afaa731110VgnVCM100000ed730ad1RCRD>) and the realization sets in that funding for the NIH and money for cancer prevention and the training of its next generation of leaders needs to be reprioritized in the agendas of those who can help. Rest assured that for their part, Drs. Chamberlain and Chang have a multi-pronged strategy to ensure training and support of as many students and fellows as possible.

Nonetheless, the future continues to be bright for our trainees, who are having success with their career award applications to the NCI (See “Congratulations!”), offers of faculty positions, and research awards. This supports our belief that trainees coming from strong institutions, like M. D. Anderson, will generally fare better, even when NIH extramural budgets are restricted.

Now Accepting Applications for Spring and Summer 2008!

RESERVE YOUR SPOT!

3-Month Appointments: All graduate students and minority undergraduate students are eligible for 3-month fellowship. Graduate students must be currently enrolled in an accredited graduate program or medical school.

Deadline: Applications are due every 15th of each month. Application processing requires 5 weeks from submission to appointment.

FLEXIBLE START DATES!

6-Month Appointments: Applicants who wish to submit an application for the 6-month fellowship must be (1) enrolled in a doctoral program and hold a master's degree or equivalent from appropriate health science disciplines.

(2) Intend to apply for a multi-year fellowship supported by our NCI R25T training program.

Contact Dee Tello, Academic Coordinator at 713/745-2495
DTello@MDAnderson.org



R25E “Cancer Prevention Education - Student Research

“Got cancer prevention research experience?” Okay, that may be too cheesy for a good motto, but it captures the essence of the “Cancer Prevention Education – Student Research Experiences” NCI-funded R25-E program at M. D. Anderson: to recruit talented and committed health science graduate students and underrepresented minority undergraduate students to exciting careers in cancer prevention research and practice. Maybe that was you at one time? Or will be a friend of yours in the near future? After you refer him or her to us?

In 2007, with Bob Chamberlain at the helm, the program competed successfully for its renewal of continuous funding for years 16-20 based on its past success and its plans to develop a new graduate-level course whose working title is “Biobehavioral Research Methods in Cancer Prevention.” Bob and his co-principal investigator, Shine Chang, have assembled a 23-member committee to help them develop the structure and content of the course, which is planned for a fall 2009 launch date. Challenges include meeting the diverse educational needs of a multi-disciplinary student population, developing a course structure to showcase the integrated approaches used in this emerging area of research and application, and finding the faculty to teach it. While many faculty have expertise in more than one discipline, most were not trained in a cross-disciplinary or integrated fashion as has been suggested for the new course. Stay tuned for updates as the course develops.

In addition to the usual 3-month appointments, the R25-E program received seven new 6-month research experience slots for doctoral students nearing their qualifying exams, who intend to apply for multi-year predoctoral training positions with the NCI-funded R25T

“M. D. Anderson Education Program in Cancer Prevention Program” also led by Bob Chamberlain. The new requirements and eligibility criteria for both the R25E and R25T funding mechanisms are available at the

website (www.CancerPreventionTraining.org). Candidates (for the 6-month positions) should be in a doctoral degree program nearing the time for their qualifying exams and intending to submit an application for a R25T predoctoral traineeship for both the NCI-funded R25E and R25T programs. We are looking for student candidates who are US citizens and permanent residents and want to find out what research in cancer prevention is all about! Send them to us!



INQUIRING MINDS WANT TO KNOW: A QUESTION TO OUR READERS

Q. Why did you choose the career route that you did? Did our program help you along the way? How?



PLEASE SEND YOUR ANSWERS VIA EMAIL
C/O JESSICA LINGERFELT AT
JLINGERFELT@MDANDERSON.ORG

Meet Some of Our Trainees

The Division of Cancer Prevention is proud to introduce the newest awardees of the Cancer Prevention Research Training Program at UT M. D. Anderson. This program prepares future scientists to assume roles as research investigators in the field of cancer prevention. Potential applicants select a full-time M. D. Anderson faculty member involved in cancer prevention research who will supervise the trainees throughout the fellowship. Applicants also work closely with a co-mentor from a specialty or discipline different from that of the primary mentor. Many of these fellowships are funded by the National Cancer Institute and these require that applicants be United States citizens or lawfully admitted permanent residents.



Jessica Clague, M.P.H., obtained her degree at Yale University in 2006 in Concentration in Chronic Disease Epidemiology. She is currently enrolled as a doctoral student in Epidemiology at the UT School of Public Health.

Jessica's training in Epidemiology is supported by a cancer prevention fellowship by the National Cancer Institute grant (R25 57730, Robert M. Chamberlain, Ph.D., and Shine Chang, Ph.D., Co-Principal Investigators). She is mentored by Xifeng Wu, M.D., Ph.D.

Her proposal is entitled *"A Case-control Study of the D2 Dopamine Receptor Gene and Smoking Status in Bladder Cancer Patients."*



Michelle Hildebrandt, Ph.D., is a postdoctoral fellow in the department of Epidemiology.

Her doctoral training is in Pharmacology and she was sent here from the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, MN, by her mentor, Dr. Richard Weinshilboun, a leader in pharmacogenetics.

The title of her project is "Pharmacogenomics of Cisplatin-based Chemotherapy on Esophageal Cancer." She is mentored by Xifeng Wu, M.D., Ph.D.

Her training in Epidemiology is supported by a cancer prevention fellowship by the National Cancer Institute grant (R25 CA5642, Robert M. Chamberlain, Ph.D. and Shine Chang, Ph.D., Co-Principal Investigators).

Darla Kenzor, Ph.D., obtained her doctoral degree at Louisiana State University in 2007 in Clinical Psychology.

Dr. Kenzor's is mentored by Dr. David Wetter in the Department of Health Disparities Research. Her training is supported by a cancer prevention fellowship by the National Institute grant (R25 CA57730).

Her proposal is entitled *"Relations of Race-Ethnicity and Gender with Smoking-Related Weight Concerns; Mediator and Moderator Effects on Smoking Cessation and Treatment Attrition."*



Amanda Collier, M.P.H., Ph.D., obtained her degree at Columbia University in 2000, specializing in Environmental Health Science.

Amanda is mentored by Dr. Randa El-Zein in the Department of Epidemiology. Her training is supported by a cancer prevention fellowship by the National Cancer Institute grant (R25 CA57730).

Her proposal is entitled *"The Study of Genomic Transposable Elements and Genetic Instability in Hodgkin's Disease"*



Congratulations!

Meet Some of Our Trainees continued

Michael Businelle, Ph.D., is a postdoctoral fellow in the Department of Health Disparities Research.

He received his Ph.D. at Louisiana State University in Clinical Psychology, and is mentored by Drs. David Wetter, Jennifer Irvin Vidrine, and Yisheng Li.

The title of his project is "The relationship between alcohol use and smoking lapse: Individual difference and momentary models."

Dr. Businelle's training is supported by a cancer prevention fellowship by the National Cancer Institute grant (R25 CA57730, Robert M. Chamberlain, Ph.D. and Shine Chang, Ph.D., Co-Principal Investigators).

Jiangong Niu, Ph.D., obtained his doctoral degree at the University of Texas School of Public Health in Houston in Cancer Biology.

Dr. Niu's training is supported by a cancer prevention fellowship by the National Cancer Institute grant (R25 CA57730).

The title of his project is "The roles of p53-PIG3 mediated apoptosis pathway in the susceptibility to squamous cell carcinoma of the head and neck."

He is a Postdoctoral Fellow in the Department of Epidemiology and mentored by Drs. Qingyi Wei and Sanjay Shete.



Carlos Mazas, Ph.D., from the Department of Health Disparities Research has been awarded a KO7 Award from the NCI for his project titled: "Ecological Monetary Assessment of Smoking Cessation in Spanish-Speaking Smokers."

The specific aim of this project is to examine the mechanisms underlying the process of smoking cessation and relapse among Spanish-speaking smokers, and how these mechanisms are influenced by factors such as education and acculturation. The proposed study will address these issues by examining real-time, momentary changes in affect, self-efficacy, expectancies, motivation, craving, stress, and social support in the natural environment.



Lorraine Reitzel, Ph.D., from the Department of Health Disparities Research has been awarded a KO1 from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for her project titled: "The Effects of Neighborhood Characteristics on Smoking Cessation."

Specific aims of this project are to 1) Evaluate the relation between neighborhood characteristics (including neighborhood-level SES, racial/ ethnic composition, neighborhood problems, vigilance, social cohesion, and social control) and smoking abstinence; 2) Evaluate the relation of stress, depression, negative affect, self-efficacy, and social support with neighborhood characteristics and with smoking abstinence, respectively; and 3) Evaluate association between neighborhood characteristics and abstinence.

Her Primary Mentor is Dr. David Wetter

With the award of her KO1, Lorraine finished her R25T postdoctoral fellowship early.

Dr. Reitzel has also accepted a position as a NRTA Assistant Professor in the Department of Health Disparities Research, effective December 1, 2007.



Congratulations! continued

Ph.D. Awarded!



Jill Amaon, Ph.D.
Mentors: Sara Strom, Ph.D., and
Sergio Giral, M.D. (not pictured).

Title of Dissertation: "Obesity and Risk of Myeloma: A case-control study"

*Jill is currently applying for positions in Australia.



Mala Pande, Ph.D.
Mentors: Christopher Amos, Ph.D., and
Marsha Frazier, Ph.D.
(Both not pictured).

Title of Dissertation: "Modifier genes and susceptibility to colorectal cancer in Lynch syndrome"

Mala was also recently awarded a R25 Postdoctoral Fellowship

New Author!



Jason Robinson, Ph.D., an Instructor in Behavioral Science and a former R25 Postdoc, is first author of an article that resulted from his R25 project. The name of the article is "Facial EMG as an index of affective response to nicotine."

Exp Clin Psychopharmacol. 2007
Aug;15(4):390-9.

His mentors were Drs. Paul Cinciripini and David Wetter.

Hawk as Vice President, Division Head

Ernest Hawk, M.D., M.P.H., has been appointed vice president and division head for Cancer Prevention and Population Sciences, succeeding Bernard Levin, M.D., who has retired.

Hawk has held multiple positions at the National Cancer Institute since 1996, recently serving as Director of the Office of Centers, Training and Resources. Other roles have been

- Chief and medical officer in the Gastrointestinal and Other Cancers Research Group
- Medical officer in the Chemoprevention Branch
- Chair of the recently formed Translational Research Working Group

He has been involved in chemoprevention research focused on nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs and COX-2 inhibitors. Earning many awards, he notably was awarded the NCI Research Award for Distinguished Achievement in Cancer Prevention.

A native of Detroit, Hawk earned his medical degrees, along with his bachelor's at Wayne State University and his master of public health degree at Johns Hopkins. Completing an internal medicine internship and residency at Emory University, he also completed a medical oncology clinical fellowship at the University of California, San Francisco, and a career prevention fellowship at NCI.

His newly appointed Executive Assistant, Cheri McClellan, was formerly Administrative Assistant to Robert M. Chamberlain, Ph.D., Deputy Chair and Distinguished Professor, and Shine Chang Ph.D., Associate Professor and Director of the Cancer Prevention Research Training Program.

Although Cheri's departure from the Program is a loss of a professional and considerate colleague of ours, the Program is pleased she was chosen for her new role in the Office of the Vice President and delighted she will continue to support the Division of Cancer Prevention and Population Sciences and the Program in her new position.



Trainee Forum

We successfully completed our eighth Trainee Forum on Friday, January 25, 2008. The Trainee Forum provides trainees to meet one another and share and learn from each other's projects. Fellows got a tour of the Behavioral Research and Treatment Center, as well as research presentations by Daniel Hughes, PhD, Jennifer Jovanovis, M.Ed, & Leah Critchley, M.Ed.

The next Trainee Forum is scheduled for Thursday, June 12, 2008, which will be open for all Division of Cancer Prevention & Population Sciences Trainees & their Mentors.



Dr. Daniel Hughes shows Trainees an exercise test in the Behavioral Research & Treatment Center

Writing Abstracts

A new short course in one of Scientific Publications' most requested topics, abstract writing, is now available online at: <http://inside.mdanderson.org/resources/static/departments/scientific-publications/abstracts-lesson/>

Available on the Scientific Publications intranet site, the lesson takes about one hour to complete. Its interactive segments involve users:

- Identifying the necessary components of basic science and clinical research abstracts
- Studying abstract examples
- Learning how to properly structure abstracts
- Discriminating between well-written and poorly written sample abstracts
- Completing an assessment

The online version enables self-paced learning and allows for extended study of the abstract examples that are provided.

Results of the assessment completed by each participant at the end of the online course are shared with only the participant, who may print a certificate of completion for his or her education file. A general survey captures demographic data only.

For more information about "Writing Abstracts," visit the Scientific Publications intranet site <link to: <http://inside.mdanderson.org/departments/scipub/index.html>> or send e-mail to Carrie Cameron via Lotus Notes.

(Training and Alumni Affairs, TAA Highlight newsletter, Copyright 2007. URL: http://www.mdanderson.org/pdf/taa_101007.pdf)



Are you an Alumni Member?

Have you been a 'trainee' at M. D. Anderson Cancer Center for at least six months?

If you answered yes, then we would like to welcome you to the membership M. D. Anderson Alumni and Faculty Association. The Association is made up of current and former faculty members and trainees who enjoy a number of benefits. The M. D. Anderson Alumni and Faculty Association launched the Alumni Quest campaign in November 2007 to identify and locate alumni members who have left the institution and for whom we have no contact information. The campaign also was a major effort in securing up-to-date contact information for all alumni members. Because of this initiative, our membership has more than tripled. We continue to look for our 'lost' alums...especially those who work outside of the United States.

You can help us with our Alumni Quest campaign by:

- Notifying us of any changes in your address;
- Completing forwarding information on exit documentation at the end of your appointment; and
- Informing the Alumni and Faculty Association of the whereabouts of fellow trainees who work internationally.

If you have any information on your fellow alums or if you have questions about Alumni Quest or your membership in the M. D. Anderson Alumni and Faculty Association, please do not hesitate to contact us at 713-794-1955 or at alumni@mdanderson.org

Thank you, from the Alumni Office Staff: Alma Hernandez, Jakmica McKinney, Sharon Pepper and Jennifer Price.

(Training and Alumni Affairs, TAA Highlight newsletter, Copyright 2007. URL: http://www.mdanderson.org/pdf/taa_101007.pdf)

Events

Cancer Prevention Grand Rounds

The Brown Bag Seminar Series....

Anita Kinney, Ph.D.

Associate Professor
Division of Clinical Epidemiology,
Dept of Internal Medicine
Co-Leader, Cancer Control and Pop'n Sciences Program
Huntsman Cancer Institute

Title:

Utilization of Screening Tests among Members of FAP Families

Friday, June 6, 2008

CPB 8, Rooms 3 & 4

8:30-9:30

Gloria Petersen, Ph.D.

Professor of Epidemiology
Health Sciences Research
Mayo Clinic

Title:

New Insights in Genetics of Pancreatic Cancer

Tuesday, June 24, 2008

CPB 8, Rooms 3 & 4

8:30-9:30

Karrie Wheatley B.A.

R25 Predoctoral Fellow in Carcinogenesis

"Obesity, Exercise and Breast Cancer: The Role of p53"

Tuesday, May 27, 2008

CPB4.3650

11:00-12:00

Laura Lashinger, Ph.D.

R25 Postdoctoral Fellow in Carcinogenesis

In accordance with the Cancer Prevention Research Training Program policy, students and fellows are **required to attend** Brown Bag Seminars and **conduct** a presentation each year (R25 T and donor-sponsored Pre/PostDoc) or near the end of your appointment (R25E GRA, R25T Pre/PostDoc and donor-sponsored PostDocs).

For more information, contact Jennifer Cherry at
jmcherry@mdanderson.org

Other Events...

May 22, 2008: Networking

3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

BSRB 3.8371

May 22-23, 2008: Trainee Research Day

12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Hickey Auditorium and Ballrooms

June 5, 2008: Time Management

3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

BSRB 3.8371

June 11, 2008: Writing and Publishing Scientific Articles

3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

TBA

June 18, 2008: Writing and Publishing Scientific Articles

3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

TBA

June 19, 2008: Writing Grant Proposals / How to Find Outside Funding

3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

BSRB 3.8371

June 25, 2008: Writing and Publishing Scientific Articles

3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

TBA

July 18, 2008: Graduation Luncheon

3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

CPB 8th Floor

For questions, Contact Trainee & Alumni Affairs at (713) 792-2696

From the mouths of Cancer Prevention Grand Rounds Speakers...

At a recent session for trainees to meet with speakers of UT M. D. Anderson Cancer Prevention Grand Rounds, Bo Peng, a Postdoctoral Fellow from Epidemiology recently asked Dr. David Allison, Professor of Biostatistics, Director of the Section on Statistical Genetics, and the Director of the Clinical Nutrition Research Center at the University of Alabama at Birmingham, some important questions about how he manages his publications and keeping up with the field.

"How do you keep track of all of your publications and the state of knowledge in the field?"

First, be old. The more time you've been around, the more time you've had to accumulate knowledge.

"How do you keep current with the literature?"

Robert Elston (Professor in the Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics at Case Western Reserve University) would say in the 1970s that "I've read every paper on statistical genetics." Now, we could only do this if we narrowed our search area, but we would lose out on the information from other areas.

"What is your strategy?"

I also use Pubcrawler, a free webtool (<http://pubcrawler.gen.tcd.ie/>) that searches PubMed and Entrez using keywords that you assign and emails you with hits on a regular basis. I would take an update every day, week, month (from PubCrawler); then you have to read and prioritize.

One colleague wants to try to fund a 'reader' from grants. This person's sole job would be to read articles and then come back and explain them to everyone. I don't know whether this is the solution, but we need help.

Evidence-based reviews are another tool and are particularly useful if they've

-Included how we searched for studies, where, what is included and excluded, which allows the reader to accept or reject the comprehensiveness of the review.

-If you are interested making a policy on something, maybe we need to dig deeper and a review is only a starting point.

The two hardest things for people in academic health sciences to do are:

1. Management of people
2. Prioritization

Greater than 90% either say "no" too often or "yes" too often. Lots of reasons exist for this battle.

Steven Hayes of the University of Nevada in Reno wrote a paper called 13 Rules for Success:

(www.cs.dal.ca/graduate/doc/13Rules.pdf)

Rule 1. Care About the Process, Not Just the Outcome

Rule 2. Talk and Write – A Lot

Rule 3. Say "Yes" Easily and Mean It

Rule 4. Work with Others and Share Easily

Rule 5. Keep Your Commitments

Rule 6. Even Dogs Never Urinate in Their Own Beds

Rule 7. Acknowledge Your Own Power and Behave Accordingly

Rule 8. Acknowledge Your Own Finitude and Behave Accordingly

Rule 9. Network With Your Betters

Rule 10. Guard Your Integrity

Rule 11. Follow Your Bliss

Rule 12. Say "No" Easily and Mean It

Rule 13. Open Your Mail, Return Your Phone Calls, and Keep Your Desk Clean

After hearing self-introductions of the trainees in our interactive session, Dr. Michael Halpern remarked on the diversity of backgrounds, and on his own career. He quoted one of his professors at the University of Michigan School of Public Health, who said, "no-one goes into public health on purpose."

Did you know...

RESEARCH HAS FOUND THAT MORE WOMEN AND MINORITIES GO INTO PUBLIC HEALTH INSPIRED BY THE OPPORTUNITY TO PARTICIPATE IN APPLICATION OF RESEARCH TO IMPROVE THE HEALTH OF OUR SOCIETY AT LARGE.



Postdoctoral Fellows

Daniel Hughes, Ph.D. (R25T)
Department of Behavioral Science
"Physical activity, perceived stress and cortisol levels in endometrial cancer survivors"
Mentors: Karen Basen Engquist, Ph.D., and Anil Sood, M.D.

*Michael Businelle, Ph.D. (R25T)
Department of Health Disparities Research
"The relationship between alcohol use and smoking lapse: Individual difference and momentary models"
Mentors: David Wetter, Ph.D., Jennifer Irvin Vidrine, Ph.D. & Yisheng Li, Ph.D.

Adrienne McCampbell, Ph.D. (R25T)
Department of Pathology
"Molecular Mechanisms of the Interaction Between Obesity and Endometrial Cancer: Role of Adipokines in IGF-1 Receptor Driven Endometrial"
Mentors: Russell Broaddus, M.D., Ph.D., and Imad Shureiqi, M.D.

Laura Lashinger, Ph.D. (R25T)
Department of Carcinogenesis
"The Role of Obesity and IGF-1 in Pancreatic Cancer"
Mentors: Stephen D. Hursting, Ph.D., and Michele Forman, Ph.D.

Kala Kamdar, Ph.D. (R25T)
Department of Epidemiology
"Genetic Polymorphisms and Neuropsychological Impairment in Childhood Leukemia Survivors"
Mentors: Melissa Bondy, Ph.D., and Randa El-Zein, M.D., Ph.D.

NEW!

Jiangong Niu, Ph.D. (R25T)
Department of Epidemiology
"The roles of p53-PIG3 mediated apoptosis pathway in the susceptibility to squamous cell carcinoma of the head and neck"
Mentors: Qingyi Wei, M.D., Ph.D. and Sanjay Shete, Ph.D.

Hui Zhao, Ph.D. (R25T)
Department of Epidemiology
"Application of Coalescence Process in Tumor"
Mentors: Qingyi Wei, M.D., Ph.D., Yun-Xin Fu, Ph.D., and Carol Etzel, Ph.D.

NEW!

Michelle Hildebrandt, Ph.D. (R25T)
Department of Epidemiology
"Pharmacogenomics of Cisplatin-based Chemotherapy on Esophageal Cancer"
Mentors: Xifeng Wu, M.D., Ph.D. and Margaret R. Spitz, M.D., M.P.H.

NEW!

Darla Kendzor, Ph.D. (R25T)
Department of Health Disparities Research
"Relations of Race-Ethnicity and Gender with Smoking-Related Weight Concerns; Mediator and Moderator Effects on Smoking Cessation and Treatment Attrition."
Mentors: David W. Wetter, Ph.D., and Yisheng Li, Ph.D.

Mala Pande, Ph.D. (R25T)
Department of Epidemiology
"Smoking and the risk of colorectal cancer in MMR gene mutation carriers"
Mentors: Chris Amos, Ph.D. & Marsha Frazier, Ph.D.

NEW!

Amanda Collier, Ph.D., M.P.H. (R25T)
Department of Epidemiology
"The study of genomic transposable elements and genetic instability in Hodgkin's Disease"
Mentors: Randa El-Zein, M.D., Ph.D., and Margaret R. Spitz, M.D., M.P.H.

Bo Peng, Ph.D.
(Rubenstein Fellowship)
Department of Epidemiology
"Forward-time simulations and Its applications in
the mapping of complex human diseases"
Mentors:
Christopher Amos, Ph.D., and
Margaret R. Spitz, M.D., M.P.H.

Alison Pawlus, Ph.D.
(Beverage Institute Fellowship)
Department of Behavioral Science
"Chemical and Pharmacological Characterization of
Natural Products for Cancer Chemoprevention"
Mentors: Lorenzo Cohen, Ph.D., and
Robert Newman, Ph.D.

PREDOCTORAL FELLOWS

Millennia Foy, M.S.
Department of Epidemiology
"Modeling the impact of cigarette smoking and
genetic effects on the development of lung cancer
using the two-stage clonal expansion model"
Mentor: Olga Gorlova, Ph.D., and
Marek Kimmel, Ph.D.

Jennifer Colby, M.S.
Department of Carcinogenesis
"Strategies for Chemoprevention of Pancreatic
Adenocarcinoma Arising in the Setting of Chronic
Inflammation"
Mentors: Susan M. Fischer, Ph.D.,
Robert Newman, Ph.D., and
David G. Menter, Ph.D.

Deborah Goldwasser, M.S.
Department of Epidemiology
"Applying Lung Cancer Progression Modeling
to the Question of Over-diagnosis"
Mentors: Chris Amos, Ph.D., and
Marek Kimmel, Ph.D.

Karrie Wheatley, B.A.
Department of Carcinogenesis
"Obesity, Exercise and Breast Cancer: The
Role of p53"
Mentors: Stephen D. Hursting, Ph.D., and
Michele Forman, Ph.D.

NEW!

Jessica Clague, M.P.H.
Department of Epidemiology
"Predictors of radiotherapy survival in patients
with non-small cell lung cancer: a tertiary
cancer prevention study"
Mentors: Xifeng Wu, M.D., Ph.D. and
Joe Chang, M.D., Ph.D.

E. Amirian, M.S.
Department of Epidemiology
"Immune and Genetic Risk Factors in Glioma"
Mentor: Melissa Bondy, Ph.D., and
Michael Scheurer, Ph.D.

Cancer Prevention Fellowship Programs

Program Information

The UT M. D. Anderson Cancer Prevention Research Training Program prepares health scientists and clinicians to assume leadership roles as research investigators in the field of cancer prevention and control. The program's multi-disciplinary emphasis expands the perspective of the trainees by moving from their base of strength in a particular specialty (e.g., medical oncology, molecular genetics, behavioral science) to equip them with basic knowledge in the other disciplines in cancer prevention and control research. Trainees learn the relevant principles, research methods, and analytic approaches used by these other disciplines.

This multi-disciplinary training is accomplished through specific graduate courses, our seminar series, and by participation in ongoing peer-reviewed, mentored research. The objective is to immerse the trainee in the type of multi-disciplinary research environment typical of cancer prevention and control, with the endpoint objective of launching the trainee toward the scientific research role of principal investigator relatively early in his or her career.

This program includes:

- **3-Month Appointments:** All graduate students and minority undergraduate students are eligible for 3-month fellowship. Graduate students must be currently enrolled in an accredited graduate program or medical school.
- **6-Month Appointments:** Applicants who wish to submit an application for the 6-month fellowship must be (1) enrolled in a doctoral program and hold a master's degree or equivalent from appropriate health science disciplines. (2) intend to apply for a multi-year fellowship supported by our NCI R25T training program.
- For those intending to apply for a predoctoral fellowship, applicants must be enrolled in a doctoral program and within 18 months of their qualifying exam.
- For those intending to apply for a postdoctoral fellowship, applicants must be within 12 months of completing their dissertation.
- **Predoctoral Fellows**
Up to 3 years training (\$23,000/yr + benefits)
- **Post-doctoral Fellows**
Up to 3 years training (\$48,000 - \$60,000/yr + benefits)
- Funding for stipend and benefits, tuition, books, and re-eligibility, allowance for travel, professional development, and research expenses.

For the **Short-term Research Experience**, an applicant must be currently enrolled in an accredited graduate program or medical school and be a U.S. citizen or lawfully admitted permanent resident. Applicants with visas are not eligible.

Predoctoral fellowship applicants must hold a Master's degree or equivalent from appropriate health science disciplines, be enrolled in a doctoral degree program and be a U.S. citizen or lawfully admitted permanent resident. Applicants with visas are not eligible.

Post-doctoral fellowship applicants must have earned doctorates in health science or related disciplines. Applicants for NCI-funded post-doctoral fellowships must be U.S. citizen or lawfully admitted permanent residents. Applicants with visas are not eligible. Donor-supported postdoctoral positions are available to applicants without regard to citizenship.

These fellowships are funded by the National Cancer Institute grants (R25TCA057730/ R25ECA056452) and donor contributions.

How to Apply

For further information or to receive a fellowship application, please contact: **Dee Tello**, Academic Coordinator, (713) 745-2495, FAX (713) 745-1996, dtello@mdanderson.org

Shine Chang, Ph.D., Associate Professor and Director, Cancer Prevention Education Program (713) 563-3573, shinechang@mdanderson.org

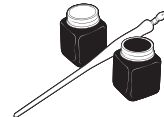
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Comments and suggestions for this newsletter are always welcomed and encouraged.

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