

BRENDEN-COLSON CENTER FOR PANCREATIC CARE



The Brenden-Colson Center for Pancreatic Care is a patient-centric research hub for programs that focus on three main areas essential for alleviating suffering from pancreatic diseases: Earlier Detection, Advanced Therapy, and Patient Resiliency

Our Newsletter serves as a way for us to stay connected, share pancreas-related funding opportunities and community events, and provide updates on the successes and progress the Center is making.

In the news this month:

- Meet Jackie Phipps
 - Adel Kardosh Awarded Imagination Grant for Cancer Research
 - PanCAN Portland Seeks New Mission Chair
 - Celebrate a Great PurpleStride with PanCAN
 - Upcoming Events
 - CEDAR Seminar (June 6) – Faiyaz Notta
 - Cancer Cachexia Society Seminar Trainee Talk (June 7) – Paige Arneson-Wissink
 - Pancreas Research Monthly (June 9) – Teresa Zimmers
 - Pancreatitis Research Collaborative (June 12) – Vidhi Shah
 - BCCPC Happy Hour (June 15)
 - Special Guest seminar (June 22) – Kim Reiss Binder
 - Recent BCCPC Publications
 - Conferences for Your Calendar
-

Meet Jackie Phipps

Congratulations to Jackie Phipps for being nominated for the GSO award "Exemplary Future Scientist"!

Jackie has had an amazing introduction to biomedical science. In high school, they participated in a series of classes called "Project Lead the Way: Biomedical Science". In one of these classes, Jackie became fascinated by the question of what gives a cell its identity and what makes it stay like that despite all cells of an organism having the same DNA. Through this series, Jackie was introduced to many biomedical science careers, and was specifically intrigued by human health and disease research.



From there, they decided to attend Purdue University, enrolling in the biochemistry program because of its strong emphasis on undergraduate research. In Dr. Joe Ogas's lab, Jackie used *Arabidopsis thaliana* as a model system to study a chromatin remodeler involved in repressing embryonic genes during germination. Knowing they wanted to attend graduate school, but also wanting work experience first, Jackie moved to San Francisco to work as a Discovery Biology Research Associate for a small biotech start-up called Surrozen. At Surrozen, Jackie assisted in understanding mechanisms of action and biomarker identification for two tissue regenerative Wnt agonists, one for severe liver disease and one for inflammatory bowel disease, both of which began clinical trials in 2022. They also investigated Wnt dependency and impacts of Wnt pathway modulation in lung and airway diseases using 3D organoid models.

At Surrozen, Jackie was able to learn more about the question that had motivated them for so long, this time in the context of regeneration and tissue resident adult stem cells. Ready to attend graduate school, Jackie chose to focus on cancer research where they could learn more about cell identity and plasticity from another perspective. With their partner being from the Pacific Northwest, and knowing the strong reputation of the Knight Cancer Institute, Jackie decided to attend OHSU. Here, they are investigating how surgical resection of a primary pancreatic tumor can accelerate liver metastasis with Drs. Patrick Worth and Rosie Sears. Staying true to what sparked their interest in biomedical science all those years ago, Jackie is specifically interested in how surgically-induced immune suppression contributes to unconstrained growth of certain metastatic cell population with stem-like/progenitor phenotypes.

After graduation, Jackie seeks to return to the biotech industry, ideally a small to mid-sized company in the cancer therapeutics field with opportunities for collaboration and leadership.

Fun Fact: Jackie was in 4H and showed llamas at the county fair when they were in elementary school!

Adel Kardosh Awarded Imagination Grant for Cancer Research



Congratulations to Adel Kardosh, MD, PhD, for being awarded an Imagination Grant for Cancer Research from the Kuni Foundation. He will receive \$75,000 for his grant, "Advancing Precision Oncology for Rare Pancreatic Adenosquamous Carcinomas".

These grants fund innovative research that aim to improve early detection, treatments and cancer outcomes, while supporting underfunded areas of research and underserved communities.

[Click here](#) to learn about other funded projects.

PanCAN Portland Seeks New Mission Chair

The Portland Affiliate of PanCAN is seeking a motivated and dedicated individual to join their amazing team of volunteers this fall as the Mission Chair. The Mission Chair is an integral component of their grassroots efforts, focused on bringing pancreatic cancer education to the public & healthcare professionals, advocacy efforts, overseeing PanCAN's November Awareness Campaign, and caregiver & survivor engagement.

For more information, contact the current Mission Chair: [Grace McCarthy](#)

Celebrate a Great PurpleStride with PanCAN

A big thank you to everyone who supported "Team OHSU" at the annual PanCAN PurpleStride fundraiser to end pancreatic cancer.

To celebrate you, thrivers, patients, caregivers, and community members, and to honor everyone affected by pancreatic cancer, PanCAN will be hosting a "Post-Stride Celebration". We hope to see you there!

Date: Saturday, June 17, 2023

Time: 10:00AM-12:00PM

Location: KCRB First-Floor Terrace

Remember: You can still get involved by [donating to our team](#) (you have until June 30th!) and [becoming a PanCAN Volunteer!](#)



Upcoming Events



CEDAR Seminar

Faiyaz Notta, PhD, Co-lead for the Ontario Institute of Cancer Research Pancreatic Cancer Translational Research Initiative and Assistant Professor in the Department of Medical Biophysics at University of Toronto, will be presenting at this month's CEDAR Seminar. **"What The Genome Tells Us About Pancreatic Cancer"**

Date: Tuesday, June 6, 2023

Time: 9:00AM-10:00AM

Location: KCRB Auditorium

Cancer Cachexia Society Seminar Trainee Talk-- Paige Arneson- Wissink

Paige Arneson-Wissink, postdoc in the Grossberg lab, is a featured speaker on the international Cachexia Society's seminar series next month. "**Hepatic STAT3 signaling drives muscle loss in cancer cachexia**".



Date: Wednesday, June 7, 2023

Time: 9:00AM-10:00AM

Location: [Zoom](#)



Pancreas Research Monthly

Join us this month for the BCCPC Pancreas Research Monthly. Teresa Zimmers, PhD, Professor of Cell, Developmental and Cancer Biology in OHSU's School of Medicine, will be presenting on "**OSM-OSMR in the PDAC Tumor Microenvironment and Macroenvironment**".

Light breakfast and beverages will be provided!

Date: Friday, June 9, 2023

Time: 9:00AM-10:00AM

Location: KCRB Auditorium & [WEBEX](#)

Pancreatitis Research Collaborative

Pancreatitis Research Collaborative is a research and strategy hub for clinicians, surgeons, and scientists looking to develop a deeper understanding of pancreatitis and to advance collaborative research efforts addressing it and related precursor changes in the tissue microenvironment.

This month, Dr. Vidhi Shah will be presenting on "**Models and Therapeutic Interventions for Pancreatitis**".

Lunch will be provided!

Date: Monday, June 12, 2023



Time: 12:00PM-1:00PM
Location: MAC Hall 2201



BCCPC Happy Hour

Come join us for your favorite beverage and a chance to catch up outside of work!

Date: Thursday, June 29, 2023
Time: 4:00PM-5:00PM
Location: Elephants

Novel Strategies for DNA Damage Repair Deficient Pancreatic Cancer

Join the BCCPC for a Special Thursday Guest Seminar. Dr. Kim A Reiss Binder, MD, Assistant Professor at the Abramson Cancer Center at the University of Pennsylvania, will be presenting on "Novel Strategies for DNA Damage Repair Deficient Pancreatic Cancer".

Light breakfast and beverages will be provided!

Date: Thursday, June 22, 2023
Time: 9:00AM-10:00AM
Location: KCRB Auditorium & [WEBEX](#)



Recent BCCPC Publications

Pancreatic cancer is highly resistant to current standard-of-care chemotherapies. With alternative therapies yet to emerge or prove effective, there is a need to improve chemotherapy efficacy. Winter, et al. showed that increasing glucose levels can enhance efficacy of gemcitabine and FOLFIRINOX. In their paper "Increased glucose availability sensitizes pancreatic cancer to chemotherapy" published in *Nature Communications*, the team identified glutathione biosynthesis as a driver of chemo-sensitization under high glucose by enhancing oxidative injury to cancer cells. Overall, this publication offers an approach to

Commented [LN1]: Link to paper in pubmed?

Commented [GM2R1]: Still waiting on it. It is in bio archives though, I can add that link

enhance chemotherapeutic efficacy, which has the potential to improve survival outcomes in patients with pancreatic cancer.

Conferences for Your Calendar

[15th Congress of the European-African-Hepato-Pancreato-Biliary](#)

[Association \(E-AHPBA\)](#): June 6-9, 2023

[AACR Special Conference: Pancreatic Cancer](#): September 27-30, 2023

[Cancer Cachexia Conference](#): September 28-30, 2023

BCCPC CME Conference on Pancreatic Cancer: November 10, 2023

[American Pancreatic Association Annual Meeting](#): November 15-18, 2023



For more BCCPC news, [join our mailing list!](#)



Brenden-Colson Center for
PANCREATIC CARE