

Section of Hematology and Medical Oncology Newsletter



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BMC's Cancer Center was recognized as one of Becker's "100 hospitals and health systems with great oncology programs." Becker's highlights that "BMC has assembled a team of top-level, internationally renowned hematologists, oncologists, oncology scientists, radiation oncologists, and surgeons in every disease area. The Boston Medical Center Cancer Center continues to make bold strides in providing access to gene and cellular therapy treatments for all who need them." [Read more.](#)

New Hires



Lauren McCall

Lauren McCall accepted a position as an Advanced Practice Provider starting 1/1/24. Lauren completed her Masters of Science in Physician Assistant Studies at Boston University School of Medicine, and has already impressed many of us who had the pleasure of working with her during her clinical rotations. Laura brings to the section a strong record of achievement: she received her undergraduate degree in Biology from Williams College where she was captain of the varsity basketball team and a recipient of the All-Academic Award from the New England Small College Athletic Conference. She also worked as a member of AmeriCorps and as a research coordinator in the Division of Sports Medicine at Boston Children's Hospital.



Susan (Sue) McCauley

Susan (Sue) McCauley accepted the position of Nurse Director of Ambulatory Hematology/Oncology. Sue currently resides in Delaware and is the Director of Clinical Services for a busy oncology service line. Prior to Delaware, Sue spent many years working in Boston as a staff RN, travel RN, nurse navigator and nurse manager, primarily in oncology. Sue is certified OCN and has a passion for change management and advocacy of her staff and patients. Her first day at BMC will be October 10th.



Alyssa McSherry

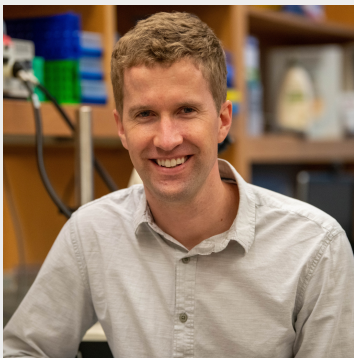
Alyssa McSherry was selected as the new Director of Cancer Center Operations. Alyssa had been serving as the Interim Director for the last 9 months along with her primary role as the Director of Operations for Radiation Oncology and Otolaryngology. During her time as Interim Director, Alyssa has developed strong relationships with the oncology providers, operations team, and clinical staff. She has also helped to lead growth in the Hematology and Medical Oncology Clinic as well as supporting the team on various growth strategies and operational improvement initiatives. Alyssa has served at BMC for 5+ years in a number of leadership positions, and has strong experience in operations, finance, and management.

Awards



Mark Sloan, MD

Mark Sloan, MD, received the Department of Medicine's Robert Dawson Evans Special Recognition Teaching Award. This award acknowledges exemplary skill, leadership, creativity, mentoring and supporting the teaching mission across all levels of trainees in the Department of Medicine. Mark will be recognized for this achievement at the Annual Evans Day Award Dinner on Thursday, October 19.



Elliott Hagedorn, PhD

Elliott Hagedorn, PhD, was selected as a recipient of BMC Research's Bridge Funding Award. The award helps provide salary support for promising investigators while they work to obtain ongoing funding and maintain momentum in their research careers.



Meredith Halpin, MD

Meredith Halpin, MD, was selected for membership to the BUMG Clinical Excellence Society. She was chosen for this honor after attaining finalist status in the New Faculty Excellence Award category. Recipients of this award demonstrate characteristics of a great leader, embody core BUMG values and have made exceptional contributions to enhancing clinical infrastructure and/or supporting excellence in patient care.

Awards



Rachel Flynn, PhD

Rachel Flynn, PhD, and the BU-BMC Cancer Center were awarded an American Cancer Society Diversity in Cancer Research Post-Baccalaureate Fellows Program. This program aims to increase diversity in the cancer research workforce by increasing the number of under-represented groups in Biomedical Science and specifically in cancer research.



Casaundra Knight

Casaundra Knight received a Department of Medicine STARDoM Award, recognizing outstanding employees who demonstrate Service that is consistently exceptional, Thoughtful treatment of others, Actions that demonstrate extraordinary dedication and is a Role model for excellence.



Yuhan Qiu

Yuhan Qiu, a graduate student in Dr. Gerald Denis' lab, presented her work at the NCI Junior Investigators meeting in Philadelphia, where she was invited to give a podium presentation. Her work shows in a pre-clinical model of triple negative breast cancer that abnormal metabolism of nearby adipocytes in the breast promotes tumor progression and brain metastasis. The gene signatures she discovered together with Andrew Chen, a graduate student in Stefano Monti's lab, map closely onto human outcome data for breast cancer, demonstrating a potentially important new angle for monitoring our patients with breast cancer who are at risk for metastasis.

Promotions



Tashia Prince Lacombe, NP, Advanced Practice Provider in GU Oncology, was recently promoted to Assistant Professor of Medicine.

Tashia Prince Lacombe, NP



Nebulla Stephen, NP, Advanced Practice Provider in Breast Oncology, was recently promoted to Assistant Professor of Medicine.

Nebulla Stephen, NP

Publications



Dr. Chris Heaphy and collaborators published Predicting recurrence in pancreatic neuroendocrine tumours: role of ARX and alternative lengthening of telomeres (ALT).

Neyaz A, Crotty R, Rickelt S, Pankaj A, Stojanova M, Michelakos TP, Sekigami Y, Kontos F, Parrack PH, Patil DT, Heaphy CM, Ferrone CR, Deshpande V. Histopathology. 2023 Jul 16. doi: 10.1111/his.14996.

Chris Heaphy, PhD

Publications



Vaishali Sanchorawala, MD

Dr. Vaishali Sanchorawala and collaborators published Safety and Efficacy of Propylene Glycol-Free Melphalan in Patients with AL Amyloidosis Undergoing Autologous Stem Cell Transplantation: Results of a Phase II Study.

Sarosiek S, Lee MH, Doros G, Edwards CV, Quillen K, Brauneis D, Shelton AC, Sanchorawala V, Sloan JM. Safety and Efficacy of Propylene Glycol-Free Melphalan in Patients with AL Amyloidosis Undergoing Autologous Stem Cell Transplantation: Results of a phase II study: Propylene Glycol-Free Melphalan Conditioning for Autologous Stem Cell Transplantation for AL Amyloidosis. *Transplant Cell Ther.* 2023 Aug 20:S2666-6367(23)01501-4. doi: 10.1016/j.jtct.2023.08.018. Epub ahead of print. PMID: 37607644.



Umit Tapan, MD

Dr. Umit Tapan and collaborators published Disparities in US Lung Cancer Clinical Trial Enrollment.

Kilic S, Zhao J, Okut H, Jani CT, Radwan A, Dudipala H, Burns L, Tapan U. Disparities in US Lung Cancer Clinical Trial Enrollment. *J Racial Ethn Health Disparities.* 2023 Aug 31. doi: 10.1007/s40615-023-01776-2. Epub ahead of print. PMID: 37651069. Umit Tapan, MD.



George Murphy, PhD

Dr. George Murphy and collaborators published Intertumoral lineage diversity and immunosuppressive transcriptional programs in well-differentiated gastroenteropancreatic neuroendocrine tumors.

Hoffman SE, Dowrey TW, Villacorta Martin C, Bi K, Titchen B, Johri S, DelloStritto L, Patel M, Mackichan C, Inga S, Chen J, Grimaldi G, Napolitano S, Wakiro I, Wu J, Yeung J, Rotem A, Sicinska E, Shannon E, Clancy T, Wang J, Denning S, Brais L, Besson NR, Pfaff KL, Huang Y, Kao KZ, Rodig S, Hornick JL, Vigneau S, Park J, Kulke MH, Chan J, Van Allen EM, Murphy GJ. Intertumoral lineage diversity and immunosuppressive transcriptional programs in well-differentiated gastroenteropancreatic neuroendocrine tumors. *Sci Adv.* 2023 Sep 29; 9(39):eadd9668. PMID: 37756410.

Evans Junior Faculty Research Merit Award

Since the 2008-9 academic year, the Department of Medicine has made annual awards to recognize and assist outstanding junior faculty investigators through the Evans Junior Faculty Research Merit Award.

They are now seeking applications for AY 24-25. The award provides two years of support at up to \$50,000 per year for a total amount of \$100,000. The funds can be used for research-related activities such as salary, equipment, and supplies.

The selection criteria for the Evans Junior Faculty Merit Award are as follows:

1. Outstanding record of scholarship and research;
2. Rank of Assistant Professor or Research Assistant Professor;
3. Likelihood of superior productivity and accomplishment in the future;
4. Receipt of at least one successful peer-reviewed grant since joining the faculty.

Individuals who have not previously received a start-up package (i.e., funds for research supplies, equipment, or personnel) will be given preference by the review committee. We anticipate that 2-4 recipients of the award will be selected by a committee comprised of senior faculty, the Vice Chair for Research, and the Department Chair.

Eligible faculty in the Department of Medicine should provide the following materials to Ms. Vanessa Nguyen (Vanessa.nguyen@bmc.org) by Monday, October 30, 2023:

1. A one page summary of past research accomplishments and future research goals;
2. A description of institutional resources provided to the faculty member since joining the faculty;
3. An updated C.V. that includes past, current, and pending grant support, honors, mentoring activities, and a brief description of any clinical or educational responsibilities.

BU-BMC Cancer Center American Cancer Society Diversity in Cancer Research Post-Baccalaureate Fellows Program



Aram V. Chobanian & Edward Avedisian
School of Medicine



Post-Baccalaureate Fellows Program



The program aims to increase diversity in the cancer research workforce by increasing the number of individuals from under-represented groups in Biomedical Science

WHO'S RECRUITED

Students with a bachelor's degree who are typically under-represented in biomedical sciences and who are looking to enhance their academic training and gain valuable experience in cancer research.

FOCUS

Mentored research with a defined project, individual professional development plan, comprehensive support services, travel to scientific meetings, networking

STIPEND FOR STUDENTS

\$40,000 a year, plus funds for travel to professional meetings and to offset healthcare coverage, childcare, and transportation

HOW TO APPLY

<https://www.bumc.bu.edu/cancercenter/training/american-cancer-society-post-baccalaureate-research-fellows-program/>



DOM Faculty Dinners

Department of Medicine Faculty Dinners

The Faculty Development & Diversity Committee hosts networking dinners for DoM faculty at Emelia Benjamin's home in Brookline, MA.

- Time: 6:30 to 8:30pm
- Dinners seek to foster networking, collaboration & support diverse faculty groups

2023-2024 Faculty Dinners

- Women Faculty - Nov. 1st, 2023
- URG Faculty & Allies - Nov. 16th, 2023
- Investigators - Winter/Spring 2024
- Women Faculty & Trainees - Spring 2024
- URG Faculty, Allies, & Trainees - Spring 2024

Please contact bumcfdd@bu.edu with any questions!



SCAN QR CODE TO REGISTER

Save the Date!

Employee Appreciation Breakfast



Tuesday, October 24th

7:30am-9:30am

Moakley 3 Conference Room

The Hem Onc social committee will be serving scrambled eggs, bacon, waffles, fruit, coffee and tea! Join us for a delicious breakfast to start your day!

Save the Date!

Hem Onc 2023 Section Holiday Party



Thursday, December 14, 2023
Boston Odyssey Cruise Ship
Boarding Time: 6:00 - 7:00PM
Sailing Time: 7:00 - 9:00PM

Further instructions and invitation to come

Upcoming Events



Department of Medicine

Evans Days

October 19-20, 2023



Evans Days Speakers:

Wilkins Visiting Professor



Barbara Kahn, MD

George R. Minot Professor of Medicine,
Harvard Medical School
Vice-Chair for Research Strategy,
Department of Medicine
Senior Faculty and Former Chief,
Division of Endocrinology,
Diabetes and Metabolism,
Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center
Institute Member, Broad Institute of
MIT and Harvard

Ingelfinger Visiting Professor



Gbenga Ogedegbe, MD, MPH

Dr. Adolph & Margaret Berger
Professor of Population Health
Director, Institute for Excellence
in Health Equity (IEHE)
NYU Grossman School of
Medicine, NYU Langone Health



Upcoming Events

Hem Onc Fellowship Ranking Meeting

Friday, October 20th

1:00-4:00pm

Hybrid: FGH 1 conference room and zoom. Refreshments will be served

*All clinics have been closed for faculty participation. Nellie will send out assignments and scorecards upon completion of recruitment interviews."

[https://bostonmedicalcenter.zoom.us/j/91281665751?](https://bostonmedicalcenter.zoom.us/j/91281665751?pwd=dS9pK2lidGk5aDUzUkpZTmFqdXJPQT09)

[pwd=dS9pK2lidGk5aDUzUkpZTmFqdXJPQT09](https://bostonmedicalcenter.zoom.us/j/91281665751?pwd=dS9pK2lidGk5aDUzUkpZTmFqdXJPQT09)

Meeting ID: 912 8166 5751

Passcode: 067031

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Follow us at [@BMCHemOnc](https://www.instagram.com/BMCHemOnc)

If you or one of your patients would like to be featured, please submit a request at <https://www.bumc.bu.edu/hematology/announcement-requests/>

Available Career Opportunities as of September 2023:

- [Advanced Practice Provider, Hematology/Oncology](#)
- [Advanced Practice Provider, Neuro-Oncology and CNS Malignancies](#)
- [Clinical Investigator, Breast Oncology](#)
- [Clinical Investigator, Gastrointestinal Oncology](#)
- [Clinical Investigator, Hematology/Hematologic Malignancies](#)
- [Clinical Investigator, Neuro-Oncology](#)