

## NCI Approved Program Faculty and Mentors

The collective expertise encompasses basic and translational research, comparative oncology, biomedical engineering and imaging, clinical research, correlative science, drug development, drug delivery optimization, and pathology. Mentors were chosen based on their recognition as accomplished investigators with well-established funded research programs and strong records of training and mentoring in oncology-related fields. The mentor pool is large and represents basic, translational, and clinical fields for each of the six CDP slots (two scholars per year over three years) to identify both a clinical (choice of 23) and basic/translational mentor (choice of 24).

Mentor Faculty Descriptions All faculty are funded and have an established track record of mentorship. *Denotes new faculty mentors for 2021.	Expertise	
	Basic/ Translational	Clinical
<b>*Ramsey Badawi, Ph.D.</b> , is Professor of Biomedical Engineering, Chief of the Division of Nuclear Medicine, Vice Chair for Research in Radiology, and Co-Director of the UCDCCC Biomedical Technology Program. His research interests are in the development and application of new types of nuclear medicine and molecular imaging scanners.	✓	✓
<b>*Orin Bloch, M.D.</b> , is Associate Professor of Neurological Surgery. He has research interests in developing novel immunotherapies for primary brain tumors and metastases to the central nervous system.	✓	✓
<b>Richard Bold, M.D.</b> , is Professor of Surgery, Chief of the Division of Surgical Oncology, and UCDCCC Physician-in-Chief. Dr. Bold also holds the Isabelle McDonald Endowed Chair in Cancer Research. His research interests are in pancreatic cancer and the implementation of novel techniques for pre- and intra-operative management of pancreatic and breast cancer.	✓	✓
<b>*Alexander Borowsky, M.D.</b> , is Professor of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine. His research interests are in the pathology of cancer mouse models and modeling pre-cancer to study neoplastic progression mechanisms.	✓	✓
<b>*Robert Canter, M.D.</b> , is Professor of Surgery and Co-Director of the UCDCCC Comparative Oncology Program. His research interests are in radiologic and metabolic markers of response to neoadjuvant therapy and comparative oncology. He is a former CDP scholar (2012-2014).	✓	✓
<b>*Luis Carvajal-Carmona, Ph.D.</b> , is Professor of Biochemistry and Molecular Medicine, Auburn Community Cancer Endowed Chair in Basic Science, and Associate Director for Basic Science at UCDCCC. His research interests are in using genetic and genomic approaches to identify novel cancer-causing gene mutations in human populations, and cancer health disparities. He is a former CDP scholar (2014-2016).	✓	
<b>Xinbin Chen, D.V.M., Ph.D.</b> , is Professor and Director of Veterinary Oncology in the School of Veterinary Medicine, UCDCCC Comparative Oncology Program Co-Leader, and Veterinary Science Training Program Director. He investigates the role of p53 and other genes in tumor growth to develop more effective cancer treatments for people and their pets.	✓	
<b>Simon Cherry, Ph.D.</b> , is Distinguished Professor of Biomedical Engineering. His research focuses on developing molecular imaging technology, including microPET, hyperspectral fluorescence tomography, microPET/CT, microPET/MRI, SPECT, novel photon detectors; quantitative molecular imaging methods, and applications of imaging technology in small animal and non-human primate models of disease.	✓	✓
<b>*Megan Daly, M.D.</b> , is Associate Professor of Radiation Oncology and a former CDP scholar (2015-2017). Her research interests include using Stereotactic body radiotherapy to treat early-stage lung cancer, lung metastases, and primary and metastatic spine tumors.	✓	✓
<b>Ralph de Vere White, M.D.</b> , is Emeritus Distinguished Professor of Urology. He founded the Genitourinary Tumor Biology Committee of SWOG and led the specimen repository for the Prostate Cancer Prevention Trial. His research covers the research spectrum from basic to translation to clinical science. In prostate cancer, he focuses on p53 and castration resistance; in urothelial cancer, he focuses on predicting response to therapies, with an emphasis on using the PDX platform.	✓	✓

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<b>Christopher Evans, M.D.</b> , is Professor and Chair of Urology. He is a urologic oncologist with research interests focused on prostate cancer; specifically, mechanisms signaling the androgen receptor to activate prostate cancer growth and progression following castration. His laboratory work has tested new agents and brought them from bench studies to animal models to Phase I-II clinical trials.	✓	✓
<b>David Gandara, M.D.</b> , is Emeritus Professor in the Division of Hematology Oncology. He leads a multidisciplinary team of molecular biologists, pharmacologists, and clinical investigators in the conduct of early therapeutic trials of new anticancer agents. He is recognized for his expertise in clinical research in lung cancer and developmental therapeutics.	✓	✓
<b>Allen Gao, M.D., Ph.D.</b> , is Ralph de Vere White Professor and Director of Urologic Research. His research focus is on androgen receptor activation and the mechanisms of castration-resistant prostate cancer, including a variety of in vitro and in vivo models of prostate cancer growth and experimental treatment.	✓	
<b>Steven George, M.D., Ph.D.</b> , Professor and Chair of Biomedical Engineering, whose research focus is on tissue engineering and organ-on-a-chip technologies to examine tumor biology and cardiovascular development.	✓	✓
<b>Karen Kelly, M.D.</b> , is Professor of the Division of Hematology/Oncology, Associate Director for Clinical Research and Medical Director of the Office of Clinical Research at UCDCCC, Director of the Phase I Clinical Program, and SWOG Chair. Dr. Kelly is a lung cancer expert dedicated to providing enhanced cancer care through cutting-edge clinical trials. She is PI/Co-PI on numerous phase I- III clinical trials including investigator initiated, cooperative group, local U01 studies and industry trials.		✓
* <b>Maija Kiuru, M.D., Ph.D.</b> , is Assistant Professor in Dermatology and former CDP scholar (2015-2017) with research interests in genetic alterations in skin tumors and familial skin diseases.		✓
<b>Kit S. Lam, M.D., Ph.D.</b> , is Professor and Chair of Biochemistry and Molecular Medicine, and co- leader of the UCDCCC Cancer Therapeutics Program. He is a pioneer in combinatorial chemistry and is the inventor of the OBOC method. He has successfully applied these techniques for drug and imaging agent discovery and basic science studies.	✓	✓
<b>Primo N. Lara, Jr., M.D.</b> , is Professor of the Division of Hematology Oncology and Executive Associate Dean for Cancer Programs in the School of Medicine, and Deputy Group Chair for the SWOG Cancer Research Network. His research interests are in genitourinary and lung cancers and developmental therapeutics.		✓
<b>Jian Jian Li, Ph.D.</b> , is Professor of Radiation Oncology whose research focus is identifying the mechanisms causing tumor adaptive resistance to anti-cancer radiation therapy. He was the first to show that radioresistant cells have the hallmarks of cancer stem cells and that they express HER2. Between 2009-2019, Dr. Li trained seven predocs and four continued in research-related careers; eight postdocs and seven continued in research-related careers.	✓	
* <b>Diana Miglioretti, Ph.D.</b> , is Professor of Public Health Sciences, Division Chief of Biostatistics, Co-Leader of the UCDCCC Population Sciences and Health Disparities, and Director for the UCDCCC Biostatistics Shared Resource. Her research interests are in improving breast cancer screening and risk prediction and understanding cancer risks from medical radiation exposure.	✓	
* <b>Lorenzo Nardo, M.D., Ph.D.</b> , is Assistant Professor in Radiology and Co-Director of the UCDCCC In Vivo Translational Imaging Shared Resource. Dr. Nardo is a former CDP scholar (2018-2019) whose research focus is to apply advanced imaging techniques to nuclear medicine and musculoskeletal radiology.	✓	✓
<b>Brad Pollock, Ph.D., M.P.H.</b> , is Associate Dean, Department Chair, and Professor for Public Health Sciences. He is a clinical epidemiologist with extensive experience conducting population-based clinical cancer research. He has led or provided support for numerous observational research studies including cohort and case-control studies as well as randomized clinical trials and intervention studies.		✓

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* <b>Jonathan Riess, M.D.</b> , is Assistant Professor in the Division of Hematology Oncology. Dr. Riess is a former CDP scholar (2013-2015) whose research focus is on developmental therapeutics in lung cancer, particularly using innovative clinical trial designs and translational studies to define patient populations that preferentially benefit from targeted therapy and immunotherapy.	✓	✓
* <b>Julie Sutcliffe, Ph.D.</b> , is Professor of Biomedical Engineering with research interests in developing and translating imaging and therapeutic agents to the clinic with a focus in pancreatic adenocarcinoma (PDAC).	✓	✓
<b>Joseph Tuscano, M.D.</b> , is Professor in the Division of Hematology/Oncology. His areas of specialty include bone marrow transplantation with high-dose chemotherapy for lymphoma, leukemia, and multiple myeloma. He has both basic/translation and clinical research interests that include the development of novel antibody and other immune-based therapeutics for hematologic malignancies.	✓	✓
<b>Richard Valicenti, M.D.</b> , is Professor and Chair of Radiation Oncology and Co-leader of the Cancer Therapeutics Program. He is an expert in radiation treatments for prostate cancer and other tumors. He has advanced the use of brachytherapy, image-guided radiation therapy, and combined modality treatments to improve the care of patients with cancer. Dr. Valicenti has developed clinical trials that offer new prostate cancer treatments, including a phase II trial to assess the effectiveness of multimodality therapies.	✓	✓
<b>Ted Wun, M.D.</b> , is Professor of Medicine, Chief of the Division of Hematology Oncology, CTSC Director, Vice Dean for Research, and Associate Dean of Research for the School of Medicine. His research interests are in cancer-related thromboembolism and clinical expertise in hematologic malignancies, including non-Hodgkin's lymphomas as well as chronic and acute leukemias.		✓
<b>Aiming Yu, Ph.D.</b> , is Professor of Biochemistry and Molecular Medicine and Director of UCDCCC Molecular Pharmacology Shared Resource. His research interests are in the molecular mechanisms of drug metabolism/disposition and multidrug resistance in cancer pharmacology and therapy. He has focused on noncoding microRNA epigenetics with a goal of developing new and rational therapeutics.	✓	