



Department of Pathology Presentation to Dr. Garcia

Research September 8, 2014

Presented by Lisa Rimsza, MD

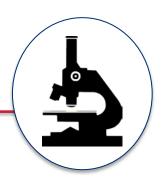


#### Research

- Describe the department's primary area(s) of research focus
- Identify major collaborators/collaborations locally, nationally, internationally
- Showcase up to 3 department "Stars" (at least one of whom is junior) 15 min presentations



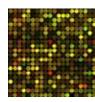
## Translational Research: Pathology



Microscopy & Immunohistochemistry



Laboratory & Molecular techniques









Tissue Banking



Precision Medicine Neuroscience Population Health Health Disparities

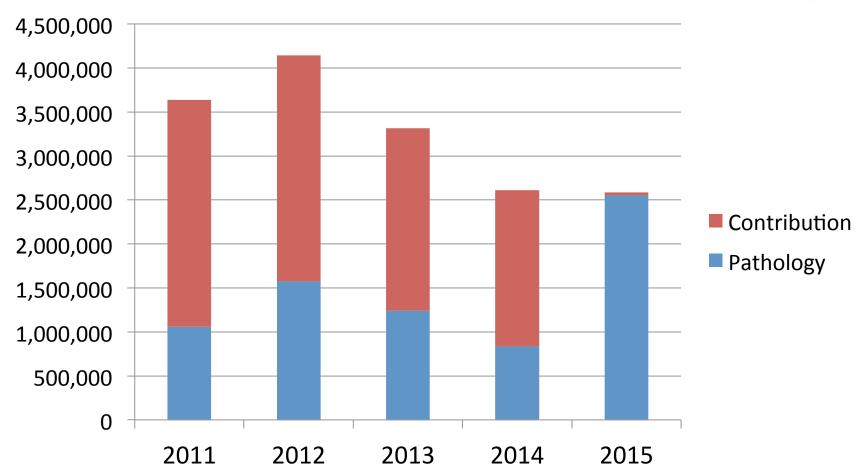








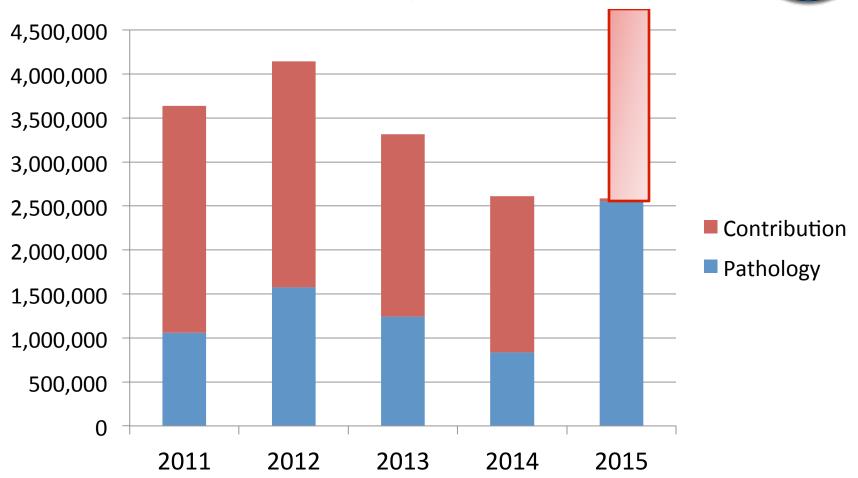
## Funded Research last 5 years over \$16M







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## Space & Funding



- Pathology has 11,135 net square feet of laboratory and office space primarily in COM and LSN 5<sup>th</sup> floor
  - Approximately 1800 sq ft, for hospital archives & BMT lab
- \$268-482 per square foot (benchmark \$325)
- Dedicated research support staff
  - Stacey Hines-Holdcraft, administrative, grant support
  - Robert Hershoff, equipment, photomicroscopy, IT support
- Core equipment: microscopes, thermocycler, plate reader, millipore filtered water, dry ice shipments, biological safety cabinet, -80C freezer, 3 ultra-centrifuges, high capacity liquid nitrogen box, spectrophotometer, microtomes, embedding station, cryostat, etc.



## nce

### Research Activities Align with 4 Pillars of Excellence

- <u>Precision Health</u> (Biobanking, Cancer biology, Advanced Diagnostics)
  - Rimsza, Nelson, Bhattacharyya, Schmelz, Zheng
- Neuroscience (Aging Brain)
  - Rance
- Health Disparities (Native American Cancer Prevention, Envenomation, Infectious disease)
  - Briehl, Boyer, Whitfield
- <u>Population Health and Health Outcomes</u> (Laboratory test and blood utilization)
  - De, Brothman, Novak



## Arizona Lymphoma Repository (Rimsza)

- Consented patients for storage of tumor and normal blood samples
- Collection of excess diagnostic tissues
  - Fresh for snap freezing
  - Excess cells from clinical flow cytometry lab
  - FFPE blocks and slides of lymphoma patients
- Data related to hematologic malignancy, treatment, outcome
- Sharing of samples in coded manner
- Inventory entered into TissueMetrix





## AIDS Cancer Specimen Resource Network (Rimsza, Schmelz, Patel)

- Southwest Regional Biorepository
- Science and Technology Core
- Executive Committee
- Archived FFPE & frozen materials from Arizona and Sub-Saharan Africa
- ANCHOR grant











### ANCHOR (Monika Schmelz)

- Anal Cancer/HSIL Outcomes Research Study
- Phase III Study, 5000+ participants; 350,000 specimens
- Sponsored by: National Cancer Institute
- Office of HIV and AIDS Malignancy
- Protocol Chair: Joel Palefsky, MD, UCSF







- TACMASS Core in UACC (Rimsza/Patel)
- UACC Biorepository
  - Consented patients, cancer and normal blood samples
    - Breast, pancreas, lung, brain
  - Legacy archives of snap frozen cancer blocks (nonconsented)
  - Pick-up service for Skin repository (Curiel)
  - GI SPORE and colon polyp repository (Gerner & Lance, Bhattacharyya, Nelson)
  - Prostate Tissue bank (Nagle)
  - Inventory entered into TissueMetrix

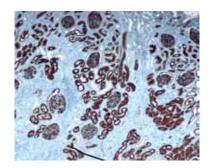








- TACMASS Core in UACC (Rimsza/Patel)
- Tissue Analysis
  - Full histology services
  - Routine stains & Immunohistochemistry (10,000 slides/yr)
  - Image analysis & photomicroscopy
  - Recent merge with CMM histology laboratory
  - Relocation planning to basement locations



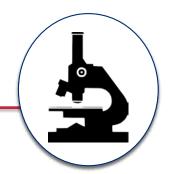
## Hospital Tissue Archives & Additional Projects

- Custodianship of FFPE blocks and slides from UAHN since 1970's (Bhattacharyya)
- TCGA national sequencing project (Nelson)
- Clinical Proteomic Tumor Analysis Consortium (CPTAC) phase II project: (Nelson & Patel)
- ABLE, Arizona BioRepository and Laboratory Exchange (Nelson)









## Arizona Biorepository and Laboratory Exchange Update (Nelson)

- Technical director and staff search underway
- Space request for "freezer farm" submitted
- ABLE content on AziCATS website
- ABLE "CATTRACK" Biospecimen Locator being built





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Patients

Treatment & Diagnosis





SWOG

**Investigator Initiated** 

Clinical trials

SPECS II grant
Ventana Medical Systems

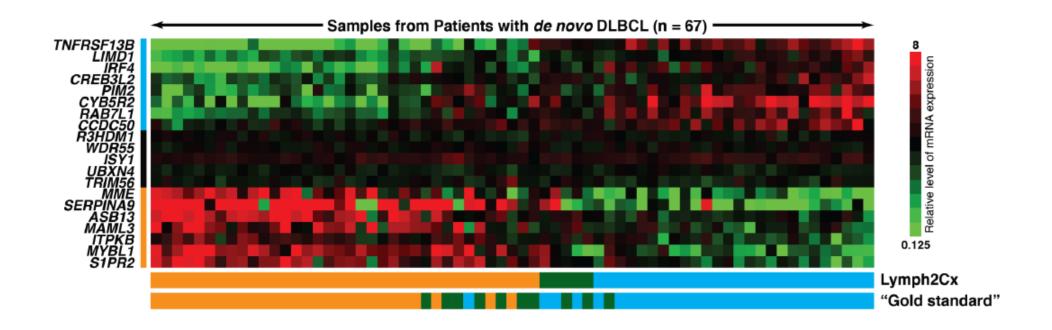
Translational Research

Lymphoma/Leukemia Molecular Profiling Project

Discovery

Arizona Lymphoid Tissue & Blood Repository AIDS Cancer Specimen Resource Network-UCSF Tissue Acquisition & Molecular Shared Resource-UACC Tissue Repositories

## The Lymph2Cx Assay



- Activated B-cell-like DLBCL/Non-GCB
- Germinal-Center B-cell-like DLBCL
- Unclassified DLBCL



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Careers

NanoString Technologies Enters into Biomarker Companion Diagnostic Collaboration with Ceigene Corporation to Support Development of REVLIMID as Treatment for Patients with Diffuse Large B-Cell Lymphoma

NanoString Eligible to Receive up to \$45 million for Upfront, Developmental and Regulatory Milestones, and Commercial Payments from Celgene

SEATTLE | June 3, 2014 – NanoString Technologies, Inc., (NASDAQ:NSTG) a provider of life science tools for translational research and molecular diagnostic products, today announced that it has entered into a collaboration with Celgene Corporation to develop a companion diagnostic assay using the nCounter Analysis System to support the clinical validation of REVLIMID for treatment of Diffuse Large B-Cell Lymphoma (DLBCL). Under the terms of the collaboration agreement, NanoString will develop, seek regulatory approval for, and commercialize the diagnostic test and is eligible to receive payments totaling up to \$45 million of which \$5.75 million is an upfront payment, \$17 million is for potential success-based developmental and regulatory milestones, and the remainder is for potential commercial payments.

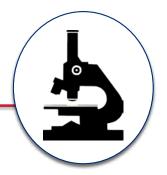
DLBCL is a heterogeneous group of cancers classified together on the basis of morphology, immunophenotype, genetic alterations and clinical behavior, and represents the most common form of Non-Hodgkin Lymphoma. According to the National Cancer Institute, DLBCL will represent approximately 37 percent of the 70,000 new cases of Non-Hodgkin Lymphoma this year. The subtypes of DLBCL have long been known to have varying prognoses. Accordingly, the accurate and precise assignment of subtype has the potential to become increasingly important with the emergence of novel therapies, and repurposing of existing products, that have selective clinical activity in specific subsets of patients.

In January 2014, researchers associated with the Lymphoma/Leukemia Molecular Profiling Project (LLMPP) published a paper in the journal *Blood* describing the development and validation of a biomarker assay based on a 20-gene expression DLBCL subtype classifier using NanoString's nCounter Analysis System. In this paper, titled "Determining cell-of-origin subtypes of diffuse large B-cell lymphoma using gene expression in formalin-fixed paraffin embedded tissue," the authors concluded that the nCounter-based assay accurately and robustly assigned subtypes of DLBCL from formalin-fixed paraffin-embedded tissue samples with excellent site-to-site reproducibility and rapid turnaround time, making it attractive for implementation in clinical trials and, ultimately, patient management. NanoString has secured a license to the relevant intellectual property to enable the







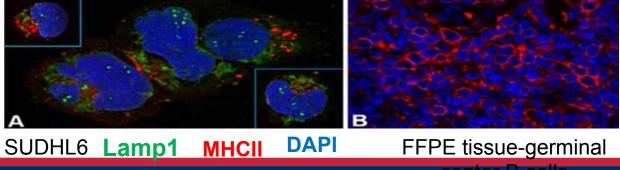


## Monika Schmelz, PhD

Mechanisms for Immune Escape in Aggressive Lymphoma with Poor Survival

To understand the mechanistic role of the aberrant cytoplasmic MHCII trafficking and antigen machinery in DLBCL at the molecular/cellular level using *in vitro* tissue culture assays, proteomics, confocal microscopy.

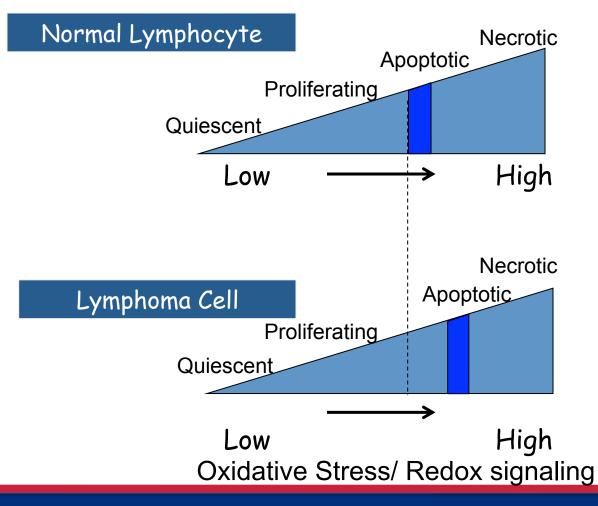




center B cells



## Margaret Briehl, PhD.



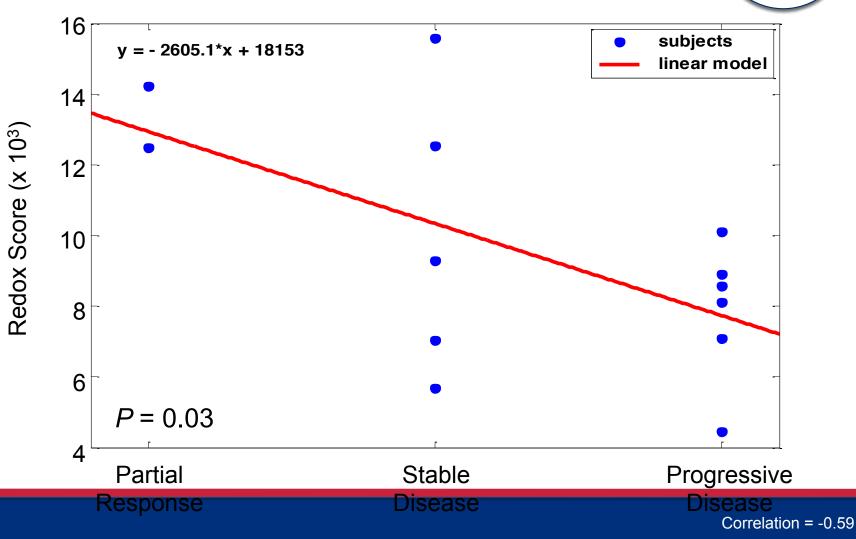




- 1. How does the redox state contribute to treatment resistance?
- 2. What is the mechanism for altered redox signaling in lymphoma cells?
- 3. How do we capitalize on the redox state of lymphomas to improve cure rates?

## Redox Score Predicts Lymphoma Response to the Redox-Targeted Drug Imexon







# Partnership for Native American Cancer Prevention (NACP)





- Outreach cancer education & input on community priorities
- > Evaluation tracks progress toward specific aims





### Mark A. Nelson, Ph.D.

#### **Interests**

- Inflammation/Metastasis
- Cancer/Neuropathic pain

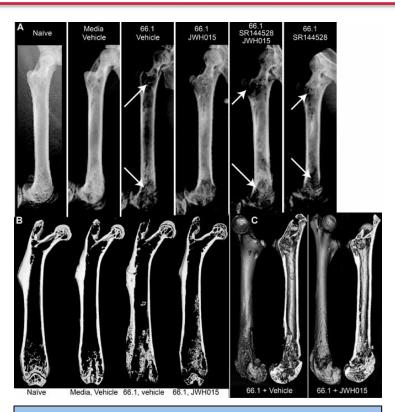






## Cancer/Neuropathic pain





#### Effect of CB2 agonist

- Reduced cancer-induced bone pain
  - Bone loss
  - Tumor cell growth

#### Rationale

- Breast cancer is 2<sup>nd</sup> leading cause of death in U.S.
- Breast metastases cause bone loss, fractures, anemia, and pain
- Neither palliative care nor approved therapeutics for skeletal related events have improved survival
  - Alternative therapies are needed

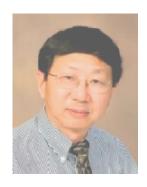




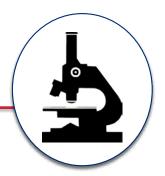
## Wenxin Zheng, MD

- The cell origin of ovarian cancer
- The cell origin of ovarian endometriosis
- Endometrial serous carcinogenesis and early detection
- One-stop total care for cervical pre-cancers





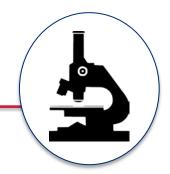




## One-Stop Total Care for Cervical Precancers

- Reduce the clinic visits from 3-4 times to one time.
- Reduce the clinical care times from 8-12 weeks to less than 4 hours.
- Clinical trial is ongoing in China.
- Will focus on mobile populations first.
- May return to USA when the project is more mature.





# Arthur R. Brothman, Ph.D., FACMG Professor of Pathology, Director of Cytogenomics, U of A, Interim Director, Genetic Core Clinical Sequencing, Tucson Adjunct Professor of Pediatrics, Human Genetics and Pathology, U of U, Salt Lake City

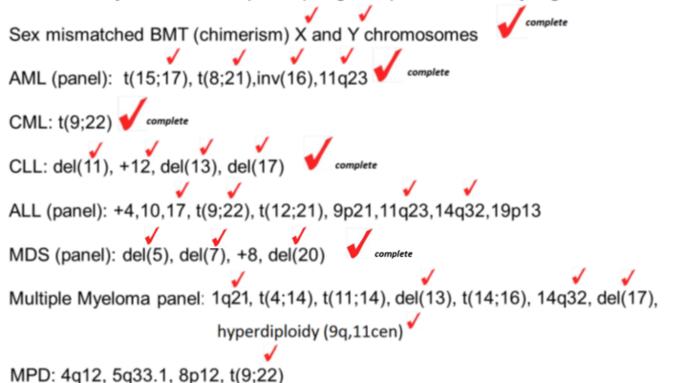
- 1. Cancer Biology (Prostate)
- 2. **Development** (Stem Cells and Epigenetics)
- 3. "R &D" (translational)

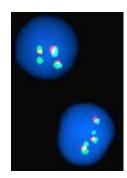




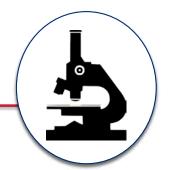
### "R&D" – translational

FISH assays validated (or in progress) at UAHN Cytogenomics Lab









### R&D: Precision Health



- Clinical Sequencing
- Started in Michael Hammer's research laboratory
- CLIA and CAP certified
- Interim Director with Dr. Maria Proytcheva
- In process of validating constitutional and cancer cases





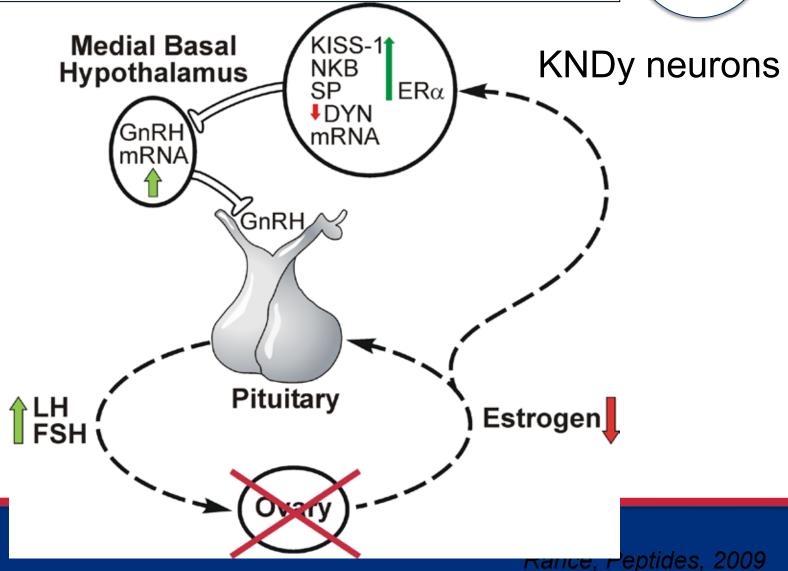
## Naomi Rance, MD, PhD

 Menopause and the Human Hypothalamus: Evidence of a Role for KNDy Neurons in the Estrogen Modulation of LH Secretion and Body Temperature





#### Neuroendocrine regulation in postmenopausal women





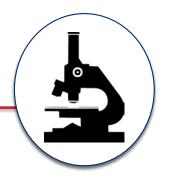


### Barun De, PhD

- Co-investigator in a CDC and AZ Department of Health funded project on "HIV screening using a new algorithm" (2013-2015).
- Problem: HIV diagnostic tests ordered haphazardly with significant waste of resources
- Results: After one year, most clinicians are ordering as per CDC algorithm, potentially saving money, improving care and better containment of infection.

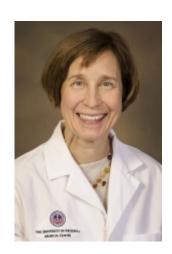






### Deborah Novak, M.D.

- PROPPR Pragmatic, Randomized Optimal Platelet and Plasma Ratios
- Multicenter, prospective, randomized trial comparing different ratios of blood products given to trauma patients who are predicted to require massive transfusions (greater than 10 units of PRBCs within the first 24 hours).
- UAHN was 1 of 12 sites nationally







Leslie Boyer, MD
Associate Professor of Pathology
Director, Venom Immunochemistry,
Pharmacology and Emergency
Response (VIPER) Institute



- Novel lymphotoxinology model, developed jointly by VIPER (UA) and IBt (National Autonomous University of Mexico)
- Diagnostic ELISAs validated by IBt, used by UA as secondary endpoints in clinical trials
  - Crotalus venom
  - Micrurus venom
  - Centruroides venom
  - Equine F(ab')<sub>2</sub>
  - Ovine Fab







- Antivenoms, from concept to license
  - Early-phase design, in collaboration with Institute of Biotechnology, UNAM
  - Clinical development with multiple manufacturers as well as UA INDAs
  - Multicenter phase 2 and 3 clinical trials, originating at UA, performed across USA
  - Antivenom Index for zoo association
  - Pharmacoeconomics, with HOPE Center



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### Charmi Patel, M.D.

- Karyometric analysis of pancreatic neoplasms: Drs. Alberts and Krouse
- Karyometric analysis of Barrett's mucosa: Drs. Alberts and Banerjee.
- Kallikrein expression and secretion in colon cancer: Dr. Natalia Ignatenko (TACMASS)
- Targetting Probe for imaging colorectal cancer vaculature: Dr.Zhoglin (TACMASS) submitted for R21.
- ACSR and ANCHOR trials: Drs. Rimsza and Schmelz.







### Nathalie Whitfield, PhD, ABMM

- Director of the Clinical Microbiology laboratory
- Director of Infectious Disease Research Core (IDRC)
  - designs, develops, validates, implements, and performs new laboratory methods for diagnosing, treating and preventing infectious diseases and public health threats.
- Border Infectious Disease Surveillance Testing
  - Collaborative effort between CDC, US-MX Border States, and local Health Departments performing enhanced surveillance activities & laboratory capacity for testing of diseases of public health importance.

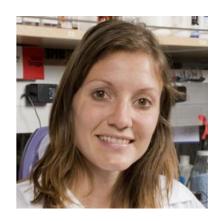






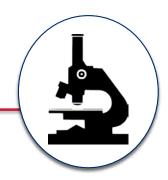
### Samantha Kendrick, PhD

- PhD. Cancer Biology
  - Dr. Laurence Hurley, Advisor
  - Award: Student Technology Innovation Award 2010
- Post-doctoral fellowship
  - Dr. Lisa Rimsza, Advisor
  - Funded by Lymphoma Research
     Foundation
  - K99-R00 submission Oct 1, 2014





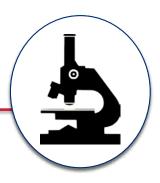




### Melba Jaramillo, PhD.

- PhD. in Cancer Biology (Advisor: Margaret Briehl)
- Post-doctoral Fellow (Advisor: Lisa Rimsza)
  - HIV/AIDS and Lymphoma Outreach
- Pre-Medical Admissions Pathway 2014-2015





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### Collaborations-Rimsza



- Lymphoma & Leukemia Molecular Profiling Project (5 countries, 8 sites), Principal Investigator
- Southwest Oncology Group
  - Lymphoma Committee Pathology Chair
  - University of Rochester-Spore
- AIDS Cancer Specimen Resource Network: University of California-San Francisco, Baylor, GWU, Stallinbach University Hospital Capetown, South Africa
- Lymphoma Research Group, "de facto" head
  - Pharmacy: Med Chem & Pharmacology; Arizona Cancer Center-Therapeutic Development & Cancer Biology Programs, Bio5 UA Genetics Core, Dept. Immunology



### Translational Therapeutics in Lymphoid Malignancies

# Molecular & Genomic Targets:

MYC, BCL2, kinases, epigenetics, redox, antigen presentation

Lisa Rimsza LLMPP group Margaret Briehl Yi Zeng Monika Schmelz Amanda Baker







## Drug Discovery & Development:

Medicinal chemistry, compound collection, screening & assay development, clinical pharmacology

Laurence Hurley
Chris Hulme, Bio5-Oro Valley







Arizona Lymphoid Tissue and Blood Repository (Rimsza Lab): Yvette Frutiger, Betty Glinsmann-Gibson, Ruth Heaton, Lee Wisner, Crystal Loftin, Melba Jaramillo











## Mechanistic Studies:

Pre-clinical studies, in vitro & in vivo

Jon Schatz Cathy Smith Samantha Kendrick Terry Landowski





## Clinical Trials:

Phase 0 to 3

Soham Puvvada Amit Agarwal Tom Miller Dan Persky Clinic staff

















### Collaborations-Briehl

- Partnership for Native American Cancer Prevention
- U54 grant mechanism through the NIH Center for Health Disparities
- collaboration between NAU and UACC with the goal of reducing cancer health disparities in Native communities (Dave Alberts is the PI at UA)





### Collaborations-Rance

- Graduate Students of Neuroscience and Physiological Sciences IDPs
- Nathaniel McMullen, Department of Cellular and Molecular Medicine
  - Ralph Fergosi and Richard Levine, Departments of Physiology and Neuroscience
    - Andrej Romanovsky, Barrow Institute, Phoenix

Funding by NIH, National Institutes on Aging, Evelyn McNight Brain Institute, Arizona Biomedical Research Commission





### Collaborations-Nelson

- Funded by RO1 CA142115 (TV & MN), Better Than Ever grant (MN) and the Main Cancer Foundation (TV)
- Collaborators:
- Todd Vanderah, Ph.D.
- Patrick Mantyh, M.D., Ph.D.
- Frank Porreca, Ph.D.
- Krisha Howell, M.D.
- Leigh Newmayer, M.D.
- Lauren LaBeau, M.D.
- Michelle Ley, M.D.
- Moab Ibrahim, M.D.
- Bernie Futscher, Ph.D.





## Collaborations-Zheng





#### **University of Arizona**

Tubal cytology for ovarian cancer early detection
Zahra Aly (Path)
Setsuko Chambers (gyn-onc)

Ovarian cancer carcinogenesis
Drs. Chambers, Cragun, Hatch (gyn oncology)

<u>Tubal serous carcinogenesis</u> Guang Yao (Cell biology) Setsuko Chambers (gyn-onc)

Ovarian cancer imagine study
Art Gmitro (Radiology)
Drs. Chambers & Hatch (gyn-onc)

#### International

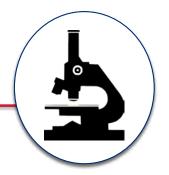
Ovarian cancer
Beihua Kong (Shandong University, China)
Yiying Wang (Zhengzhou University, China)

Endometrial cancer
Beihua Kong (Shandong University, China)
Yiying Wang (Zhengzhou University, China)

Cervical cancer
Yiying Wang & Yue Wan
(ZhengzhouUniversity, China)
Beihua Kong (Shandong University, China)
Wen Di (Shanghai Jiaotong University, China)

Gynecologic pathology
Danhua Shen (Beijing University, China)
Donghui Guo (Tianjing University, China)





## Barun De, PhD

- HIV Test Ordering
- Co-Pis
  - Dr. Carol Galper: Prof. Family & Community Med;
     Assistant Dean, Medical Student Education
  - Dr. John Guisto: Prof. of Emergency Medicine;
     Associate Head of Clinical Affairs
  - Brad Dreifuss, Assist. Professor of Emergency
     Medicine; Director, Rural & Global Health Programs



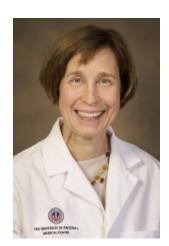




### Collaborations-Novak

--PROPPR trial in 12 Level 1 trauma centers:
Memorial Hermann-Texas Medical Center; UCSF; USC-LA
County; University of Washington-Harborview Medical Center;
Memphis Regional Medical Center; University of Alabama,
University of Wisconsin; University of Cincinnati; Oregon
Health and Science University; Sunnybrook Health Sciences
Centre; University of Maryland

--In collaboration with UAHN Trauma Surgery and the Emergency Department





# Translational Research: Pathology Collaborative, Multi-Disciplinary, Broad, Growing

Microscopy & Immunohistochemistry



 $\longleftrightarrow$ 

Laboratory & Molecular techniques





Tissue Banking





Precision Medicine Neuroscience Population Health Health Disparities

