

PROGRAM SCHEDULE
CANCER RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM
OCTOBER 16, 2025

McDonnell Hall, Washington Road, Princeton University, Princeton, NJ 08540

Welcome and Opening Remarks
10:00 A.M.

Eileen White, Ph.D., Deputy Director, Chief Scientific Officer, Rutgers Cancer Institute
Board of Governors Professor, Molecular Biology and Biochemistry,
Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey
Associate Director, Ludwig Princeton Branch, Princeton University

Cancer Metabolism Session
10:00 A.M. – 11:30 A.M.

Chair: Wenwei Hu, Ph.D., Professor of Radiation Oncology, Co-Leader, Cancer Metabolism and Immunology Program,
Rutgers Cancer Institute, Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey

10:00 A.M. – 11:00 A.M.

Exploiting a metabolic vulnerability in mTOR Complex 1-driven cancers

Alexander Valvezan, Ph.D.

Assistant Professor, Department of Pharmacology,
Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey
Member, Cancer Metabolism and Growth Program,
Rutgers Cancer Institute

Discovery and Characterization of Oncohistones

Tom Muir, Ph.D.

Professor, Department of Chemistry,
Princeton University
Member, Cancer Pharmacology Program, Rutgers Cancer
Institute

11:00 A.M. – 11:30 A.M.

Tumors hijack macrophages for iron supply to promote bone metastasis and anemia

Yujiao Han, Hirak Sarkar, Zhan Xu, Sereno Lopez-Darwin, Yong Wei, Xiang Hang, Fengshuo Liu, Kimberley Tran, Wei Wang, Jennifer M. Miller, Christina J. DeCoste, Dylan Blohm, Robert L. Satcher, Xiang H.-F. Zhang, Yibin Kang

Pyruvate kinase as a therapeutic target in T-ALL

Rodrigo Prieto-Bermejo, Victoria da Silva-Diz, Luca Tottone, Amartya Singh, Maya Aleksandrova, Oekyung Kim, Olga Lancho, Xiaoyang Su, Matthew G. Vander Heiden, Daniel Herranz

Exploring the metabolic pathways of early-stage hormone receptor/HER2 negative breast cancer

Coral Omene, Shicha Kumar, Mridula George, Lindsay Potdevin, Jonathan Smith, Ankit Shah, Kant Matsuda, Deborah Toppmeyer, Meera Gupta, Kellen Olszewski, Eileen White, Joshua Rabinowitz

Lunch

11:30 A.M. – 12:00 P.M.

Tumor Microenvironment and Immunology Session
12:00 P.M. – 1:30 P.M.

Chair: Yibin Kang, Ph.D., Warner-Lambert/Parke-Davis Professor, Department of Molecular Biology, Founding Member,
Ludwig Princeton Branch, Princeton University, Member, Cancer Metabolism and Immunology Program, Rutgers Cancer
Institute

12:00 P.M. – 1:00 P.M.

Cell therapy for virus-associated and non-viral epithelial cancers

Christian Hinrichs, Ph.D.

Professor, Department of Medicine, Rutgers, The State
University of New Jersey
Co-Director of the Duncan and Nancy MacMillan Cancer
Immunology and Metabolism Center of
Excellence (CIMCoE), Chief of the Section of Cancer
Immunotherapy, Co-Leader of the Cancer Metabolism and
Immunology Program, Rutgers Cancer Institute

Dietary lipids shape the anti-tumor immune response

Lydia Lynch, Ph.D.

Professor, Department of Molecular Biology and Ludwig
Princeton Branch, Princeton University
Member, Cancer Metabolism and Growth Program,
Rutgers Cancer Institute

1:00 P.M. – 1:30 P.M.

CXCR4+ mammary gland macrophageal niche promotes tumor initiating cell activity and immune suppression during tumorigenesis

Eunmi Lee, Jason J. Hong, Gabriel Samcam Vargas, Natalie Sauerwald, Yong Wei, Xiang Hang, Chandra L. Theesfeld, Jean Arly A. Volmar, Jennifer M. Miller, Wei Wang, Sha Wang, Gary Laevsky, Christina J. DeCoste, Yibin Kang

Dysfunctional BLTP3A enhances anti-tumor immunity via autophagic regulation in high-grade serous ovarian cancer (HGSOC)

Elaheh S. Hosseini, Kristen E. Warrington, Steven Wang, Mona Arabzadeh, Rinkee Kumari, Maria Sogaard, Christopher Alcott, Lomaani Ranasinghe, Kyle K. Payne

GPR132 suppresses CD8 tissue-resident memory T cell formation and anti-tumor immunity

Jiangyan Zhang, Giuseppina Marchesini Tovar, Maria Elena Diaz Rubio, Eric Tang, Ariful Islam, Tania Wong Fok Lung, Xiaoyang Su, Tessa Bergsbaken

Cancer Genomics Session
1:30 P.M. – 3:00 P.M.

Chair: Samuel F. Bunting, MBiochem, Ph.D., Associate Professor, Department of Molecular Biology and Biochemistry, Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey, Member, Genomic Instability and Cancer Genetics Program, Rutgers Cancer Institute

1:30 P.M. – 2:30 P.M.

Identifying and validating RNA biomarkers for Precision Oncology

Chang Chan, Ph.D.
Associate Professor, Department of Medicine, Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey
Co-Leader, Genomic Instability and Cancer Genetics Program, Rutgers Cancer Institute

Single-cell multi-omics reveals archetypal regulatory programs shared across T cell subsets

Yuri Pritykin, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor, Department of Computer Science and Lewis-Sigler Institute for Integrative Genomics, Princeton University
Member, Cancer Metabolism and Immunology Program, Rutgers Cancer Institute

2:30 P.M. – 3:00 P.M.

Complex HPV-human DNA structures revealed by large-scale DNA analyses in an HPV-cancer derived cell line

Eleanor J. Agosta, Yoke-Chen Chang, Vandy Rao, Jessie Hollingsworth, Michelle Brown, Debajyoti Kabiraj, Chang Chan, Subhajyoti De, Advaita Madireddy, Brian J. Haas, Danny E. Miller, Jack Lenz, Cristina Montagna

Multimodal spatial alignment and morphology mapping with flow matching

Hongyu Zheng, Xinhao Liu, Peter Halmos, Hirak Sarkar, Julian Gold, Erik Storrs, Wen-hung Chou, Li Ding, Ben Raphael

Dissecting tertiary lymphoid structures in colorectal cancer through combined single cell and spatial transcriptomics analysis

Jose Gonzalez, Jiekun (Jackie) Yang, Wenwei Hu

Poster Session: Presentations & Wine and Cheese Reception
3:00 P.M. – 4:30 P.M.