

Cancer Research Training and Education Accomplishments and Current News

Thomas Kelly, PhD
Associate Director for Cancer
Research Training and Education



Winthrop P. Rockefeller
Cancer Institute

Meet the Members - Cancer Research Training and Education Committee



Thomas Kelly, PhD
Associate Director
Cancer Research
Training and Education



Alan Tackett, PhD
Deputy Director WPRCI



Brian Gittens, EdD, MPA
Vice Chancellor for
Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion



Marjan Boerma, PhD
DNA Damage & Host Response
Program Leader



Kevin Phelan, PhD
Program Director, ArkanSONO SEPA



Robert Eoff, PhD
Professor of Biochemistry and
Molecular Biology



Amy Rossi
Cancer Patient Advocate Vice
Chair of the Age Friendly
Commission for the City of LR



Laura Hutchins, MD
Professor of Medicine



Danny R Welch, PhD
Associate Director for Education at
the Kansas University Cancer Center



Laura Rakes, MA, CCRP
Director of Program
Development



Brandi Dawson, MS
Administrative Coordinator



Lawrence E Cornett, PhD
Professor
PI Arkansas Idea Network of Biomedical
Research Excellence



James Graham, MD
Executive Associate Dean
for Academic Affairs
College of Medicine



Robert E. McGehee, PhD
Distinguished Professor of Pediatrics
Dean of Graduate School



Hong-yu Li, PhD
Professor
Developmental Therapeutics
Program Leader



Steven R. Post, PhD
Professor of Pathology
Cancer Biology Program Leader



Joseph Su, PhD, MPH
Professor
Cancer Prevention & Population
Sciences Program Co-Leader

Upcoming Summer Series

Dr. Thomas Kelly, AD for Cancer Research Training and Education, in partnership with **ArkanSONO** led by **Dr. Kevin Phelan** will host a 4 part web series June of 2021. The focus will be *Anatomy & Histopathology with a cancer focus*. The program is designed for upper level high school students and first year college students. The sessions will utilize models, cadaver specimens, virtual human dissector programs, 3D reconstructions of CT scans, and ultrasound imaging of organs in standardized patients.



WPRCI Junior Faculty Mentoring Program



Dr. Alan Tackett and Dr. Tom Kelly have been working hard to get the **WPRCI Junior Faculty Mentoring Program** off to a great start.

As of April, there are **7** new mentees!

The purpose of the program is to assist the mentees in getting their first **RO1** and **publication**.

TRI – HSIE Postdoctoral Training Program

The Winthrop P. Rockefeller Cancer Institute has partnered with **Nancy Rusch**, PhD & **TRI** to fund a fellow in the NRSA program. This is a two year program designed to provide a higher level education opportunity in the **HSIE** (Health Sciences Innovation & Entrepreneurship) Postdoctoral Training Program. The funding will go towards tuition, travel, and other expenses.

This 1st recipient of this 2 year award is
Laura Ewing



About TRI

The UAMS Translational Research Institute (TRI) provides services and resources to ensure the swift translation of research into health care advances. This support is available to all UAMS researchers at the UAMS campus in Little Rock, the UAMS Northwest Regional Campus in Fayetteville, Arkansas Children's Hospital and Research Institute in Little Rock, and the Central Arkansas Veteran's Healthcare System in Little Rock and North Little Rock. TRI is supported by a Clinical and Translational Science Award (CTSA) from the National Institutes of Health's National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences (NCATS).

In the works – Overlooked Cancer Professions



Cancer Clinical
Trials & Regulatory
Affairs

The Cancer Research Training & Education Core is working with **Dr. Kristin Zorn, Sandy Annis**, BA, CCRP(Executive Director, CCTRA), **Noel Danylchuk**, MS, LCGC, (Genetic Counseling), and **Amy Jo Jenkins**, MS, CCRP, CCRC, CCRA (Director of WPRCI Clinical Trials Administration) to *highlight and provide additional training and certification for overlooked cancer professions such as **Clinician Researchers and Genetic Counselors**.*

Funded Project Leader

The Winthrop P. Rockefeller Cancer Institute, in partnership with the **Arkansas INBRE program**, funded **Dr. Mohammad Abrar Alam**, Associate Professor at **Arkansas State University**, as the project leader for his project entitled:

Development of Novel-thiazolo-androstenone anti-melanoma agents



ARKANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY



Coming Soon – New Website

Be on the lookout for the new
**WPRCI Research Training and
Education Website**

The website will contain information on all meetings including **Forum**, the **WPRCI Junior Researchers Forum** hosted by **Jesus Delgado-Calle**, PhD, & the **Junior Faculty Mentoring Program** headed by **Alan Tackett**, PhD.

The site will also include:

- **Educational Resources**
- **New Available Programs**
- **Grant Funding Opportunities**



Forum Speakers Needed



Cancer Institute Forum Series

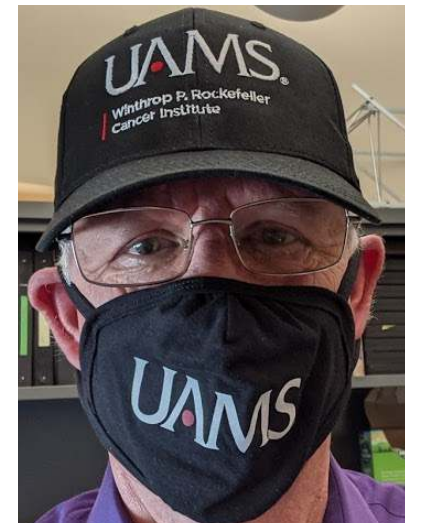
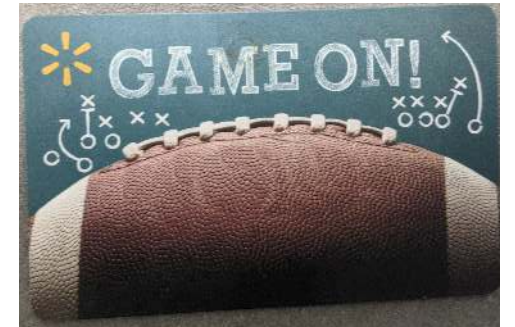
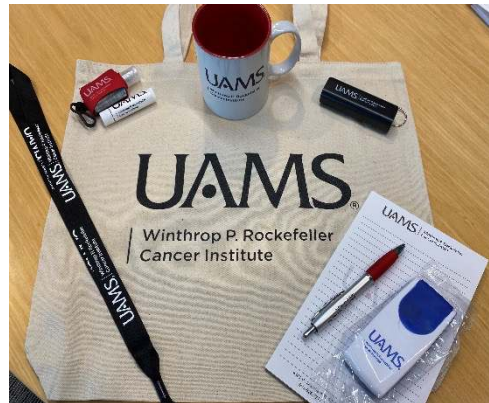
The Forum seminar series brings in nationally known speakers to present on basic or translational cancer research projects with the goal of promoting interactions and collaborations among scientists. Cancer Institute members are invited to meet individually with the guest speakers if they have a shared research interest in the area of cancer.

Forum meets Mondays at noon in the Sam Walton Auditorium on the 10th Floor of the Winthrop P. Rockefeller Cancer Institute from September to May.

**Know someone who would be a great speaker at the
Cancer Institute Forum Series?**

If so, reach out to **Tom Kelly** at KellyThomasJ@uams.edu

Inaugural WPRCI special award for outstanding cancer research at Arkansas State Science and Engineering Fair



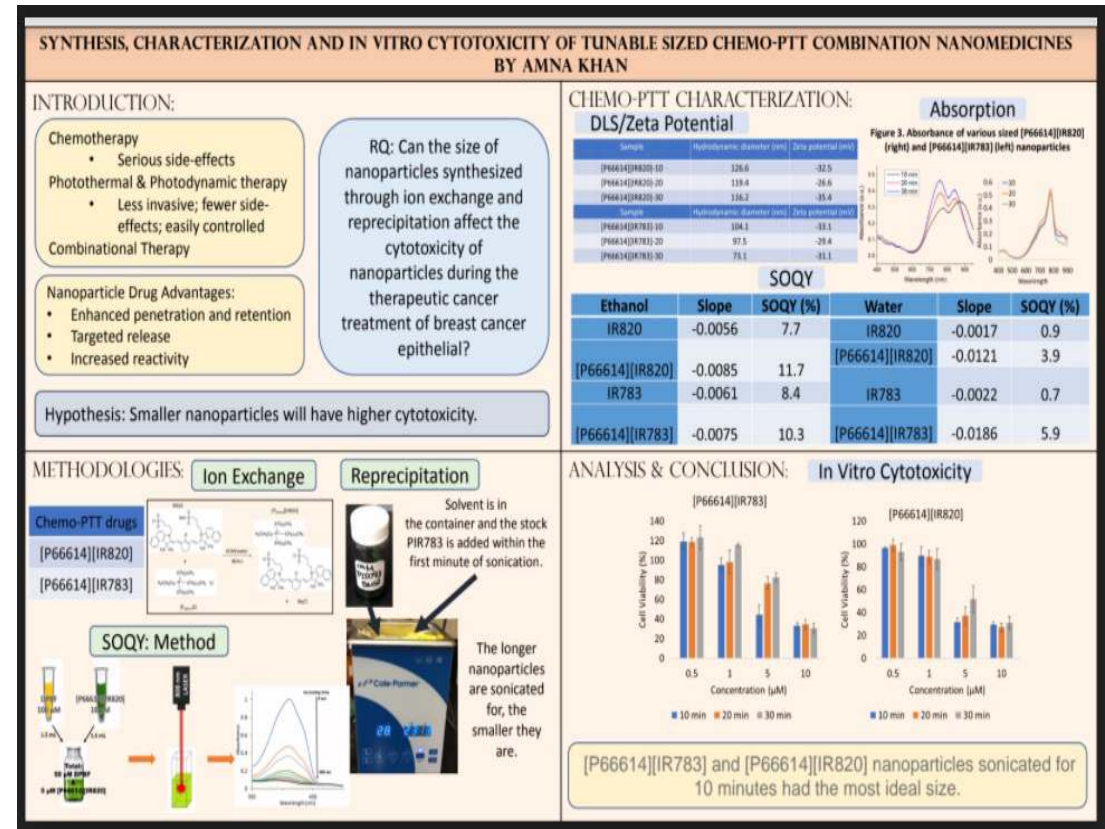
Inaugural WPRCI special award for outstanding cancer research at Arkansas State Science and Engineering Fair

Arkansas State Science Fair 2021

Amna Khan

FIRST PLACE

“Synthesis, Characterization and In Vitro Cytotoxicity of Tunable Sized Chemo-PTT Combination Nanomedicines”



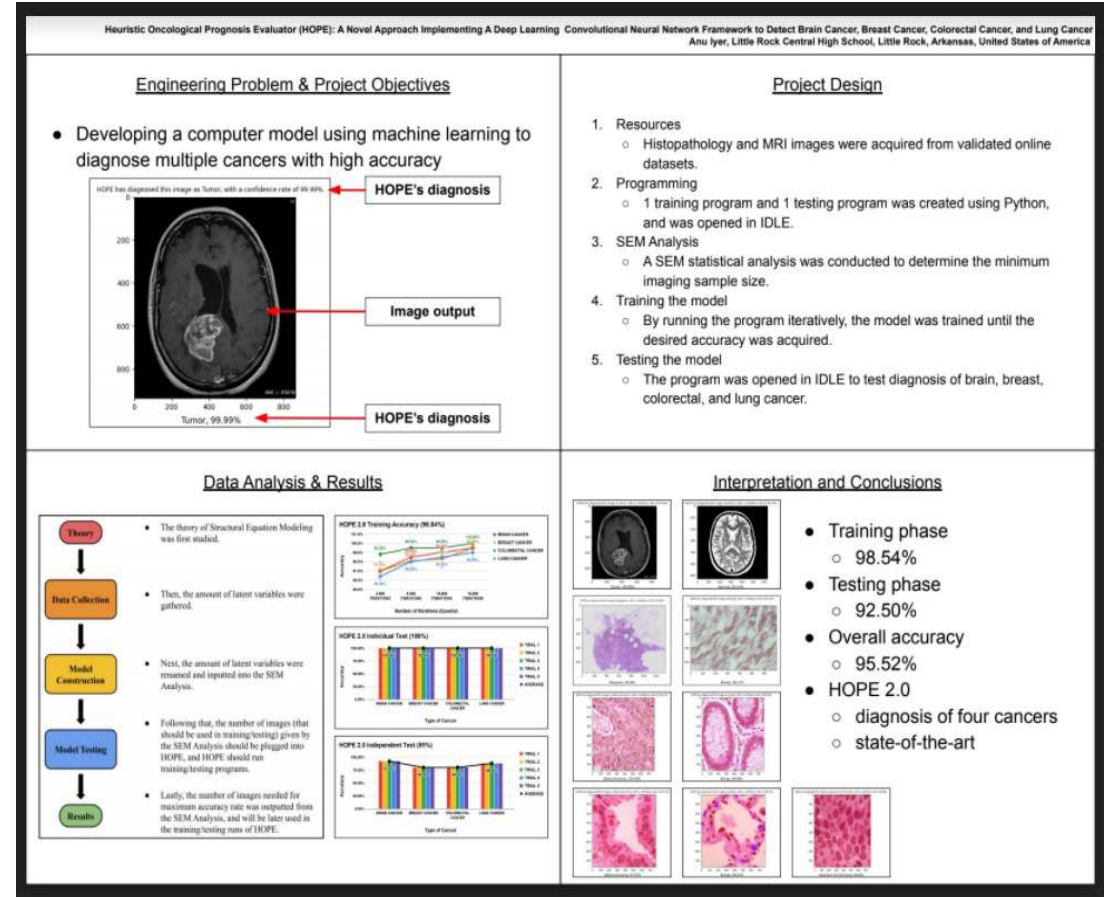
Inaugural WPRCI special award for outstanding cancer research at Arkansas State Science and Engineering Fair

Arkansas State Science Fair 2021

Anu Iyer

RUNNER UP

“Heuristic Oncological Prognosis Evaluator (HOPE): A Novel Approach Implementing A Deep Learning Convolutional Neural Network Framework to Detect Brain Cancer, Breast Cancer, Colorectal Cancer, and Lung Cancer”



Please Note

- **Brandi Dawson will be reaching out to schedule the 1st Cancer Research Training & Education Committee meeting for September 2021. Meetings will be twice a year. The meetings will be both in person and via zoom.**
- **Each quarterly newsletter will spotlight one of the committee members.**
- **If you have exciting news you would like other committee members to know, please reach out to Brandi Dawson at bdawson@uams.edu so she can include it in the next quarterly newsletter.**

Thank you!