

*i*CURE Welcome Ceremony

November 8, 2021



*Intramural Continuing
Umbrella of Research
Experiences*

U.S. Department of Health & Human Services |
National Institutes of Health

“Attracting, training, and retaining a talented and innovative research workforce for the future is one of the NCI’s most important responsibilities. *iCURE* recruits scientists from the populations that suffer from cancer disproportionately—the same populations that are traditionally underrepresented in science careers—to produce research that can successfully reduce that burden.”

— Norman E. “Ned” Sharpless, MD, NCI Director

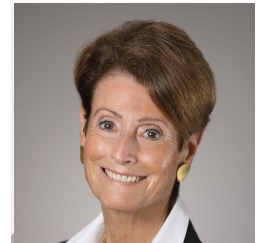


“The *iCURE* program has enormous potential for identifying and training outstanding scientists from underrepresented minorities.”

— Douglas R. Lowy, MD, NCI Principal Deputy Director

“The *iCURE* program provides a unique opportunity for trainees to have a challenging and rewarding research experience and be mentored for a future career in cancer research. The scholars equally enrich NCI through their interests, passions and perspectives.”

— Dinah S. Singer, PhD, Deputy Director, NCI Scientific Strategy and Development



“We are excited to expand the highly successful extramural *CURE* program into the intramural community. *iCURE* scholars will gain a valuable research experience and an understanding of how to navigate an NIH intramural research career path—and, in the process, they will help enrich the intramural environment.”

— Sanya A. Springfield, PhD, CRCHD Director

“We are looking forward to welcoming a diverse group of highly talented *iCURE* students and postdocs to our laboratories. Diversity of thought and culture is essential for the innovative and creative environment we pride ourselves on in the NCI intramural program.”

— Tom Misteli, PhD, CCR Director



“We have been fortunate to have an increasing number of *iCURE* scholars coming to DCEG. Diversity—of background, thought, and approach—improves the scientific community and the quality and impact of our research. Our trainees work collaboratively with DCEG’s investigators to uncover the causes of cancer in human populations.”

— Stephen J. Chanock, MD, DCEG Director

iCURE Welcome Ceremony

Agenda

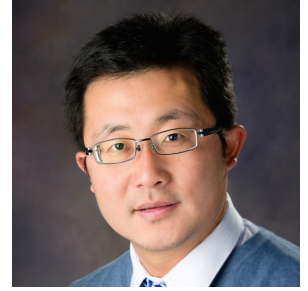
- 2:00 PM **Welcome Remarks**
Dr. Dinah S. Singer
Deputy Director, NCI Scientific Strategy and Development
- Dr. Tom Misteli**
Director, NCI Center for Cancer Research (CCR)
Introduction by Theodore Busby III, iCURE Scholar
- Dr. Montserrat García-Closas**
Deputy Director, NCI Division of Cancer Epidemiology & Genetics (DCEG)
Introduction by Frank J. Colón-Matos, iCURE Scholar
- 2:25 PM **Coming to iCURE: Chapter 4**
- 2:30 PM **Meet the 2021 iCURE Scholars – Part 1**
- 2:45 PM **iCURE Appreciates Its Mentors**
- 2:50 PM **Meet the 2021 iCURE Scholars – Part 2**
- 3:10 PM **Becoming a Cancer Researcher – From First Gen Student to Next Gen Scientist**
Kimberly S. Meza
iCURE Alum, PhD Student, The Cancer Center at Brown University
- 3:25 PM **Closing**
Dr. Sanya A. Springfield
Director, NCI Center to Reduce Cancer Health Disparities (CRCHD)

2021 iCURE Scholars



Sarangelica Alamo-Ortiz

Shuo Gu, PhD
RNA Biology Laboratory
CCR Frederick



Eugene P. Alforque

Brigitte C. Widemann, MD
Pediatric Oncology Branch
CCR Bethesda



Noe E. Crespo, PhD

Christina I. Schroeder, PhD
Chemical Biology Laboratory
CCR Frederick





Mahider M. Enyew

John W. Glod, MD, PhD
Pediatric Oncology Branch

Brigitte C. Widemann, MD
Pediatric Oncology Branch

CCR Bethesda



Victoria M. Gonzalez

Jung-Hyun Park, PhD
Experimental Immunology Branch

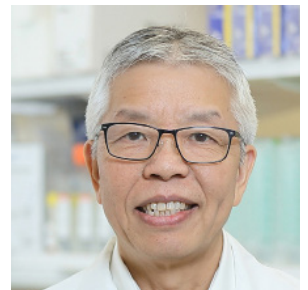
CCR Bethesda



Whitney Leet, PhD

Xin Wei Wang, PhD
Laboratory of Human Carcinogenesis

CCR Bethesda



2021 iCURE Scholars



Amran A. Nur

Tim F. Greten, MD
Thoracic and GI Malignancies Branch
CCR Bethesda



Dilorom 'Delia' Sass, PhD

Terri S. Armstrong, PhD
Neuro-Oncology Branch
CCR Bethesda



Anna Savan

Beverly Mock, PhD
Laboratory of Cancer Biology and Genetics
CCR Bethesda



Macy L. Stockdill, PhD

Terri S. Armstrong, PhD
Neuro-Oncology Branch
CCR Bethesda





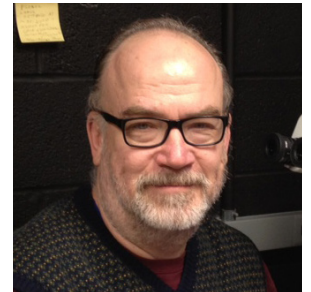
Kayla Titalii-Torres, PhD

Erin L. Davies, PhD
Cancer and Developmental Biology Laboratory
CCR Frederick



Joanne M. Unite

Mark B. Lewandoski, PhD
Cancer and Developmental Biology Laboratory
CCR Frederick



Bryan Valcarcel, MD

Lindsay Morton, PhD
Radiation Epidemiology Branch
DCEG Shady Grove



Dana M. Van Fossen

Zheng-Gang Liu, PhD
Laboratory of Immune Cell Biology
CCR Bethesda



2021 iCURE Scholars



Angelina P. Van Sprang

Brigitte C. Widemann, MD
Pediatric Oncology Branch

Robin Lockridge, PhD
Pediatric Oncology Branch

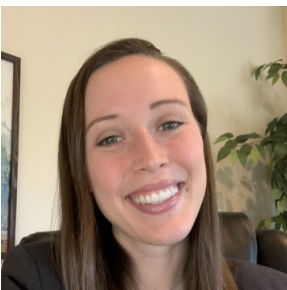
CCR Bethesda



Sophia Varriano, PhD

Christine M. Heske, MD
Pediatric Oncology Branch

CCR Bethesda



Haley M. Wilt

Yun-Xing Wang, PhD
Center for Structural Biology

CCR Frederick



Speaker Bio



Kimberly S. Meza

iCURE Alum, PhD Student, The Cancer Center at Brown University

Kimberly S. Meza is a second-year pathobiology PhD student in the laboratory of Sheldon L. Holder at Brown University. She earned a Bachelor of Arts in biological sciences with a minor in psychology from Barnard College of Columbia University.

After her undergraduate studies, she conducted research for a year with the University of Florida's Minority Cancer Training Center and the Prostate Cancer Transatlantic Consortium. She then was selected for the inaugural *iCURE* fellowship program at the National Cancer Institute, completing a 2-year postbaccalaureate training before commencing graduate school at Brown.

Her current doctoral work focuses on investigating the molecular mechanisms and signaling pathways that mediate the expression of the oncoprotein PIM1 in cancer in an effort to develop novel anticancer strategies.

iCURE Program Team & Workgroup

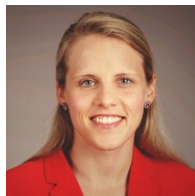
iCURE Program Team

(NCI Center to Reduce Cancer Health Disparities)



Dr. Alison Lin

Acting Chief
Diversity Training Branch



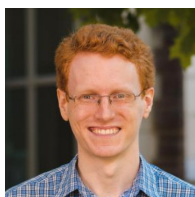
Dr. Jessica Calzola

Program Director



Dr. Gregory Adams, Jr.

Program Director



Dr. Mark Sellers

Program Analyst



Dawn Reid

Program Specialist

iCURE Workgroup Members

(NCI)

Dr. LeeAnn Bailey, Center to Reduce Cancer Health Disparities

Vi Black, Center for Cancer Training

Dr. Channelle Case Borden, Center for Cancer Training

Mary Custer, Center for Cancer Research

Erika Ginsburg, Center for Cancer Training

Dr. Laura Hooper, Center for Cancer Research

Dr. Jackie A. Lavigne, Division of Cancer Epidemiology & Genetics

Dr. Rick Moser, Division of Cancer Control and Population Sciences

Dr. Mary Ann S. Van Duyn, Center to Reduce Cancer Health Disparities

Diane Wigfield, Division of Cancer Epidemiology & Genetics

*Enhancing Diversity in the NCI Intramural
Research Community*



*Intramural Continuing Umbrella of
Research Experiences*



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cancer.gov/crchd



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