

# cancerlines



the inside line up



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## UNC Cancer Network offers clinical trials close to home

One of the three objectives put forward in the University Cancer Research Fund strategic plan is improving cancer outcomes in North Carolina. UNC Lineberger is reaching out through the UNC Cancer Network's clinical trials network to partner with physicians and staff at sites across the state to offer leading-edge cancer clinical trials, close to home.

Many treatments used today are the result of past clinical trials looking at issues of how to prevent, diagnose, and treat cancer as well as how to manage symptoms of cancer or its treatment. Many people are familiar with the concept of a randomized, placebo-controlled study, where even the researchers don't know who is getting the treatment, to avoid biasing the results.

"Cancer clinical trials are a bit different," says Pete Voorhees, MD, medical director of the clinical trials network. "A lot of people associate 'placebo' with not getting any treatment at all — but in cancer we compare the safety and effectiveness of the new treatment with the current standard of care for a particular type and stage of cancer."

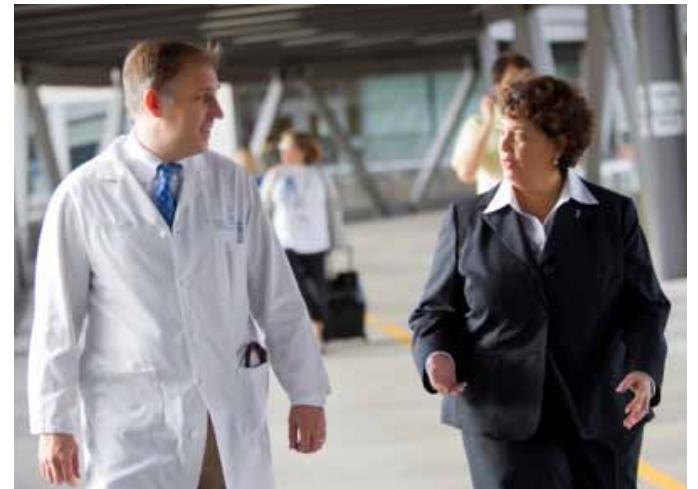
Cancer trials can be very important for patients who have run out of options or who might have trouble with the side effects of a standard treatment.

"Making trials available to a wide variety of patients is good for patients and good for the quality of the research," says Tom Shea, MD, who oversees the network in his role as Associate Director for Outreach at UNC Lineberger.

"Today's more targeted, personalized treatments means that there are more options than ever for patients but also that we need to collaborate with other sites to get as diverse a group and as many patients with different tumor types as possible to participate. We also work with other sites to offer

trials for rare cancers," he adds.

"It's a win for us, a win for patients, and a win for physicians," adds Joy Ostroff, BSN, RN, OCN, who serves as the network's administrative director. "The network helps us enhance research by finding answers to important questions about how to best treat individual cancer, helping patients to access state of the art care closer to home, and serving as a resource for physicians to offer their patients more treatment options."

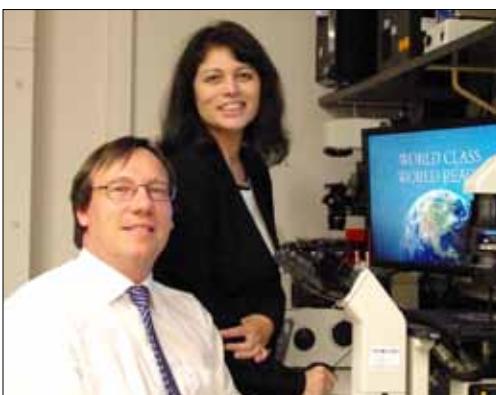


Pete Voorhees, MD, medical director for UNC Lineberger's clinical trials network, talks with Joy Ostroff, BSN, RN, OCN, the network's administrative director.

Today's tough economic environment coupled with the logistical demands of coming to a center like UNC-Chapel Hill can be a barrier to clinical trials participation. "I am acutely aware of the difficulties of having patients participate in clinical

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## Global reach: UNC Lineberger puts expertise to work globally



Dirk Dittmer, PhD, and Blossom Damania, PhD are expanding UNC Lineberger's global reach

Talk to anyone in North Carolina about cancer and they'll have a story — about themselves, a family member, a close friend, or a loved one who has battled the disease. One in three people in the

United States face that battle. Here in North Carolina, we are at the forefront of research in treatment, not just in the U.S., but around the world. We work hard to make cancer deaths a minority of cases and we have a lot of tools to help us defeat the disease.

Globally, most people aren't lucky enough to have outcomes that positive. According to the World Health Organization, cancer accounted for 7.6 million deaths

in 2008, the last year for which data is available, and are predicted to rise to over 11 million in 2030. Many of those are preventable deaths and there are large disparities between the U.S. and developing countries. The National Cancer Institute (NCI) notes that, "unless current trends change, cancer in developing countries is expected to represent 70 percent of the global cancer burden by the year 2030."

"We have to get ahead of this wave," says Blossom Damania, PhD, a professor of microbiology and immunology who is leading UNC Lineberger's newly-established global oncology program. "If we wait for the problem to develop, it will be too late to implement prevention strategies. Prevention is much more cost-effective than waiting for a problem to develop before addressing it," she adds.

"We can't close our eyes to the global impact of cancer," says Shelley Earp, MD, UNC Lineberger's director. "What we learn globally will help us locally. The more we learn about the diversity of cancer—what causes it, how it progresses, and how it responds to treatment—the more important it is for researchers to work with diverse populations to find solutions."

"Thanks to the wonderful work of our infectious disease and surgery colleagues at UNC, who have built a research infrastructure that now employs 250 people in Malawi, we have an

*continued on page 2*

## UNC Lineberger spin-off receives \$3M Small Business Innovation Research grant



*Ned Sharpless, MD, discovered a technology that G-Zero Therapeutics seeks to commercialize.*

G-Zero Therapeutics, an RTP company founded in 2008 by Ned Sharpless, MD, UNC Lineberger's associate director for translational research, has been awarded a \$3 million Phase II Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) Grant from the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases.

SBIR grants are highly competitive federal awards designed to encourage small businesses to explore the potential for developing new technologies that may lead to commercialization. Phase II awards are larger awards granted upon successful completion of

the Phase I portion, which G-Zero accomplished in July of 2011. The grant will fund commercialization of technology developed in Sharpless' lab that can protect patients from cellular damage caused by radiation or cancer chemotherapy.

Sharpless' lab has been testing drugs to inhibit enzymes involved in cell division—the primary process behind cancer. His group showed that treatment with certain agents causes specific groups of bone marrow cells to temporarily stop dividing (which they termed 'pharmacological quiescence' or PQ™).

Scientists have demonstrated that cells which are not dividing are resistant to agents that damage DNA, like radiation and chemotherapy. Therefore, by inducing PQ™ with potent and selective inhibitors of cell division, Sharpless has shown mice are protected from lethal doses of radiation and chemotherapy. Previously, Sharpless' lab has shown that the induction of PQ™ even up to 20 hours after radiation exposure protects mice from a lethal dose of radiation. As opposed to existing technologies to prevent radiation or chemotherapy toxicity, PQ™ protects all the normal cells of blood, including platelets, red cells and white cells.

This technology has been licensed to G-Zero Therapeutics, which will use this new funding

to further commercialize these discoveries. The research was also funded by an innovation grant from the University Cancer Research Fund.

"Our goal is a simple, non-toxic pill that decreases radiation toxicity even when given after radiation exposure. We believe this approach could be of use in humans who are accidentally or intentionally exposed to lethal doses of radiation," he said.

"This funding will employ four people at G-Zero and several additional contractors in the NC research triangle region to continue to develop these experimental compounds into drugs that can be manufactured in consistent ways on a larger scale, the next step before we can apply to the Food and Drug Administration for approval to test these drugs in humans," he added.

One application for for G-Zero's technology include unexpected radiation exposures, such as the recent Fukushima nuclear disaster that resulted from earthquakes affecting Japan. In addition, bone marrow protection is a major issue in medical oncology, with billions of dollars spent annually in the United State alone for growth factors for this problem. In particular, PQ™ protects platelets and red cells, which are largely unmet needs in current clinical oncology. 

### Cancer Network

*continued from page 1*

trials when they are only offered here at UNC. The combination of travel expenses, missing work (or having a family member miss work) to travel, child care and other barriers can be really difficult for patients — so if we can bring the research to them, it's a big help," Dr. Voorhees notes.

Cindy Hall-Thomas, RN, MSN, Clinical Research Nurse at Nash Cancer Treatment Center agrees, "A lot of our patients don't have transportation but they want to be part of the research. "Their hope is to make a change for others with the same type of cancer and to better their outcome," she says.

It's no surprise that the number of patients participating in trials through the network has almost doubled since 2008 to more than 300, with 16 sites currently participating and more in the pipeline.

The affiliation with UNC Lineberger is helpful when presenting options to patients, says Vivian Sheidler, RN, MS, manager of clinical research at Cone Health Cancer Center in Greensboro. "It adds to a patient's perceived value of the trial. Our physicians regularly collaborate with UNC oncologists and we highly value that relationship."

Nancy Burns, RN, BSN, OCN, manager of oncology research at Rex Cancer Center, adds, "Our patients have access to an expanded menu of clinical trials because the Rex Cancer Center participates in the UNC Cancer Network — it is part of our important commitment to oncology research." She also notes that collaboration on clinical trials leads to collaboration in other areas, "Many of our physicians know each other on a personal level and communicate on a range of issues from treatment modalities and new drugs to shared patient care." 

### Global Reach

*continued from page 1*

opportunity to leverage their experience in sub-Saharan Africa to launch this effort in global cancer research."

UNC Lineberger's new program is strategically aligned with the NIH and NCI's commitment to global oncology. While collaboration with researchers outside of the U.S. was part of the National Cancer Act of 1971, the emergence of genomic technologies with the parallel realization that cancer is many different diseases makes a global perspective essential to progress. The diversity of our global population opens up research horizons in "rare" cancers — such as certain inherited cancers — by providing access to more patients who may agree to participate in research.

Dirk Dittmer, PhD, is the director of resources for the new global oncology program and will concentrate on building diagnostic and treatment capacity for cancer at collaborating institutions. Together with UNC's Drs. Hosseinipour and Mwafongo he recently completed an NCI-funded clinical trial on cancer at Kamuzu Central Hospital in Malawi.

Damania says, "It is important for us to study cancers both in the U.S. and across the globe because cancers that are currently less frequent, yet quite fatal, in North Carolina and the U.S. are abundant in certain global locations. These cancers can be studied in places like Africa where the numbers are much higher. The diversity of our global population opens up research horizons for lesser studied cancers (such as certain inherited cancers and cancers linked to certain infections) by providing access to more patients who may agree to participate in research. This will directly impact the health of citizens in the U.S. and abroad."

One of the NCI's global cancer portfolio focus areas is a particular strength at UNC — infectious agents that are associated with the development of cancer. "We know that about 20 percent of cancers worldwide are associated with infectious agents and they appear



*Carol Shores, MD, PhD, with some of the surgical residents she helps train in Malawi. Photo courtesy of Dr. Shores.*

disproportionately in developing nations," she notes.

UNC has strong research programs in virus-associated cancers including Kaposi sarcoma, non-Hodgkin and Burkitt's lymphoma, nasopharyngeal carcinoma, cervical cancer and hepatocellular carcinoma. In countries without strong health care systems, such as those found in some areas of Africa, cervical cancer incidence is more than six times that of the U.S. and death rates are extremely high.

"There are a dozen UNC Lineberger faculty members working in areas that have some application to global cancers associated with viral infection," says Damania. "Currently, they collaborate with the NCI's AIDS malignancy consortium in the U.S., and many researchers in multiple countries including Malawi, Brazil, India, Cameroon and China."

UNC Lineberger's global oncology program also aims to build on the activities of faculty who have already worked to establish global programs, such as the current research effort in Burkitt's lymphoma led by Carol Shores, MD, PhD, who is a co-director of the Malawi Surgical Initiative (read more about her work on page 4), Claudio Battaglini, PhD, who often lectures and collaborates with researchers in his native Brazil, and faculty developing clinical trials that might benefit from an international perspective. 

## David and Jenny Routh find UNC Lineberger offers a “magical combination”

Like many people, David and Jenny Routh of Chapel Hill don't know anyone who hasn't been touched by cancer. David's mother is a 25 year breast cancer survivor and Jenny's brother died of pancreatic cancer at the age of 41, leaving the couple's nephews without their dad at a young age. Three years ago, David's best friend died in a battle against lymphoma. “Sitting with my friend night after night in his last few months had a massive impact on me,” David says.

The Rouths admit that they have an insider's view of UNC Lineberger. Their daughter, Elizabeth, spent 18 months working in Dr. Channing Der's research lab and was mentored by Dr. Jen Jen Yeh, “who took Elizabeth under her wing and encouraged her to pursue her dreams to become a cancer doctor.” Elizabeth did follow those dreams and is now beginning her medical residency at Johns Hopkins University.

“We have always known that there is extraordinary science at UNC Lineberger, but the people are also clinically remarkable and good people—from Shelley (Earp) throughout the entire organization.” So getting involved with UNC Lineberger by joining the Board of Visitors, “was an opportunity we didn't even have to think about,” David says.

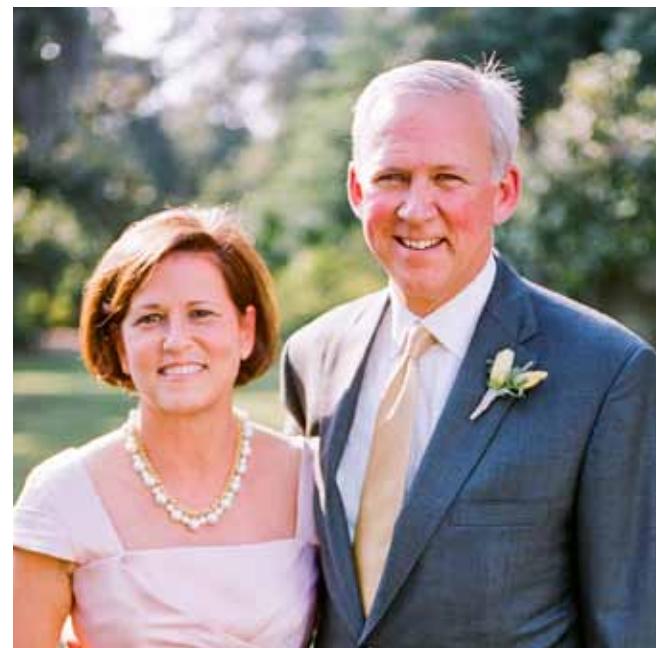
Jenny notes that they each have different areas where they contribute. Jenny serves on the commu-

nications committee and has organizational and event planning experience to offer. David is currently chairing the development committee of the Board of Visitors and lends his expertise in the gift planning area to UNC Lineberger—helping kick off an initiative to increase bequests by announcing that the couple has included the cancer center in their estate plan.

“UNC Lineberger gives people of ordinary means the opportunity to make a huge difference with a planned gift, like a research seed grant,” David notes.

“Today's economic ups and downs have caused people to narrow what they give to and choose their top priorities. The cancer center is the right place for us to focus—it's personal, it's groundbreaking science, and the people are extraordinarily caring—from top to bottom. That's a magical combination.”

The cancer center's statewide mission is another reason the Rouths are involved, “We are North Carolina natives, we raised our kids here and we are committed to the state. We don't know of too many things more important to the state than that we are a leader in cancer research and cancer care,



and we have a deep commitment to making sure North Carolina is moving ahead and is world class.” The couple agrees that UNC Lineberger's work on behalf of the broad citizenship of North Carolina just “adds an overdrive gear” to their commitment. 8

### Noel Brewer, PhD, and Karen Mohlke, PhD, receive the 2011 Hettleman Prize



Noel Brewer, PhD



Karen Mohlke, PhD

Two UNC Lineberger faculty, Noel Brewer, PhD, associate professor of health behavior and health education in the UNC Gillings School of Global Public Health, and Karen Mohlke, PhD, associate professor of genetics in the UNC School of Medicine, were awarded the 2011 Hettleman Prize for Artistic and Scholarly Achievement by Young Faculty at UNC-Chapel Hill.

With expertise in the psychology of medical decision making, Brewer has conducted research that is “demanding, meticulous, creative” and that influences disciplines far beyond the field of public health, said Jo Anne Earp, ScD, professor and chair of the public health school's Department of Health Behavior and Health Education.

Mohlke, who joined the UNC faculty in 2004, is considered in the top echelon of researchers in the area of complex-trait genetics, which examines the interaction of multiple genes affecting complex, common diseases. As a postdoctoral fellow working with Francis Collins at the National Human Genome Research Institute of the National Institutes of Health (NIH), Mohlke led the molecular genetics component of an international study that resulted in the identification of two dozen genes involved in type 2 diabetes. Since coming to Carolina in 2004, she has continued her involvement in that study as one of five principal investigators. Collins, now director of the NIH, said Mohlke's skills in the lab “as an experimentalist, a creative thinker and a teacher are still legendary.”

The Hettleman Prize, named for the late Phillip and Ruth Hettleman and offering a \$5,000 stipend, recognizes the achievements of outstanding junior tenure-track faculty or recently tenured faculty. 8

### UNC cancer researcher awarded top V Scholar ranking

The V Foundation for Cancer Research announced that Greg Wang, PhD, has been awarded the Martin D. Abeloff, MD, V Scholar Award. This award goes to the research project that receives the highest rating from the V Foundation's Scientific Advisory Board. Wang was tied with Hongwu Zheng, PhD, of Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory for this honor and is the 10th V Scholar from UNC Lineberger.

The award from the V Foundation provides \$200,000 over two years to fund Dr. Wang's research into cancer epigenetics, which originated during his work in the laboratory of Dr. David Allis as a postdoctoral researcher. Allis discovered the function of histones—the proteins that enable yards of DNA to be crammed into a single cell—depends on a number of chemical tags adorning their exterior. This sophisticated chemical syntax for packaging DNA into tight little coils or unraveling it again—proposed as the “histone code” by Dr. Allis and Dr. Brian Strahl, a UNC Lineberger member and professor of biochemistry and biophysics—is the latest frontier for researchers bent on understanding how genetics encodes life. Tumors use changes in this “code” to alter the expression of tumor suppressor or oncogenes.

Dr. Wang's research examines how this mechanism works in hematologic malignancies such as leukemia and lymphoma. His goal is to find out how changes to the “histone code” or how it is read interfere with the normal modification of these proteins—leading to cancer. The proteins involved in establishing and/or changing the chemical syntax in histones are considered a promising target for drug therapies, so understanding their actions in detail is the next step in developing new treatments for these diseases. Dr. Wang has already started a collaboration in this area with UNC Lineberger member Stephen Frye, PhD.

Past V Scholars at UNC Lineberger have gone on to highly productive scientific careers, including Angela Whitehurst, PhD, Ian Davis, MD, PhD, Pilar Blancafort, PhD, James Bear, PhD, W. Kimryn Rathmell, MD, PhD, Jason Lieb, PhD, Blossom Damania, PhD, Yue Xiong, PhD, and Yi Zhang, PhD. 8



Greg Wang, PhD

# faculty profile



Carol Shores

## UNC's Carol Shores trains future surgeons in Malawi

Carol Shores, MD, PhD, FACS, has been interested in the link between viruses and cancer for over 20 years, after working on virus-associated cancers as a pre-doctoral fellow. Some head and neck cancers, like cervical cancer, are associated with human papilloma viruses. Endemic Burkitt's lymphoma, a childhood cancer in sub-

Saharan Africa, is associated with Epstein-Barr virus.

Dr. Shores, is an associate professor in the Department of Otolaryngology/Head & Neck Surgery, works with the UNC Head and Neck Cancer Program, and is pursuing her virology research interests, maintaining an active clinical practice at UNC and training surgical residents in Malawi with the Malawi Surgical Initiative.

Malawi is a country where most of the population is poor, medical facilities are scarce and often distant from the small villages where most people live. The home of the surgical program and the UNC Project is Kamuzu Central Hospital (KCH) in Lilongwe, Malawi. That's where the residency training and medical work takes place.

Malawi citizens face formidable odds in getting

all types of medical treatment and cancer care in particular. There are only 25 surgeons in this country of 14 million people, and only a few are Malawian. There are no radiation therapy facilities, and chemotherapy availability is limited, so surgery is frequently the only curative option for cancer patients.

The KCH Surgical Residency was established in 2009 in collaboration with the Malawi Ministry of Health, KCH surgeons, and surgeons from UNC and Haukeland University Hospital (Bergen, Norway). There are currently nine residents in three classes with plans to fill all five years of the program.

Dr. Shores explains, "Our hope is that by establishing a surgical residency program in Malawi, we can increase the number of surgeons in the country and provide lifelong mentoring for them."

There are no CT or MRI machines at KCH, and ultrasound is limited by the lack of trained radiologists. "Diagnosis is done the old fashioned way, by clinical examination," Dr. Shores says. "Enhancing these skills provides excellent training for both Malawian and visiting US surgery residents. Our patients benefit from the increased number of surgeons available to provide care."

Dr. Shores' first trip to Malawi was in 2006 to study Burkitt's lymphoma, a cancer that has a strong association with the Epstein-Barr virus. This cancer is relatively rare in most parts of the world, but is

endemic in children ages 3–15 in sub-Saharan Africa. The disease is an aggressive, fast-growing type of non-Hodgkin lymphoma that usually affects the jaw, bowel, lymph nodes, or other organs. She and other UNC colleagues have conducted clinical trials that suggest that anti-viral therapy may improve outcomes in these children and are working on larger trials.

Dr. Shores has visited the country four times the past year, for two-week stays each time. During this time she performs operations, sees patients in clinics, gives lectures, trains residents and collaborates with researchers on new and ongoing projects.

In summer of 2011, UNC Lineberger, KCH, the UNC Project and Malawi Ministry of Health worked together to establish a pathology lab at KCH. This lab will impact the care of cancer patients, as previously, most cancers were diagnosed without pathologic analysis.

Shores says, "I admire the patients I care for at KCH. They are stoic and put up with a lot to obtain medical care. We want to help them as much as we can. Training Malawian surgeons to provide clinical care and to become principal investigators in Malawi-based research projects will nurture a sustainable, vibrant health care system."

For more information about this project see <http://www.med.unc.edu/infdis/malawi>

# research briefs



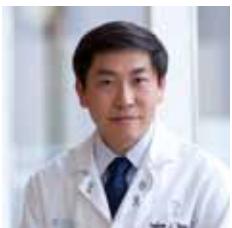
Neil Hayes

## UNC scientists recommend brain MRI for early-stage lung cancer patients

A team of UNC scientists led by Neil Hayes, MD, MPH, report that in early stage, asymptomatic non-small cell lung cancer, early brain recurrences are potentially detectable prior to surgery and recommend that physicians consider including a routine pre-operative staging brain MRI. In addition, patients whose tumors are determined to be higher risk based on the findings at surgery, should consider post-operative MRI to

offer early treatment of unrecognized metastasis. Read more at:

<http://unclineberger.org/news/rethinking-MRI-for-lung-cancer>



Andrew Wang

## First evidence of using biologically targeted nanoparticles to boost radiation therapy effects

UNC radiation oncologist and UNC Lineberger member Andrew Wang, MD, is senior author of the study.

UNC scientists report what they believe is the first pre-clinical demonstration of the potential of molecularly targeted nanoparticles as a promising new class of agents that can improve chemoradiotherapy treatment. The nanoparticles target tumor cells, thus sparing normal tissue and avoiding the systemic side effects often associated with chemotherapy drugs.

Read more at <http://unclineberger.org/news/first-evidence-of-using-biologically-targeted-nanoparticles-to-boost-radiation-therapy-effects>

## UNC partners with Community Health Centers to improve colorectal cancer screening

An innovative partnership between UNC and the North Carolina Community Health Center Association (NCCCHA) is bringing a toolkit offering best practices for improving colorectal cancer screening rates to 136 clinics across the state.

The tailored toolkit, developed and distributed with support from the University Cancer Research Fund (UCRF), is tailored to the needs of clinics that serve a large proportion of uninsured or underinsured patients. It includes information on making changes to patient visits, counseling patients on screening options, using reminder systems and focusing on alternative forms of screening.

Read more at <http://unclineberger.org/news/colorectal-cancer-screening-toolkit>



UNC representatives attended the grand opening of Mission Cancer Center in Asheville, NC on October 27th. L to R: Tom Shea, MD, and Kim Kasow, DO, both from UNC Lineberger, Ron Paulus, MD, MBA, President and CEO of Mission Health System, Mary Beck, Senior Vice President, System Affiliations at UNC Health Care, Shelley Earp, MD, UNC Lineberger's director.

# philanthropy update

## "A Toast to Woody" honors longtime UNC Lineberger volunteers

"A Toast to Woody" was held October 13th to recognize retired Hall of Fame broadcaster Woody Durham for his remarkable contributions to Carolina Athletics over a distinguished 40-year career. Over 200 friends and supporters gathered at The Carolina Inn to honor Woody on his retirement as the play-by-play Voice of the Tar Heels.

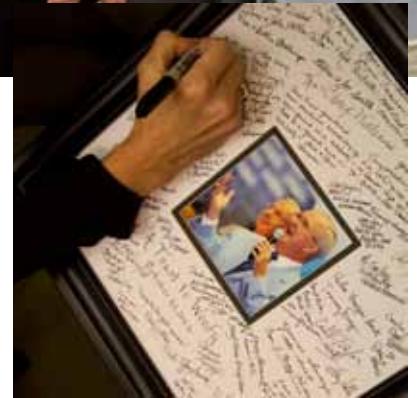
The dinner was emceed by former Tar Heel center and radio analyst, Eric Montross and UNC Associate Athletic Director, Rick Steinbacher and the evening was sprinkled with wonderful audio highlights of Woody's most famous calls! Speakers included Dick Baddour, UNC Athletic Director; Mick Mixon, a former colleague of Durham's and current play-by-play announcer for the Carolina Panthers; retired UNC and professional basketball player Phil Ford, UNC-Chapel Hill Chancellor Holden Thorp.

The evening was a fundraiser for UNC Lineberger Comprehensive Cancer Center, an organization close to the hearts of both Woody and Jean Durham. UNC Lineberger director, Dr. Shelley Earp, was thrilled to announce that the event raised \$25,000 for the N.C. Cancer Hospital Clinical Endowment Fund. In recognition of these gifts, a consultation room will be named in honor of Woody and Jean Durham in the Patient and Family Resource Center.

The Durhams were recognized in 2010 by UNC Lineberger with the Outstanding Service Award, an annual award given to volunteers who provide dedicated service and outstanding leadership to UNC Lineberger.



Above: Woody and Jean Durham with Chancellor Holden and Patty Thorp



Right: Dinner guests signed a commemorative photo for Woody Durham

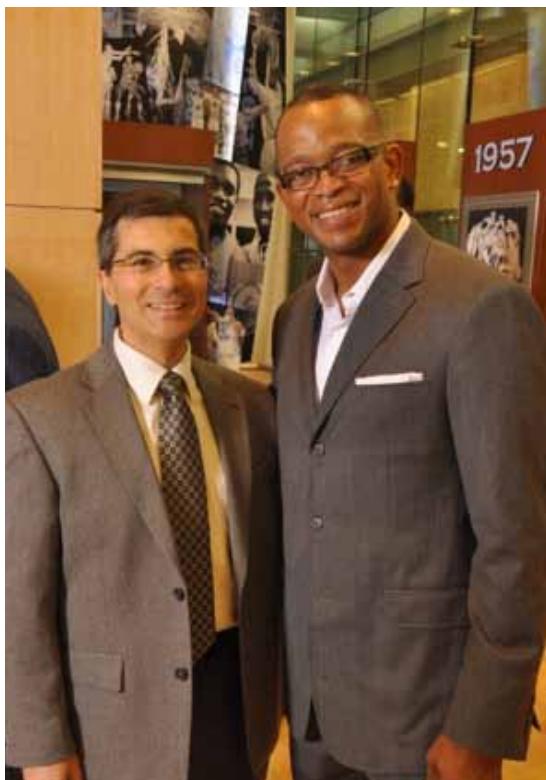
## Fast Break Against Cancer raises more than \$210,000 for cancer research and treatment

Coach Roy Williams' 7th annual Fast Break Against Cancer raised more than \$210,000 for cancer research and treatment at UNC Lineberger and in our community. Coach Williams, his assistant coaches, former Head Coach Bill Guthridge and former UNC basketball greats Vince Carter, Tyler Hansbrough and Eric Montross were all in attendance.

This year's guest speaker was ESPN anchor and commentator and UNC alumnus Stuart Scott. Scott kicked off his remarks with a tribute to his first broadcasting role model — Woody Durham, who emceed the event. He then shared his experience with cancer, talking about his bond with his family, with other cancer survivors, and with those who care enough to raise funds for research and treatment. Later that day, at Late Night With Roy, the current basketball team surprised Scott with a \$20,000 check to UNC Lineberger in his honor, raised from the sale of autographed basketballs.

Bidding at this year's silent and live auctions was fast and furious! The surprise donation of two pairs of tickets for the Carrier Classic (plus another set from Coach Williams himself!) brought in \$45,000. Many thanks to Alumni Mortgage and Quicken Loans for giving these die-hard Tar Heel fans a chance to go to San Diego for the 2011 Quicken Carrier Classic on November 11, 2011 and for helping to make this year's Fast Break the most successful ever!

Special thanks to presenting sponsor Atlantic Packaging and to our other generous sponsors including The Carolina Inn, Curtis Media Group, Grady-White Boats, Long Beverage Inc. and Morgan Creek Capital Management.



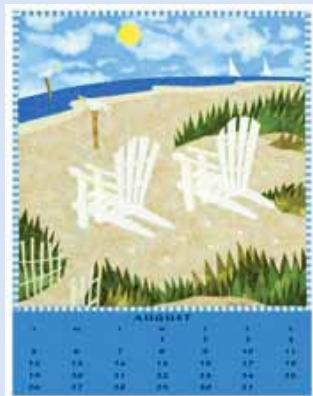
Above: Fast Break host Coach Roy Williams with UNC alumnus and Phoenix Suns standout Vince Carter and ESPN anchor and UNC alumnus Stuart Scott, who provided the keynote address.

Left: Ian Davis, MD, PhD, and Stuart Scott share a moment at Fast Break. Dr. Davis received a grant from the V Foundation for Cancer Research named in Scott's honor. The grant is supporting his research into new treatments for childhood sarcomas.



## Pedal for Peds close to \$29,000 for Pediatric Oncology

A rainy day couldn't stop the smiles at UNC Division of Pediatric Hematology Oncology's second Pedal for Peds Bike Ride on Saturday, September 24th, 2011 in Chapel Hill. Participants rode either a 50 or a 28 mile route through Orange and Alamance Counties, raising close to \$29,000 through registrations and individual fundraising. Proceeds from the ride benefit the division's mission to care for and cure all children with cancer and blood disorders in North Carolina through pediatric cancer research, fellowship education, and other programs like cancer survivor college scholarships, and food and gas cards for families with children in cancer treatment.



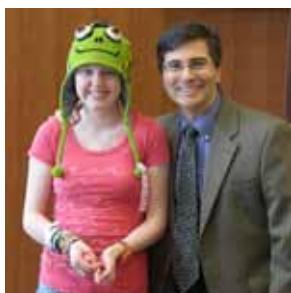
*Elaine O'Neil 2012  
"Luv This Place"  
Calendar limited  
edition still available.*

Sales of last year's calendar raised more than \$13,500 to support cancer patients. Order the new 2012 for holiday gifts today, call UNC Lineberger External Affairs at 919-966-5905 to order!



## Dozen Doughnut Dash

Run 2.5 miles, eat doughnuts, run another 1.5 miles, raise almost \$10,000 for UNC Lineberger. That's what race organizers Ty Fenton and Bobby Mook did on October 1st on the UNC-Chapel Hill Campus including Olympic-themed t-shirt fun.



## Davis receives \$100,000 for sarcoma research

Dr. Ian Davis, pictured here with Lily Newton, one of his patients, was awarded a \$100,000 grant to support research into the causes of and treatments for pediatric sarcoma

from Hyundai Hope on Wheels and Raleigh-Durham Area Hyundai Dealers. Davis, assistant professor of pediatrics and genetics and a member of UNC Lineberger Comprehensive Cancer Center, is one of 71 recipients of Hyundai Hope on Wheels' 2011 Hope Grant program, where \$7.1 million will be awarded to support research and programs in honor of National Childhood Cancer Awareness Month.



L-R: Christian Bennett, Caleb Goodnight, Tricia Cleppe, Ty Fenton, Bobby Mook, Renee Psenka. Not pictured: Jamal Benjamin.



On Wednesday, October 5th, Aveda Institute in Chapel Hill offered free services for a donation to Turn the Town Pink and the team pitched in to donate tips for the entire month of October!

# Turn the Town Pink



**Pig Out for the Cure:** Coldwell Banker Howard Perry and Walston pitched in on a pink pig picking that served 1845 lunches, including delivery to local businesses, raising more than \$10,000 for Turn the Town Pink!



**Project Heel:** UNC Women's Soccer raised awareness with pink uniforms for their game against UVA on September 25th, then raised funds with a post-game soccer clinic for local girls youth soccer players.



**Pink Heals:** Byron Greeson, a Captain with the Chapel Hill Fire Department, is the son of a two-time breast cancer survivor. He teamed with Pink Fire Truck organization founder Dave Graybill and Fire Chief Dan Jones (shown left) to bring the truck to the UNC vs. Louisville football game. A huge turnout from Chapel Hill Firefighters Association Local 2580, members and family of the Chapel Hill Fire Department and Zeta Tau Alpha Sorority along with Central NC Pink Heals netted \$5000 in a 'fill the boot' drive outside of Kenan Stadium.



Photo courtesy of Heba Salama Photography

Dr. Liza Park and Dr. Don Rosenstein from the UNC Comprehensive Cancer Support Program enjoyed the hospitality of Megan and Gary Crunkleton at The Crunkleton's Turn The Town Pink gala party on October 26th.



## Turn the Town Pink raises over \$50,000 for patient support

Turn the Town Pink events and the contributions of our community partners benefit the UNC Comprehensive Cancer Support Program, dedicated to helping patients and their caregivers with cancer treatment, recovery and survivorship. The program provides much-needed patient educational materials, cancer support groups, individual and family counseling, massage therapy, nutritional counseling, symptom management and beautiful wigs, hats and scarves to warm both the head and the heart! In addition, the program provides valuable assistance for economically stressed patients such as vouchers for gas, food and parking. Almost 30 community partners pitched in to Turn the Town Pink during the month of October, raising over \$50,000 from 27 community events.

## Turn the Town Pink Community Partners

- 1360 WCHL
- Aveda Institute Chapel Hill
- Bandido's Mexican Café
- Brighton Collectibles
- California Pizza Kitchen
- The Carolina Inn
- Chapel Hill Fire Department
- Chapel Hill Sportswear
- Coldwell Banker HPW
- Courtyard Chapel Hill
- The Crunkleton
- The Daily Tar Heel
- Elaine's on Franklin
- Fleet Feet Sports
- Galloway Ridge
- Johnny T-shirt
- The Meat House
- Panera Bread
- Peacock Alley
- Pure Barre
- The Siena Hotel
- Shula's 347
- Southern Village Pediatric Dentistry
- Sugarland
- University Mall
- Vietri
- Ye Olde Waffle Shoppe

# calendar of events

## January

**17<sup>th</sup>** Cancer Conversations *Integrative Oncology: Combining the Best of Two Worlds*, Gary Asher, MD, MPH. 7:30–8:30 p.m., Carolina Pointe II, 6011 Farrington Road. Call 445-5336 to RSVP.

**29<sup>th</sup>** Blue & Pink Cancer Awareness Gymnastics Meet, Carmichael Arena, Cancer Awareness Event at 12:30 pm, gymnastics meet 2:00 pm

## February

**15<sup>th</sup>** Melanoma Patient Day (Free Symposium), Friday Center, Chapel Hill, 12:30–4:30 pm

**18<sup>th</sup>** Lineberger Club Luncheon, George Watts Hill Alumni Center

**21<sup>st</sup>** Cancer Conversations *Eating Well during Cancer Treatment and Beyond*, Jennifer Spring, RD, LDN. 7:30–8:30 p.m., Carolina Pointe II, 6011 Farrington Road. Call 445-5336 to RSVP.

## March

**20<sup>th</sup>** Cancer Conversations *No Pain, No Gain: Common Myths in the Management of Symptoms from Cancer and Cancer Therapy*, John Valgus, PharmD, BCOP, CPP. 7:30–8:30 p.m., Carolina Pointe II, 6011 Farrington Road. Call 445-5336 to RSVP.

## April

**14<sup>th</sup>** **SAVE THE DATE!** Annual UNC Lineberger Beach Ball

**21<sup>st</sup>** Wells Fargo Tar Heel 10-miler and Fleet Feet 4+ miler benefitting UNC Lineberger. Register or sign up to volunteer as part of the UNC Lineberger Team at [tarheel10miler.com](http://tarheel10miler.com) and use promo code `beatcancer5` for a portion of your registration to benefit the cancer center.

For more information about these events and other UNC Lineberger news, visit [www.unclineberger.org](http://www.unclineberger.org), or follow us on [f](#) [t](#)

**We want YOUR Opinion!** We are doing a reader survey for Cancer Lines. Please give us your opinion by visiting <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/cancer-lines-ex> or call (919) 966-5905 to have a paper survey and reply envelope mailed to you!

## Get Heeled 5k raises \$75,000 with fitness and family fun

The Pink Pacers, a Chapel Hill-based group founded to give back to the local community, promote healthy living and fight cancer partnered with O2 Fitness to sponsor the 2011 Get Heeled 5k and family fun walk. More than 800 participants came out on October 22nd, raising \$75,000 through race entries, sponsorships, participant fundraising and donations.

This year's event benefits the Get Real and HEEL program, co-founded by UNC Lineberger members Claudio Battaglini, PhD, and Diane Groff, EdD, both members of the Department of Exercise and Sports Science. The program provides healthy living, exercise, stress management and mind-body coaching for breast cancer survivors in affiliation with UNC Lineberger.

Pink pacers co-founder and race co-director Katy Gilliam said, "Everyone who worked on this event and all of the community supporters proved that the Chapel Hill community can do amazing things — our goal of \$75,000 will allow Get Real & HEEL to serve 50 cancer survivors."

BlueCross BlueShield of North Carolina raised more than \$18,000 for the race with their "Shave to Heal" event. Thanks to everyone who helped make this a huge success including race co-directors Brooke Bowersox, Mike Cashion and Carrie Gilmore.



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Address service requested.



Above: Get Real & HEEL co-founder, Diane Groff, EdD, and race co-director Katy Gilliam of Chapel Hill start the Get Heeled 5k event with a smile.



Right: UNC Lineberger faculty scientist Angelique Whitehurst, PhD, and her sons came to the Get Heeled 5K for the family-friendly atmosphere, which included vendors, a kid's play area and a one mile family fun walk.