



63rd STREET GREEN INITIATIVE

Embracing the spirit of the Center's new **Green Team**, we are happy to announce several environmental programs here at 63rd street!

Paper Recycling: Gray "ShredX" Bins are now located throughout the 2nd and 3rd floors for the disposal of paper for recycling. These bins are also locked, so documents with Protected Health Information (PHI) can also be disposed here.

Used Batteries: Did you know that MSK now recycles batteries? Please bring any old batteries you may have to Tricia Neary or Rick Church.

Computer Shutdown Campaign: Information Systems is encouraging all computer users to shut down their systems at night. Currently, the overall hospital shutdown average is 26%. Before the campaign began, **29%** of computers in our Department were being shut down.

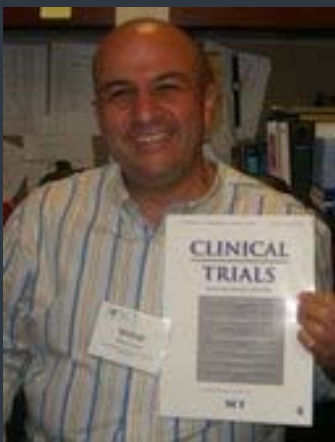
Our current department goal is to have 50% of all computers turned off nightly.

If you have any ideas, suggestions, or comments, please contact Tricia Neary, Office Services/Facilities Coordinator.

Thank you all for your efforts!

SCT Membership

Do you have an interest in clinical trials? If yes, you are encouraged to join the Society for Clinical Trials.



Once tagged as "an Associate Editor of the Society's journal who has not actually joined the Society", **Mithat Gonen**, PhD is the newest member of the Society for Clinical Trials.



DEPARTMENT CHAIR
Colin Begg, PhD

EDITORS
Lindsay Jacks, MS
Sharon Bayuga, MPH

CONTRIBUTORS
Rick Church, MPH
Brendan Phalan | Gennie Snow

NEW GRANTS: CONGRATULATIONS JONINE!

Jonine L. Bernstein, PhD was awarded a five-year grant from the NIH, "Genome-Wide Association Study of Radiation Exposure and Bilateral Breast Cancer ([R01CA129639](#))", which builds upon her on-going Women's Environment, Cancer and Radiation Epidemiology ([WECARE](#)) Study. The goal of the study (Protocol #09-040) is to identify novel genetic factors that influence susceptibility to breast cancer and possibly radiogenic cancer in particular. The 1,500 cases in this study will be women with contralateral breast cancer and the 2,200 controls will be women with unilateral breast cancer. This international study involves investigators from over 25 institutions.



Jonine L. Bernstein, PhD

The study team from MSKCC includes: **Jonine Bernstein, Colin Begg, Irene Orlow, Marinela Capanu, Anne Reiner, Xiaolin Liang, Tracy Layne**, Ken Offit and Robert Klein.

MSKCC Center News

Glenn Heller, PhD was mentioned in the May issue of [Center News](#) for his involvement in a MSK study led by medical oncologist Howard I. Scher, Chief of the Genitourinary Oncology Service and Martin Fleisher, Chair of the Department of Clinical Laboratories. According to the study, measuring circulating tumor cells (CTCs) could help physicians in making treatment decisions for patients with castration-resistant prostate cancer (CRPC) and facilitate clinical studies. Findings were published in the February 11th issue of [Lancet Oncology](#).

RECENT CONFERENCES

[American Urological Association Annual Meeting](#)

April 25-30th in Chicago, Illinois

❖ **Andrew Vickers**, PhD was a panelist for the special debate on long-term prediction of prostate cancer.

Podium Presentations:

- ❖ "Racial Disparities in the Treatment and Survival of Locally Advanced Prostate Cancer"; Lowrance **WT**, Jacks **LM**, Yee **DS**, Eastham JA, Scardino P, Elkin **EB**.
- ❖ "Ethnic differences in bladder cancer survival"; Yee **DS**, Lowrance **WT**, Ishill **NM**, Herr HW, Elkin **EB**.

Poster Session:

- ❖ "Long-term followup of 3-month neoadjuvant hormone therapy before radical prostatectomy in a randomized trial"; Yee **DS**, Lowrance **WT**, Eastham JA, Maschino **AC**, Cronin **AM**, Rabbani F.

[30th Annual Society for Clinical Trials \(SCT\) Meeting](#)

May 3-6th in Atlanta, Georgia

The SCT is an international professional organization dedicated to the development and dissemination of knowledge about the design, conduct and analysis of government and industry-sponsored clinical trials and related health care research methodologies.

- ❖ Our Department Chair, **Colin Begg**, PhD has assumed the role of President for one year.
- ❖ Dawn Caron and Marcia Latif from the Office of Clinical Research presented on the CRDB, which was developed in our Department.

CHALLENGE GRANTS

Over 70 RC1 Challenge Grant applications were submitted by MSKCC and nearly a dozen RC2 Grand Opportunities applications are expected. Several of our colleagues submitted applications as PI, and many more were involved as Key Personnel. We wish everyone the best of luck!

MORE STAFF NEWS

RECENT PROMOTIONS

Larry Engel was promoted to Associate Attending Epidemiologist in the Epidemiology Service.

Tricia Neary was promoted to Office Services/Facilities Coordinator.

EDUCATIONAL ACHIEVEMENTS

Karl Minges

Karl received his Master's of Public Health from Columbia University. As well, he will be leaving MSKCC in July to spend a year in Australia as a Fulbright Scholar.

Caroline Savage

Caroline received her Master's of Public Health in Epidemiology from Columbia University.

GOODBYE & GOODLUCK!

Adam Olshen

We are bidding farewell to Adam Olshen who has been with the Biostatistics Service since 2001. Adam will be the Co-Director of the Biostatistics Core at the Helen Diller Family Comprehensive Cancer Center at the University of California San Francisco.

NIH REGIONAL SEMINAR

In April, **Shireen Lewis** attended NIH's 2-day Regional Seminar in Atlanta, GA. The Seminar focused on sessions related to program funding and grants administration. It offered a wide range of workshops geared for both investigators and administrative staff focusing on topics such as public access policy, updates on the peer review process, and features and functionality of eRA Commons.

Top 15 Highly Cited MSK Publications from 2008

In early 2009, a search to find these citations was done in the SCOPUS database. Congratulations to our colleagues who made the Top 15!

15th Place – Cited 10 Times

["Variation of breast cancer risk among BRCA1/2 carriers."](#)

❖ Colin B. Begg, PhD, Marinela Capanu, PhD, Xiaolin Liang, MD, MA, Cami Sima, MD, MS, Jonine L. Bernstein, PhD

12th Place – Cited 13 Times

["Molecular characteristics of bronchioloalveolar carcinoma and adenocarcinoma, bronchioloalveolar carcinoma subtype, predict response to erlotinib."](#)

❖ Glenn Heller, PhD

11th Place – Cited 14 Times

["Design and end points of clinical trials for patients with progressive prostate cancer and castrate levels of testosterone: Recommendations of the Prostate Cancer Clinical Trials Working Group."](#)

❖ Ethan Basch, MD, MSc

3rd Place – Cited 35 Times

["A genome-wide association study implicates diacylglycerol kinase eta \(DGKH\) and several other genes in the etiology of bipolar disorder."](#)

❖ Jaya Satagopan, PhD

STAFF ANNOUNCEMENTS

WELCOME NEW STAFF!

Julie Ruckel

Research Project Coordinator, Epidemiology Service

Julie has her MPH from Columbia University and worked with the NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene for 2 years on an outreach initiative for the Cancer Prevention Department's Colorectal Cancer Screening Program. She will be primarily working with Ann Zauber on the National Colonoscopy Study.

Jeremy Strange

Laboratory Technician, Molecular Epidemiology Laboratory

Before joining the Department, Jeremy worked as a Laboratory Technician at the Institute for Antiviral Research in Logan, UT., as well as a Teaching Assistant in Genetics, in the Department of Biology at the Utah State University. Jeremy holds a BS in Biochemistry, and expects to complete an MS in Physiology in the Spring of 2010.

We would also like to welcome our summer students and interns: **Maria Pisarenko** (Administrative team), **Nyasha Chambwe** (Summer student), **Aliaksandra Samoila** (Intern in the Molecular Epidemiology Lab).

CRG CORNER



Welcome

Home

Select Patient Protocol

CRFs

Minimal Dataset

CDUS

Reports

Phase I Protocols

Specimen

CRDBi UPDATE:

The Computing Resource group introduced additional data collection forms in the CRDBi platform of the Clinical Research Database.

- ❖ The new "Specimen" menu tab (as shown above) hosts the Liquid Specimen Form.
- ❖ The Laboratory form is a new addition to the Case Report Forms (CRF) menu items.
- ❖ The Transfusion form is a new addition to the Reports menu items.

Additionally, enhancements to Protocol Phase 1 and Protocol Phase 2 Reports provide improved Survival Curve calculation.