LSUHSC – OCHSNER
ONCOLOGY PROGRAM

Program
Core Facilities
Participants' Research
Contact Information

Scientific Retreat

September 27, 2008

Sheraton Hotel - New Orleans, LA

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Retreat Objectives

Introduce the members and faculty in the LSUHSC-OCHSNER Oncology Program.

Obtain Information about research interests and activities at both institutions.

Look at the opportunities for collaborative interaction and translational research.

Agenda

Gallery Room – 1st Floor

7:00 – 7:30 **Registration**

7:30 – 8:00 **Breakfast**

8:00 – 8:15 **Greetings**
William Pinsky, MD
Steve Nelson, MD

8:15 – 8:25 **Introduction**
Augusto Ochoa, MD
John Cole, MD

8:30 – 10:00 **Examples of Scientific Translation**

8:30 – 8:40	Wayne Vedeckis, PhD
8:45 – 8:55	Suresh Alahari, PhD
9:00 – 9:10	Yong Sung Choi, MD, PhD
9:15 – 9:25	Abbas Abbas, MD
9:30 – 9:40	Eduardo Davila, MD
9:45 – 9:50	Michael Hagensee, MD, PhD

10:00 – 10:15 **Break**

10:20 – 11:30 **Group Breakout Sessions**

11:30 – 12:00 **Summary Reports from Group Breakout**

11:30 – 11:35	#1. Lung, Head & Neck
11:35 – 11:40	#2. Prostate / GU
11:40 – 11:45	#3. Leukemia, Lymph, HIV-related
11:45 – 11:50	#4. Breast & Cervical
11:50 – 11:55	#5. Gastrointestinal
11:55 – 12:00	#6. Neuroendocrine and other

Maurepas Room – 3rd Floor

12:05 – 12:45 Lunch / Poster Viewing

12:45 – 1:00 Conclusions & Next Steps

Proposed Disease Scientific Teams

Discipline (Leader)	Lung , Head & Neck	Prostate/GU	Leukemia/ Lymphoma & HIV Malignancies	Breast/ Cervical	Gastrointestinal	Neuroendocrine & Other Tumors	Other Research
Genetics ( )	T. Izumi	D. Mandal	T. Iwakuma E. Grabczyk		J. Zabaleta	E. Grabczyk	P. Gregory D. Nguyen
Signaling ( )	W. Backes T. Iwakuma	S. Koochekpour J. Kim D. Sakamuro D. Worthylake	W. Vedeckis B. Worthylake O. Prakash* A. Aiyar	S. Alahari A. Catling A. Ouhtit	H. Boulares W. Liu	M. Breslin M. Lan	A. Haas
Immunology A. Ochoa	A. Ochoa Sh. Li	A. Zea	P. Rodriguez D. Martin M. Hagensee R. Luftig A. Ramsay Y. Cui E. Davila T. Lin Y. Choi* S-O. Yoon* X. Zhang*	M. Hagensee Sh. Desai G. Kousoulas M. Raj L. Li*		B. Dickinson M. Raj	S. Pincus A. Martinez* J. Piazza* W. Pinsky*
Population Sciences – Epidemiology T. Fontham	Ch. Brown S. Moody-Thomas E. Peters	J. Su N. Simonsen	D. Martin	D. Williams L. Kamermann E. Peters R. Scribner	T. Fontham		J. Diaz J. Estrada C. Velasco-Gonzales J. Volaufova D. Mercante
Medical Oncology J Cole	J. Cole * S. Kantrow B. Boulamey	Z. Larned *	R. Veith A. Brown M. Elmongy T. Lin J. Phillips *	M. Barnhill K. McCormick J. Cole * C. Theodossiou *	J. Fuloria *	L. Anthony	P. Rigby
Surgical Oncology ( )	A Abbas * D Nuss R. Walvekar A. McWhorter A. Pou M. Brown J. Lin B. Butcher * M. Edwards	Ch. Winters S. Collins R. Vanlangendonck* S. Bardot *		R. Corsetti *	D. Beck * J. Bolton * J. Wey	E. Woltering P. Boudreaux Y. Wang	E. Helm
Pediatric Hem/Onc L. Yu			R. Gardner M. Velez L. Yu J. Morales				
Clinical Trials ( )	D Nuss R. Walvekar A Abbas * R. Hawkins*		L. Yu J. Morales J. Phillips *	T. Scroggins*	J. Wey D. Beck * J. Bolton* D. Margolin *	M. Chester	

*Ochsner faculty

Faculty were assigned according to expressed interest

Group Breakout Session

10:20 – 11:30 Group Discussion
11:30 – 12:00 Summary Reports

Group #	Disease-Specific
1.	Lung, Head & Neck
2.	Prostate / Genitourinary
3.	Leukemia, Lymphoma & HIV-related
4.	Breast & Cervical
5.	Gastrointestinal
6.	Neuroendocrine & Other Tumors

Tasks for Breakout Groups

1. Sign up for a group at registration desk

2. Select group leader at the beginning of break out

3. During discussion answer the following questions (use pad on easel)
   - Identify and list activities feasible in short term
   (ideas for ongoing communication, seminars, meeting, projects)
   - List feasible long term projects for collaborative research
   - List resources needed to accomplish projects

4. Report answers to questions to the entire attendance
   (summary reports)

5. Leave notes on easel for summary

CORE FACILITIES

IMMUNOLOGY CORE

Purpose: The Immunology Core Facility is a customer oriented service dedicated to supporting the research needs of the LSU Health Sciences Center. There is a wide range of expertise in immune assays currently available. Additional assays can be developed in collaboration with researchers.

Location: The Immunology Core currently occupies approximately 500 square feet on the 4th floor of the LSU Stanley Scott Cancer Center in the Clinical Sciences Building. The Core is open 8am-5pm Monday-Friday and services are available to all researchers.

Assays

Flow Cytometry
- Cell Surface Markers
- Intracellular Proteins
- Cytokines
- Nuclear transcription factors
- Tyrosine kinases

- Cell Cycle Analysis
  - Cyclin expression
  - Apoptosis

- Metabolic tracers
  - Ca++flux
  - CFSE (cell proliferation)
  - Phosphorylation
  - Reactive oxygen species

- Phagocytosis: Fluorescent bacteria or beads

Cell purification:
- Magnetic beads, affinity columns: AutoMacs
- Sorting: FACS Aria

Cytokine Production
- Single and multiplex assays: Bioplex
- Flow cytometry: intracellular
  ELISPOT: reader

Services and Fees:

Base Pricing:
$50 per hour for BD LSRII analyzer when user operated
$75 per hour for BD LSRII analyzer when operated by Core Director.
$80 per hour for BD FACSAria
$50 per hour for Cell Sorting/Miltenyi auto MACS
$50 per hour for Becton Dickinson FACSCalibur
$50 per hour for BioRad Bioplex System
$50 per hour AID Elispot Reader System

Training:
$75 Instrument Training by Core Director
$50 Data Analysis and Training
$100 Specific Applications

For contact and further information:

- Beatriz E. Finkel-Jimenez, Ph.D.; Director
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Work Address: LSUHSC, 533 Bolivar Street, CSRB 412
New Orleans, LA 70112

PROTEOMICS CORE

The LSUHSC Proteomics Core Facility is partially supported by LSUHSC School of Medicine and Louisiana Cancer Consortium. The main laboratory recently moved to a newly renovated laboratory in Clinical Sciences Research Building-Room 331. This ~1200 sq. ft space houses several mass spectrometers, high performance liquid chromatographers, and gel electrophoresis systems. COBRE program of Cardiovascular Center supports the operation of the Differential gel electrophoresis system (DiGE), which is located in Pharmacology. Here is the brief introduction of proteomics technologies:

1). 2-Dimensional Gel Electrophoresis (2DGE):

It is excellent for protein profiling. The advanced DiGE is powerful for exploring the differential protein expression in a complicate system. The spots of showing expression difference are excised, digested and analyzed by mass spectrometers.

2). Multiple Dimensional Liquid Chromatography:

MDLC is a complementary approach to 2DGE. The protein extracts can be fractionated by LC columns. Digested fractions are analyzed by 2DLC and identified by mass spectrometers. LC separations have the edges in analyzing proteins in extreme situations, e.g. high pI.

3). Mass spectrometry:

Currently, Facility has two tandem mass spectrometers for Proteomics. A high-resolution Matrix-Assisted Laser Desorption/Ionization Time-of-Flight mass spectrometer is also high-throughput for quick protein ID. The highly sensitive Electrospray Ionization Ion Trap mass spectrometer is excellent for more thorough structural analyses of proteins/peptides.

4). Data Analyses:

The database search and image analysis are complementary to the analyses.

The Facility provides services to LSUHSC researchers, as well as researchers in Greater New Orleans. It follows first come and first served policy. The fee-for-service basis is to recover a portion of the operational cost. The facility personnel provide consultations to researchers with their projects that involve proteomics. The better communications would help the researcher understand the capability and limitation of the Proteomics technologies here. The Facility has a good leap time and very competitive price.

For contact and further information:

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- Jesse J. Guidry, M.S., Instructor of Pharmacology
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New Orleans, LA 70112

Website: http://www.medschool.lsuhsc.edu/physiology/proteomics/

GENOMICS CORE

Summary of services provided:

The Genomics Core of the LSUHSC is a facility dedicated to serve our scientific community with the highest standards of quality, service and commitment. Our purpose is to work with the researcher from the planning of the experiments until the completion of it, in order to get the maximum of every attempt we make to help you understand the process of your research and to propose new avenues to strengthen your results.

In our two Facilities of our Genomics Core (Sequencing and Illumina Facility) we have the possibility of using several genetic tools in order to understand the underlying mechanisms leading to differential responses in gene regulation, cell proliferation, disease susceptibility, population genetics, drug response, among other things. We have two state-of-the-art facilities providing services that include DNA sequencing, mutation analysis, analysis of fragment length polymorphisms, SNP analysis, Real-time PCR, whole genome gene expression, whole genome methylation, microRNA analysis, linkage analysis. DNA and RNA for the assays could be from different sources and we could make the assay work even if the quality of your nucleic acids is not the best. Even paraffin-embedded material can be used for DNA or RNA analysis.

We want to offer to our research community: service, guidance, fast and reliable results.

Let us help you find the most convenient genetic analysis for your experiments

For contact and further information:

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Website: http://www.medschool.lsuhsc.edu/Genetics/GenomicsCore/index.html

BIOSPECIMEN REPOSITORY

The Biospecimen Laboratory is a part of the infrastructure to support the conduct of basic and clinical research. The goal of the repository is to support LCRC programmatic research in order to further improve our understanding of those molecular factors that contribute to cancer and that may lead to prevention, early detection, and cure. The LCRC of New Orleans established in 2002 provides a structure in which Tulane University Health Sciences Center (TUHSC), the Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center in New Orleans (LSUHSC), and most recently Xavier University of New Orleans develop and coordinate cancer research in preparation for future recognition as a National Cancer Institute (NCI) Designated Cancer Center.

The mission of the Biospecimen Core is to collect high quality samples of fluids (i.e. whole blood, cellular blood components, plasma, serum, urine) and tissue from patients with tumors compiled with an appropriate clinical data. The material is available and will enable qualified researchers at the LCRC to reduce costs and eliminate redundancies and significant risks associated with alternative biobanking practices, while facilitating integration of clinical trials and translational research programs with molecular profiling technologies. It should be noted that the phrase "high quality" refers not only to the biological quality of tissue and the quality of the clinical annotation, but also to the ethical and legal status under which donors are enrolled and consented. The TPBCF is the primary interface with the clinical sites at which donors are enrolled, and tissue samples and clinical data are collected.

The Biospecimen Core utilizes caBIG's caTissue Core for biospecimen inventory, tracking, and basic annotation. caTissue Core permits researchers to track the collection, storage, quality assurance, and distribution of specimens as well as the derivation and aliquotting of new specimens from existing ones. The TPBCF will be upgrading the caTissue Core to caBIG's caTissue Suite through the awarded caBIG's Enterprise Adopter Program. The Suite will provide many additional features, including protocol consenting tracking, custom annotation capabilities, pathology report annotation, advanced querying, among others.

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Work Location: LSUHSC, 533 Bolivar Street, CSRB 424
New Orleans, LA 70112

Website: http://www.lcrc.info/research/biospecimen.htm

MORPHOLOGY AND IMAGING CORE

The Gene Therapy Morphology and Imaging Core (MIC) in the LSUHSC-NO campus is a comprehensive histopathology and specialized imaging center for use by the Gene Therapy Consortium partners and other local researchers. The MIC has gained local and national recognition by facilitating collaborators, associates, and clients with the latest technologies in the fields of histology; immunological and chemical detection of gene expression; and imaging of cellular targets at the molecular level; underpinned by expert advice in experimental design and interpretation of results. In this way, the MIC continues to play a critical role in attracting new faculty and aiding in the acquisition of new grant awards.

During the past year, the MIC staff has been involved in designing and executing a vast array of experimental protocols including but not limited to investigations requiring phenotyping of inflammatory responses in models of tuberculosis; characterization of metastatic prostate cancer in bone marrow; visualization of protein interactions within breast cancer cells; detection of stem cell dynamics in various organs; and descriptive analysis of various processes regulating tissue repair and regeneration including angiogenesis and controlled fibroblast cell division. High-resolution images include details to the order of a single chromosome and are often complemented with quantitative analyses.

The MIC clientele continues to expand from a variety of research locations and fields at both local and national levels, including scientists of the Louisiana Cancer Research Consortium. More than half a dozen private sector entities maintain interest in this core facility.

The core has recently implemented new state-of-the-art technologies including a laser micro-dissection system to allow for functional and molecular analysis of cells dissected and isolated from precise regions of tissue sections; and two real-time imaging chambers which non-invasively monitor and record cellular and genetic activity within a living organism. In addition, an infrared illumination based, multi-photon microscope is available, which allows high resolution imaging of fluorescently labeled serum, cells, and tissues in fixed or live samples, with minimal sample degradation, and at 10 times greater depth than conventional confocal microscopes.

The MIC is funded by the Louisiana Gene Therapy Research Consortium, the Louisiana Board of Regents, and the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency. A description of our sophisticated facility and resources, fee schedule, and policies may be reviewed through our website at http://www.medschool.lsuhsc.edu/genetherapy/mic.

For contact and further information:

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Website: http://www.medschool.lsuhsc.edu/GeneTherapy/Morphology.html

For Questions: 504-568-2597

MICROARRAY AND GENOME BIOINFORMATICS CORE

The Gene Therapy Microarray Core at LSUHSC-New Orelans was created in December 2000 by the LSU Program in Gene Therapy in conjunction with the Louisiana Gene Therapy Research Consortium in order to cater to the needs of a research community interested in incorporating microarray technology into their own research plans.

The Core is located on the 5th floor of the Clinical Sciences Research Building and is equipped with the most up-to date, state-of-the-art instrumentation, including the Nanodrop and the Agilent Bioanalyzer 2100 to assess RNA quality, two GeneChip fluidics stations, a GeneChip Hybridization Oven 640, and GeneChip Scanner 3000 (G7). This system will allow researchers to utilize the next generation exon and gene arrays, tiling and SNP 6.0 arrays for whole transcriptome and alternative splicing analysis. In addition, the GeneChip bioinformatics system, including the GCOS LIMS server, gives users direct access to their raw data, allowing for organization of data and management of projects, as well as using other third party data analysis packages on their own computers to analyze and query gene expression data.

The Core recently acquired the Bio-Rad CFX96 and Applied Biosystems 7900HT real-time PCR instrument through the LVC/SLIIDR Programs. The Molecular Beacon software package is also available for designing single and multiplex real-time PCR applications.

The Genome Bioinformatics Core was established with support from the Louisiana Board of Regents to offer investigators direct access to the Resolver software package for the analysis of their gene expression data on their desktop or at the Core. The Core also provides consultation in data analysis, including pathways mapping and gene network analysis. Collaboration with the Core is always welcome.

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- Alistair Ramsay, Ph.D.
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New Orleans, LA 70112

Website: http://www.medschool.lsuhsc.edu/genetherapy/microarray.aspx

CLINICAL TRIALS OFFICE
(LSUHSC)

Mission and Services Provided by The Office of Clinical Trials

The Clinical Trials Office is a core component of clinical research at the Cancer Center; it oversees all the business and financial activities associated with every industry sponsored trial. The office provides a wide range of services that begin before the clinical trial starts and continues after the research has ended. Our commitment is to ensure the success of all clinical trials at the Cancer Center, serve the research needs of investigators and industry with a commitment of dedication, accountability, reliability and excellence.

Pre-study and Contract Review and Negotiations

Negotiating the research contracts (or clinical trial agreements), with pharmaceutical, biotechnology companies, research organizations, contract research organizations (CROs). The office reviews the scope of work related to the protocol, terms and conditions that must be reviewed to be in compliance with LSU policy. The office reviews confidentiality agreements.

Clinical Trial Budget Development and Negotiations

Assisting Principal Investigators and staff to develop an acceptable research budget, understand and distinguish between research related versus standard of care patient care costs. The office negotiates the terms in which payment will be made in the clinical trial agreement.

Study Accounting and Financial Services

Managing incoming cash flow to compensate for the costs of research and assisting faculty and investigators to manage their cash flow more effectively. Providing accounting support for clinical studies, including: 1. assistance with the development of a study budget, 2. establishment of a general ledger account, 3. charging direct costs, 4. ensuring the accuracy of clinical trial charges, 5. responding to lab, radiology, pharmacy research price inquiries, 6. resolves billing issues and 7. handles invoicing and A/R responsibilities. 8. account close-out and budget reconciliation.

New Business and New Product Marketing

The office solicits and is solicited by numerous pharmaceutical sponsors for clinical trial opportunities. The office is in constant contact with the major pharmaceutical companies requesting investigator sites for participating in the study of new drugs. The office will assist in assisting investigators in obtaining funding support for investigator initiated protocols from industry sponsors.

For contact and further information:

- David Whaley, J.D.; Contract Coordinator
  Email: dwhal1@lsuhsc.edu
  Phone: 504-568-2433
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- Alicia Connelly, MB-CCOP Program Coordinator
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Work Address: LSUHSC, 533 Bolivar Street, CSRB 413 and 420
New Orleans, LA 70112

Website: http://www.medschool.lsuhsc.edu/cancer_center/about_trials.aspx

GRANTS AND DEVELOPMENT OFFICE

Summary of Services Provided

Identifying Funding Opportunities: We publish a newsletter summarizing available funding for cancer-related projects. Upon request, we will conduct personalized searches to find those opportunities that are best suited for your needs, research, and career stage.

Preparing Applications: We are here to assist in planning as well as completing proposals. We can help create budgets, secure consortium agreements and letters of support, edit draft proposals, and more. In addition, we can help you prepare biosketches and other supporting documents according to agency standards. *Please remember, the earlier you involve us, the more we can help*.

Obtaining Approvals: We create routing sheets and obtain the necessary endorsements for grants, contracts, other support documents, and additional items requiring institutional approval.

Submitting Applications: We review proposals for final submission. Whether it is to be sent electronically or via the mail, we will submit the complete, approved application to the sponsor for you.

Providing Information: Our office maintains current institutional information, including fringe benefit rates, indirect cost rates, and institutional data. (Please see the Summary Information portion of our website http://www.medschool.lsuhsc.edu/cancer_center/grants.aspx.) We will review your applications to ensure that all institutional data are accurate.

Preparing Contracts: We are available to write and process award subcontracts, material transfer agreements, and various other agreements.

Managing Awards: Once an award has been made, we will help finalize the budget and will obtain institutional accounts and auxiliary customer numbers on your behalf. To ensure accuracy and to keep your spending on schedule, we will check your expenditures on a monthly basis and update you on account balances.

Our goal is to facilitate your research. If you have questions about our services or suggestions for improving them, please drop by the office or give us a call.

For contact and further information:

- Heidi Davis, Ph.D.; Coordinator of Grants and Development
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- Jonna Ellis; COBRE/Grants Coordinator
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Work Address: LSUHSC, 533 Bolivar Street, CSRB 409B
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Website: http://www.medschool.lsuhsc.edu/cancer_center/grants.aspx

PARTICIPANTS' INFORMATION

Participants Index

Name: Abbas E. Abbas **Degree:** MD, MS

E-mail: aabbas@ochsner.org **Phone Number:**

Work Address: 1514 Jefferson Highway, 70121 **Assistant phone:** 504.852.3966

Brief Biosketch:

NAME Abbas, Abbas E. eRA COMMONS USER NAME		POSITION TITLE Staff Surgeon Ochsner Clinic Foudation (Director of Thoracic Surgery)	
EDUCATION/TRAINING *(Begin with baccalaureate or other initial professional education, such as nursing, and include postdoctoral training.)*			
INSTITUTION AND LOCATION	DEGREE *(if applicable)*	YEAR(s)	FIELD OF STUDY
Ain-Shams University School of Medicine, Cairo, Egypt	M.D.	1988	Bachelor of Science in Medicine and Surgery
Ain-Shams University School of Medicine, Cairo, Egypt	M.S.	1991	Master of Science in Surgery
Penn State Univ. College of Medicine, Hershey, PA		1995	Post-doctoral research in mechanical assist devices
University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA		1998	Post-doctoral research in gene therapy and thoracic oncology
Harrisburg Hospital, Harrisburg, PA		1993-1994	General surgery internship
Pennsylvania Hospital, Philadelphia, PA		1996-2000	General surgery residency
Mayo Clinic, Rochester, MN.		2000-2003	Cardiothoracic surgery fellowship

Positions and Honors (List most current last)

Current Appointment

2007 Director of General Thoracic Surgery, Ochsner Clinic Foundation

Academic Appointments

2003 Assistant Professor of Surgery, Ohio State University

Honors and Awards

2002 O.T. Clagett Travel Award for outstanding performance during the thoracic surgery residency. Mayo Clinic, Rochester, MN

2000 University of Pennsylvania Pearl Award, for excellence in teaching to medical students. University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine, Philadelphia, PA

1998 Thoracic Surgery Foundation Research Fellowship Grant

Summary of ongoing work:

My past research had been focused on both thoracic oncology and transplant immunology. I am interested in gene therapy delivery especially for esophageal cancer. My current clinical research interests focus on clinical trials in lung and esophageal cancer. I am currently heading several clinical studies for both lung and esophageal cancer. I will also be enrolling in the Master of Science in Clinical Research program at Tulane.

Areas of Interest:

Diseases		**Disciplines**	
Lung / Head and Neck Cancer	√	Immunology	
Breast / Cervical Cancer		Genetics	
Leukemias / Lymphomas		Cancer Cell Biology (signaling)	
G. I. Malignancies	√	Population Sciences	
Prostate and GU Malignancies		Clinical Trials	√

Name: Ashok Aiyar **Degree:** Ph.D.

E-mail: aaiyar@lsuhsc.edu **Phone Number:** 504-568-4072

Work Address: MEB 6247, LSUHSC, 1901 Perdido St., New Orleans, LA 70112

Brief Biosketch:

Ph.D., Biochemistry & Molecular Biology, Case Western Reserve Univ. Medical School, 1994
Fellow, McArdle Laboratory for Cancer Research, Univ. of Wisconsin, 1995 – 1999.
Assistant Professor, Northwestern University Medical School, 2000 – 2005
Associate Professor, LSUHSC, 2005 - present

Summary of ongoing work:

My laboratory works on the molecular mechanisms by which Epstein-Barr virus transforms cells, with an emphasis on B-cell malignancies. There are three areas of focus in the laboratory:

a) The molecular mechanisms by which viral gene expression is established in EBV-transformed cells.
b) The molecular mechanisms used by a viral transactivator to control the proliferation of EBV-transformed cells.
c) Development of strategies to specifically kill EBV-infected proliferating cells. These strategies are also applicable to other cancers caused by viruses, such as Kaposi's sarcoma herpesvirus

I would like to collaborate with a clinician who is interested in lymphomas, other EBV-associated cancers (head & neck), or other virus associated cancers (eg. KSHV-associated primary effusion lymphomas), for research in two areas:

a) Determine whether the mechanisms we have described that control EBV gene expression in established tumor lines are also relevant for primary tumors.
b) Determine whether the anti-viral vectors we have developed that are effective against EBV-positive established tumor lines are also effective against primary tumors.

Areas of Interest:

Diseases		**Disciplines**	
Lung / Head and Neck Cancer	____	Immunology	____
Breast / Cervical Cancer	____	Genetics	____
Leukemias / Lymphomas	1	Cancer Cell Biology (signaling)	2
G. I. Malignancies	____	Population Sciences	____
Prostate and GU Malignancies	____	Clinical Trials	____
Neuroendocrine / Others	____		

Name: Suresh Alahari **Degree:** Ph.D

E-mail: salaha@lsuhsc.edu **Phone Number:** 568-4734

Work Address: LSUHSC, 533 Bolivar Street, New Orleans, LA 70112

Brief Biosketch:

Ph.D: Drexel University, Philadelphia, PA –	1990-1994
Postdoc: University of North Carolina, NC –	1994-1998
Assistant Professor: University of North Carolina, NC	1998-2004
Associate Professor: LSUHSC, LA	2004-

Summary of ongoing work:

My laboratory discovered Nischarin, a novel protein that regulates cell migration and cell invasion. Our recent data indicate Nischarin levels are down regulated in advanced breast cancers. Furthermore, we have shown Nischarin reduces tumor growth and metastasis in vivo. We are currently funded by NCI/NIH, Susan Komen and LA board of regents.

I am looking for breast cancer clinician, who can help us obtaining breast cancer tissues. Also I am looking for a Pathologist, who can help us with immunohistochemistry needs.

Areas of Interest:

Diseases		**Disciplines**	
Lung / Head and Neck Cancer	____	Immunology	____
Breast / Cervical Cancer	__X_	Genetics	____
Leukemias / Lymphomas	____	Cancer Cell Biology (signaling)	___
G. I. Malignancies	____	Population Sciences	____
Prostate and GU Malignancies	____	Clinical Trials	____
Neuroendocrine / Others	____		

Name: Wayne L. Backes **Degree:** Ph.D.

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Work Address: Stanley S. Scott Cancer Center/ Department of Pharmacology
LSU Health Sciences Center
533 Bolivar St.
New Orleans, LA 70112

Brief Biosketch:

Western Maryland College, Westminster, MD	B.A.	1969-1973	Chemistry
West Virginia University, Morgantown, WV	Ph.D.	1974-1979	Biochemistry
Univ. of Connecticut Health Ctr., Farmington, CT	postdoctoral	1979-1981	Pharmacology

Dec. 1983 - June 1984	Res. Asst. Prof. Dept. of Pharmacology, Univ. Conn. Health Ctr., Farmington, CT
July 1984 - July 1989	Assistant Professor, Pharmacology, LSUMC, New Orleans, LA
July 1989 - 1995	Associate Professor, LSUMC, New Orleans, LA
July 1995 - present	Professor, Dept. of Pharmacology, LSUHSC, New Orleans, LA
Jan. 1999 - 2001	Acting Head, Pharmacology, LSUMC, New Orleans, LA
October 2001 – present	Associate Dean for Research, LSUHSC, New Orleans, LA
July 1999 – June 2002	Secretary-Treasurer for the Division for Drug Metabolism (ASPET)
July 2008 – present	Secretary-Treasurer for the Division for Toxicology (ASPET)
Jan. 2009 – present	Xenobiotic and Nutrition Disposition and Action Study Section, National Institutes of Health
Jan. 2006 – present	External Advisory Committee, Center for the Study of Botanicals and Metabolic Syndrome., Pennington Biomedical Research Center and Rutgers University; NCCAM, January 2006 – present

Summary of ongoing work:

Cytochrome P450 enzymes are responsible for the metabolism of virtually every foreign compound that enters an organism. The major function of the P450 system is to carry out oxidation reactions, usually by hydroxylation of the substrate. Most of these reactions lead to products/intermediates that are more water-soluble and consequently more rapidly excreted. However, some products are reactive, capable of binding to biological macromolecules, an initial step leading to carcinogenesis.

P450 enzymes do not act independently, but require formation of a 1:1 complex with the flavoprotein NADPH-P450 reductase (reductase), which transfers electrons to P450. Because P450 exists in a large excess over reductase in vivo, the P450 enzymes must effectively compete for the reductase or be metabolically silent. The goal of this project is to examine the organization of multiple P450 enzymes and NADPH-cytochrome P450 reductase in the membrane, and to determine the potential for the formation of P450-P450 complexes that can influence the function of these enzymes. The studies include characterization of these interactions, identification of the contact points among the proteins, and determination of their effects on metabolism of hydrocarbons, carcinogens, and other foreign compounds.

Areas of Interest:

Diseases		**Disciplines**	
Lung / Head and Neck Cancer	X	Immunology	
Breast / Cervical Cancer		Genetics	X
Leukemias / Lymphomas		Cancer Cell Biology (signaling)	X
G. I. Malignancies		Population Sciences	X
Prostate and GU Malignancies		Clinical Trials	
Neuroendocrine / Others			

Name: David E. Beck **Degree:** MD

E-mail: dbeck@ochsner.org **Phone Number:** 504-842-4060

Work Address: 1514 Jefferson Highway **Assistant phone:** Kris, 504 842-3972
New Orleans, LA 70121

Brief Biosketch:

MD: University of Miami - 1979
Residency General Surgery: Wilford Hall USAG Medical Center, Lackland AFB, TX
1979-1984
Fellowship- Colon and Rectal Surgery : Cleveland Clinic, Cleveland, Ohio 1985-1986
Chairman : Department of General Surgery Wilford Hall USAF Medical Center 1984-1992
Chairman : Department of Colon and Rectal Surgery Ochsner Clinic Foundation,
New Orleans 1993 – present

Clinical Associate Professor of Surgery: Uniformed Services University 1992-present

Summary of ongoing work:

Prevention of intrabdominal adhesions using bioresorbable membranes

Postoperative ileus – prevention using Ghrenelin analogs

Parastomal hernias – prevention using a biologic mesh

Colorectal Polyps – incidence and cancer reduction with polypectomy

I would like to establish collaboration with basic science researcher interested in colorectal polyp or cancer development. Have access to large volumes of tissue and patients.

Areas of Interest:

Diseases		**Disciplines**	
Lung / Head and Neck Cancer	____	Immunology	____
Breast / Cervical Cancer	____	Genetics	____
Leukemias / Lymphomas	____	Cancer Cell Biology (signaling)	___
G. I. Malignancies	_X__	Population Sciences	____
Prostate and GU Malignancies	____	Clinical Trials	____
Neuroendocrine / Others	____		

Name: John S. Bolton **Degree:** MD

E-mail: jbolton@ochsner.org **Phone Number:** 842-4072

Work Address: 1514 Jefferson Hwy. **Assistant phone:** 842-4072
New Orleans, LA 70121

Brief Biosketch:

MD: Louisiana State University Medical Center, New Orleans – 1972
Residency General Surgery – LSU Medical Center & Charity Hospital of New Orleans – 1981
Fellowship Surgical Oncology – Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, New York - 1982
Chairman/Staff Surgeon – Ochsner Department of Surgery – 1982 – present

Summary of ongoing work:

I have a large upper gastrointestinal cancer practice, performing approximately 200 major surgical resections for primary and metastatic hepatobiliary cancers, esophagogastric cancers, and pancreatic cancers each year. I am interested in collaborating with a basic scientist interested in these areas to do translational research.

Areas of Interest:

Diseases		**Disciplines**	
Lung / Head and Neck Cancer	____	Immunology	____
Breast / Cervical Cancer	____	Genetics	____
Leukemias / Lymphomas	____	Cancer Cell Biology (signaling)	_X_
G. I. Malignancies	_X__	Population Sciences	____
Prostate and GU Malignancies	____	Clinical Trials	_X__
Neuroendocrine / Others	____		

Name: Hamid Boulares **Degree:** PhD

E-mail: hboulr@lsuhsc.edu **Phone Number:** 504-568-2304

Work Address: 1901 Perdido St **Assistant phone:**

Brief Biosketch:

NAME Boulares, A. Hamid		POSITION TITLE Associate Professor	
EDUCATION/TRAINING *(Begin with baccalaureate or other initial professional education, such as nursing, and include postdoctoral training.)*			
INSTITUTION AND LOCATION	DEGREE *(if applicable)*	YEAR(s)	FIELD OF STUDY
University of Sciences and Technology at Algiers and the Pasteur Institute, Algiers, Algeria	B.S.	1983-1987	Microbiology
University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT	M.S.	1990-1992	Microbiology
University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT	Ph.D.	1992-1997	Biochemistry
Georgetown University, Washington, DC	Post. Doc.	1997-2000	Biochemistry

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A. Positions

Professional Experience:

1992-1995 **Teaching Assistant** for Fundamentals of Microbiology and Pathogenic Microbiology (University of Connecticut)
1995-1997 **Head of Teaching Assistants** for Microbiology (University of Connecticut)
1997- 2000 **Research Associate** at Georgetown University Medical Center
2000-2002 **Assistant Professor (Research Track)** at Georgetown University Medical Center, Department of Molecular Biology, Washington, DC.
2002-2008 **Assistant Professor** at LSUHSC, Dept. Pharmacology, New Orleans, LA.
2002-2008 **Adjunct Assistant Professor**, Stanley Scott Cancer Center, LSUHSC, New Orleans, LA
2008-Present **Associate Professor** at LSUHSC, Dept. of Pharmacology, New Orleans, LA.
2008-Present **Associate Professor** at LSUHSC, Dept. of Pathology, New Orleans, LA.
2008-Present **Adjunct Associate Professor**, Stanley Scott Cancer Center, LSUHSC, New Orleans, LA

Summary of ongoing work:

The role of poly(ADP-ribose) polymerase-1 (PARP-1) in inflammatory diseases including colon cancer, asthma, and atherosclerosis.
Regulation of inflammatory gene expression and associated signal transduction such as the NF-κB and STAT6 pathways by PARP-1.

Areas of Interest:

Diseases		**Disciplines**	
Lung / Head and Neck Cancer	____	Immunology	__X__
Breast / Cervical Cancer	____	Genetics	__X__
Leukemias / Lymphomas	____	Cancer Cell Biology (signaling)	_X__
G. I. Malignancies	_X___	Population Sciences	____
Prostate and GU Malignancies	____	Clinical Trials	____
Neuroendocrine / Others	____		

Name: Brian Boulmay **Degree:** MD

E-mail: bboulm@lsuhsc.edu **Phone Number:** 352 514-2184

Work Address: 2020 Gravier St., Box E7-20, New Orleans, LA 70112

Assistant phone: 504 568-2370

Brief Biosketch:

MD: Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center Shreveport- 2002

Internal Medicine Internship/Residency: University of Florida Health Sciences Center 2002-2005

Hematology/Oncology Fellowship: University of Florida Health Sciences Center 2005-2008

Assistant Professor of Clinical Medicine: Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center New Orleans 2008-

Summary of ongoing work:

Current ongoing work consists of re-establishing clinical oncology and hematology care at University and Baptist Hospitals. Additionally, working toward re-establishment of Heme/Onc Fellowship training program.

Areas of Interest:

Diseases		**Disciplines**	
Lung / Head and Neck Cancer	x	Immunology	
Breast / Cervical Cancer		Genetics	
Leukemias / Lymphomas		Cancer Cell Biology (signaling)	
G. I. Malignancies		Population Sciences	
Prostate and GU Malignancies		Clinical Trials	
Neuroendocrine / Others			

Name: Mary B. Breslin **Degree:** PhD

E-mail: mbreslin@chnola-research.org **Phone Number:** 896-2757

Work Address: Children's Hospital 200 Henry Clay Ave.,
Research and Education Bldg. Room 2235
NOLA, 70118

Brief Biosketch:

PhD	LSUHSC Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology-1998
Postdoctoral Fellow	Research Institute for Children New Orleans-1999-2003
Assistant Professor	LSUHSC Department of Pediatrics and Biochemistry and Molecular Biology/Research Institute for Children-2003-present

Summary of ongoing work:
Currently my laboratory in collaboration with Dr. Michael S. Lan is focused on developing a transcriptionally-regulated suicide gene viral therapy for the treatment of neuroendocrine tumors. We are currently funded by the Diana Helis Henry Medical Research Foundation. We are currently focusing our efforts on the study of SCLC, neuroblastoma, medullablastoma, and retinoblastoma.

We would like to obtain primary tumor samples to test and validate our gene therapy approach.

Areas of Interest:

Diseases		**Disciplines**	
Lung / Head and Neck Cancer	___	Immunology	____
Breast / Cervical Cancer	____	Genetics	____
Leukemias / Lymphomas	____	Cancer Cell Biology (signaling)	2
G. I. Malignancies	____	Population Sciences	____
Prostate and GU Malignancies	____	Clinical Trials	___
Neuroendocrine / Others	1		

Name: Archie Brown **Degree:** M.D.

E-mail: awbrown@ochsner.org **Phone Number:** 504-842-3904

Work Address: Hematology/Oncology, Ochsner, New Orleans, LA 70121

Brief Biosketch:

Clinical Hematology/Oncology at Ochsner since 1971.

Summary of ongoing work:

Main Clinical Interests:
Hememalignancies
"Benign" Hematology
Head and Neck Cancer
Sarcomas
Neuroendocrine Tumors

Areas of Interest:

Diseases		**Disciplines**	
Lung / Head and Neck Cancer	X	Immunology	
Breast / Cervical Cancer		Genetics	
Leukemias / Lymphomas	X	Cancer Cell Biology (signaling)	
G. I. Malignancies		Population Sciences	
Prostate and GU Malignancies		Clinical Trials	
Neuroendocrine / Others	X		

Name: Andy Catling

Degree: PhD

E-mail: acatli@lsuhsc.edu

Phone Number: 568 2222

Work Address: Department of Pharmacology
LSUHSC
1901 Perdido St
New Orleans LA 70112

Assistant phone: 568 4740

Brief Biosketch:
PhD: University of Glasgow – 1992
Postdoctoral Training/Research Assistant Professor: University of Virginia -1992-2002
Assistant Professor of Pharmacology: LSUHSC 2002-2007
Associate Professor of Pharmacology: LSUHSC 2007-present

Summary of ongoing work:
My lab is interested in MAP kinase signaling, in particular the functions of scaffolding proteins and phosphorylation events that modify the quality or specificity of the signal generated. The scaffold we discovered (MEK Partner 1; MP1) associates with a number of important signaling molecules (MEK, ERK, PAK, RACK) and plays an important role in EGF and fibronectin but not PDGF signaling to MAP kinase in fibroblasts: we are starting to investigate the importance of this protein for MAP kinase signaling and proliferation of breast tumor cells expressing active PAK and/or HER2. We have also discovered a novel MEK/ERK independent role for MP1 in prostate cancer cell migration and are currently trying to identify the effectors used in this context.

We would welcome collaborations with both basic scientists and clinicians interested examining these signaling mechanisms in *in vivo* models, and in screening human tumors for changes in expression/activity of the scaffold complex.

The resources we might need are: tumor and normal tissue samples, animal models and the technical expertise to perform *in vivo* tumorigenesis/metastasis experiments

Areas of Interest:

Diseases		**Disciplines**	
Lung / Head and Neck Cancer	____	Immunology	____
Breast / Cervical Cancer	__X_	Genetics	____
Leukemias / Lymphomas	____	Cancer Cell Biology (signaling)	_X_
G. I. Malignancies	____	Population Sciences	____
Prostate and GU Malignancies	__X_	Clinical Trials	____
Neuroendocrine / Others	____		

Name: Maria M. Chester, R.N.

Degree: BSN

E-mail: mchest@lsuhsc.edu

Phone Number: (504) 464-8500

Work Address: 200 West Esplanade
Suite 200
Kenner, LA 70065

Assistant phone: n/a

Brief Biosketch:
December 2004: Graduated from LSUHSC with BSN after receiving the Louisiana Board of Supervisors Scholarship.

Summary of ongoing work:
I am the Clinical Research Coordinator for LSUHSC at the Neuroendocrine Clinic at Ochsner Medical Center – Kenner.

Areas of Interest:

Diseases		**Disciplines**	
Lung / Head and Neck Cancer	____	Immunology	____
Breast / Cervical Cancer	____	Genetics	____
Leukemias / Lymphomas	____	Cancer Cell Biology (signaling)	___
G. I. Malignancies	____	Population Sciences	____
Prostate and GU Malignancies	____	Clinical Trials	_X__
Neuroendocrine / Others	_X___		

Name: Yong Sung Choi **Degree:** M.D., Ph.D.

E-mail: ychoi@ochsner.org **Phone Number:** 504-842-3035

Work Address: Ochsner Clinic Foundation
Laboratory of Cellular Immunology
1514 Jefferson Hwy
New Orleans, LA 70121

Brief Biosketch:

1961	Seoul National University Medical School, M.D.
1965	University of Minnesota, Biochemistry, Ph.D.
1967-1969	PostDoc Fellowship, Salk Institue, La Jolla, Ca.
1973-1985	Professor of Immunology, Cornell University Graduate School of Medical Sciences, Member, Sloan-Kettering Institute for Cancer Research, New York, NY
1985-Present	Distinguished Investigator and Director, Cellular Immunology Laboratory, Alton Ochsner Medical Foundation, New Orleans, LA

Summary of ongoing work:

Our laboratory has been studying human B cell differentiation and lymphomagenesis in the germinal center.

We have developed a unique *in vitro* experimental model that mimics the germinal center reaction *in vivo* and we have identified a number of signaling molecules produced by the germinal center stromal cell; follicular dendritic cells. CD320 identified in our laboratory is a novel growth factor required for lymphomagenesis.

We are currently investigating the cellular interactions between lymphoma cells and FDC in molecular terms to understand the role of the GC microenvironment in malignant transformation and development of drug-resistance.

Areas of Interest:

Diseases		**Disciplines**	
Lung / Head and Neck Cancer	____	Immunology	2
Breast / Cervical Cancer	____	Genetics	____
Leukemias / Lymphomas	1	Cancer Cell Biology (signaling)	____
G. I. Malignancies	____	Population Sciences	____
Prostate and GU Malignancies	____	Clinical Trials	____
Neuroendocrine / Others	____		

Name: John T. Cole **Degree:** M.D.

E-mail: jcole@ochsner.org **Phone Number:** 504-842-3261

Work Address: Ochsner Clinic Foundation
Hematology /Oncology Department
1514 Jefferson Hwy
New Orleans, LA 70121

Brief Biosketch:

Medical School: Louisiana State University, School of Medicine
New Orleans, LA
MD,

Residency: Alton Ochsner Medical Foundation
New Orleans, LA
Internal Medicine

Fellowship: Columbia University/ Columbia Presbyterian Hospital New York, NY
Hematology/Oncology

Present Position: Section Head – Department of Hematology and Medical Oncology
Ochsner Clinic

Summary of ongoing work:

Main focus of my clinical activities has been in the field of lung cancer and breast cancer. Earlier work in lung cancer included developing novel chemotherapy combinations including docetaxel, cisplatin and navelbene based regimens. Currently in breast cancer developing clinical trial for the use of epidermal growth factor receptor inhibition in ER/PR Her2 negative (Triple negative breast cancer)

Areas of Interest:

Diseases		**Disciplines**	
Lung / Head and Neck Cancer	____	Immunology	___
Breast / Cervical Cancer	____	Genetics	____
Leukemias / Lymphomas	___	Cancer Cell Biology (signaling)	____
G. I. Malignancies	_____	Population Sciences	____
Prostate and GU Malignancies	____	Clinical Trials	____
Neuroendocrine / Others	____		

Name: Sean Collins **Degree:** MD

E-mail: seancolli@gmail.com **Phone Number:** 504-220-1013

Work Address: 4228 Houma Blvd.; Suite 600A; Metairie, LA 70002

Brief Biosketch:

Dr. Collins is a urologic oncologist whose area of interest is primarily prostate cancer. His residency training was at the LSU-Ochsner Urology Program and his Fellowship training was at Columbia University in New York.

Summary of ongoing work:

Areas of Interest:

Diseases		**Disciplines**	
Lung / Head and Neck Cancer	____	Immunology	____
Breast / Cervical Cancer	____	Genetics	____
Leukemias / Lymphomas	____	Cancer Cell Biology (signaling)	___
G. I. Malignancies	____	Population Sciences	_X___
Prostate and GU Malignancies	__X__	Clinical Trials	____
Neuroendocrine / Others	____		

Name: Yan Cui **Degree:** PhD

E-mail:ycui@lsuhsc.edu **Phone Number:** 568-4636

Work Address: LSUHSC, 533 Bolivar Street
New Orleans, LA 70112

Brief Biosketch:

PhD, Biological Sciences: University of Alberta – 1995
Postdoctoral Fellow – Johns Hopkins Oncology Center, 2000
Assistant Professor – Gene Therapy, LSUHSC 2001 - 2006
Associate Professor – Gene Therapy, LSUHSC 2006 - present

Summary of ongoing work:

The major focus and long-term goal of our research team is to develop innovative approaches for cancer treatment through activate immunotherapy. We are mainly focus on enhancing the interaction of dendritic cells with T lymphocytes so that the activation of tumor specific effector T cells can be enhanced and sustained for tumor clearance. This is achieved through engineering hematopoietic stem cells and bone marrow transplantation. We are also examining the effect of cytokines, such as IL-7, on T cell survival and lymphomagenesis. We are currently funded by a grant from NIH/NCI.

I would like to establish collaborations with clinicians interested in hematopoiesis and T cell leukemia who can help us understand the mechanisms of IL-7 mediated T cell survival and tumorigenesis. My primary work is in tumor immunology and hematopoiesis. I'm also interested in lymphomagenesis.

I might need the following resources: T cell leukemia, hematopoietic stem cells or cord blood stem cells.

Areas of Interest:

Diseases		**Disciplines**	
Lung / Head and Neck Cancer	___	Immunology	_1___
Breast / Cervical Cancer	____	Genetics	____
Leukemias / Lymphomas	__2__	Cancer Cell Biology (signaling)	__
G. I. Malignancies	____	Population Sciences	____
Prostate and GU Malignancies	____	Clinical Trials	____
Neuroendocrine / Others	____		

Name: Eduardo Davila **Degree:** PhD

E-mail: edavil@lsuhsc.edu **Phone Number:** 5045688267

Work Address: 533 Bolivar St CSRB Rm 454 **Assistant phone:**

Brief Biosketch:

PhD– Mayo Clinic Medical School
Assistant Professor Dept of Pediatrics

Summary of ongoing work:
We recently documented that Toll-like receptor (TLR) engagement on T and B lymphocytes enhanced cell proliferation and decreased apoptosis in response to various genotoxic insults including radiotherapy (γ-radiation) and certain chemotherapies. TLRs are expressed primarily on cells of the innate immune system. We are interested in determining the role that TLR signals within leuekemias and lymphomas play in inducing radio– or chemoresistance.

Areas of Interest:

Diseases		**Disciplines**	
Lung / Head and Neck Cancer	____	Immunology	_X__
Breast / Cervical Cancer	____	Genetics	____
Leukemias / Lymphomas	__X__	Cancer Cell Biology (signaling)	___
G. I. Malignancies	____	Population Sciences	____
Prostate and GU Malignancies	____	Clinical Trials	____
Neuroendocrine / Others	____		

Name: Shyamal Desai **Degree:** PhD

E-mail: sdesai@lsuhsc.edu **Phone Number:** 504-568-4388

Work Address: Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology
1901 Perdido Street, New Orleans, LA 70112

Assistant Phone:

Brief Biosketch:

BS: University of Bombay, India -1981
MS: University of Bombay, India -1984
PhD: University of Bombay, India – 1991
Research Assistant Professor: UMDNJ/Robert Wood Johnson Medical School, NJ- 2007
Assistant Professor: LSUHSC - 2007-present

Summary of ongoing work:

Tumor cells are known to exhibit highly varied sensitivity to the topoisomerase I-directed anti-cancer drugs camptothecins (CPT; e.g., irinotecan (Camptosar®) and topotecan(Hycamtin®)). However, the factors that determine CPT sensitivity/resistance are largely unknown. Our recent studies have shown that the ubiquitin-like protein, IFN-stimulated gene 15 (ISG15), which is highly elevated in many human cancers and tumor cell lines, antagonizes the ubiquitin/proteasome pathway. We have also shown that ISG15 is a determinant for CPT sensitivity/resistance possibly through its effect on proteasome-mediated repair of TOP1-DNA covalent complexes. Taken together, our results suggest that ISG15 could be used as a potential tumor biomarker for CPT sensitivity. I would like to establish collaboration with clinician to test this possibility in the clinic.

Areas of Interest:

Diseases		**Disciplines**	
Lung / Head and Neck Cancer	____	Immunology	_X___
Breast / Cervical Cancer	__X_	Genetics	____
Leukemias / Lymphomas	__X__	Cancer Cell Biology (signaling)	__X__
G. I. Malignancies	____	Population Sciences	____
Prostate and GU Malignancies	____	Clinical Trials	____
Neuroendocrine / Others_	Neurodegeneration		

Name: Bonny Dickinson

Degree: PhD

E-mail: bdickinson@chnola-research.org

Phone Number: 896-2048 (office)

Work Address: The Research Institute for Children, 200 Henry Clay Ave, New Orleans, LA 70118

Assistant phone: 896-2710 (lab)

Brief Biosketch:

PhD Microbiology and Immunology: Tulane University – 1991-1995
Post-doctoral fellow – Biochemistry, NIH 1996-1997
Post-doctoral fellow – Children's Hospital, Boston and Harvard University 1997-1999
Instructor - Children's Hospital, Boston and Harvard University 2000-2004
Assistant Professor Pediatrics LSUHSC – 2004-present

Summary of ongoing work:

My lab is interested in how carcinoid tumors dysregulate dendritic cell function. We are working in collaboration with Dr. Eugene Woltering's laboratory (LSUHSC Dept of Surgery) to define the mechanisms by which carcinoid tumors induce dendritic cell apoptosis. We are also interested to determine whether carcinoid tumors impair dendritic cell chemotaxis as a means to evade immune detection. We would like to establish collaboration with labs that have expertise in apoptosis/apoptotic cell death.

A second project in the lab is focused on understanding how the potent mucosal adjuvant, cholera toxin, regulates dendritic cell chemotaxis towards chemokines that direct immune cell migration to lymph nodes. We are currently using live cell video microscopy to quantify the rate and direction of dendritic cell chemotaxis. We would like to establish collaboration with labs that have expertise in live cell imaging and/or cell locomotion.

Areas of Interest:

Diseases		**Disciplines**	
Lung / Head and Neck Cancer	____	Immunology	_X__
Breast / Cervical Cancer	____	Genetics	____
Leukemias / Lymphomas	____	Cancer Cell Biology (signaling)	___
G. I. Malignancies	____	Population Sciences	____
Prostate and GU Malignancies	____	Clinical Trials	____
Neuroendocrine / Others	_X__		

Name: Melanie Edwards **Degree:** M.D.

E-mail: edwmelanie@gmail.com **Phone Number:** 504-568-4750

Work Address: 533 Bolivar Street, Ste 508
New Orleans, LA 70130 **Assistant phone:**

Brief Biosketch:
M.D.: Loma Linda University - 2001
Residency: Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, General Surgery - 2006
Fellowship: Saint Louis University Medical Center, Thoracic Surgery - 2008

Summary of ongoing work:

n/a

Areas of Interest:

Diseases		**Disciplines**	
Lung / Head and Neck Cancer	X	Immunology	
Breast / Cervical Cancer		Genetics	
Leukemias / Lymphomas		Cancer Cell Biology (signaling)	
G. I. Malignancies		Population Sciences	
Prostate and GU Malignancies		Clinical Trials	X
Neuroendocrine / Others			

Name: Mohamed B Elmongy **Degree:** MD, DSc

E-mail: melmon@lsuhsc.edu **Phone Number:** 568- 8005

Work Address: LSUHSC, 533 Bolivar Street
New Orleans, LA 70112

Brief Biosketch:
MB, ChB, (MD) Cairo University, Faculty of Medicine, Cairo, Egypt- 1975
MPH, Tulane University- 1981
Doctor of Science (D.Sc.), Tulane University- 1985
Resident, Internal Medicine, Tulane University School of Medicine-7/84 - 6/87
Fellow, Hematology/Medical Oncology, Tulane University School of Medicine- 7/87 - 6/89
Fellow, Leukemia and Stem Transplantation, University of British Columbia- 07/89 – 06/91
Clinical Professor Hematology Oncology-LSUHSC 08/08- Present

Summary of ongoing work:
- I would like to expand and enhance our clinical research program:
  - Expand the current minority based CCOP.
  - Develop collaborative organization between clinicians and basic scientists for establishing translational research strategy for enhancing grant success.
  - Develop a plan for investigator initiated clinical trials and selected pharmaceutical industry sponsored clinical trials based on faculty interest and patient population availability.
  - Ensure that the clinical research program is efficient, productive (enrolling appropriate number of patients), meeting GCP guidelines, meeting properly established metrics, and the budget.
- Develop Leukemia Blood & Marrow Transplantation Program (combined between LSU & Ochsner).
- Reopen the Hem/Onc fellowship program and develop the highest teaching standards for fellows, residents, and medical students.
-Work on Dendritic cell based vaccine program development for appropriately selected malignancies.

Areas of Interest:

Diseases		**Disciplines**	
Lung / Head and Neck Cancer	____	Immunology	____
Breast / Cervical Cancer	____	Genetics	____
Leukemias / Lymphomas	1	Cancer Cell Biology (signaling)	___
G. I. Malignancies	____	Population Sciences	____
Prostate and GU Malignancies	____	Clinical Trials	2
Neuroendocrine / Others	____		

Name: John J. Estrada **Degree:** M.D.

E-mail: jestra@lsuhsc.edu **Phone Number:** 504-568-6232

Brief Biosketch

MD: University of Antioquia Medical School, Medellin, Columbia - 1981
Clinical Internship: St Vincent of Paul University Hospital, Medellin, Colombia – 1981-1982
Immunology Fellowship: Wake Forest University/Bowman Gray School of Medicine, Winston-Salem, NC- 1982-1985
Head Microbiology & Immunology, University of Antioquia Medical School, Medellin, Colombia – 1986-1991
Assistant Professor of Pediatrics, Meharry Medical College, Adjunct Professor, Vanderbilt University Medical School, Nashville, TN, 1991-2001
Associate Professor of Pediatrics, LSU Health Sciences Center, New Orleans, LA, 2001-present
Associate Director, LSU/Tulane/LSU Interim Hospital Clinical and Translational Research Center, New Orleans, LA 2007-present
Director of Education and Community Services, LSU Stanley S. Scott Cancer Center, New Orleans, LA, 2006-present

Summary of ongoing work:
My research interest and independent funding have been in the areas of Immunology, Faculty Development, and Bioethics.

Currently I work with the LSU School of Medicine as Associate Director for the Clinical and Translational Research Ctr. and with the LSU Stanley S Scott Cancer Center as Director of Education and Community Services. I such capacities I can offer the following to the LSUHSC-OCHNER Oncology Program

1) Design and Coordinate MCE activities and other educational activities, i.e., LCRC Invited Speaker Series (http://www.lcrc.info/news/seminarschedule.htm) and Undergraduate Oncology Research Programs i.e., NCI-funded Short Term Undergraduate Research Program (NCI R-25 progam)
2) Design and coordinate community outreach programs geared towards the inclusion and retention of underserved populations in clinical trials, i.e., the NCI-funded Minority-Based Community Clinical Oncology Program (MBCCOP)
3) Provide assistance to faculty member who need to use the Clinical and Translational Research Center, which is a distinctive inpatient/outpatient facility for clinical research (formerly known as the GCRC)
4) Design and coordinate programs for developing junior faculty, i.e., The NIH-funded Center of Biomedical Research Excellence in Translational Research (COBRE grant)

Areas of Interest:

Diseases		**Disciplines**	
Lung / Head and Neck Cancer	____	Immunology	____
Breast / Cervical Cancer	X	Genetics	____
Leukemias / Lymphomas	____	Cancer Cell Biology (signaling)	____
G. I. Malignancies	____	Population Sciences	X
Prostate and GU Malignancies	X	Clinical Trials	X
Neuroendocrine / Others	____		

Name: Ed Grabczyk **Degree:** Ph.D.

E-mail: egrabc@lsuhsc.edu **Phone Number:** (504) 568-6154

Work Address: Department of Genetics, LSUHSC 533 Bolivar Street, New Orleans, LA 70112

Brief Biosketch:

Ph.D.: Harvard University, Cambridge MA, 1992, Cell and Developmental Biology
Post-Doc: Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston MA, 1992-1995, Neuroscience
IRTA Fellow: NIH, Bethesda MD, 1995-2000, DNA Repeat Expansion Disease
Assistant Professor: LSUHSC Department of Genetics, 2001-2008
Associate Professor: LSUHSC Department of Genetics, 2008-present

Summary of ongoing work:
Research in my lab focuses on Friedreich ataxia (FRDA), a relentlessly progressive neurodegenerative disease. FRDA has attributes shared with other neurodegenerative diseases and with pathologic conditions of aging, including cancer: 1) An unstable trinucleotide repeat that expands with age. 2) Reduced mitochondrial function and lower Fe•S enzyme activities such as aconitase. 3) Disrupted iron homeostasis and iron accumulation in the mitochondria. 4) Increased ROS production in the mitochondria. 5) Increased sensitivity of Fe•S enzymes to ROS. A primary goal in our lab is to understand why GAA•TTC repeats expand, and how the expansion impairs gene expression in FRDA. We are particularly interested in probing the role DNA structures may have in attracting enzymes of DNA repair, recombination and chromatin modification. We are also interested in the impact that altered mitochondrial function, iron homeostasis and iron mediated ROS have on DNA stability.

We are interested in obtaining cell lines with defects in DNA repair, particularly components of TC-NER or Fe•S containing helicases such as XPD, BRIP1 and Rtel.

Areas of Interest:

Diseases		**Disciplines**	
Lung / Head and Neck Cancer	____	Immunology	____
Breast / Cervical Cancer	____	Genetics	__√__
Leukemias / Lymphomas	____	Cancer Cell Biology (signaling)	___
G. I. Malignancies	____	Population Sciences	____
Prostate and GU Malignancies	____	Clinical Trials	____
Neuroendocrine / Others	__√__		

Name: Arthur L. Haas **Degree:** Ph.D.

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Work Address: LSUHSC, 533 Bolivar Street
New Orleans, LA 70112

Brief Biosketch: Ph.D. Biochemistry, Northwestern University Medical School—1979
NRSA Post-Doctoral Fellow, Fox Chase Cancer Center 1979-1982
Staff Research Fellow, Fox Chase Cancer Center, 1982-1983
Assistant-Tenured Professor, Medical College of Wisconsin, 1983-2004
Roland Coulson Professor and Head of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, 2004-present

Summary of ongoing work:

While a post-doctoral fellow of Irwin Rose at the Institute for Cancer Research of the Fox Chase Cancer Center, I co-discovered the role of ubiquitin in protein degradation (with A. Hershko and A. Ciechanover). In 1988 I independently discovered the role ubiquitin-like proteins in cell regulation. My laboratory currently focuses on basic research related to the mechanism and specificity of ubiquitin conjugation and the role(s) of the ISG15 ubiquitin-like protein in innate immunity and the interferon response. We are particularly interested in how ubiquitin and ISG15 control fundamental processes of cell proliferation/quiescence, adhesion, and antigen presentation.

Most recently we have found that Rapamycin is a slow-binding, high affinity inhibitor of the superfamily of ubiquitin-like protein activating enzymes. We are interested in identifying clinicians interested in moving these basic science discoveries into translational research.

Areas of Interest:

Diseases *(all are relevant)*		**Disciplines**	
Lung / Head and Neck Cancer	____	Immunology	____
Breast / Cervical Cancer	_____	Genetics	____
Leukemias / Lymphomas	____	Cancer Cell Biology (signaling)	_X__
G. I. Malignancies	____	Population Sciences	____
Prostate and GU Malignancies	____	Clinical Trials	____
Neuroendocrine / Others	____		

Name: Michael Hagensee **Degree:** MD PHD

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New Orleans, LA 70112 **Assistant phone:** 568-4398

Brief Biosketch:

Baylor College of Medicine PHD 1986, MD 1988
University of Washington Medicine Residency and ID fellowship 1996
LSUHSC, Dept of Medicine, Section of ID 1996-present

Summary of ongoing work:

Studying human papillomavirus (HPV) infection and the risk of cervical cancer and other anogenital malignancies. Current funded research is to examine an interaction between Epstein-Barr virus and HPV in the pathogenesis of cervical cancer in HIV+ and HIV-negative women. Shedding of both EBV and HPV leads to a 3-4 fold increase of cervical cancer in these women as compared to those shedding HPV alone. Current studies include examination of clinical samples from cross-sectional and longitudinal studies as well as in-vitro modeling utilizing introduction of EBV and HPV oncoproteins into cancer cell lines and primary epithelial cells. Future studies include close examination of the immune response against both EBV and HPV in these women.

Additional funded studies include examination of the role of oral HPV infection in the development of head and neck squamous cell carcinoma, Both oral warts and tonsillar cancers have been increasing in HIV+ individuals despite active treatment against HIV. Studies to be initiated shortly include studying the natural history of oral HPV infections in HIV+ individuals, examining the immune response against oral HPV, and examining the types of HPV in oral cancers and oral warts.

Areas of Interest:

Diseases		**Disciplines**	
Lung / Head and Neck Cancer	X	Immunology	X
Breast / Cervical Cancer	X	Genetics	
Leukemias / Lymphomas		Cancer Cell Biology (signaling)	
G. I. Malignancies		Population Sciences	
Prostate and GU Malignancies		Clinical Trials	
Neuroendocrine / Others			

Name: Roland Hawkins **Degree:** PhD, MD

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Work Address: Radiation Oncology **Assistant phone:** 504-842-3440
Ochsner Cancer Institute
1514 Jefferson Highway
New Orleans LA 70121

Brief Biosketch: BS in Physics 1962, PhD molecular biology (physical chemistry of biological macromolecules) 1967, MD 1980, Radiation Oncology residency completed 1987. All degrees and training at Washington University in St. Louis. Post doctoral training University of Chicago 1969 to 1971. Assistant professor of biochemistry St Louis University 1971 to 1976. Research in radiobiology of bacteriophage and cultured mammalian cells beginning during military service in division of nuclear medicine Walter Reed Army Institute of Researech in1967, as PI of DOE contract at St Louis University and as associate in laboratory of Leonard Tolmach at Washington University and continuing to the present.

Summary of ongoing work: Development and application of a microdosimetric-kinetic (MK) model of reproductive death of mammalian cells after exposure to ionizing radiation used in radiotherapy including high energy Xrays, gamma rays and heavy particle radiation such as protons and carbon ions.

Areas of Interest:

Diseases		**Disciplines**	
Lung / Head and Neck Cancer	x	Immunology	
Breast / Cervical Cancer	x	Genetics	
Leukemias / Lymphomas	x	Cancer Cell Biology (signaling)	x
G. I. Malignancies	x	Population Sciences	
Prostate and GU Malignancies		Clinical Trials	x
Neuroendocrine / Others	x		

Name: Tomoo Iwakuma **Degree:** MD, PhD

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New Orleans, LA 70112

Assistant phone: 568-2956

Brief Biosketch:

MD: Kyushu University in Japan – 1991
PhD Biochemistry: Kyushu University in Japan – 1997
Residency Orthopedic surgery – Kyushu University, Japan-1991
– Beppu Developmental Medical Center in Japan-1992
Postdoctoral fellow: Department of Medical Microbiology and Immunology, University of Alberta in Canada and the Department of Molecular Genetics and Microbiology and Gene Therapy Center, University of Florida-1997-1999
Research associate: Department of Pharmacology, Baylor College of Medicine -1999-2000
Postdoctoral fellow & Instructor, Department of Molecular Genetics, Cancer Genetics, The University of Texas, MD Anderson Cancer Center- June 2000 –2005
Assistant professor (tenure track): Department of Genetics/Cancer Center, Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center Aug. 2005 - present

Summary of ongoing work:
My laboratory has been working on modeling human cancers, specifically osteosarcoma, in mice, dissecting protein function in tumor suppressor p53 pathway, and applying disease models to translational research, to ultimately cure cancer.
We are currently focusing on two projects:
1. Dissecting the role of Mdm2 Binding Protein in osteosarcoma metastasis.
2. The role of a gain-of-function mutant p53 in the osteosarcoma stem cells

Both projects require resources from human osteosarcomas (paraffin embedded, frozen tissue, primary culture, RNA, DNA). If anyone could help this, I will be more than happy.

Areas of Interest:

Diseases		**Disciplines**	
Lung / Head and Neck Cancer	2	Immunology	
Breast / Cervical Cancer		Genetics	2
Leukemias / Lymphomas		Cancer Cell Biology (signaling)	1
G. I. Malignancies		Population Sciences	
Prostate and GU Malignancies		Clinical Trials	
Neuroendocrine / Others	1 (osteosarcoma)		

Name: Tadahide Izumi **Degree:** Ph.D.

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Work Address: **Assistant phone:** 504-568-4785
CSRB 549
533 Bolivar St
New Orleans, LA 70112

Brief Biosketch:
Education:
Bc/Ms/Ph.D Kyoto University, D.Sc., Japan
Experience:
Post Doctoral Research: Sealy Ctr Molecular Science, University of Texas Medical Branch, TX
Assistant Professor: Dept. Human Biol. Chem&Genetics, UTMB, TX
Current: Assistant Professor, Dept. Otorhinolaryngology, LSUHSC New Orleans, LA

Summary of ongoing work:
Keywords: oxidative stress, DNA damage/mutagenesis, DNA repair, molecular carcinogenesis

Oxidative DNA damage are continuously generated in the human body. The current research focus of Izumi lab is to understand the cellular regulation of DNA base excision repair (BER), the ubiquitous DNA repair pathway for repairing the oxidative lesions as well as those generated by chemotherapeutic reagents. Our recent finding that p53 is a regulator of AP endonuclease, the essential and rate-determinant repair enzyme in BER, has prompted us to determine how the pivotal tumor suppressor protein can control BER activity in the cells and ultimately affect chemo/radio-resistance of head and neck cancer.

Areas of Interest:

Diseases		**Disciplines**	
Lung / Head and Neck Cancer	____	Immunology	____
Breast / Cervical Cancer	____	Genetics	____
Leukemias / Lymphomas	____	Cancer Cell Biology (signaling)	___
G. I. Malignancies	____	Population Sciences	____
Prostate and GU Malignancies	____	Clinical Trials	____
Neuroendocrine / Others	____		

Name: Leigh Anne Burns **Degree:** Registered Dietitian

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Work Address:
9606 Airline Hwy
Sorrento, LA 70778

Assistant phone: 225 675-6896

Brief Biosketch:

Summary of ongoing work:
Coordinating cancer screening and prevention program which includes both clinical and educational services for the River Region between Baton Rouge and New Orleans along Hwy. 10 through a rural community based satellite clinic.
Coordinator of the LSUHSD Health care Effectiveness program Disease Management Statewide Cancer Screening Team.

Areas of Interest:

Diseases		**Disciplines**	
Lung / Head and Neck Cancer	____	Immunology	____
Breast / Cervical Cancer	_x___	Genetics	____
Leukemias / Lymphomas	____	Cancer Cell Biology (signaling)	___
G. I. Malignancies	____	Population Sciences	_x___
Prostate and GU Malignancies	__x__	Clinical Trials	_x___
Neuroendocrine / Others	___x_		

Name: Jong Kim **Degree:** Ph.D.

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New Orleans, LA 70112

Brief Biosketch:

PhD Physiology: East Tennessee State University – 1994
Postdoc/Instructor Gyn/OB: Emory University – 1999
Research Associate Reproduction: USDA, ARS, MARC - 2004
Assistant Professor Pathology/SSSCC: LSUHSC 2004 - present

Summary of ongoing work:

My laboratory is working on cholesterol metabolism and cancer. Our focus is on scavenger receptor class B, type I (SR-BI). SR-BI is a high density lipoprotein (HDL) receptor. We are interested in prostate, breast and colon cancer. Our hypothesis in breast and prostate cancers is that SR-BI is differentially expressed in the different stage of cancers and in the metastatic cancers, and cholesterol ester taken up by SR-BI stimulates cell proliferation. For colon cancer, we are working on DMH treated mouse colon cancer model and *Apc*^{Min} mutant mouse model. We are currently funded by a grant from LA board of regents.

I would like to establish a collaboration with a clinician-researcher interested in cholesterol metabolism and cancer who can help us with clinical samples, educate us how these cancers treated, and develop reagents for SR-BI pathway that can be used for future therapy.

I might need the following resources: human prostate, breast and colon cancer tissues and controls.

Areas of Interest:

Diseases		**Disciplines**	
Lung / Head and Neck Cancer	____	Immunology	____
Breast / Cervical Cancer	_x_	Genetics	_x_
Leukemias / Lymphomas	____	Cancer Cell Biology (signaling)	_x_
G. I. Malignancies	____	Population Sciences	____
Prostate and GU Malignancies	_x_	Clinical Trials	____
Neuroendocrine / Others	_x_ colon cancer		

Name: Shahriar Koochekpour **Degree:** MD, PhD

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Work Address: LSUHSC, 533 Bolivar Street
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Brief Biosketch (do not include publications):

MD: Shiraz University of Medical Sciences – 1990
PhD Molecular oncology: King's College London – 1996
Postdoctoral training: National Cancer Institute – Fredrick, Maryland - 2000
Assistant Professor of Microbiology, immunology, Biochemistry and Molecular biology – LSUHSC 2001 - present

Summary of ongoing work:

My laboratory has discovered a novel role for a previously known neurotrophic molecule, prosaposin (PSAP) in prostate cancer biology. For the first time, we identified that PSAP has a significant role in human prostate cancer invasion and metastasis. We are conducting a variety of cell molecular biology methods to understand the underlying mechanism for PSAP in the characteristic invasiveness of prostate cancer. Our study involves in vitro and in vivo tumorigenesis assays and employ *PSAP* gene-specific targeting in androgen-independent and metastatic prostate cancers. I am also participating in pre-clinical studies and collaborative projects trying to understand the potential of PSAP as a molecular target for therapeutic interventions. In addition, due the higher incidence/mortality rate and potentisally a more aggressive behavior of prostate cancer in African-Americans, we are conducting in vitro and translational studies to evaluate the potential of PSAP in prostate cancer progression in this high risk population. Currently my lab effort is supported by NIH-grant and LCRC fund. I am interested in establishing collaborations with investigators in basic or clinical science to search and study the potential inhibitor(s) of PSAP in advanced prostate cancers. My lab is completely devoted in prostate cancer research.

Areas of Interest:

Diseases		**Disciplines**	
Lung / Head and Neck Cancer	___	Immunology	____
Breast / Cervical Cancer	____	Genetics	____
Leukemias / Lymphomas	____	Cancer Cell Biology (signaling)	_X_
G. I. Malignancies	____	Population Sciences	____
Prostate Cancer	_X_	Clinical Trials	____
Neuroendocrine / Others	____		

Name: Gus Kousoulas **Degree:** PhD

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LSU, Baton Rouge
Baton Rouge, LA 70803

Assistant phone: Marc Boudreaux
225-578-9683

Brief Biosketch:

Dr. Gus Kousoulas received his BS in Physics from Fairleigh Dickinson University in Teaneck, NJ, and his MS and PhD degrees from Pennsylvania State University in Biophysics and Molecular Cell Biology, respectively. He received postdoctoral training at the University of Chicago and at the University of California at San Francisco. He is currently the Mary Louise Martin Professor of Virology and Biotechnology at the LSU School of Veterinary Medicine. Dr. Kousoulas has been independently funded by NIH with R01 grants since 1990. He is the Principal Investigator of the LSU-Tulane Center for Experimental Infectious Diseases, which is funded by the NCRR:COBRE mechanism and a mentor of a junior investigator in the LSU Health Sciences Center School of Dentistry COBRE (PI: Paul Fidel). Dr. Kousoulas is a member of the Steering Committee of the LSU Baton Rouge-led NCRR: INBRE program grant and leads the molecular and cellular biology core of the INBRE.

Summary of ongoing work:

Dr. Kousoulas's research interests are focused on the molecular biology of human herpes viruses, herpes simplex virus type-1 (HSV-1) that causes facial and genital infections and Kaposi's Sarcoma Associated Herpesvirus (KSHV) that causes Kaposi's cancers in humans. Dr. Kousoulas has also worked extensively on the use of viral vectors for vaccine development and cancer treatment. Recently, he constructed a herpes simplex virus that can selectively replicate in human breast cancer cells providing a unique way to treat human breast cancer as well as other cancers. This herpes vector is being armed with additional modalities that could induce the immune system to develop anti-cancer immune responses that can kill metastatic cancers.

Areas of Interest:

Diseases		**Disciplines**	
Lung / Head and Neck Cancer	____	Immunology	__X__
Breast / Cervical Cancer	_X_	Genetics	____
Leukemias / Lymphomas	____	Cancer Cell Biology (signaling)	_X_
G. I. Malignancies	__X_	Population Sciences	____
Prostate and GU Malignancies	____	Clinical Trials	__X__
Neuroendocrine / Others	____		

Name: Michael S. Lan **Degree:** Ph.D.

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Work Address: 200 Henry Clay Avenue, Children's Hospital,
New Orleans, LA 70118

Brief Biosketch:

Ph.D. Duke University, Department of Microbiology and Immunology-1986
Postdoc. Duke University, Department of Microbiology and Immunology-1987-1990
Senior Staff Fellow, NIDR/NIH-1990-1997
Staff Scientist (GS-14-2), NIDR/NIH-1997
Associate Professor (tenured 2000), Departments of Pediatrics/Genetics, LSUHSC -1997-2007
Professor, Departments of Pediatrics/Genetics, LSUHSC-2007-present

Summary of ongoing work:

My laboratory has discovered a unique neuroendocrine-specific transcription factor, INSM1. INSM1 is developmentally regulated and is expressed specifically in tumors of neuroendocrine origin. Currently, we are studying the molecular mechanisms of how the INSM1 is involved in neuroendocrine differentiation, which is funded by NIH.

In collaboration with Dr. Mary Breslin, we also develop a joint project to study the efficacy of using INSM1 promoter driven HSV-tk in neuroendocrine tumors including medulloblastoma, neuroblastoma, retinoblastoma, thyroid medullary carcinoma, insulinoma, pheochromacytoma, and small cell lung cancer. This project is funded by Diana Helis Henry Medical Research Foundation.

We might need the following resources: Neuroendocrine tumors.

Areas of Interest:

Diseases		**Disciplines**	
Lung / Head and Neck Cancer	____	Immunology	____
Breast / Cervical Cancer	____	Genetics	____
Leukemias / Lymphomas	____	Cancer Cell Biology (signaling)	2
G. I. Malignancies	____	Population Sciences	____
Prostate and GU Malignancies	____	Clinical Trials	____
Neuroendocrine / Others	1		

Name: Li Li **Degree:** MD PhD

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1N508 New Research Building
1516 Jefferson Highway
New Orleans, LA 70121

Brief Biosketch:

M.D. Pediatrics Shanghai Second Medical University, China 1982
Master's Degree Immunology Shanghai Second Medical University, China 1987
Ph.D. Molecular Immunology Lübeck Medical University, Germany 1990

Summary of ongoing work:

My study interests have included identification of human FDC-signaling molecules that stimulate germinal center B cell and B cell lymphoma cell growth; discovery and characterizing a key FDC-signaling molecule causing cancer and its blocking monoclonal antibody CD320; identification of cancer stem cells of B cell lymphoma, their specific biomarkers, and elucidating the lymphoma-fostering microenvironment support for cancer stem cell and their differentiated daughter cells.

Areas of Interest:

Diseases		**Disciplines**	
Lung / Head and Neck Cancer	____	Immunology	____
Breast / Cervical Cancer	____	Genetics	____
Leukemias / Lymphomas	__1_	Cancer Cell Biology (signaling)	_2_
G. I. Malignancies	____	Population Sciences	____
Prostate and GU Malignancies	____	Clinical Trials	____
Neuroendocrine / Others	____		

Name: Shulin Li **Degree:** PhD

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Work Address: **Dept of CBS,** School of Vet Medicine
Baton Rouge, LA 70803

Brief Biosketch:

Postdoc, Mol Immunology, 1997
PhD Cell Wall Biology: WSU – 1993
Senior Scientist: Gene Medicine-1998
Assistant Professor: UAMS/HFHS- 2002
Professor/Associate Professor: SVM, LSU 2003-present

Summary of ongoing work:

My laboratory contains 3 directions: 1) novel gene/drug delivery using electroporation-based approach; 2) cytokine gene therapy/vaccination and the underlying mechanism; and 3) tumor-targeted therapy. We are currently holding 3 grants from NIH.

I would like to establish a collaboration with an IND expert and a clinician (head and neck cancer) to write a clinical trial protocol to move our novel electroporation chemo/immune therapy into clinical trial; I would like to collaborate with breast cancer clinician or leukemia expert to move our immune stimulatory antibody product into clinical trial; and I would also like to collaborate with a basic science researcher interested in immune cell and cancer cell signaling who can help us understand the mechanisms by which immune stimulatory antibody therapy is more effective than the simple combination. My primary interest will be head&neck cancer, breast cancer and lung cancer but the antibody therapy could be used for treating blood malignancy.

I need the following resources: 1) IND filing expert who has experience to work with FDA and write the IND protocol by working with clinician. 2) QC lab or GMP facility for producing CpG Oligo DNA.

Areas of Interest:

Diseases		**Disciplines**	
Lung / Head and Neck Cancer	1	Immunology	2
Breast / Cervical Cancer		Genetics	
Leukemias / Lymphomas		Cancer Cell Biology (signaling)	
G. I. Malignancies		Population Sciences	
Prostate and GU Malignancies		Clinical Trials	
Neuroendocrine / Others			

Name: Tara L. Lin **Degree:** MD

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Brief Biosketch :

MD – Medical College of Virginia 2000
Internal Medicine Internship and Residency – University of Maryland 2000-2003
Medical Oncology Fellowship – Johns Hopkins University 2003-2006
Postdoctoral Fellowship – UCLA, 2006-2008
Assistant Professor, LSUHSC – July 2008-present

Summary of ongoing work:

My fellowship research focused on the role of maintenance chemotherapy and terminal differentiation in adult acute lymphocytic leukemia (ALL) and leukemia stem cells. My work at UCLA focused on the role of the Hedgehog signaling pathway in ALL stem cells and developing in vitro and in vivo systems to evaluate novel therapies in ALL. At LSUHSC, I plan to expand my ALL work by using models of good and poor prognosis ALL to evaluate the differences in cancer stem cell biology between adult and pediatric ALL. Additionally, I plan to look at the effects of traditional induction and maintenance chemotherapy used in ALL on the ALL stem cell with a goal of developing novel post-remission therapies to be brought to clinical trials. A new area of research for me is the interaction of developmental signaling pathways in hematologic malignancies.

Areas of Interest:

Diseases		**Disciplines**	
Lung / Head and Neck Cancer	____	Immunology	____
Breast / Cervical Cancer	____	Genetics	____
Leukemias / Lymphomas	__X_	Cancer Cell Biology (signaling)	_X_
G. I. Malignancies	____	Population Sciences	____
Prostate and GU Malignancies	____	Clinical Trials	____
Neuroendocrine / Others	____		

Name: Wanguo Liu **Degree:** PhD

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Work Address: CSRB Rm. 416,
LSUHSC, 533 Bolivar Street
New Orleans, LA 70112

Brief Biosketch:

PhD: Molecular Biology and Human Genetics, Wayne State Uni. School of Medicine – 1993
Postdoctor: Molecular Human Genetics, HHMI, Stanford University Medical Center - 1996
Senior Associate Consultant: Laboratory Medicine & Pathology, Mayo Clinic – 2007
Associate Professor: Genetics & Stanley S. Scott Cancer Center, LSUHSC – present

Summary of ongoing work:

My lab cloned the Axin2 gene, the key Wnt signaling pathway component, and found ~25% of colorectal cancer with microsatellite instability carrying Axin2 mutations. We now try to understand why mutation in this gene promotes tumorigenesis in colon for future developing therapeutical reagent.

In addition, my lab identified prostate cancer specific mutations in many genes involved in DNA damage-response signaling pathway. Right now, we are testing the hypothesis that low frequency of mutations in many genes in the DNA damage-response pathway contribute to prostate state cancer susceptibility for potential development of genetic diagnostic tools. This project is funded by NIH.

I would like to establish collaboration with clinicians interested in genetics and tumor biology of colorectal cancer or prostate cancer who can help us collect patient specimen and share with us for publications and grant awards.

Areas of Interest:

Diseases		**Disciplines**	
Lung / Head and Neck Cancer	____	Immunology	____
Breast / Cervical Cancer	____	Genetics	1
Leukemias / Lymphomas	____	Cancer Cell Biology (signaling)	___
G. I. Malignancies	1	Population Sciences	____
Prostate and GU Malignancies	1	Clinical Trials	____
Neuroendocrine / Others	____		

Name: Ronald Luftig **Degree:** PhD

E-mail: rlufti@lsuhsc.edu **Phone Number:** 568-4063

Work Address: LSUHSC, 1901 Perdido Street
New Orleans, LA 70112

Assistant phone: 568-4062

Brief Biosketch:

MS(Mathematics): New York University –1962
PhD(Biophysics): University of Chicago- -1967
Postdoctoral Fellow: Cal Tech—1969
Professor and Head, Microbiology, Immunology & Parasitology—
LSUHSC—1983-present

Summary of ongoing work:

My laboratory was the first to discover mammalian retroviral proteases, in Murine leukemia viruses; these were aspartyl proteases and led us to discover that pepstatin and other dihydroxystere analogs could inhibit the HIV protease in the uM range. Our findings stimulated Protease Inhibitor(PI) development by Pharmaceutical companies, that functioned in the nM range and have been the mainstay of HAART therapy. Currently, we are working on development of novel dual site PIs that act synergistically in the pM range. Such drugs could lead to a lower incidence of PI resistance and decrease in side effects, such as lipodystophy and metabolic disorder. HIV/AIDS is associated with several malignancies, such as KS, B-cell and non-Hodgkin's lymphoma. My group has received state funding for this project(in collaboration with TMC) and plans to submit a LA BoR ITRS this fall.

In 2000, I received a patent entitled NON-INFECTIOUS PROTEASE DEFECTIVE HIV PARTICLES AND NUCLEIC ACID MOLECULES ENCODING THEREOF, which describes a novel HIV Vaccine candidate(L-2) with 10-fold more gp120 than HIV. L-2 elicits high levels of neutralizing antibodies in mice and has the potential to act as a systemic and mucosal antigen against HIV. We have received LVC/SLIIDR funding for this project and plan to submit an NIH Grant in the next few months.

Areas of Interest:

Diseases		**Disciplines**	
Lung / Head and Neck Cancer	____	Immunology	2
Breast / Cervical Cancer	____	Genetics	_____
Leukemias / Lymphomas	1	Cancer Cell Biology (signaling)	____
G. I. Malignancies	____	Population Sciences	___
Prostate and GU Malignancies	____	Clinical Trials	_____
Neuroendocrine / Others	____		

Name: Diptasri Mandal **Degree:** PhD

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Work Address: LSUHSC-New Orleans

Brief Biosketch:

PhD Human Genetics: LSUHSC – 1996
Instructor: Department of Medicine, Section of Genetics and Geriatrics, LSUHSC 1997-2000
Instructor, Department of Genetics, LSUHSC 2000-2001
Assistant Professor, Department of Genetics, LSUHSC 2001-2008
Associate Professor, Department of Genetics, LSUHSC 2008-present

Summary of ongoing work:

I am interested in studying prostate cancer and lung cancer in high-risk cancer families (i.e. in families with three more affected cases). My goal is to identify any region harboring susceptibility genes for prostate cancer and lung cancer in the population from Southern Louisiana and the neighboring states. We are currently funded by grants/contracts from Louisiana Board of Regents and National Institutes of Health.

I would like to establish collaboration with the physicians interested in helping us with the recruitment of high-risk families.

Areas of Interest:

Diseases		**Disciplines**	
Lung / Head and Neck Cancer	x	Immunology	
Breast / Cervical Cancer		Genetics	x
Leukemias / Lymphomas		Cancer Cell Biology (signaling)	
G. I. Malignancies		Population Sciences	x
Prostate and GU Malignancies	x	Clinical Trials	
Neuroendocrine / Others			

Name: David Margolin **Degree:** M.D

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Work Address:
Dept CRS . The Ochsner Clinic Foundation **Assistant phone:**504.842.4060
1514 Jefferson Hwy . New Orleans 70121

Brief Biosketch:
MD: Medical Collage of Ohio 1989
Surgical Residency: Case Western Reserve University 1996
Colon and Rectal Surgical fellowship: The Ochsner Clinic Foundation1997
Senior Staff Surgeon Henry Ford Hospital Division of Colon and Rectal Surgery (July 1997-Dec.2002)
Staff Surgeon Director of Colorectal Research Ochsner Clinic Foundation Department of Colon and Rectal Surgery (Jan 2003-present)

Summary of ongoing work: Colon cancer recurrence rates and outcome predictors in stage I rectal cancer. Anal canal cancer rates in the immunosupressed pts.

Areas of Interest:

Diseases		**Disciplines**	
Lung / Head and Neck Cancer	____	Immunology	____
Breast / Cervical Cancer	____	Genetics	____
Leukemias / Lymphomas	____	Cancer Cell Biology (signaling)	___
G. I. Malignancies	X____	Population Sciences	____
Prostate and GU Malignancies	____	Clinical Trials	X___
Neuroendocrine / Others	____		

Name: Alberto J. Martinez

Degree: M.D., M.H.A

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New Orleans, LA 70121

Assistant phone: 504-842-3934

Brief Biosketch:
MD: Universidad de Guadalajara, Mexico - 1976
MHA: Tulane University - 1996

Summary of ongoing work:

Director, Basic Science Research Administration

Areas of Interest:

Diseases		**Disciplines**	
Lung / Head and Neck Cancer	____	Immunology	____
Breast / Cervical Cancer	____	Genetics	____
Leukemias / Lymphomas	____	Cancer Cell Biology (signaling)	___
G. I. Malignancies	____	Population Sciences	____
Prostate and GU Malignancies	____	Clinical Trials	____
Neuroendocrine / Others	____		

Name: Donald Mercante **Degree:** PhD - Statistics

E-mail: dmerca@lsuhsc.edu **Phone Number:**

Work Address: 1615 Poydras, Suite 1400 **Assistant phone:** 568-5700

Brief Biosketch:

PhD – Statistics, Virginia Polytechnic Institute (Virginia Tech) 1990
Master of Applied Statistics, LSU-BR 1983

Summary of ongoing work:

I am very interested in developing collaborations with both clinical and basic science researchers. As director of biostatistics, I am also keenly interested in identifying collaborative opportunities for our faculty who have a wide array of expertise. The Biostatistics Program currently has 9 PhD and 1 masters level (bio)statisticians. Although our primary appointments are in the School of Public Health, we are available for collaborations throughout the health sciences center and its partners.

Areas of Interest:

Diseases		**Disciplines**	
Lung / Head and Neck Cancer	____	Immunology	____
Breast / Cervical Cancer	____	Genetics	____
Leukemias / Lymphomas	____	Cancer Cell Biology (signaling)	___
G. I. Malignancies	____	Population Sciences	___
Prostate and GU Malignancies	_x__	Clinical Trials	_x__
Neuroendocrine / Others	____		

Name: Jaime Morales

Degree: MD

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Brief Biosketch:
M.D. : Autonomous University of Guadalajara, 1999
Residency in Pediatrics: Miami Children's Hospital, Miami, FL, 2003
Fellowship in Pediatric Hematology/Oncology: The University of Texas M. D Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, Texas, 2006

Summary of ongoing work:

Currently in clinical practice at Children's Hospital New Orleans. Research work has focused on sarcoma, particularly Ewing's sarcoma and Osteosarcoma. I investigated the effects of Granulocyte Colony-Stimulating Factor (G-CSF) administration in Ewing's sarcoma tumor models both in vitro and in vivo and its relation to tumor growth, as well as its interaction with angiogenesis and vasculogenesis.

Areas of Interest:

Diseases		**Disciplines**	
Lung / Head and Neck Cancer	____	Immunology	____
Breast / Cervical Cancer	____	Genetics	____
Leukemias / Lymphomas	____	Cancer Cell Biology (signaling)	___
G. I. Malignancies	____	Population Sciences	____
Prostate and GU Malignancies	____	Clinical Trials	____
Neuroendocrine / Others	****Sarcomas/Pediatric Cancers ****		

Name: Doan Nguyen **Degree:** PhD

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Work Address: LSUHSC, 533 Bolivar Street
New Orleans, LA 70112

Brief Biosketch:

PhD Cell Biology and Anatomy: LSUHSC – 1987
Instructor, Ophthalmology – LSUHSC 2002- 07
Instructor, Genetics and Gene Therapy– LSUHSC 2007- Present

Summary of ongoing work:

Areas of Interest:

Diseases		**Disciplines**	
Lung / Head and Neck Cancer	___	Immunology	____
Breast / Cervical Cancer	____	Genetics	____
Leukemias / Lymphomas	____	Cancer Cell Biology (signaling)	__
G. I. Malignancies	____	Population Sciences	____
Prostate and GU Malignancies	____	Clinical Trials	____
Neuroendocrine / Others	____		

Name: Dan Nuss **Degree:** M.D.

E-mail: dnuss@lsuhsc.edu **Phone Number:** 568-4785

Work Address: 533 Bolivar, 5th Floor, ENT **Assistant phone: Deanna,** 568-4785

Brief Biosketch:

Fellowships :
M.D. Anderson (head and neck surgical oncology)
University of Pittsburgh (surgery of skull base tumors)

Current Positions:
Department Head, LSU Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery
President, North American Skull Base Society
(international multi-disciplinary group of ENTs, Neurosurgeons,
Reconstructive Surgeons, Radiation Oncologists,
Medical Oncologists, Ophthalmologists, and others who treat patients with tumors affecting the craniofacial/craniocervical region)

Summary of ongoing work:
Clinical management of head and neck cancers and benign tumors
Tumor banking of head and neck cancers
Cytotoxic intraoperative therapies to diminish local recurrences

Areas of Interest:

Diseases		**Disciplines**	
Lung / Head and Neck Cancer	x	Immunology	
Breast / Cervical Cancer		Genetics	
Leukemias / Lymphomas		Cancer Cell Biology (signaling)	
G. I. Malignancies		Population Sciences	
Prostate and GU Malignancies		Clinical Trials	x
Neuroendocrine / Others			

Name: Augusto C. Ochoa **Degree:** MD

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Work Address: 533 Bolivar Street, New Orleans 70112 **Assistant phone:** 504-568-2727

Brief Biosketch:
1982 – Medicine - Universidad de Antioquia, Colombia, South America
1982-1986 – Immunology Research Fellow – University of Minnesota
1986-1989 – Assistant professor immunology – University of Minnesota
1989 – 1997 – Director, Immunotherapy Laboratory – National Cancer Institute – Frederick, MD
1997 – Present – Director, Tumor Immunology – LSUHSC
1998 – 2001 – Residency Pediatrics
2001 – 2003 – Allergy/Immunology Fellowship
2006 – Present – Director, Stanley S. Scott Cancer Center - LSUHSC

Summary of ongoing work:
Areas of research:

1. Anergy / Tolerance in disease: My group studies the mechanisms by which tumors inhibit a therapeutic anti-tumor response by T cells. This state of anergy/tolerance created by chronic diseases such as cancer blocks the potential therapeutic efficacy of promising treatments such as cancer vaccines, cytokines or gene therapy. Overcoming these suppressor mechanisms could allow for a more effective development of cancer immunotherapy. This state of anergy is also present in many chronic diseases including infections such as tuberculosis, infections by H. pylori, autoimmunity and others.

2. Chronic inflammation and cancer: Chronic inflammation precedes the malignant transformation of cells and sustains the continued growth of tumors. Therefore understanding the mechanisms (genetic and immunologic) that sustain it and how to overcome it will be essential in improving our cancer preventions strategies.

3. Drug Development: In collaboration with pharmaceutical industry we are working on developing an arginase inhibitor that will prevent the induction of anergy/tolerance and will inhibit chronic inflammation.

4. Clinical Trials: I am currently the associate director for LSU's Minority Based Community Clinical Oncology Program (MB-CCOP).

Areas of Interest:

Diseases		**Disciplines**	
Lung / Head and Neck Cancer	X	Immunology	X
Breast / Cervical Cancer		Genetics	
Leukemias / Lymphomas		Cancer Cell Biology (signaling)	
G. I. Malignancies		Population Sciences	
Prostate and GU Malignancies		Clinical Trials	
Neuroendocrine / Others			

Name: Allal Ouhtit **Degree:** MPh, PhD

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Work Address: LSUHSC, 533 Bolivar Street
New Orleans, LA 70112

Brief Biosketch:

MPh: University Claude Bernard, Lyon, France – 1991
PhD Biochemistry: University Claude Bernard – 1994
Assistant Professor Oncology: Queens University of Belfast, 2001-2005
Assistant Professor Pathology/Genetics– LSUHSC 2005 - present

Summary of ongoing work:

My laboratory has discovered TIMPv, a new CD146-target gene which inhibits breast cancer growth and progression. We are currently elucidating the signaling mechanism that underpins CD146-Inhibited breast cancer progression. We are funded by the Louisiana Cancer Research Consortium.

I would like to establish collaboration with a basic/clinical science researchers interested in the validation of this target in a clinical set up, and further design a drug that will specifically target TIMPv for the inhibition of breast cancer.

Areas of Interest:

Diseases		**Disciplines**	
Lung / Head and Neck Cancer	___	Immunology	____
Breast / Cervical Cancer	__1_	Genetics	____
Leukemias / Lymphomas	____	Cancer Cell Biology (signaling)	_2_
G. I. Malignancies	____	Population Sciences	____
Prostate and GU Malignancies	___	Clinical Trials	____
Neuroendocrine / Others	____		

Name: Edward Peters **Degree:** DMD, SM, ScD

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Work Address: **Assistant phone:**

Brief Biosketch:

1990	D.M.D.	University of Connecticut	Dentistry
1993	S.M.	Harvard University	Health Policy & Management
1999	Sc.D.	Harvard University	Epidemiology
1991	Residency	General Dentistry	Brigham and Women's Hospital
1993	Fellow	Oral Medicine/Oral Oncology	Brigham and Women's Hospital
		Dana-Farber Cancer Institute	

Summary of ongoing work:

I have a broad interest in cancer epidemiology & etiology. I have developed studies that investigate the gene-environment interactions and head and neck cancers. This work examined the role of diet, HPV and genetic susceptibility in the development of head and neck cancers. Developing the infrastructure to establish a similar study in LA is a high priority and interested collaborators are sought. I am currently working on a geospatial analysis of breast cancer to investigate whether driving distance and access to screening facilities leads to clusters of late stage breast cancer. In addition, is this association modified by area-based measures of SES. As a member of the Louisiana Tumor Registry, clinical investigators are sought for descriptive studies of a variety of cancer sites. Lastly, I am developing a pilot study for a population based genome-wide association study with collaborators at USC & DFCI.

Areas of Interest:

Diseases		**Disciplines**	
Lung / Head and Neck Cancer	X	Immunology	
Breast / Cervical Cancer	X	Genetics	
Leukemias / Lymphomas	X	Cancer Cell Biology (signaling)	
G. I. Malignancies		Population Sciences	X
Prostate and GU Malignancies		Clinical Trials	
Neuroendocrine / Others			

Name: Joseph Phillips **Degree:** D.O.

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Work Address: 1514 Jefferson Highway New Orleans, LA 70121

Assistant phone: Stacie Clay 842-3261

Brief Biosketch:

Winthrop University Hospital Mineola, N.Y.
Oncology/Hematology fellowship 2004 - 2007

Winthrop University Hospital
Internal Medicine resident, 2001-2004

Long Beach Medical Center
Long Beach, N.Y.
Traditional rotating internship, 2000-2001

Summary of ongoing work:

Aids Malignancy Consortium

Areas of Interest:

Diseases		**Disciplines**	
Lung / Head and Neck Cancer	____	Immunology	____
Breast / Cervical Cancer	____	Genetics	____
Leukemias / Lymphomas	__X_	Cancer Cell Biology (signaling)	___
G. I. Malignancies	____	Population Sciences	____
Prostate and GU Malignancies	____	Clinical Trials	__X__
Neuroendocrine / Others	____		

Name: Janice Piazza

Degree: RN, MSN MBA

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Phone Number: 842-2717

Work Address: 1514 Jefferson Highway
Brent House 421
New Orleans, LA 70121

Assistant phone: 842-6117

Brief Biosketch:

Janice is Not a Researcher, however she's the
Vice President of Academics for Ochsner Clinic Foundation and would like to attend

Summary of ongoing work:

Areas of Interest:

Diseases		**Disciplines**	
Lung / Head and Neck Cancer	____	Immunology	____
Breast / Cervical Cancer	____	Genetics	____
Leukemias / Lymphomas	____	Cancer Cell Biology (signaling)	___
G. I. Malignancies	____	Population Sciences	____
Prostate and GU Malignancies	____	Clinical Trials	____
Neuroendocrine / Others	____		

Name: William W. Pinsky **Degree:** MD

Executive Vice President for System Medical Affairs
Chief Academic Officer
Ochsner Health System

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New Orleans, LA
70121

Assistant phone: 504-842-6120

Brief Biosketch

Summary of ongoing work:

Areas of Interest:

Diseases		**Disciplines**	
Lung / Head and Neck Cancer	____	Immunology	____
Breast / Cervical Cancer	____	Genetics	____
Leukemias / Lymphomas	____	Cancer Cell Biology (signaling)	___
G. I. Malignancies	____	Population Sciences	____
Prostate and GU Malignancies	____	Clinical Trials	____
Neuroendocrine / Others	____		

Name: Om Prakash **Degree:** Ph.D.

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Ochsner Clinic Foundation, 1514 Jefferson highway
New Orleans, LA 70121

Brief Biosketch:

Ph.D.: Chemistry (Biochemistry): University of Poona, Poona, India - 1972
Post doctoral fellowship: College of Physicians & Surgeons of Columbia University, New York, NY – 1973
Staff Research Associate: Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, New York, NY – 1979
Director, Molecular Oncology, Ochsner Clinic Foundation, New Orleans, LA – 1986 - Present
Professor (Adjunct), Dept. of Microbiology, LSUHSC, New Orleans, LA – 1991 - Present

Summary of ongoing work:

Our interest over the last a few years has been to understand the molecular mechanisms by which infection with human herpesvirus 8 (HHV-8) leads to the development of malignancies. We previously reported that transgenic mice expressing one of the HHV-8-encoded proteins K1 develop plasmablastic lymphomas (Prakash et. al., 2002). These lymphomas show enhanced Lyn kinase activity, suggesting its crucial role in K1-associated malignancies (Prakash et. al., 2005). In addition to lymphomas, our transgenic mice also develop a variety of solid tumors. Thus, our present goal is to investigate the role of Lyn kinase in the development of these tumors. Our K1 transgenic mice provide an attractive in vivo model to target a wide range of malignancies with one single therapeutic agent.

B-cell chronic lymphocytic leukemia is the most prevalent form of adult leukemia in the United States. While advances have been made in the clinical treatment of B-CLL, it still remains an incurable disease. Our preliminary studies indicate that Lyn kinase is a negative regulator of apoptosis and is linked to chemo-resistance in B-CLL cells. Our immediate interest is to investigate clinical potential of therapeutic agents targeted to Lyn kinase in the treatment of B-CLL.

Areas of Interest:

Diseases		**Disciplines**	
Lung / Head and Neck Cancer	____	Immunology	____
Breast / Cervical Cancer	____	Genetics	____
Leukemias / Lymphomas	__1__	Cancer Cell Biology (signaling)	_2_
G. I. Malignancies	____	Population Sciences	____
Prostate and GU Malignancies	____	Clinical Trials	____
Neuroendocrine / Others	____		

Name: Madhwa H.G. Raj **Degree:** M.Sc., Ph.D

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Work Address: Ob-Gyn, Rm734 CSRB, 533 Boliver St, NO LA **Assistant phone:** 568-4873 (secretary)

Brief Biosketch:
M.Sc.: University of Mysore, Mysore, India 1964 (Zoology, Embryology, Endocrinology)
Ph.D: Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore, India. 1969 (Biochemistry)
Post-Doctoral: Harvard Medical School (Reproductive Biology/Biochemistry)
Professor of Ob-Gyn/Biochemistry-Mol. Biology, LSUHSC-NO. 1984-present

Summary of ongoing work:
We have discovered that riboflavin carrier protein (RCP) is elevated in early breast cancer and can be used as a biomarker for early detection of this cancer. I am currently funded by NCI for investigating its utility as a marker for early ovarian cancer. I need clinical collaboration / serum samples from ovarian and breast cancer patients. Also I need nipple aspirate fluid from normal and breast cancer patients for biomarker studies.
Our investigations on dietary phyto-antioxidants have uncovered interesting synergistic actions in inhibiting ovarian adenocarcinoma. These are being extended and applied to other cancers. I would be interested in clinical collaboration to set up clinical trials of these phyto-antioxidants as adjunct therapy to traditional therapies of adenocarcinomas.

Areas of Interest:

Diseases		**Disciplines**	
Lung / Head and Neck Cancer	____	Immunology	__x__
Breast / Cervical Cancer	__X__	Genetics	____
Leukemias / Lymphomas	____	Cancer Cell Biology (signaling)	___
G. I. Malignancies	____	Population Sciences	____
Prostate and GU Malignancies	____	Clinical Trials	__x__
Neuroendocrine / Others (ovarian cancer)	__X__		

Name: Alistair Ramsay

Degree: PhD

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Work Address: LSUHSC, 533 Bolivar Street
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Assistant phone: 568-2215

Brief Biosketch:

PhD: University of Otago, New Zealand – 1986
Professor of Medicine – LSUHSC 2001-present
Director, LSUHSC Gene Therapy Program 2004-present
Director, Louisiana Vaccine Center 2007-present

Summary of ongoing work:

Work in my laboratory is focused on vaccine development and the host immune response. A key focus is the development and analysis of gene/vector-based immunization, particularly combination strategies that generate strong, high avidity T cell responses with the potential to enhance the efficacy of vaccination strategies against both infectious diseases and cancer.

We are funded by NIH specifically in the areas of cellular immunity and vaccine development against tuberculosis. We also have strong interests in using similar vaccine delivery strategies in developing therapeutic tumor vaccines and currently have projects ongoing in prostate cancer and chronic meylogenous leukemia (CML) where we have been successful in generating high quality, sustained T cell responses against key tumor antigens.

To develop the full potential of this work we will need to access the best available animal models for prostate cancer and CML and, ultimately, access to relevant patient populations in which to test any prospective human vaccine candidates.

Areas of Interest:

Diseases		**Disciplines**	
Lung / Head and Neck Cancer	____	Immunology	_2___
Breast / Cervical Cancer	____	Genetics	____
Leukemias / Lymphomas	_1__	Cancer Cell Biology (signaling)	___
G. I. Malignancies	____	Population Sciences	____
Prostate and GU Malignancies	_1_	Clinical Trials	____
Neuroendocrine / Others	____		

Name: Paulo Rodriguez **Degree:** PhD

E-mail:prodri1@lsuhsc.edu **Phone Number:** 599-0920

Work Address: LSUHSC, 533 Bolivar Street, New Orleans, LA 70112

Brief Biosketch:

Bachelor in Science –Universidad de Antioquia– 1995
Master in Immunology - Universidad de Antioquia– 1999
PhD Genetics: Louisiana State University-2008
Assistant Professor Research LSUHSC-2008

Summary of ongoing work:
Multiple mechanisms have been described to explain the T cell dysfunction found in patients with solid tumors. Among them is the presence of myeloid derived suppressor cells (MDSC) producing high levels of arginase I, which depletes amino acid L-Arginine (L-Arg) from the tumor microenvironment causing a complete arrest in T cell proliferation. Even though arginase enhances tumor growth in solid tumor models, it does not play a role promoting tumor proliferation in acute lymphocytic T cell leukemia (ALL). We therefore propose that arginase may be an important therapeutic agent in T cell proliferate disorders by inhibiting malignant T cell proliferation. In fact, depletion of L-Arg *in vitro* by arginase I significantly impairs malignant T cell proliferation and ultimately induces T cell apoptosis. We are currently exploring the molecular mechanisms by which L-Arg starvation blocks malignant T cell proliferation and testing the potential use of pegylated recombinant arginase I in ALL murine models.

I would like to establish a collaboration with a clinical researcher with the long term goal of initiate a clinical trail testing the role of arginase treatment in patients with ALL.

Areas of Interest:

Diseases		**Disciplines**	
Lung / Head and Neck Cancer	__	Immunology	_2__
Breast / Cervical Cancer	____	Genetics	____
Leukemias / Lymphomas	__1__	Cancer Cell Biology (signaling)	__
G. I. Malignancies	____	Population Sciences	____
Prostate and GU Malignancies	____	Clinical Trials	____
Neuroendocrine / Others	____		

Name: Daitoku Sakamuro **Degree:** Ph.D.

E-mail: dsakam@lsuhsc.edu **Phone Number:** 504-568-8256

Work Address: LSUHSC, CSRB 748/742
533 Bolivar Street, New Orleans LA 70112

Brief Biosketch:

Ph.D. Biochemistry & Genetics, Osaka University, Japan – 1991
Instructor, Medical Virology, Kanazawa Medical University, Japan – 1991 - 1994
Postdoc, Molecular Genetics, Wistar Institute, Philadelphia – 1994 – 1997
Staff Scientist, Tumor Biology, Wistar Institute, Philadelphia – 1997 – 1999
Assistant Professor, Cancer Biology, Purdue University – 1999 – 2005
Assistant Professor, Cancer Biology, LSUHSC-N.O. – 2005 - present

Summary of ongoing work:

My laboratory has discovered Bin1, a new tumor suppressor that interacts with and inhibits c-Myc. We are participating in several basic cell-based assays testing the role of this new tumor suppressor in association with anti-neoplastic DNA-damaging chemotherapeutic agents in prostate, ovarian, and lung cancers. We are currently funded by a grant from LCRC.

I would like to establish collaboration with a clinical science researcher interested in cancer cell signaling who can help us understand the mechanisms of action of the combination of our tumor suppressor, Bin1, and chemotherapeutic agents and also help us identify new targets for pharmaceutical development. My primary work has been in prostate cancer, but we would like to explore more work in ovarian cancer.

I might need the following resources:

- primary ovarian cancer samples pre-treatment with platinum agents, such as cisplatin
- recurrent ovarian cancer samples after platinum treatments

Areas of Interest:

Diseases		**Disciplines**	
Lung / Head and Neck Cancer	____	Immunology	____
Breast / Cervical Cancer	____	Genetics	____
Leukemias / Lymphomas	____	Cancer Cell Biology (signaling)	_X_
G. I. Malignancies	____	Population Sciences	____
Prostate and GU Malignancies	____	Clinical Trials	____
Neuroendocrine / Others	____		
Ovarian cancer	X____		

Name: Richard A Scribner **Degree:** MD, MPH

E-mail: rscrib@lsuhsc.edu **Phone Number:** 504-568-5937

Work Address: 1615 Poydras St. Room 1537; New Orleans LA 70112

Brief Biosketch:

Education

BA – California State University, Northridge, CA 1979
MD/Preventive Medicine – University of Southern California, School of Medicine, 1984
MPH/Public Health – University of California, Los Angeles, School of Public Health 1987
Internship/Internal Medicine – LAC/USE Medical Center 1984-1985
Residency/Preventive Medicine – University of California, Los Angeles, 1985-1987
Fellowship/ Preventive Medicine – University of Southern California, School of Medicine 1987-1989

Positions and Employment

6/86 – 7/88 - Los Angeles County, Communicable Disease Program Office Physician Specialist
7/88 – 7/91- University of Southern California School of Medicine Institute for Health Promotion & Disease Prevention Research - Postdoctoral Fellow
7/91 – 11/94 - University of Southern California School of Medicine - Assistant Professor of Research
11/94 - 7/98- Louisiana State University School of Medicine, Department of Public Health and Preventive Medicine LSUHSC - Assistant Professor of Medicine
6/96 – present -HIV AIDS Program Office -Evaluation Consultant
7/98 – present -LSUHSC School of Public Health - Associate Professor
4/02 – present School of Public Health LSUHSC - D'Angelo Professor of Alcohol Research

Summary of ongoing work:

Principal Investigator: NIAAA R01 AA015855 -Changes in Alcohol Availability and HIV Rates
NIAAA 1 RO1 AA013810 -Neighborhood Environment and Alcohol Health Disparities
NIAAA RO1 AA015573 - Ecological Modeling of College Drinking
NIAAA R01 AA014679 - College Alcohol Environment and College Drinking
Co-Investigator: NIAAA RO1 AA013749-01A1 (Cohen P.I.) GIS, Alcohol Marketing and Alcohol

Permanent member of the NIH Grant Review committee - review new research grant proposals in the area of Community Influences on Health Behavior.

I have nearly 20 years of experience in the study of contextual effects and methods and a research interest in the content areas of health disparities and health behavior.

Areas of Interest:

Diseases		**Disciplines**	
Lung / Head and Neck Cancer	____	Immunology	____
Breast / Cervical Cancer	__X__	Genetics	____
Leukemias / Lymphomas	____	Cancer Cell Biology (signaling)	___
G. I. Malignancies	____	Population Sciences	X___
Prostate and GU Malignancies	____	Clinical Trials	____
Neuroendocrine / Others	____		

Name: Troy Scroggins **Degree:** MD

E-mail: tscroggins@ochsner.org **Phone Number:** 842-3440

Work Address: Ochsner Clinic Foundation
1514 Jefferson Highway 70121

Assistant Phone:

Brief Biosketch:

MD – Washington University, 1986
Residency/fellowship – University of Maryland, 1991
Chairman, Radiation Oncology, Ochsner Health Systems - present

Summary of ongoing work:

Areas of Interest:

Diseases		**Disciplines**	
Lung / Head and Neck Cancer	____	Immunology	____
Breast / Cervical Cancer	_x___	Genetics	____
Leukemias / Lymphomas	____	Cancer Cell Biology (signaling)	___
G. I. Malignancies	____	Population Sciences	____
Prostate and GU Malignancies	_x___	Clinical Trials	____
Neuroendocrine / Others	____		

Name: Neal Simonsen **Degree:** PhD

E-mail: nsimon@lsuhsc.edu **Phone Number:** 568-5933

Work Address: LSUHSC School of Public Health
Suite 1500
1615 Poydras St. **Assistant phone:** NA

Brief Biosketch:
Ph.D. in Epidemiology from the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill --1994.
Postdoctoral Research Associate, UNC-Chapel Hill Department of Epidemiology--1995
Assistant Professor, LSU Health Sciences Center School of Public Health and Stanley S.
Research Assistant Professor, UNC-Chapel Hill Department of Epidemiology--1998
Assistant Professor, LSU Health Sciences Center School of Public Health and Stanley S. Scott Cancer Center (joint appointment)--2001

Summary of ongoing work:

Co-Investigator in joint Louisiana-North Carolina Prostate Cancer research consortium to study determinants of prostate cancer severity. The project involves collection and analysis of tissue and interview data from 2,000 prostate cancer patients to yield genetic material as well as information on tissue nutrient concentrations, dietary intake, and other potential risk factors, with an emphasis on gene-gene and gene-diet interactions as well as direct effects.

Co-Principal Investigator in a project conducting multilevel analyses to determine the degree of geographic grouping of overweight and obese individuals are grouped by geographic area (i.e., census tract, zip code, county) and identify the structural factors that predict grouping at a particular scale.

Key research interests include: 1) Nutritional epidemiology, 2) Applications of biological specimens and nontraditional exposure and outcome measures to the study of chronic disease etiology and prevention, 3) Applications of GIS and multilevel modeling techniques, and 4) Environmental and occupational carcinogenesis.

Areas of Interest:

Diseases		**Disciplines**	
Lung / Head and Neck Cancer	____	Immunology	____
Breast / Cervical Cancer	____	Genetics	____
Leukemias / Lymphomas	____	Cancer Cell Biology (signaling)	___
G. I. Malignancies	____	Population Sciences	__X__
Prostate and GU Malignancies	__X__	Clinical Trials	____
Neuroendocrine / Others	____		

Name: Joseph Su **Degree:** PhD, MPH

E-mail: lsu@lsuhsc.edu **Phone Number:** 504-568-5715

Work Address: LSUHSC School of Public Health
1615 Poydras Street, Suite 1400
New Orleans, LA 70112

Brief Biosketch:
PhD: Nutrition Epidemiology – University of North Carolina Chapel Hill
MPH: Public Health Nutrition – University of Minnesota
BS: Nutritional Sciences – University of Minnesota
BS: Chemistry – Chung-Yuan University (Taiwan)

Summary of ongoing work:
I am a nutrition epidemiologist specialized in cancer. I am currently funded by the Department of Defense as a co-principal investigator of Epidemiology Core recruiting newly diagnosed prostate cancer patients in 30 parishes in southeast Louisiana (LSU PI: Dr. Elizabeth (Terry) Fontham, Consortium PI: Dr. James Mohler at Roswell Park Cancer Institute) and PI for Nutritional Project examining nutritional factors and prostate cancer aggressiveness. I am also the PI for Sampling and Data Management Core for the Louisiana Aging Study funded by National Institute of Aging (Program Project PI: Michal Jazwinski).

Since I have worked with Dr. Fontham on a few population-based cancer studies, such as lung, pancreatic, and prostate cancer, using rapid case ascertainment system we developed together with the Louisiana Tumor Registry with Drs. Vivien Chen and Xiaocheng Wu, I would like to establish a system within LSUHSC and Ochsner to sustain the system so that future studies can be easily set up. This system can be used by not only population scientists but also will be excellent to identify eligible patients for clinical trials. Basic science researchers can tap into the system if a significant number of cancer patients is required.

I also have a laboratory in conjunction with LSUHSC Department of Pathology currently analyzing biomarkers of carotenoids (vitamin A) and tocopherols (vitamin E) using HPLC. I would like to expand my collaboration if there is any research project needs the analysis or other nutritional biomarker analysis.

Areas of Interest:

Diseases		**Disciplines**	
Lung / Head and Neck Cancer	____	Immunology	____
Breast / Cervical Cancer	____	Genetics	____
Leukemias / Lymphomas	____	Cancer Cell Biology (signaling)	___
G. I. Malignancies	____	Population Sciences	_2__
Prostate and GU Malignancies	_1__	Clinical Trials	____
Neuroendocrine / Others	____		

Name: Wayne V. Vedeckis **Degree:** Ph.D.

E-mail: wvedec@lsuhsc.edu **Phone Number:** 504-568-8175

Work Address: LSUHSC, 533 Bolivar Street, Room 4B6, 4th Floor
New Orleans, LA 70112

Brief Biosketch:

Ph.D.	Northwestern University, Evanston, IL, 1974
Postdoctoral	Baylor College of Medicine, Houston, TX, 1974 - 1979
LSUHSC, New Orleans	Assistant Professor, 1979 – 1984
	Associate Professor, 1984 – 1988
	Professor, 1988 - present
SSSCC/LCRC	Molecular Signaling Program Leader, 1997 – 2006; 2008 - present

Summary of ongoing work:

My laboratory studies the molecular mechanism of steroid hormone action. We are investigating how glucocorticoid steroid hormones trigger apoptosis in T-cell and pre-B-cell acute lymphoblastic leukemia (ALL). Currently, we are: 1) investigating the mechanism whereby the steroid hormone stimulates transcription of the glucocorticoid receptor gene; 2) determining the threshold level of glucocorticoid receptor transcripts required to trigger apoptosis in leukemic blasts; 3) attempting to develop a colorimetric, facile clinical assay for a molecular signature that can be used to stratify ALL patients into responders and non-responders; and, 4) developing a novel, protein transduction method to introduce proteins and peptides into ALL patient blasts, *in vivo*, in order to improve the response to hormone therapy.

This research is currently funded by a National Cancer Institute (NCI) grant.

I most need clinical collaborators who can provide these relatively rare clinical samples for T-cell and pre-B-cell ALL, and the interest and expertise to provide the clinical and medical insights that I lack, which are important for the diagnosis and treatment of these diseases. The Core Resources I could use would be those needed establish human ALL cells in NOD/SCID and NOG mice.

Areas of Interest:

Diseases		**Disciplines**	
Lung / Head and Neck Cancer	____	Immunology	____
Breast / Cervical Cancer	____	Genetics	____
Leukemias / Lymphomas	__X__	Cancer Cell Biology (signaling)	_X__
G. I. Malignancies	____	Population Sciences	____
Prostate and GU Malignancies	____	Clinical Trials	____
Neuroendocrine / Others	____		

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Brief Biosketch:

Otolaryngology Residency – 2001 – 2003 (India)
Lecturership/Faculty & Head Neck Fellowship – 2003 – 2005 (India)
Advanced Head Neck Oncologic Training, Pittsburgh – 2005 – 2006
Faculty Pittsburgh – Head Neck Surgery – 2006 – 2007
Assistant Professor (Head Neck Oncologic Surgery), LSUHSC - current

Summary of ongoing work:

Currently most of my research involves outcomes research centered on head neck squamous cell carcinoma. I am trying to re-establish a tumor registry in collaboration with the LCRC so we can bank our tumor specimens and also set up a head neck clinical database.

I am currently trying to expand my research horizons and experience by participating in multicentre studies and also clinical trials through the LCRC. I am very interested in working on collaborating and initiating translational research projects related to head neck cancer.

Areas of Interest:

Diseases		**Disciplines**	
Lung / Head and Neck Cancer	X	Immunology	
Breast / Cervical Cancer		Genetics	
Leukemias / Lymphomas		Cancer Cell Biology (signaling)	
G. I. Malignancies		Population Sciences	
Prostate and GU Malignancies		Clinical Trials	X
Neuroendocrine / Others			

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Brief Biosketch:

Undergraduate—1994 A.B. degree (biochemistry), Harvard College, Cambridge, MA
Medical School— 1999 M.D. degree, U.C. San Diego School of Medicine, La Jolla, CA
Residency—1999-2006 General Surgery, U.C. Davis Medical Center, Sacramento, CA
Research Fellowship—2002-2004 Surgical Oncology, U.T. M.D. Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, TX
Clinical Fellowship—2006-2008 Surgical Oncology, University of Pittsburgh Medical Center, Pittsburgh, PA
Assistant Professor—2008-present LSUHSC Section of Surgical Oncology,New Orleans, LA

Summary of ongoing work:

My clinical interests focus on gastrointestinal malignancies, particularly pancreatic and colorectal cancer, and laparoscopic approaches to abdominal malignancies. I will also be providing care for breast cancer patients in the absence of a dedicated breast surgeon at LSU.

My research interests including clinical trials in gastrointestinal malignancies, as well as establishing collaborative efforts to look at biomarkers in tumor specimens. I have previously done work on angiogenesis/vascular endothelial growth factor receptors in pancreatic cancer cell lines and would be interested in collaborating with researchers with similar interests, particularly in the current environment of clinically applicable angiogenesis inhibitors.

Areas of Interest:

Diseases		**Disciplines**	
Lung / Head and Neck Cancer	____	Immunology	____
Breast / Cervical Cancer	____	Genetics	____
Leukemias / Lymphomas	____	Cancer Cell Biology (signaling)	___
G. I. Malignancies	_x___	Population Sciences	____
Prostate and GU Malignancies	____	Clinical Trials	__x__
Neuroendocrine / Others	____		

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Brief Biosketch:
MD: The Ohio State University – 1975
Residency Surgical Oncology– Vanderbilt University Affiliated Hospitals – 1977-1979
Fellowship – Vanderbilt University Affiliated Hospitals – 1982
Residency Surgical Oncology – Vanderbilt University Affiliated Hospitals - 1984
Fellowship – The Ohio State University -1984
Professor Surgery - The James D. Rives Professor of Surgery & Neuroscience - Chief, Section of Surgical Endocrinology - Director of Surgical Research – 1993 to present

Summary of ongoing work:
Currently the James D. Rives Professor of Surgery and the Neuroscience Section Chief. Director of the Ochsner Medical Center Neuroendocrine Clinic and participates in research on breast cancer and various other cancers.

As a result of my work I have several grants and patents that have evolved during my research in cancer.

I am involved with multiple national and international organization that are cancer related and moderate several NETS websites which assist patients in getting the proper treatments for neuroendocrine tumors. .

In the future I would be interested in organizing and building Zebra House a Ronal Mc Donald type house for patients with neuroendocrine cancers.

Areas of Interest:

Diseases		**Disciplines**	
Lung / Head and Neck Cancer	____	Immunology	_x___
Breast / Cervical Cancer	__x__	Genetics	_x___
Leukemias / Lymphomas	____	Cancer Cell Biology (signaling)	__x_
G. I. Malignancies	____	Population Sciences	____
Prostate and GU Malignancies	____	Clinical Trials	__x__
Neuroendocrine / Others	__X__		

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Brief Biosketch:

B.S. Physics, Southern Oregon Sate University 1986
M.S. Physics, University of Oregon 1991
Ph.D. Biochemistry, University of Utah 1998
Postdoc, Structural Biology, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill 1998-2004
Assistant Professor, Biochemistry, LSU Health Sciences Center 12/01/04 -present

Summary of ongoing work:

I am interested in the functioning and activities of the two scaffold proteins, IQGAP1 and MP1. I am also studying the kinesin motor protein Eg5 which is required for proper mitosis. My main research tool is X-ray crystallography. In the case of IQGAP1, we are expressing, purifying and crystallizing protein fragments that span one or more functional domains or motifs. For MP1, we are primarily interested in co-crystallization of MP1 in complex with its interactors PAK1, MEK1, and Erk. These structures will reveal the fold, surface details and residues important or potentially important for activity and/ or protein-protein interactions.

Eg5 is a very attractive target for drug therapy. Inhibition of Eg5 activity results in a failure of cells to properly divide. There are several inhibitors of Eg5 and importantly, these are not ATP analogues (Eg5 is an ATPase). Instead, these inhibitors bind to a site distinct from the nucleotide-binding site and stabilize the ADP-bound form of the protein. We are determining the structures of site directed Eg5 mutant proteins, and Eg5 in complex with inhibitors and potential activators in order to better understand Eg5 regulation.

Areas of Interest:

Diseases		**Disciplines**	
Lung / Head and Neck Cancer	____	Immunology	____
Breast / Cervical Cancer	____	Genetics	____
Leukemias / Lymphomas	____	Cancer Cell Biology (signaling)	_X_
G. I. Malignancies	____	Population Sciences	____
Prostate and GU Malignancies	__X__	Clinical Trials	____
Neuroendocrine / Others	____		

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Brief Biosketch:

1997	Pusan National University, Microbiology, B.S.
1999	Pusan National University, Microbiology, M.S.
2002	Pusan National University, Microbiology, Ph.D.
1999-2002	Research Assistant, Antibody Engineering Research Unit. Korea Research Institute of Bioscience and Biotechnology.
2002-2006	Post-Doc Research Associate, Laboratory of Cellular Immunology, Ochsner Clinic Foundation.
2006-Present	Staff Scientist, Laboratory of Cellular Immunology, Ochsner Clinic Foundation.

Summary of ongoing work:

We are studying human B cell differentiation and B lymphomagenesis in the context of microenvironment. We characterized some signaling molecules produced by germinal center stromal cells, which is important for the growth of B lymphomas. We are investigating whether blocking these signaling molecules could inhibit B lymphomas using a xenograft model.

Areas of Interest:

Diseases		**Disciplines**	
Lung / Head and Neck Cancer	____	Immunology	__v__
Breast / Cervical Cancer	____	Genetics	____
Leukemias / Lymphomas	__v_	Cancer Cell Biology (signaling)	___
G. I. Malignancies	____	Population Sciences	____
Prostate and GU Malignancies	____	Clinical Trials	____
Neuroendocrine / Others	____		

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Brief Biosketch:

Eugenie & Joseph Jones Professor; Division Chief of Pediatric Hematology/Oncology Program ;
Director, Pediatric Hematopoietic Stem Cell Transplant(HSCT) Program at Children's Hospital /LSUHSC

EDUCATION

INSTITUTION AND LOCATION	DEGREE	YEAR CONFERRED	FIELD OF STUDY
University of Santo Tomas	B.S.	1975	Psychology
Universtiy of Santo Tomas	M.D.	1979	Medicine
University of Texas	Masters	1982	Public Health
Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center	Residency	1985	Pediatrics
Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center	Fellowship	1988	Pediatric Hem/Onc
Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center, Seattle	Fellowship	1988	Bone Marrow Transplant

2004-Present Principal Investigator
Children's Oncology Group (COG); LSU MBCCOP
2002-Present Neuroblastoma Stem cell committee, COG
2004-Present ACCL0331 Cancer Control Study Committee, COG

Summary of ongoing work:

The Pediatric Oncology program is the largest pediatric Heme-Onc program in the state of Louisiana. It provides comprehensive cancer care to the children of LA and actively participate in clinical trials of the Children's Oncology Group, PBMTC, and NMDP. The Pediatric HSCT program is the only approved COG transplant program in the state of LA. We have just recently performed the first HPDSC transplant in the country in collaboration with Celgene. We are also working with Osiris in the project using MSC to treat refractory GVHD.
Other projects include pharmakokinetics studies on different antifungals given to high risk patients; Reduced intensity conditioning using campath in a novel way for malignant and non-malignant conditions

Areas of Interest:

Diseases		**Disciplines**	
Lung / Head and Neck Cancer	____	Immunology	____
Breast / Cervical Cancer	____	Genetics	____
Leukemias / Lymphomas	_x__	Cancer Cell Biology (signaling)	___
G. I. Malignancies	____	Population Sciences	____
Prostate and GU Malignancies	____	Clinical Trials	__x__
Neuroendocrine / Others	____		

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Brief Biosketch:

B.S (Microbiology, University of Antioquia, Colombia) - 1991
M.S (Immunology, University of Antioquia, Colombia) - 1996
PhD (Genetics, LSUHSC, New Orleans, LA) - 2008

Summary of ongoing work:

My research interests are focused on the role of the inflammatory responses in the development of malignancy. Both infectious and chemical agents have been associated with the appearance of inflammatory foci that, if uncontrolled, may lead to the development of malignancy. I have been involved in research focused on the understanding of the effects of *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* and *Helicobacter pylori* (*H. pylori*) infections in the human immune response. We have found that a protein produced by *H. pylori*, arginase, is able to reduce the activation of T cells and may render these cells unresponsive to the *H. pylori* antigens that cross the gastric epithelial barrier. On the other hand, we have focused a great effort in understanding the genetic regulation of the inflammatory mediators as promoters of gastric pre-malignant lesions and gastric cancer, as well as prostate cancer (PCa). We have found a differential distribution of single nucleotide polymorphisms (SNPs) between African American and Caucasian individuals, which may in part explain the differential susceptibility to inflammatory diseases between these two ethnic groups. In gastric pathology we found some very interesting associations of SNPs in cytokine genes and risk of multifocal atrophic gastritis (MAG) and with infection with *H. pylori*. In PCa, we found differential gene-gene interactions in both ethnic groups associated with risk of the disease, thus indicationg that in addition to single gene effects, gene-gene interactions are important in modifying disease risk.

Because cancer is a very complex disease, it is possible to think that many individual genetic variables, but must importantly, a network of interacting gene variables, are involved in cancer susceptibility. These gene interactions may act like signatures for each cancer type and may be involved in determining cancer progression. Because of this, the study of genetic signatures is one of my main goals. Using gastric and prostate cancer as models, I would like to study each one of the premailgnat inflammatory stages that lead to cancer and determine the genetic identity of each one of these stages. By doing this we could identify, at an earlier stage, individuals at higher risk of developing more aggressive disease and those that would benefit of therapy, among other things.

Areas of Interest:

Diseases		**Disciplines**	
Lung / Head and Neck Cancer	___	Immunology	__X__
Breast / Cervical Cancer	____	Genetics	__X__
Leukemias / Lymphomas	____	Cancer Cell Biology (signaling)	__
G. I. Malignancies	__X__	Population Sciences	__X__
Prostate and GU Malignancies	__X__	Clinical Trials	____
Neuroendocrine / Others	____		

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Brief Biosketch:
M.S. Microbiology- Universidad del Valle, Colombia, 1986
Ph.D. Immunology- Universidad de Antioquia, Colombia, 2001
Post-Doctoral Fogarty Fellow, John Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD, 1989-1991
Research Associate, Immunotherapy Laboratory BRMP, NHI/NCI, Frederick, MD, 1992-1997
Instructor-Research, Department of Microbiology, LSUHSC, New Orleans, LA, 1997-2003
Assistant Professor-Research of Microbiology, LSUHSC, New Orleans, LA, 2003-2007
Assistant Professor of Microbiology, LSUHSC, New Orleans, LA, 2007-present

Summary of ongoing work:
The research focus of this laboratory is to study immunological and molecular mechanisms by which tumor growth-induced immunosuppression. We have been working over the past 4 years in understanding the biology of renal cell carcinoma cells, specifically studying the role of arginase II in tumor growth and inducible nitric oxide synthase (iNOS) in controlling tumor growth. Understanding the interplay between arginase II, iNOS and their interactions with the immune system, may provide future therapeutic benefits to treat patients with renal cell carcinoma. In addition we have hypothesized that arginase induction by mycobacterium tuberculosis in monocyte-derived dendritic cells competes with iNOS for L-arginine supporting mycobacterium growth rather that killing. Understanding these mechanisms will allow us to design more comprehensive therapeutic anti-tuberculosis regimens to treat extensively multi-drug resistance tuberculosis.

Areas of Interest:

Diseases		**Disciplines**	
Lung / Head and Neck Cancer	____	Immunology	__1__
Breast / Cervical Cancer	____	Genetics	____
Leukemias / Lymphomas	____	Cancer Cell Biology (signaling)	___
G. I. Malignancies	____	Population Sciences	____
Prostate and GU Malignancies	__2__	Clinical Trials	____
Neuroendocrine / Others	____		

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Brief Biosketch:

1990	Beijing Medical University, M.D.
1995	Department of Immunology, Beijing Medical University, Ph.D.
1995-1997	Associate Professor, Department of Immunology, Beijing Medical University
1997-2008	Postdoctoral fellow, Alton Ochsner Medical Foundation, New Orleans, LA
2008-present	Staff Scientist, Alton Ochsner Medical Foundation, New Orleans, LA

Summary of ongoing work:
I have been studying human B cell differentiation in germinal center and abnormal B cell signals/regulating molecules in autoimmune disease.

By establishment a unique in vitro experimental model that mimics the germinal center reaction *in vivo*, I have investigated the cytokines provided by T cells and signal molecules provided by follicular dendrictic cells on regulation of plasma cell differentiation.

I am currently also investigating the disturbance of B cells and its signal molecules in SLE patients to understand the cellular and molecular mechanism for the etiology and pathogenesis of autoimmune diseases.

Areas of Interest:

Diseases		**Disciplines**	
Lung / Head and Neck Cancer	____	Immunology	_2__
Breast / Cervical Cancer	____	Genetics	____
Leukemias / Lymphomas	_1__	Cancer Cell Biology (signaling)	___
G. I. Malignancies	____	Population Sciences	____
Prostate and GU Malignancies	____	Clinical Trials	____
Neuroendocrine / Others	____		

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