Clemson University Campus Visit of Faculty from MUSC Hollings Cancer Center

Friday, October 12, 2018

PURPOSE OF THE VISIT

Faculty from the MUSC Hollings Cancer Center (HCC) would like to explore ways that Clemson and HCC may collaborate on cancer research. To this end, they will be on campus to:

- Highlight ongoing research at Hollings Cancer Center and areas of potential collaborations,
- Meet one-on-one (or small groups) with relevant faculty to learn and explore potential scientific collaborations,
- And introduce their planned bike ride fundraising event to faculty, staff and students. It will be the largest bicycle ride fundraising event in South Carolina and is set to kick off in Nov 2019.

SHORT BIOS OF THE MUSC-HOLLINGS CANCER CENTER GUESTS

**Gustave Leone, PhD, Professor and Director**

Dr. Leone joined MUSC in 2017 as Director of the Hollings Cancer Center from the Ohio State University Comprehensive Cancer Center. A Professor of Biochemistry & Molecular Biology, he also holds the Grace E. DeWolff Endowed Chair in Medical Oncology and is Senior Associate Dean for Oncology in the College of Medicine. As director, Dr. Leone oversees patient care and cancer-related research efforts at the Hollings Cancer Center. Dr. Leone’s research focuses on identifying how disruption of critical cell cycle regulatory pathways contributes to uncontrolled cell growth, a hallmark of cancer. Dr. Leone received the B.S. degree in Biochemistry and Ph.D. degree in Virology from the University of Calgary. He conducted his postdoctoral fellowship at the Duke University Medical Center in Cell Cycle in Cancer. He joined the faculty at Ohio State University beginning in as an Assistant Professor in 1999 and ending as Professor and Director of the Solid Tumor Biology Program in 2017.

**J. Alan Diehl, PhD, Professor and Associate Director of Population Sciences and Cancer Disparities**

Dr. Diehl, who serves as an endowed chair in Lipidomics and Pathobiology, received his Ph.D. in Biochemistry from the University of Missouri. Dr. Diehl’s research focuses on the molecular mechanisms of cancer initiation and progression with specific focus on the regulation of cell division and post-translational in cancer. He was a Howard Hughes Medical Institute Postdoctoral Fellow for St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital. Dr. Diehl is the leader in the analysis of the intersection of signal transduction and cell division. His current work focuses on the role of E3 ubiquitin ligases in the maintenance of cyclin D1 levels and the physiological function of the E3 ligase in tumor suppression.
Marvella E. Ford, PhD, Professor and Associate Director of Population Sciences and Cancer Disparities

Dr. Ford is a tenured Professor in the Department of Public Health Sciences at the Medical University of South Carolina (MUSC), where she is also the Associate Director of Population Sciences and Cancer Disparities at the Hollings Cancer Center. She completed her undergraduate training at Cornell University and she completed her graduate and postdoctoral fellowship training at the University of Michigan. Dr. Ford has led several federally funded cancer disparities-focused research grants. Most recently, in September 2017, Dr. Ford and her collaborator Dr. Judith Salley, from South Carolina State University, were awarded a $12.5M grant from the NIH/NCI Center to Reduce Cancer Health Disparities.

Denis Guttridge, PhD, Professor and Director of the Darby Children’s Research Institute

Dr. Guttridge, a Professor in the Department of Pediatrics, received his Bachelor of Science degree from the University of California, San Diego, where he majored in Cell Biology and Biochemistry. As a postdoctoral fellow, Dr. Guttridge performed studies to examine the role of a transcription factor called NF-κB in regulating the differentiation of cells. Subsequently from his conduction of this research, it led to the startup of his own laboratory at Ohio State University. After 17 years at Ohio State, Dr. Guttridge recently moved his laboratory to MUSC where he serves as the director of the Darby Children’s Research Institute where he continues to focus on NF-κB signaling with connections to cancer and chronic muscle disorders.

Besim Ogretmen, PhD, Professor and Endowed Chair in Lipidomics and Drug Discovery

Dr. Ogretmen’s research focuses on defining molecular and biochemical mechanisms by which sphingolipid signaling regulates cancer pathogenesis and therapeutics. He is currently the director and principal investigator at the Center of Biomedical Research Excellence (COBRE) in Lipidomics and Pathobiology at MUSC. Dr. Ogretmen received his B.S. in Biology from Middle East Technical University in Ankara, Turkey and his Ph.D. in Molecular Biology and Biochemistry from the Illinois Institutes of Technology. He completed his postdoctoral fellowship at the University of Chicago in the field of Hematology/Oncology.