Program Advisory Committee

Robert Gagel, MD
Director, Rolanette and Berdon Lawrence Bone Disease Program of Texas, Division of Internal Medicine
The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center

Brendan Lee, MD, PhD
Co-Director, Rolanette and Berdon Lawrence Bone Disease Program of Texas, Professor and Chairman, Department of Molecular and Human Genetics
Baylor College of Medicine

Jacqueline T. Hecht, Ph.D.
Co-Director, Rolanette and Berdon Lawrence Bone Disease Program of Texas, Professor and Division Head, UTHealth Medical School

Ralanette and Berdon Lawrence Research Awards

Maximum cash awards of $45,000 will be conferred to awardees at the conclusion of the retreat. The deadline for electronic submission of research proposals is March 17, 2017. For complete submission guidelines, please visit www.bonediseaseprogram.org.

Poster Session

All Texas Medical Center faculty and trainees are encouraged to submit abstracts for poster presentation. The deadline for electronic submission of research abstracts is April 7, 2017. Previously presented abstracts submitted within the past year will be accepted. For complete instructions, visit www.bonediseaseprogram.org.

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The Rolanette and Berdon Lawrence Bone Disease Program of Texas annual scientific retreat highlights cutting-edge research in metabolic and metastatic bone disease through formal lectures, research, discussions, and poster presentations.

**Keynote Address**

MAURIZIO PACIFICI, Ph.D., the Bong S. Lee Professor of Pediatric Orthopaedics in the Division of Orthopaedic Surgery at the Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia; Director of the Translational Research Program in Pediatric Orthopaedics; Professor of Orthopaedic Surgery at the University of Pennsylvania; Associate Director of the Penn Center on Musculoskeletal disorders.

Dr. Pacifici received his doctorate degree from the University of Rome and postdoctoral training at the University of Pennsylvania under the auspices of the European Molecular Biology Organization. He joined the Penn faculty where he rose to the rank of Professor, and subsequently moved to Thomas Jefferson University Medical School where he served as Director of Research in Orthopaedics. About 6 years ago, he and his team were recruited by the Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia.

Dr. Pacifici’s biomedical research studies have long focused on the mechanisms regulating the development, growth and morphogenesis of the skeleton and whether and how changes in these mechanisms cause congenital musculoskeletal disorders. In particular, his team has produced fundamental insights into the origin of progenitor cells and the ways in which the cells give rise to diverse skeletal elements and joints via cell signaling and transcription factor means. This basic information has been used to interrogate specific pathways and mechanisms as putative culprits in disease, and has produced major insights into the pathogenesis of pediatric conditions including Fibrodysplasia Ossificans Progressiva, Developmental Dysplasia of the Hip, and Hereditary Multiple Exostoses. An ongoing clinical trial on one such condition based on these discoveries reiterates the power and usefulness of combining Developmental Biology with Pathogenesis.

**2015 Scientific Retreat Program**

Friday, April 28, 2017
The University of Texas MD ANDERSON CANCER CENTER
HICKEY AUDITORIUM, 1515 Holcombe
(Parking for fee, Garage 10)

**Highlights**

The program features oral presentations for finalists in the Rolanette and Berdon Lawrence Research Awards competition. An evening poster session provides an opportunity for investigators from across the Texas Medical Center to discuss current research.

**Target Audience**

Clinical and laboratory investigators in bone metastases, bone health in cancer patients, bone formation, and bone biology.

1:00 p.m.  Opening Remarks

1:15 p.m.  Keynote Lecture

Maurizio Pacifici, Ph.D.
"Hereditary Multiple Exostoses: A complex pathology involving biological borders"

2:15–5:00 p.m. Lawrence Research Award Finalists Presentations

5:00 p.m.  Poster Session and Cocktail Reception

6:30 p.m.  Poster winners announced

7:00 p.m.  Adjourn

**Electronic Registration Form**

To register: Email registration to: ccherry@bcm.edu
Registration deadline: April 7, 2017

Select all events for which you wish to register:

- [ ] Scientific Retreat (1:00–5:00 p.m.)
- [ ] Poster Session and Cocktail Reception (5:15–6:00 p.m.)

Note: All activities are free of charge, but registration is required.