



Creating a Cancer-focused Community at Illinois: Building the Interdisciplinary Research and Education Strategy and Environment

Workshop Description

The proposed workshop aims to bring together key individual expertise on campus to develop a plan on interdisciplinary research and education that will position Illinois as a leading cancer research center. Our university has a rich history and achievements in cancer-related research and scholarship. While these (mostly) individual faculty efforts are recognized with seminal papers, awards to distinguished faculty, and major research grants, there has been limited effort in harnessing these efforts into campus-wide programs. The lack of larger programs limits our ability to have impact in this area and hinders visibility of our campus in the medical world, despite the important contributions.

This workshop will bring together key people on campus, on the education, research and administrative aspects, to develop a comprehensive plan to form a center of excellence in addressing cancer. On the education side, the workshop will focus on sharpening a few initiatives that will define our educational efforts in this area. The end product will be concrete proposals for efforts in teaching, research and infrastructure focused on cancer that grow the campus in all three areas in a way individual faculty, at present, cannot.

The workshop will focus on 4 areas – undergraduate education, graduate education, research and infrastructure. Each session will have 4 speakers each, who will present key points for discussion in 10 minutes each followed by a panel discussion comprised of the speakers. The panel and audience (other speakers) will interact for 30 minutes. Each area coordinator (one of the speakers) will then provide a 1-2 page report consisting of background, summary of ideas and recommendations for future directions.

Workshop Leader:
Rohit Bhargava, *Bioengineering*

AGENDA ■ February 25, 2011 – Room 5602, Beckman Institute

8:15 AM - onwards

Registration and breakfast

Tea and coffee will be available during the entire workshop

8:30 AM – 8:45 AM

Short Welcome and Charge for the Workshop

8:45 AM – 9:45 AM

Session I - Cancer research – expanding the role of the university

- Professor Arthur Kramer, Director, Beckman Institute for Advanced Science and Technology
“Role of interdisciplinary Science and Technology in Cancer and physical infrastructure”
- Professor William Helfrich, Professor, Food Science & Human Nutrition and Nutritional Sciences
“Organizing for larger efforts in cancer research projects”
- Professor Stephen Boppart, Leader, Imaging Initiative and Professor of Electrical and Computer Engineering, Bioengineering and Medicine
“Imaging in cancer research”

9:45 AM – 10:45 AM

Session II - Preparing the future Clinical Oncologist with a Broad-based undergraduate education

- Professor Andrew Belmont, Professor of Cell and Developmental Biology
“Multidisciplinary Undergraduate education for Cancer clinicians”
- Dr. Charles Sanders, VP, Research, Carle Foundation Hospital
“Oncologists, Research, and Undergraduate Education: The Earlier... The Better”
- Professor Steve Sligar, Director of the School of Molecular and Cellular Biology and Gunsalus Professor of Biochemistry
“Bridging physical and biological sciences training”
- Professor Nathan Price, Assistant Professor of Department of Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering, Center for Biophysics and Computational Biology and Institute for Genomic Biology
“Undergraduate education and hands-on experiences”

10:45 AM – 11:45 AM

Session III - Graduate Education in cancer-related areas: preparing the physical scientist for a cancer career

- Professor Michael Insana, Head and Professor of Bioengineering
“Cancer focused education - merging of biology and engineering”
- Professor Brian Cunningham, Director, Bioengineering graduate program and Professor of Electrical and Computer Engineering and Bioengineering
“Bioengineering graduate program: a new opportunity to integrate cancer research into education”
- Professor Ann Nardulli, Professor of Molecular and Integrative Physiology and co-Director, Midwest Cancer Nanotechnology Training Program
“Graduate education at the medical interface – the role of training grants”
- Professor Milan Bagchi, Professor of Molecular and Integrative Physiology
“Basic science education to clinical results – training the next generation”

11:45 AM – 12:15 PM

Gather Lunch Boxes and Break (Beckman Tower Room)

12:30 PM – 1:30 PM

Session IV (Working Lunch) - Organizational preparedness for a cancer community

- Professor Howard Ozer, Director of the UIC Cancer Center
“New opportunities for the University of Illinois in Cancer research and clinical cancer management”
- Dr. Jennifer Eardley, Associate Vice Chancellor for Research and the Associate Director of the Division of Biomedical Sciences
“Organizing cancer research, outreach and translation”
- Professor Barbara Wilson, Vice Provost for Academic Affairs
“Career development for multidisciplinary research”
- Dr. Rohit Bhargava, Assistant Professor of Bioengineering, Beckman Institute and MNTL; Fellow, Center for Advanced Study
“Early career scientist and interdisciplinary research in cancer”

1:30 PM – 1:45 PM

Concluding remarks and workshop outcomes



<http://summit.research.illinois.edu/content/AttendeeRegistration.aspx>

