Overview of Consortium Research

Yibin Kang, PhD

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RUTGERS PRINCETON UNIVERSITY **RWJBarnabas** HEALTH

RUTGERS

Cancer Institute of New Jersey RUTGERS HEALTH



Associate Director for Consortium Research



Yibin Kang, PhD

- Princeton University
- Warner-Lambert/Parke-Davis Professor of Molecular Biology
- American Cancer Society Research Professor
- Member, Ludwig-Princeton Branch

Mission

To integrate the outstanding researchers at Princeton University into cancerfocused collaborations and provide them with opportunities for translational research made possible within an NCI-Designated Comprehensive Cancer Center

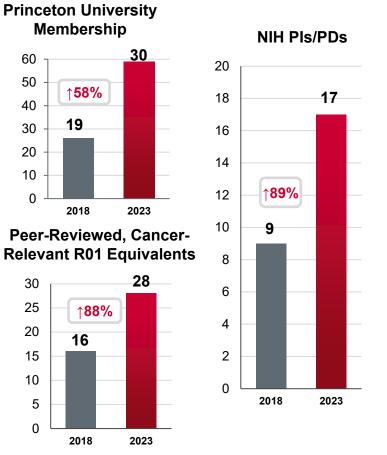
2018 CCSG Summary Statement Highlights

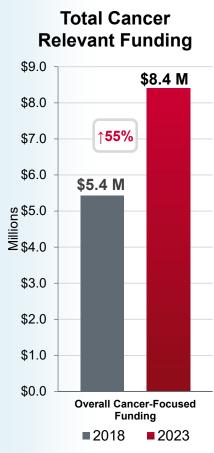
- Long-standing consortium partnership: opportunities for scientific collaboration, cooperative development
- Use of state-of-the-art Shared Resources
 - Princeton-led: Metabolomics, Genome Editing
 - Multi-campus: Flow Cytometry, Metabolomics
 - Jointly sponsored: Small Molecule Screening
- Collaboration on training and education
- Princeton University: tangible financial commitment to the Cancer Center



Expansion and Progress of the Consortium since 2018

- Commitment to CINJ vision
 - Recruitment of cancer immunology/ metabolism faculty at PU
- Joint annual symposium and seed grants to promote collaboration
- Multi-institutional multi-PI program grants
 - U24CA211000 (Raphael [GICG] / Yeh)
 - NCI 10T2CA278609-01/ CRUK CGCATF-2021/100022 (Davidson [CMI] / White, Anthony)
- T32CA257957 training grant in Cancer Metabolism and Tumor-Host Interactions
 - Co-PIs: Zong (CMI) and Kang 🕏 (CMI)





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Translating Basic Science into Novel Cancer Therapeutics



Identified irresistins (IRS) - novel family of dihydrofolate reductase (DHFR) inhibitors (Cell, 2020)

- IRS-17 superior to methotrexate (MTX) with reduced resistance
- Developing IRS-17 as novel anti-folate chemotherapy agent
- └ Collaboration with H. Kim�, Rabinowitz�, Herranz, J. Guo

Zemer Gitai (CMI)



- Study on metastasis gene MTDH led to identification of small molecular inhibitor C26-A6 (*Nature Cancer*, 2022); licensed to Firebrand Inc. for further clinical development
- Developed dual-specific inhibitors against ALDH1a2/3 to target the immunosuppressive environment induced by RA signaling. IP licensed to KayoThera; expect to file IND later this year
- Collaboration with H. Kim \$\$, Rabinowitz \$\$, Haffty, Ganesan, Bertino

Yibin Kang (CMI)

Shared Resources and other Center-supported Services: Small Molecule Screening, Metabolomics, Flow Cytometry, Genome Editing, Biospecimen Repository, Biostatistics

New Princeton Branch of the Ludwig Cancer Research Institute



Director Joshua D. Rabinowitz



Member Yibin Kang



New Member (2023) Michael Skinnider



- Established in 2021, \$25 M investment through 2023
- 3 Faculty Recruits
- Equipment
- Ludwig Fellows
- Ludwig Collaborative Research Awards

LUDWIG CANCER RESEARCH

Princeton



Associate Director Eileen White

RUTGERS Cancer Institute

of New Jersey

- Ludwig Fellows
- Ludwig Collaborative Research Awards: J. Guo (CMI), Herranz (CP), Hu (GICG), Valvezan (CMI)
- Equipment

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- PDAC clinical trial: Hochster (CIPT), Alexander (CIPT)
- Breast Cancer Clinical Trial; Omene (CIPT), Ganesan (CIPT)

Future Directions

Translational Research and Clinical Trials

- Large collaborative research project focusing on impact of diet on cancer development and treatment response in diverse cancer types
- Metabolic profiling of clinical samples from ongoing clinical trials

Education and Training in Collaboration with CRTEC

- Joint T32 with Princeton University Lewis-Sigler Institute for Integrative Genomics (2023)
- Development of a summer undergraduate student internship program with Ludwig Princeton Branch (2023)

Joint Efforts in Faculty Recruitment

 Focused recruitment efforts in cancer metabolism and immunology







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Thank You



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