



**27th ANNUAL MEETING of the
TRANSLATIONAL RESEARCH CANCER
CENTERS CONSORTIUM (TRCCC)**

February 19-21, 2025

Seven Springs, PA

www.TRCCC.org



Wednesday February 19, 2025

11:00am – 7:00 pm **Registration Hours**

PRE-MEETING EVENTS

12:15 – 1:00pm

Grand Ballroom

Box Lunch Before “Cell Therapy for Solid Tumor” session

Lunch provided by **Dispatch Biotherapeutics** 

Coffee provided by **Lumicks** 

1:00 - 2:20pm

Grand Ballroom

TRCCC-SITC Collaboration Session “Cell Therapy for Solid Tumor”

Chair **Daniel Powell**

University of Pennsylvania



***Michael Lotze**

University of Pittsburgh

“The Challenge, Approval and Future of TIL Therapy”

***Kristin Anderson**

University of Virginia

“The Challenge, Approval and Future of TCR Gene Therapy”

***Marco Davila**

Roswell Park CCC

“CAR T Cells for Solid tumor - Breaking the Glass Ceiling”

***Daniel Powell**

University of Pennsylvania

“On the Horizon: Unconventional, Sapient Approaches”

TRCCC 27th ANNUAL MEETING PROGRAM

Wednesday February 19, 2025

2:30 – 2:40pm Exhibit Hall	Opening of Annual Meeting Wei-Zen Wei	Karmanos Cancer Institute President, TRCCC 2024-2025 Chair, Annual Meeting Planning Committee
2:40 – 2:50pm	Introduction of Advocates Heather Gibson	Karmanos Cancer Institute Co-Chair, Annual Meeting Planning Committee
2:50 – 3:10pm	Welcome Remarks and New Frontiers in Cancer Therapy Chair Heather Gibson *Boris Pasche Introduction by Mark Gregory	Karmanos Cancer Institute President, Karmanos Cancer Institute Karmanos Cancer Institute
3:10 – 4:30pm	Plenary Session I – Tumor Immunology–Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow Chair Alex Huang *Drew Pardoll “Understanding and Manipulating the Tumor Microenvironment as an Ecosystem” Introduction by Kellie Smith *Alan Hutson “Immuno-Oncology Translational Network (IOTN): A Comprehensive Review of Historical Milestones, Key Highlights, and Critical Lessons Learned” Introduction by Irmak Bektas	Case CCC Johns Hopkins University Johns Hopkins University Roswell Park CCC Roswell Park CCC
4:30 – 4:50pm	--- Break and hotel check in---	
4:50 – 6:30pm Breakout Rooms	Breakout Session Oral Presentation Blocks 1-5 Seasons 1-2, Seasons 3-4, Wintergreen, Snowflake and Sunburst	
6:30 – 8:30pm Exhibit Hall Annex	Welcome Reception Poster Session 1 – Poster #1-60 Presenters will be at even # posters 6:30-7:30, odd # posters 7:30-8:30 ~ Scavenger Hunt ~	
7:00 - 8:00pm Chestnut	Board of Directors Meeting	

Thursday February 20, 2025

7:45am – 7:00 pm

8:10 – 9:50am

Breakout Rooms

Registration Hours

Breakout Session Oral Presentation Blocks 6-10

Seasons 1-2, Seasons 3-4, Wintergreen, Snowflake and Sunburst

9:50 - 10:10am

--- Break ---

10:10 - 11:30am

Exhibit Hall

Plenary Session II (Immuno-Prevention, -Interception and -Therapy)

Chair **Scott Olejniczak**

Roswell Park CCC

***Kelvin Lee**

Simon Cancer Center, Indiana University

Greetings from Simon Cancer Center

***Pedro Lowenstein**

University of Michigan

“Reprogramming the immune microenvironment in glioblastoma: results from an immune-mediated gene therapy Phase I clinical trial”

Introduction by **Marilu Varela**

University of Michigan

***John Wherry**

University of Pennsylvania

“Mechanisms of CD8 T cell exhaustion and role in disease”

Introduction by **Melanie Rutkowski**

University of Virginia

11:40am – 12:40pm

Grand Ballroom

Lunch with the Advocates



12:50 – 2:50pm

Seasons 1-2

Wintergreen

Sunburst

Seasons 3-4

Faculty Whiteboard Discussion – 4 Concurrent Sessions

S1 Immune Suppression and Counter Strategies

S2 Checkpoint Molecules and Therapy Development

S3 Novel Intervention Strategies

S4 Systems Immunology, Big Data and Microbiota

3:00 – 4:00pm

Grand Ballroom

Special Topic Workshops

A. Advocate-Scientist collaborations

Chairs

Kristin Anderson

University of Virginia

Heather Gibson

Karmanos Cancer Institute

Exhibit Hall

B. Health, Wellness and Well-being

Chair and Introduction **Grace Chen**

University of Michigan

***Kaushal Nanavati**

Upstate Cancer Center

4:00 – 5:00 pm

You get a break!!

5:00 – 6:30 pm

Breakout Rooms

Breakout Session Oral Presentation Blocks 11-15

Seasons 1-2, Seasons 3-4, Wintergreen, Snowflake and Sunburst

6:30 – 8:30pm

Exhibit Hall/Annex

Dinner buffet

Poster Session 2 - Poster #61-172

Presenters will be at even # posters 6:30-7:30, odd # posters 7:30-8:30

~ Scavenger Hunt ~

8:00pm

Organizers' Dinner

Friday

February 21, 2025

7:30am - 12:00pm

Registration Hours

7:30 - 8:30am

Breakfast with the Vendors Slopeside Dining Room

Slopeside Dining

Chair **Stephen Haley**

7:45 - 8:30am

Meet the Editor – An Open Forum

Wintergreen

Chair and Introduction **Emidio Pistilli** University of West Virginia

***Michael T. Lotze**

Editor in Chief, Journal for ImmunoTherapy of Cancer (JITC)

8:40 - 9:40am

Trainee Spotlight (15 min talks by 4 selected post-docs)

Exhibit Hall

Chairs

Thomas Mace

Ohio State University

Todd Schell

Penn State University

***Rebekah Dadey**

University of Pittsburg

“Decoding Tumor-Intrinsic Immune Exclusion Mechanisms in Hepatocellular Carcinoma”

***Saeed Daneshmandi**

Roswell Park CCC

“Discovering of the Enzyme 6PGD as a Metabolic Checkpoint that Regulates MDSC Metabolism and Function”

***Ugur Uslu**

University of Pennsylvania

“Combining CAR T Cell Therapy with Targeted Proton Beam Radiotherapy”

***Beatriz Coutinho de Oliveira**

Case CCC

“CRISPR-Based Functional Genomics Screen Identifies Potential Gene Targets to Improve CAR19 T-Cells”

9:40 - 10:20am

Sponsor/Exhibitor Presentations  Bristol Myers Squibb™



10:20 - 10:40am

--- Break ---

10:40 - 11:20am

Plenary Session III (New Targets in the Pipeline)

Chair **Tullia Bruno**

University of Pittsburgh

***Dario Vignali**

University of Pittsburgh

“LAG-3, The Third Checkpoint Inhibitor and its Synergistic Interactions with PD1”

Introduction **Andrew Baessler**

University of Pittsburgh

11:20 - 11:45am

Whiteboard Discussion Reports – 4 Session chairs

11:50am - 12:00pm

NCI Programs and Funding Opportunities, or NOT?

***Olja Finn**

University of Pittsburgh

***Anda Vlad**

National Cancer Institute

Greetings to Friends in TRCCC

12:10 - 1:20pm

Luncheon

Grand Ballroom

2026 TRCCC Annual Meeting Preview

Alex Huang

Case CCC

Awards/Prizes

1:20pm

Closing Ceremony

Jonathan Bramson

McMaster University

President, TRCCC 2025-2026