



OligoMET Center  
ROBIN  
RADIATION ONCOLOGY-BIOLOGY  
INTEGRATION NETWORK



Weill Cornell  
Medicine



UNIVERSITY of MARYLAND  
RADIATION ONCOLOGY



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# ROBIN OligoMET Center

## Quarterly Update

### August 2023

#### News

- **Dr. Zaker Rana Appointed as Director of Medical Student Elective Courses & Medical Student Research Internships**
- **Thomas Jefferson University: Department of Radiation Oncology Summer Student Research Program**
- **Dr. Phuoc Tran's Recent Appointments**
- **TERPS Trial News Release: Patients with Advanced Prostate Cancer May Benefit from Focused Radiation Therapy that Targets Metastases**
- **20th Annual Dr. Karl Prado Physics & Radiobiology Review Course**
- **ImmunoRad ROBIN Center – Cross Curriculum Lecture: “Clinical Radiobiology Basics” Presentation**
- **Dr. Nicole Simone's Presentation on 'Food as a Drug' at a National Institute of Cancer (NCI) Organized Webinar Series**
- **Dr. Lei Ren Appointed as Associate Chief of Physics Research and as Vice-Chair of The American Association of Physicists in Medicine (AAPM) Annual Meeting Committee**
- **FOX45 News Interview: Trial Treating Prostate Cancer with Focused Radiation Therapy**
- **2023 Faculty Educator Award and Acknowledgement**
- **18th H.E.R.O. (Healthcare, Excellence in Radiation Oncology) Award Winner**

- **Dr. Phuoc Tran Awarded as One of 2023 American Society for Therapeutic Radiology and Oncology (ASTRO) Mentorship Awardee**

**New Hires and Farewells:**

- **No New Hires and Farewells**

**Monthly Research Updates**

## News

### **Dr. Zaker Rana Appointed as Director of Medical Student Elective Courses & Medical Student Research Internships**



Congratulations to Dr. Zaker Rana for being appointed as the Director of Medical Student Elective Courses and Medical Student Research Internships in early May. He is responsible for overseeing medical students clinical rotation within the dept. as well overseeing medical student summer research fellowship program.

### **Thomas Jefferson University: Department of Radiation Oncology Summer Student Research Program**

**Jefferson**  
Philadelphia University +  
Thomas Jefferson University  
HOME OF SIDNEY KIMMEL MEDICAL COLLEGE

2023 Department of  
Radiation Oncology  
Summer Student  
Research Program

@KimmelCancerCtr  
@APDicker  
@NickiSimone4

**Sidney Kimmel Cancer Center**  
Jefferson Health. | NCI - designated

 <b>Nicole Baker</b> M.D. Candidate, Sidney Kimmel Medical College	 <b>Ethan Brill</b> M.D. Candidate, Eastern Virginia Medical School	 <b>Kaitlyn Calabresi</b> M.D. Candidate, Louisiana State School of Medicine	 <b>Ashley Coleman</b> M.D. Candidate, Sidney Kimmel Medical College
 <b>Katherine Gerber</b> M.D. Candidate, Sidney Kimmel Medical College	 <b>Cameo Hazelwood</b> M.D. Candidate, Sidney Kimmel Medical College	 <b>Shray Jain</b> M.D. Candidate, Drexel University College of Medicine	 <b>Jenna Rocchetti</b> D.O. Candidate, Cooper Medical School of Rowan University

Eight new undergraduate summer students joined Dr. Simone for the 2023 summer student research program at Thomas Jefferson University.



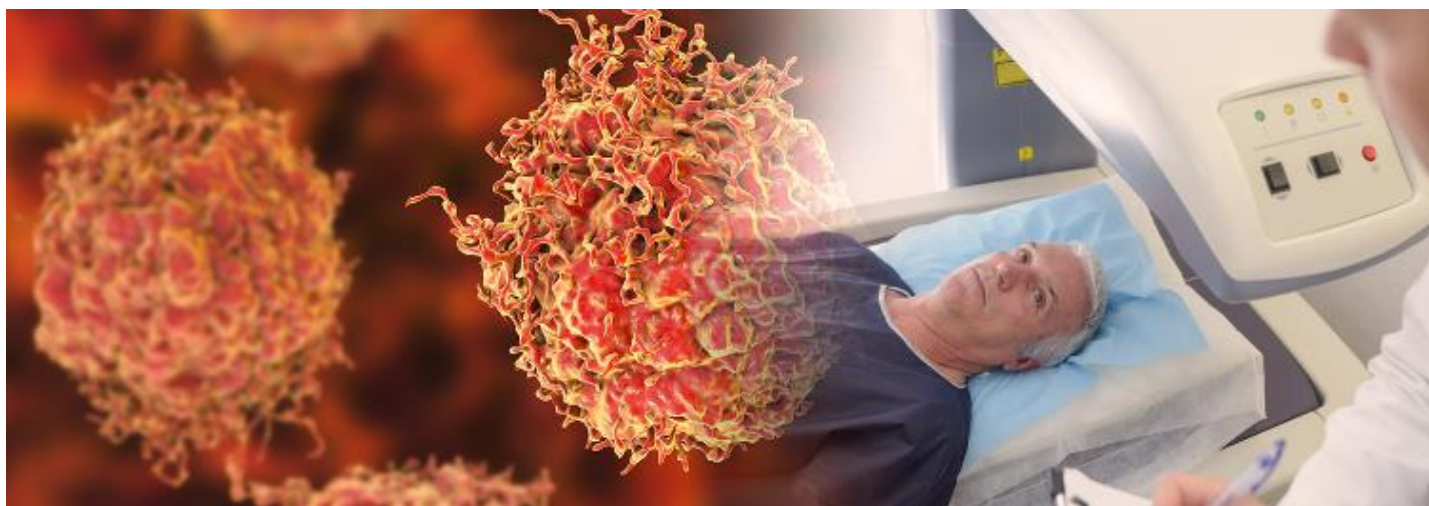
This photo was taken in June and includes the undergraduate summer students together with Drs. Simone and Dicker for their dinner get-together.

## **Dr. Phuoc Tran's Recent Appointments**



Congratulations to Dr. Phuoc Tran for being appointed as Ad Hoc Reviewer at Journal of the National Cancer Institute (NCI), Co-Chair at American Association for Cancer Research (AACR) Annual Meeting 2024 Program Committee, and Ad Hoc Reviewer at Cell Reports.

## TERPS Trial News Release: Patients with Advanced Prostate Cancer May Benefit from Focused Radiation Therapy that Targets Metastases



The TERPS Trial press (video and article) was released in mid-May on the potential benefits of highly focused radiation that targets metastases on patients with advanced cancer. Click [here](#) for more information.

## 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Dr. Karl Prado Physics & Radiobiology Review Course



The University of Maryland Department of Radiation Oncology held a 20th Annual Virtual Dr. Karl Prado Physics & Radiobiology Review Course with the Physics course directed by Dr. Amit Sawant. There were over 120 residents and radiation oncology professionals in attendance. For more information, click [here](#).

## ImmunoRad ROBIN Center – Cross Curriculum Lecture: “Clinical Radiobiology Basics” Presentation



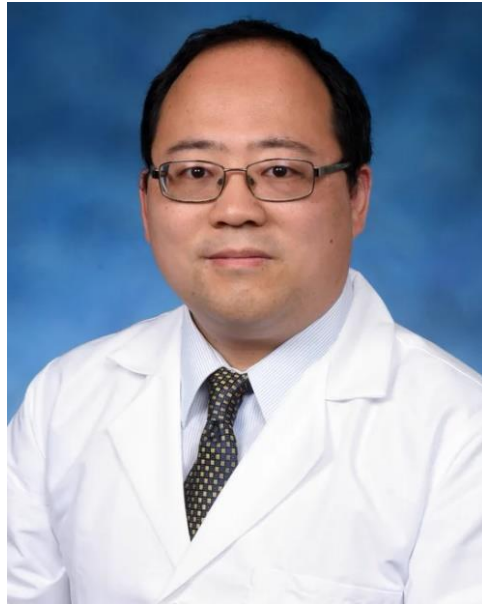
In collaboration with the ImmunoRad ROBIN Center, Dr. Phuoc Tran presented “Clinical Radiobiology Basics” at the Cross Curriculum Lecture in early June.

## Dr. Nicole Simone’s Presentation on ‘Food as a Drug’ at a National Institute of Cancer (NCI) Organized Webinar Series

A promotional banner for a webinar series. The top section has a dark blue background with a network diagram of nodes and lines. Text in yellow and white reads "CANCER AGING COMORBIDITIES" and "WEBINAR SERIES". Below this, the date and time "June 15 (1:00 - 2:00 pm ET)" is written in white. The title "Food as a Drug" is in white, followed by the speakers' names "Drs. Lydia Lynch &amp; Nicole Simone". On the right, there are two small portrait photos of the speakers: a woman with blonde hair and a woman with dark hair.

Together with Dr. Lydia Lynch, Dr. Nicole Simone spoke on ‘Food as a Drug’ at a National Institute of Cancer (NCI) organized webinar series in collaboration with the National Institute on Aging (NIA). To view the recording of this talk, click [here](#).

## **Dr. Lei Ren Appointed as Associate Chief of Physics Research and as Vice-Chair of The American Association of Physicists in Medicine (AAPM) Annual Meeting Committee**



Congratulations to Dr. Lei Ren who was appointed as Associate Chief of Physics Research. He began in July and all look forward to Dr. Ren growing the University of Maryland Baltimore’s academic program and collaborations under his leadership. In July, he was also appointed as the Vice-Chair of The American Association of Physicists in Medicine (AAPM) Annual Meeting Committee and is in charge of organizing the entire annual meeting activities.

## **FOX45 News Interview: Trial Treating Prostate Cancer with Focused Radiation Therapy**



Dr. Phuoc Tran joined FOX45 Morning News to explain the importance of clinical trials for understanding cancer treatments. To view this live interview, click [here](#).

## 2023 Faculty Educator Award and Acknowledgement



Congratulations to Dr. Zacker Rana on receiving the Association of Residents in Radiation Oncology (ARRO) Educator of the Year award. Dr. Søren Bentzen also received special acknowledgement for resident teaching contributions.

## 18th H.E.R.O. (Healthcare, Excellence in Radiation Oncology) Award Winner



Jadyn Stewart was recently awarded the 18<sup>th</sup> H.E.R.O. award (Healthcare, Excellence in Radiation Oncology) in July. This award is given annually to individuals who go above and beyond normal duties and exceed expectations as well as truly make a difference in the department by their tireless dedication and effort.



## Dr. Phuoc Tran Awarded as One of 2023 American Society for Therapeutic Radiology and Oncology (ASTRO) Mentorship Awardee



Congratulations to Dr. Phuoc Tran for being selected as one of 2023 ASTRO Mentorship Awardee. This award is given to those who are recognized as extraordinary role models in radiation oncology as mentors showing exceptional commitment to the professional development of their mentees. Awardees will be recognized during the Awards Ceremony on Tuesday, October 3<sup>rd</sup>. For more information, click [here](#).

### New Hires and Farewells

No new hires and farewells

### Monthly Research Updates

<b>MAY AT A GLANCE TOTALS</b>	<b>JUNE AT A GLANCE TOTALS</b>	<b>JULY AT A GLANCE TOTALS</b>
Publications 5	Publications 7	Publications 2
Grants and contracts	Grants and contracts	Grants and contracts
New awards 1	New awards 1	New awards 0
Submitted 0	Submitted 3	Submitted 0
Oral Presentations 0	Oral Presentations 3	Oral Presentations 2
Abstracts 4	Abstracts 4	Abstracts 2
Clinical trials	Clinical trials	Clinical trials
TERPS 0	TERPS 2	TERPS 1
Awards/Honors 2	Awards/Honors 3	Awards/Honors 1