

**Division of Cancer Biology  
R15 Investigator Workshop  
June 26-28, 2024**

**Wednesday, June 26, 2024**

**6:00 – 8:00 pm Meet and Greet**

At the Hilton Garden Inn Rockville-Gaithersburg Hotel

**Thursday, June 27 Day 1**

**8:30 – 8:40 am Welcome and Introductory Remarks**

Ruibai Luo, PhD

Cancer Cell Biology Branch

**Introduction of the DCB Director**

Brunilde Gril, PhD

Tumor Metastasis Branch

**Introductory Remarks from the DCB Director**

Dan Gallahan, PhD

Director, Division of Cancer Biology

**8:40 - 9:10 am Introduction of the NCI Director**

**Keynote I: Comments from the NCI Director**

W. Kimryn Rathmell, MD, PhD

Director, National Cancer Institute

**9:10 – 10:30 am Session I: How does an R15 help build your career?**

Moderator: Brunilde Gril, PhD

Tumor Metastasis Branch

- Shailja Pathania, PhD, University of Massachusetts-Boston
- Robert Harrod, PhD, Southern Methodist University
- Maria Diakonova, PhD, University of Toledo
- Gerard Madlambayan, PhD, Oakland University

**10:30 – 10:50 am Panel Q&A**

**10:50 – 11:00 am Break**

## **NIH Staff Session I**

Moderator: Anu Sharman, PhD

DNA and Chromosome Aberrations Branch

- **11:00 – 11:10 am Introduction to the NIH Grants System and DCB**  
Christine Nadeau, PhD  
Tumor Metastasis Branch
- **11:10-11:20 am The Role of the PD-PI Conversation**  
Yvonne Duglas-Tabor  
Cancer Immunology, Hematology, and Etiology Branch
- **11:20 – 11:30 am Overview of Funding Opportunities**  
Eric Johnson-Chavarria, PhD  
Biophysics, Bioengineering, and Computational Sciences Branch
- **11:30 – 11:45 am Post-Award Administration (Funding) of Your NCI Grant**  
Mallory Shramek, Grants Management Specialist  
Office of Grants Administration, NCI

**11:45 am – 12:15 pm Panel Discussion I and Q&A:** All invited participants and NCI staff

**12:15 – 1:15 pm: Lunch with Program Directors**

**1:15 – 2:45 pm Poster Presentation Session I**

**2:45 – 3:45 pm Scientific Presentations Session I**

Moderator: Yvonne Duglas-Tabor

Cancer Immunology, Hematology, and Etiology Branch

- Irina Nesmelova, PhD, University of North Carolina at Charlotte
- Judith Kimberly Davie, PhD, Southern Illinois University School of Medicine
- Maureen Ferran, PhD, Rochester Institute of Technology
- Cheryl L. Jorcyk, PhD, Boise State University

**4:00 – 4:15 pm Break**

**4:15 – 5:00 pm Scientific Presentations Session II**

Moderator: Brunilde Gril, PhD

Tumor Metastasis Branch

- Nicholas A Wallace, PhD, Kansas State University
- Mare Cudic, PhD, Florida Atlantic University
- Haifei Shi, PhD, Miami University

**5:00 pm Adjourn Day 1**

**Friday, June 28 Day 2**

**8:30 – 8:35 am Introductory Remarks**

Anu Sharman, PhD  
DNA and Chromosome Aberrations Branch

**8:35 – 8:45 am NCI's Commitment to Diversity, Inclusion, Equity, and anti-Harassment**

Shannon Hughes, PhD  
Deputy Director, Division of Cancer Biology

**8:45 am Introduction of the Keynote Speaker**

Ruibai Luo, PhD  
Cancer Cell Biology Branch

**8:45 – 9:15 am Keynote II: Mentoring Young Investigators**

Juan Andres Melendez, PhD  
Suny Polytechnic Institute

**9:15 – 9:45 am Panel Discussion III: Mentoring and Outreach and REAP**

Moderator: Eric Johnson-Chavarria, PhD  
Biophysics, Bioengineering, and Computational Sciences Branch

- Chongwoo Kim, PhD, Midwestern university
- Cory Brooks, PhD, California State University
- Yan Zhu, PhD, St. John's University
- Andrew J. Steckl, PhD, University of Cincinnati

**9:45 – 10:00 am Break**

**10:00 – 11:30 am Poster Session II**

**NIH Staff Session II**

Moderator: Christina George  
Tumor Biology and Microenvironment Branch

• **11:30 – 11:45 am The Review Process**

Jessica M. Smith, PhD  
Scientific Review Officer  
Center for Scientific Review, National Institutes of Health

• **11:45 am – 12:00 pm DCB/NCI Research Resources**

Stefan Maas, PhD  
Cancer Cell Biology Branch

• **12:00-12:15 pm Awards to Support Trainees and the Science in Health Disparities**

Chantel F. Fuqua, PhD  
Program Director, Diversity Training Branch  
Center to Reduce Cancer Health Disparities

- **12:15-12:25 pm NIH Data Management and Sharing Policy Overview**  
Soumya Korrapati, PhD  
Cancer Cell Biology Branch

**12:25 – 12:45 pm Panel Q&A**

**12:45 – 12:50 pm Closing Remarks**

**12:50 pm Adjourn Day 2**