GOODBYE & GOOD LUCK!

The department bids farewell to our friend and colleague, Ethan Basch, MD, as he prepares his transition to the The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, to become Director of the Cancer Outcomes Research Program. While at MSK, Ethan’s research focused on patient-reported outcomes, clinical informatics, comparative effectiveness, and product safety evaluation. Studies by his group have determined that patient self-reporting of adverse events can improve data accuracy and comprehensiveness compared to clinician reporting. Building on this work, he leads the National Cancer Institute’s PRO-CTCAE initiative to develop a standardized patient-centered approach to adverse event reporting in clinical trials. The overall goal of Ethan’s work is to improve our understanding of, and the quality of, patients’ experiences with illness and care. Collaborations will continue to keep him close, but we are grateful to have benefited from his generosity, service, and leadership over the years. Ethan, we wish you all the best!

CONGRATULATIONS: PEER-REVIEWED FUNDING SUCCESS!

• Colin Begg, PI “Statistical Strategies for Establishing Etiologic Heterogeneity of Tumors” NIH/NCI, 1 R01 CA163251-01A1, 7/12/2012-5/31/2016 Epi-Bio Collaborators: Jonine Bernstein, Venkatraman Seshan, Emily Zabor

• Jonine Bernstein, PI “Mammographic Density and Risk of Contralateral Breast Cancer” NIH/NCI, 1 R03 CA162207-01A1, 7/9/2012-6/30/2014 Epi-Bio Collaborators: Jonine Bernstein, Eve Burstein, Irene Orlows, Malcolm Pike

• Jennifer Brooks, PI “Epidemiology of MRI parenchymal enhancement: A new marker of breast cancer risk” NIH/NCI, 1 R03 CA162207-01A1, 7/9/2012-6/30/2014 Epi-Bio Collaborators: Jonine Bernstein, Eve Burstein, Irene Orlow, Malcolm Pike

• Mithat Gonen, PI with Ross Levine HOPP “Integrated Genetic Profiling to Predict Response to Therapy in Acute Myeloid Leukemia” Geoffrey Beene Cancer Research Center and Metastasis Research Center, 8/1/2012-7/31/2014 Epi-Bio Collaborator: Sean Devlin

• Cami Sima, MPI with Prasad Adusumilli Surgery “Validation of a risk model for stage I lung adenocarcinoma” NIH/NCI, 1 R21 CA164568-01A1, 7/10/2012-6/30/2014

• Cami Sima, MPI with Prasad Adusumilli Surgery, Nabil Rizk Surgery, and Laura Tang Pathology “Mesothelin as a biomarker for clinical management of esophageal adenocarcinoma” NIH/NCI, 1 R21 CA164585-01A1, 8/1/2012-7/31/2014 Epi-Bio Collaborators: Colin Begg

• Andrew Vickers, MPI with Hans Lilja Surgery “Prospective validation of a multi-marker prostate cancer prediction model” NIH/NCI, 1 R01 CA160816-01A1, 8/8/2012-5/31/2016 Epi-Bio Collaborators: Daniel Sjoberg

CONFERENCES AND PRESENTATIONS

• Yvonne Bombard was an invited panelist at the 9th annual meeting of Health Technology Assessment International (HTAI) in Bilboa, Spain, where she presented her research on the role of public engagement in HTA. She also presented her other research, “The role of personalizing medicine: Medical oncologists’ and patients’ perspectives on genomic testing of breast tumors in chemotherapy treatment decisions”; Bombard Y, Rozmovitz L, Trudeau M, Leigh N, Deal K, & Marshall D; and “Towards a patient centered system: A systematic review of patient engagement strategies to improve quality care”; Bombard Y, Baker GR, Bhatia P, Denis JL, Portny MP.

• Chaya Moskowitz presented “New Insights into the Risk of Breast Cancer in Childhood Cancer Survivors Treated with Chest Radiation: A Report from the Childhood Cancer Survivor Study (CCSS) and the Women’s Environmental Cancer and Radiation Epidemiology (WECARE) Study” at three conferences this past June: the ASCO Annual Meeting, the 12th International Conference on Long-Term Complications of Treatment of Children and Adolescents for Cancer, and the ASA Conference on Radiation and Health. Coauthors include Chou JI, Wolden SL, Bernstein JL, Malhotra J, Novetsky D, Begg CB, et al.

• Allison Snyderman presented at the ASCO Annual Meeting, “Long-Term Central Venous Catheter Use among Cancer Patients in Administrative Claims Data”; Sepkowitz K, Elkin EB, Pinheiro LC, Son C, Bach P.

• Ann Zauber presented on colorectal cancer screening at Digestive Disease Week, “Adherence to Screening in a Randomized Controlled Trial of a One-Time Screening Colonoscopy versus Program of Annual Fecal Occult Blood Test (gFOBT)” and at the Society for Clinical Trial in Miami, “Using Meta-Synthesis of Three Randomized Controlled Trials in Colorectal Cancer Screening to Inform Assumptions on Natural History of Colorectal Cancer in Microsimulation Modeling”.

CRDB CORNER

The Clinical Research Database (CRDB) runs on three platforms including CRDB Client, CRDB Web, and CRDBI. New modules on CRDB include the T-cell Cyto-kine-activated Monocytes Set Up Form.

B.E.A.C.H.

DEPARTMENTAL NEWSLETTER
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DEPARTMENT CHAIR
Colin Begg, PhD
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Prusha Patel, MPH
Brendan Phalan
Chelsea Saadberg
What do these cancers have in common? They both have screening tests! Learn more about screening on the Employee Health and Wellness website.

Do you have questions regarding immunizations? Consult the Employee Health and Wellness website and have access to all the information you need.

Also, MSKCC now offers Shingles vaccines to all employees over 50 years of age for FREE! Call 646-888-4000 to book an appointment.

National Immunization Awareness Month

Do you have questions regarding immunizations? Consult the Employee Health and Wellness website and have access to all the information you need.

Also, MSKCC now offers Shingles vaccines to all employees over 50 years of age for FREE! Call 646-888-4000 to book an appointment.

Prostate Cancer and Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month

What do these cancers have in common? They both have screening tests! Learn more about screening on the Employee Health and Wellness website.

Welcome New Staff:

- **Jessica Poon**, Data Analyst
  Jessica graduated from UC Berkeley, majoring in integrative biology and philosophy with a particular interest in decision theory. She will be working with Dr. Andrew Vickers and his group as a data analyst.

- **Ranjit Sukhu**, Data Analyst
  Ranjit graduated from New York University with a BS in Biology. He volunteered in clinics across Montefiore Medical Center and Woodhull Hospital with an emphasis on improving patient quality of life. Ranjit joins Dr. Andrew Vickers’ research team as a data analyst with a special interest in informatics.

- **Emily Vertosick**, Data Analyst
  Emily recently graduated with a MPH in Epidemiology from SUNY Albany’s School of Public Health. She also holds a BA in French Studies from Bard College, where she completed her senior thesis on the 1918 influenza pandemic and the subsequent public health response in France and French Africa. Before joining Dr. Andrew Vickers’ team, Emily worked for the Bureau of HIV/AIDS Epidemiology at the New York State Department of Health.

Staff Promotions:

- **Melissa Budnick**, MPH, promoted to Department Fund Manager.
- **Bradley Cohen** promoted to Department Fund Manager.
- **Brendan Phalan** promoted to Department Fund/Project Manager II.
- **Sean Ryan**, MS, promoted to Research Study Specialist.
- **Emily Zabor**, MS, promoted to Research Biostatistician.
- **Christine Zhou**, MA, promoted to Research Biostatistician II.

Thank You Summer Interns!

We would like to thank our summer 2012 interns for all their hard work:

- **Vincent Madonia** (Ann Zauber)
- **Adam Mansfield** (Irene Orlow)
- **Marissa Gonzalez** (Irene Orlow)
- **Jeanne Li** (Jaya Satagopan)
- **Amani Chowdhury** (Victoria Blinder)
- **Tim Judson** (Ethan Basch)
- **Sam Wagner** (Ethan Basch)
- **Louis De Bellis** (Ethan Basch)
- **Jessica Poon** (Irene Orlow)
- **Adam Mansfield** (Irene Orlow)
- **Vincent Madonia** (Ann Zauber)
- **Tim Judson** (Ethan Basch)
- **Sam Wagner** (Ethan Basch)
- **Louis De Bellis** (Ethan Basch)

Green Initiative Reminders:

- The Epidemiology and Biostatistics recycle bins for soda cans and bottles are located under the water fountains on the 2nd and 3rd floors. 

- All cardboard trash should be left near the water fountains on the 2nd and 3rd floors.

- Do not throw batteries in the trash. Alkaline and Lithium-ion batteries can be given to Tricia Neary or Rick Church for safe recycling.

- Office Staff, please remember to turn your air conditioning units off at the end of the day.

- If you are working late at night or over the weekend, please remember to turn off the lights on the floor. Switches are located near the elevator.

- Please make sure all computers and monitors are shut down at the end of the day. If you have questions on how to schedule automatic shutdown & power up or opt out of the automatic nightly reboot, please contact Rick Church.