The Ohio State University Comprehensive Cancer Center (OSUCCC) encompasses six interdisciplinary research programs and more than 200 investigators. It is one of only 38 National Cancer Institute (NCI)-designated comprehensive cancer centers in the country. The CCC core grant is the OSUCCC’s major funding source for scientific leadership and administration, shared technology, services provided to researchers, and development support. The grant requires periodic competitive renewal. In February, 2004, an application for renewal of the CCC designation and support grant was submitted to NCI; and, in May, an on-site review of the OSUCCC and its programs was conducted by 24 cancer specialists selected from around the country by the NCI. The CCC core grant renewal score fell in the “outstanding” range. The summary critique noted that this score "reflects the sustained high level of focused and well-supported research activities at the OSUCCC with nearly unprecedented support from the parent university for this matrix cancer center, and dynamic direction by its center director, who was rated as outstanding." This superlative evaluation guarantees continued NCI funding for the OSUCCC; however, the amount of the award will depend on the 2005 federal budget, which will not be approved by Congress for several more months.

OSUCCC Wins Renewal

Dr. Michael Caligiuri, Director, OSUCCC

OSUCCC Wins Renewal

Dr. Laura Rush recently received a $15,000 seed grant from the American Cancer Society for a project entitled "The Role of DNMT3b in Hematopoietic Malignancies"
The OSUCCC Mouse Phenotyping Shared Resource

The Mouse Phenotyping Shared Resource (MPSR) provides expert and affordable experimental pathology support to OSU investigators utilizing animal models of human cancer. The MPSR specializes in the morphologic characterization of newly produced lines of genetically engineered mice, but also provides a variety of other customized pathology services, including necropsy, slide preparation, semi-quantitative histopathology for experimental studies, morphometry, hematology, clinical chemistry, consultation, and referral. The MPSR is strongly supported through the excellent veterinary resources and expertise available in the College of Veterinary Medicine. The standard comprehensive MPSR phenotype includes survey radiographs, complete clinical chemistry and hematology workups, and a thorough gross and microscopic examination. All microscopic lesions are identified, graded, and photographed. The final electronic report provided to the investigator includes a written summary of all findings, scanned and digitized radiographic, gross, and histologic images, and an interpretation of the findings relative to the genotype of the mice. Pertinent references are included and suggestions for additional studies and the names of potential expert consultants are provided as appropriate. The MPSR also provides a variety of other pathology services to investigators.

The Director of the MPSR, Dr. Donna Kusewitt of the Veterinary Biosciences Department, has over 20 years of experience in rodent pathology. Her assistant, Deborah Devor-Henneman, has almost 30 years of experience in working with rodent models of human disease, including 13 years at Microbiological Associates and 16 years at the National Cancer Institute studying comparative carcinogenesis and characterizing mutant mice. Ms. Kate Utsey, a third-year veterinary student, provides invaluable support to the MPSR.

If you are interested in submitting material for evaluation to the MPSR, please visit the website at http://mousepheno.osu.edu/index.cfm to learn more about the resources and submission procedures. Interested veterinary students and residents are welcome to seek training or employment with the MPSR. For information about these opportunities, please call Dr. Kusewitt at 292-0468.

Please notify Dr. Kusewitt (kusewitt.1@osu.edu) about any upcoming cancer-related seminars or conferences
Winter/Spring Meetings

- GTColo: “International Conference on Tumor Progression and Therapeutic Resistance” - November 8-9, tcbio.com/ebrochure/Tumor-Conference-Brochure.pdf
- American College of Veterinary Pathologists: “Annual Meeting” - November 14-17, www.acvp.org/meeting/
- M.D. Anderson Cancer Center: “5th International Conference on Ovarian Cancer, December 1-4, www.mdanderson.org/conferences/

Fall/Winter Meetings

- GTColo: “International Conference on Tumor Progression and Therapeutic Resistance” - November 8-9, tcbio.com/ebrochure/Tumor-Conference-Brochure.pdf
- American College of Veterinary Pathologists: “Annual Meeting” - November 14-17, www.acvp.org/meeting/
- M.D. Anderson Cancer Center: “5th International Conference on Ovarian Cancer, December 1-4, www.mdanderson.org/conferences/

Dr. Steven Clinton, Director of the Molecular Carcinogenesis and Chemoprevention Program of the OSUCCC, is spearheading the effort to develop a Program Project Grant for 2005 submission. The application is tentatively entitled “The Etiology and Prevention of Skin Cancer After Organ Transplant.” If you think you might be interested in participating in this project, please contact Valerie DeGroff at degroff-1@medctr.osu.edu.