Dr. Catherine O’Keefe has joined the clinical Oncology Service as Clinical Trials Coordinator. Dr. O’Keefe received her Doctor of Veterinary Medicine from the University of Minnesota College of Veterinary Medicine in 2000. She worked in a small animal general practice for three years and then completed a small animal rotating internship at VCA Berwyn/Aurora in the Chicago area in 2004. She worked in the internal medicine department at MedVet Associates in Worthington, Ohio, prior to joining the Oncology Service at The Ohio State University College of Veterinary Medicine. As Clinical Trials Coordinator, Dr. O’Keefe will coordinate patient recruitment, enrollment, collection of samples and patient data, and owner/referring veterinarian communications for the Oncology Service. The Oncology Service has ongoing clinical trials aimed at assessing new investigational therapies for specific tumors (e.g. canine osteosarcoma, transitional cell carcinoma) and studies designed to improve our understanding of tumor biology in veterinary species.
Dr. Cheryl London, Distinguished Veterinary Cancer Researcher, to Visit OSU

Dr. Cheryl London was awarded a DVM from Tufts University in 1990. She completed a residency in Medical Oncology at the University of Wisconsin in 1994 before entering a doctoral program in the Department of Immunology at Harvard University. After receiving her PhD in 1999, she joined the faculty at the University of California, Davis. Dr. London is a diplomate of the American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine with a Specialty of Oncology. Dr. London is a member of the Scientific Advisory Board of the Morris Animal Foundation, the Perseus Foundation for Animals board, and the Animal Cancer Foundation board, among others. She is a Co-Director of the Cancer Biology in Animals Program at the University of California-Davis, Cancer Center.

Dr. London has a strong research interest in the molecular basis of cancer that extends to clinical medicine where she is the lead investigator of numerous clinical trials for cancer treatment. Her laboratory has focused on the role of receptor tyrosine kinases (RTKs) in the processes that lead to tumor development and on the clinical development of RTK-inhibitors. Dr. London’s laboratory has conducted ground-breaking work on the proto-oncogene c-kit in canine mast cell tumors. C-kit is a multifunctional membrane receptor for stem cell factor that has tyrosine-specific protein kinase activity. Among other functions, c-kit regulates differentiation of mast cells. Dr. London’s laboratory was the first to identify mutations in c-kit in canine mast cell tumors. Similar mutations subsequently were discovered in at least two forms of human cancer: stromal tumors of the stomach and acute myelogenous leukemia. Recently, her laboratory has begun investigating the roles of c-met/HGF in canine osteosarcoma and Flt3L/Flt3 in canine malignant histiocytosis.

Dr. London will visit the OSU College of Veterinary Medicine February 23-24. On February 23 at 4 PM, she will discuss her research in a seminar to be held in Wexner Auditorium of the Veterinary Medicine Academic Building.

Please notify Dr. Kusewitt (kusewitt.1@osu.edu) about any upcoming cancer-related seminars or conferences
2005 Meetings

• Medical College of Georgia: “Postgraduate Course on Gynecologic Cancer 2005” – April 13-16, 2005. www.memorialhealth.com
• Univ. of California: “Cancer Metastasis and the Lymphovascular System: Basis for Rational Therapy” – April 28-30, 2005. www.cme.ucsf.edu
• Univ. of Nebraska: "2005 Pan-Pacific Lymphoma Conference" – July 11-15, 2005. conted@unmc.edu

OSUCCC’s 7th Annual Scientific Meeting: "Advances in Neuro-oncology: From Molecular Mechanisms of Carcinogenesis to Novel Therapeutic Approaches"

Friday, March 11, 8:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m. Conference Center at NorthPointe Route 23 at Polaris Parkway

The Annual Scientific Meeting serves to encourage and facilitate the exchange of ideas within The Ohio State University Comprehensive Cancer Center community, promote our Shared Resources and present the latest information from the National Cancer Institute. Since this day can foster very important collaborations and has been credited for beginning several Program Project Grants, each Comprehensive Cancer Center member is encouraged to bring up to four (4) post doctoral or graduate students or laboratory personnel. Should you have any questions or concerns, please call Nancy Jones, CMP, CMM at 293-3688.