AACR: The 96th Annual Meeting

A Report on the 96th Annual Meeting of the AACR

The Big Sessions

The plenary session of the AACR meeting, entitled “The Impact of Scientific Discovery on Cancer Diagnosis and Treatment,” began on Sunday, April 17, with the presentation of the Second Annual AACR Lifetime Achievement Award to Dr. Alfred G. Knudson, for his groundbreaking development of the two-hit model of carcinogenesis, which stimulated the discovery and study of tumor suppressor genes. This was followed by a thought-provoking talk by Mr. Clifton Leaf of Fortune magazine, who discussed the topic of managing good science. Mr. Leaf believes that application of principles of good management would facilitate the process of scientific discovery and translation of basic discoveries to patient therapy. On Monday, Dr. Lynn Matrisian of the Vanderbilt University School of Medicine delivered the presidential address – “Matrix Metalloproteinases in Tumor Progression: Past, Present, and Future.” Dr. Andrew von Eschenbach, Director of the National Cancer Institute, then spoke on “Leveraging the Nation’s Investment in Cancer Research.” On Tuesday, Dr. Charles Sawyers, one of the developers of the successful anti-cancer drug Gleevec, gave the Richard and Hinda Rosenthal Foundation Award Lecture on “Molecularly Targeted Cancer Therapy: Future Challenges.” Dr. Jimmie Holland was honored with the Joseph H. Burchenal Clinical Research Award for her role in establishing the psycho-oncology as an oncology subspecialty.

Presentations Dealing with Canine and Feline Oncology

Dr. Elaine Ostrander presented a Meet-the-Expert Sunrise Session entitled “Genetic Mapping of Cancer Susceptibility Genes in the Domestic Dog.” There were at least 20 posters or presentations dealing with canine or feline oncology. Interesting examples are given below:

- A canine model for microsatellite instability in cancer. Elizabeth A. McNiel, Nicole J. Madrill, Kelly L. Griffin.

AACR meeting information is available on line at http://www.aacr.org/page3257.aspx

Please notify Dr. Kusewitt (kusewitt.1@osu.edu) about any upcoming cancer-related seminars or conferences.
• Univ. of California: “Cancer Metastasis and the Lymphovascular System: Basis for Rational Therapy” – April 28-30, 2005. www.cme.ucsf.edu
• Case Comprehensive Cancer Center: “Signaling in Cancer” May 23-24, 2005. www.irelandcancercenter.org/events.htm
• Univ. of Nebraska: “2005 Pan-Pacific Lymphoma Conference” – July 11-15, 2005. conted@unmc.edu