



Society for Immunotherapy of Cancer



2021 YEAR IN REVIEW

The Society for Immunotherapy of Cancer (SITC) is the world's leading member-driven organization specifically dedicated to improving cancer patient outcomes by advancing the science and application of cancer immunotherapy. Established in 1984, SITC is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization.

Mission Statement

The mission of SITC is to improve cancer patient outcomes by advancing the science, development and application of cancer immunology and immunotherapy through our core values of interaction/integration, innovation, translation and leadership in the field.

Vision Statement

SITC aims to make cancer immunotherapy a standard of care and the word “CURE” a reality for cancer patients everywhere.

Core Values

- Interaction/Integration: Facilitate the exchange of information and education among basic and translational researchers, clinicians, young investigators, societies and groups sharing the mission of SITC
- Innovation: Challenge the thinking and seek the best research in the development of cancer immunotherapy
- Translation: Facilitate the transfer of cancer immunology and immunotherapy research from the bench to the clinic and back
- Leadership: Define what is new and important and effectively communicate it to all relevant Stakeholders

Letter from the President

As a proud member of the Society for Immunotherapy of Cancer (SITC) family, I am honored to share the society's 2021 Year in Review. Last year, SITC redoubled its efforts to connect our vast member network of over 4,300 accomplished research scientists, physician scientists, clinicians, patients, patient advocates, government representatives and industry leaders.

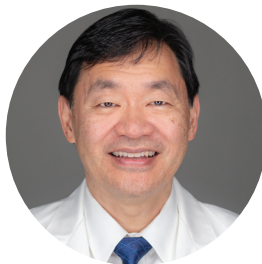
I know you'll be impressed with the number of new, innovative, collaborative, and groundbreaking initiatives including:

- The launch of the **Academy of Immuno-Oncology**, honoring the brightest minds in our field.
- The first ever **deep dive** online seminar series, creating space for in-depth discussion on novel pathways and targets in immunotherapy. The first series hosted over 700 attendees in just a few months.
- The release of **SITC's Clinical Practice Guidelines Mobile App**, the first and only tool of its kind designed to intuitively guide practicing clinicians through SITC's clinical practice guidelines.
- The formation of the **SITC Patient Engagement and Advocacy Panel**, providing support to immunotherapy patients and integrating their perspective into all SITC's programs.
- The publication of several field-changing manuscripts in our journal, *The Journal for ImmunoTherapy of Cancer (JITC)*, including a COVID-19 and Cancer review series.
- And of course, our incredible portfolio of programming and **resources for early career professionals**, from record-setting attendance at the Cancer Immunotherapy Winter School to record applications to our Women in Cancer Immunotherapy Network Leadership Institute.

Each of these new initiatives created opportunities to connect, exchange, and collaborate among our SITC family. As a result, international participation in each of our programs and our membership also outpaced previous years, doubling participation in our clinical programs from clinicians outside of the United States. Our financial health rebounded to pre-COVID reserves as well, positioning SITC to enter 2022 with an equally incredible lineup of initiatives and programs.

As we reflect on 2021, I am profoundly grateful to the countless individuals who have volunteered their time and expertise to improve cancer patient outcomes by advancing the science, development and **application** of immunology and immunotherapy. I hope you enjoy the 2021 Year in Review, and it motivates you to **join SITC** as we endeavor to make "cure" a reality for cancer patients everywhere.

Sincerely,



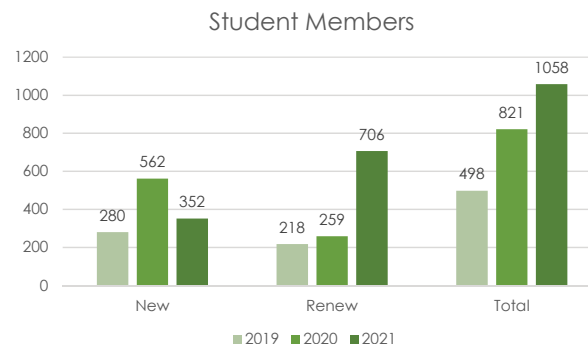
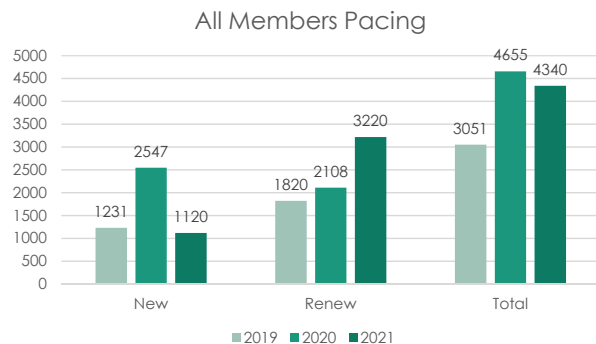
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Patrick Hwu'.

Patrick Hwu, MD
SITC President

Membership Trends, Awards, and Financial Health

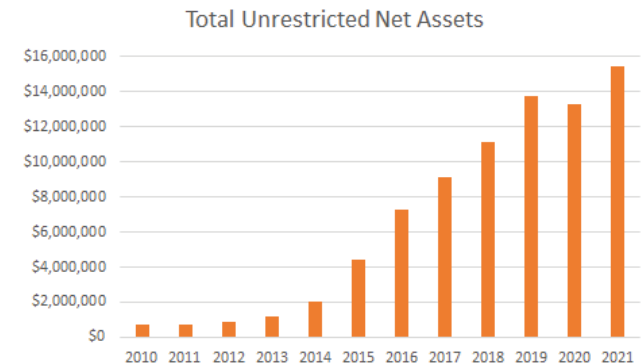
MEMBERSHIP TRENDS

SITC's membership grew in 2020 with an incredible **50% jump over 2019**. 2021 was also a strong year, only slightly behind 2020's peak. Students and trainees continued to join SITC at record numbers, 22% over 2020's record pace. Much of this growth is attributable to SITC's portfolio of leadership development opportunities and the dedicated efforts to ensuring these opportunities were accessible to all students and trainees during the COVID-19 pandemic.



FINANCIAL HEALTH

SITC's financial health continues to strengthen. Despite a small loss in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic, SITC's annual reserves continue to provide a **solid financial footing** on which SITC is able to build its many strategic initiatives.



CORPORATE MEMBERSHIP

SITC Corporate Membership provides organizations in the field of cancer immunotherapy and tumor immunology a forum in which to address common issues affecting the field with **the goal of improving cancer patient outcomes**.

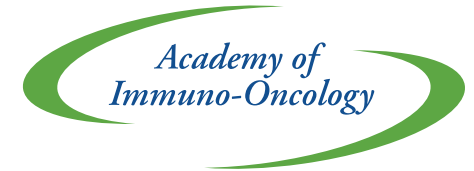


Membership Trends, Awards, and Financial Health

ACADEMY OF IMMUNO-ONCOLOGY

NEW

SITC established the Academy of Immuno-Oncology (FAIO) to **honor individuals who have launched the field of cancer immunotherapy into the breakthrough cancer treatment it is today** and to bring together the brightest minds in the field to continue to advance SITC, the field, and the next generation of immuno-oncologists. SITC honored the inaugural class of FAIO at the SITC 36th Annual Meeting & Pre-Conference Programs. The 2021 Fellows are:



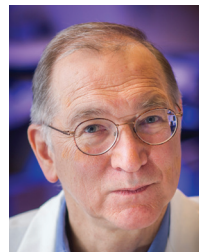
James P. Allison, PhD
*The University of
Texas MD Anderson
Cancer Center*



Lieping
Chen, MD, PhD
*Yale School of
Medicine*



Zelig Eshhar, PhD
*Weizmann Institute
of Science and the
Tel Aviv Sourasky
Medical Center*



Gordon J.
Freeman, PhD
*Dana-Farber Cancer
Institute*



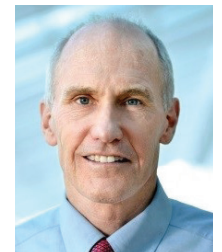
Philip D.
Greenberg, MD
*Fred Hutchinson
Cancer Research
Center*



Tasuku
Honjo, MD, PhD
*Kyoto University
Graduate School of
Medicine*



Elizabeth M.
Jaffee, MD
*Sidney Kimmel
Cancer Center, Johns
Hopkins University*



Carl H. June, MD
*University of
Pennsylvania*



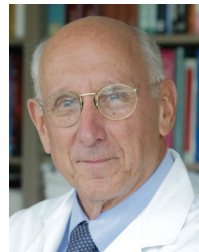
Alan J. Korman, PhD
Vir Biotechnology



Margaret L.
Kripke, PhD
*The University of
Texas MD Anderson
Cancer Center*



Ronald Levy, MD
Stanford University



Steven A.
Rosenberg, MD, PhD
*National Cancer
Institute/National
Institutes of Health*



Robert
D. Schreiber, PhD
*Washington
University School of
Medicine*



Arlene H.
Sharpe, MD, PhD
*Harvard Medical
School*



Thomas A.
Waldmann, MD
*National Cancer
Institute/National
Institutes of Health
Honored
posthumously*

Membership Trends, Awards, and Financial Health

ANNUAL AWARDS

SITC honored a slate of incredible members and colleagues during the 36th Annual Meeting & Pre-Conference Programs who **notably contributed to the cancer immunotherapy field**. The 2021 recipients are:

Pedro J. Romero Service to JITC Award



James L. Gulley, MD, PhD, FACP
*National Cancer Institute,
National Institutes of Health*

Richard V. Smalley Memorial Award



Crystall Mackall, MD
Stanford University

Team Science Award



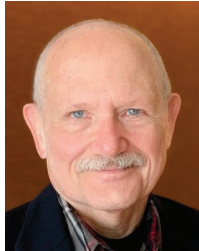
Silvia Formenti, MD and team
Weill Cornell Medicine

Tara Withington Public Service Award



Margaret Foti, PhD, MD (hc)
*American Association for Cancer
Research*

SITC Lifetime Achievement Award



Michael T. Lotze, MD
University of Pittsburgh



Sandra Demaria, MD
Weill Cornell Medicine

SITC Medal of Honor



Uğur Şahin, MD
BioNTech



Özlem Türeci, MD
BioNTech



Society for Immunotherapy of Cancer



Education and Scientific Exchange

SERVE AS THE LEADING RESOURCE for information and education on cancer immunotherapy

TARGETS FOR CANCER IMMUNOTHERAPY: A DEEP DIVE

NEW

SITC launched an online seminar series dedicated to **exploring the underlying biology of various immunotherapy drugs**. With this deeper biological understanding, attendees of the series can now address important scientific questions and rationally design clinical trials for cancer immunotherapies.

Over **1,200** attendees

Topics include:

- The 4-1BB Pathway
- TGF-beta
- IL-2 Variants and IL-15

SITC-NCI COMPUTATIONAL IMMUNO-ONCOLOGY WEBINARS

In partnership with the National Cancer Institute (NCI), SITC launched nine online courses designed to help participants obtain **proper analytical understanding and concrete computational tools** to tackle immuno-oncology questions and challenges at the interface between wet and dry labs.



sitc Society for Immunotherapy of Cancer
SITC-NCI Computational Immuno-oncology
WEBINAR SERIES

NEW

Nine webinars

Over **1,700** attendees across our first six webinars

Featuring speakers from **five** NCI Cancer Moonshotsm projects

Advances in Cancer Immunotherapy™



ADVANCES IN CANCER IMMUNOTHERAPY™

Newly redesigned, the SITC Advances in Cancer Immunotherapy™ (ACI) series features an **expansive curriculum of live programming and complementary virtual courses with interactive components** dispersed throughout to engage the audience. Attendees will now benefit from education specific to their specialties, as each program (both live and virtual) will focus on one topic area only. Three virtual pre-courses provide foundational concepts to prepare attendees for the live and virtual content.

- **Ten disease states** including lung cancers, gynecologic cancers, hematologic malignancies, microsatellite high and tumor mutational burden.
- **Five special topics** including intratumoral vaccines, toxicity management, and biomarkers.

15 programs in 2021 and 2022



Education and Scientific Exchange

SERVE AS THE LEADING RESOURCE for information and education on cancer immunotherapy



36TH ANNUAL MEETING & PRE-CONFERENCE PROGRAMS

The SITC 36th Annual Meeting & Pre-Conference Programs continues to be **the leading destination for scientific exchange, education, and networking** in the cancer immunotherapy field. For the first time, SITC used a hybrid format (in-person and virtual attendance options) for the Annual Meeting & Pre-Conference Programs to allow greater access for all who wished to attend.

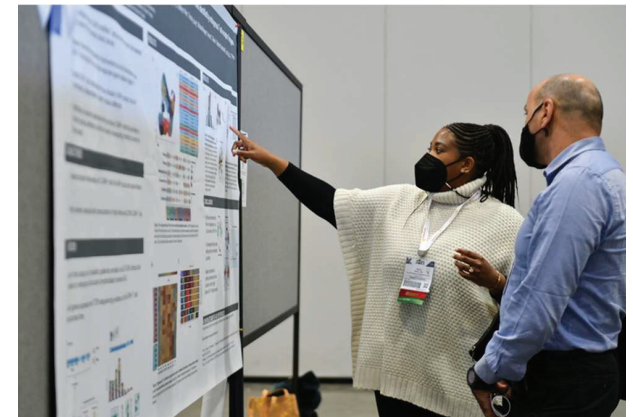


997 Abstract Submissions
(a record!)

SAVE THE DATE!



4,961 Attendees
(in person and
virtually)



84 Exhibitor Booths



Professional Standards

SET INDUSTRY STANDARDS for the field of cancer immunotherapy in order to position SITC as the authority on immunotherapy of cancer

CANCER IMMUNOTHERAPY GUIDELINE PROGRAM

Developed by multidisciplinary panels of experts who draw from their own practical experience and evidence in the published literature and clinical trial data, SITC's immunotherapy guidelines establish **evidence and consensus-based recommendations** on when and how to use immunotherapy to help improve outcomes for patients with cancer.



Society for Immunotherapy of Cancer

Cancer Immunotherapy GUIDELINES

CLINICAL PRACTICE GUIDELINES (CPGs)

The SITC CPGs distill the published literature and the best clinical judgment of the expert panel into **practical, actionable recommendations to help cancer care providers develop immunotherapy treatment plans** for their patients. SITC has published CPGs covering a variety of areas including hematologic malignancies, solid tumors, and toxicity management.

SITC has published four new guidelines, the most the society has published in one year, since the program's inception a decade ago. The new 2021 guidelines include:

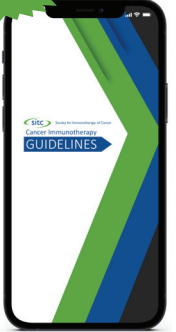
- Breast Cancer
- Hepatocellular Carcinoma
- Immune Checkpoint Inhibitor-related Adverse Events
- Urothelial Cancer

CPGs by the Numbers

- As of the end of 2021, the SITC CPG program has published **17 guidelines** cumulatively earning more than **800 citations** and **22,800 accesses and downloads**.
- Each guideline is ranked within the **96th percentile** of research outputs of similar age in *JITC* according to Altmetric's attention scores. Eight are in the **99th percentile**.
- In 2021, SITC engaged more than **250 expert panel members** to assist in the development of the newly published and still-in-development guidelines.

CPG MOBILE APP

NEW



Launched in 2021, the CPG Mobile App is the **first and only tool of its kind, offering direct, easy, portable access to SITC's CPGs** via phone or tablet. Featuring interactive tools, advanced search functionality, and bookmarking and annotation capabilities, clinicians will find the SITC CPG Mobile App as the go-to resource on when and how to use immunotherapy to help improve outcomes for patients with cancer.

CPG WEBINARS

The SITC Cancer Immunotherapy Guideline online educational offerings **connect clinicians with the field's leading experts** through live and on-demand webinars. These offerings provide education about the guideline's expert panel recommendations and important aspects of immunotherapy treatment. In addition to an overview webinar for each guideline, in 2021 SITC created advanced webinars for select CPGs, highlighting Practical Management Pearls and Case Studies using the guideline's content as the base.



Professional Standards

SET INDUSTRY STANDARDS for the field of cancer immunotherapy in order to position SITC as the authority on immunotherapy of cancer

CERTIFICATE IN CANCER IMMUNOTHERAPY

SITC launched the Certificate in Cancer Immunotherapy Program with physicians and qualified healthcare providers in mind. Eight modules provide **knowledge and skills to provide effective and safe care for patients** treated with cancer immunotherapy.

557 participants in 2021

NEW

New Modules in 2021:

- Module 4: Managing Immune Checkpoint Adverse Events
- Module 5: Other Approaches (Cytokines, Vaccines, and Immune Cell Engagers)
- Module 6: Oncolytic Viruses and Intralesional Therapy
- Module 7: CAR T Cell and Cellular Therapy

Coming Soon:

- Module 8: Implementing Cancer Immunotherapy in Clinical Practice



Certificate in
Cancer Immunotherapy

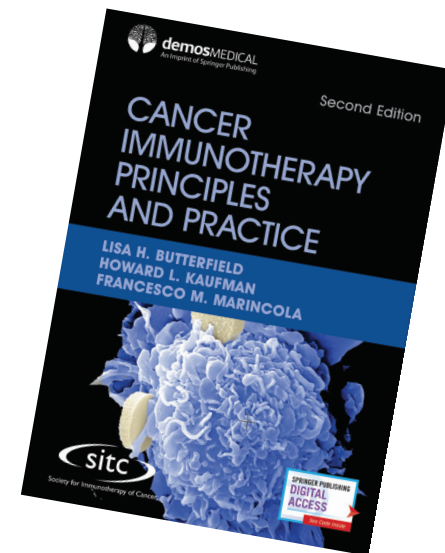
CANCER IMMUNOTHERAPY PRINCIPLES AND PRACTICE, 2ND ED.

NEW

Updated in 2021, this authoritative reference covers the basic science, clinical development, and application of cancer immunotherapies for those wishing to expand their knowledge base. The expanded and updated second edition now spans 68 chapters, including 12 new chapters, and includes detailed tables and instructive illustrations, as well as key points for quick reference.

Key Topics:

- Basic Principles of Tumor Immunology
- Cancer Immunotherapy Targets and Classes
- Immune Function in Cancer Patients
- Disease-Specific Treatments and Outcomes
- Regulatory Aspects of Cancer Immunotherapy





Global Access and Impact

ADVANCE THE SCIENCE and application of cancer immunotherapy worldwide

GLOBAL ACCESS TO IMMUNOTHERAPY

NEW

In 2020, SITC held a two-day Global Access to Immunotherapy: Closing the Gaps workshop, discussing barriers that limit access to PD-(L)1 checkpoint blockade and other emerging cancer immunotherapies across the globe. As a follow up, this year, SITC hosted the SITC Global Access: Adapting SITC's Education Materials for International Stakeholders workshop. International stakeholders met to audit SITC's current educational materials to determine their **suitability as educational resources for international audiences, focusing specifically on low- to middle-income countries**. In the coming year, SITC will work with these international stakeholders to adapt clinical education for physicians and nurses in low- to middle income countries.

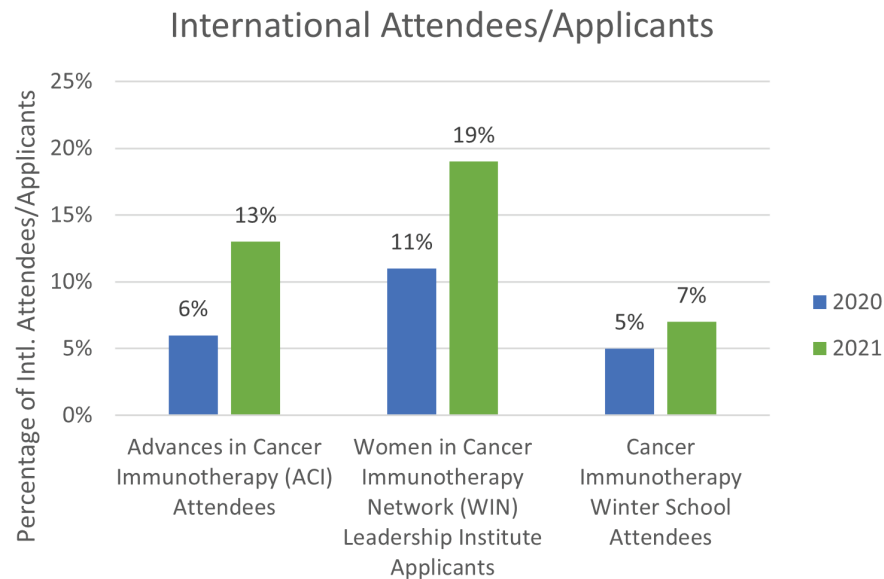
INTERNATIONAL GROWTH

SITC is the world leading organization dedicated to cancer immunotherapy. In just the last year, representation of international immunotherapists in SITC has grown considerably. As the field expands globally, SITC's international footprint continues to grow as well.

WORLD IMMUNOTHERAPY COUNCIL

SITC and the World Immunotherapy Council (WIC) are dedicated to advancing cancer immunotherapy and, likewise, the future leaders of the field. In 2021, the World Immunotherapy Council's Fourth Young Investigator Symposium featured 17 of the top young investigators from over 15 countries around the world.

17 early career investigators
from 15 countries





Policy and Advocacy

INFORM AND INFLUENCE the science and research, regulation, as well as quality of care and quality of access impacted by public policy, ensuring the patient voice is heard and recognized

ADVOCATING FOR INCREASED FUNDING FOR IMMUNOTHERAPY RESEARCH

In March 2021, SITC held annual **Capitol Hill visits through virtual meetings to advocate for SITC-drafted report language** to be included in Fiscal Year 2022 (FY22) FDA and NCI appropriation bills. This year's NCI language focuses on using lessons learned from the COVID-19 pandemic including **expediting investment in high-impact trials and increasing the use of correlative science** to accelerate immunotherapy research. The FY22 FDA language focuses on asking FDA for guidance regarding **clinical trial standardization for trials involving cellular therapy combinations**. Since 2017, SITC volunteers have successfully advocated for the inclusion of the society's language into annual federal appropriations bills.

13 congressional office visits in 2021

FDA and NCI appropriations language included in 2021 House-passed funding bills

IMPROVING PATIENT ACCESS

SITC Quality Measures Project

SITC has started developing **immunotherapy-centric quality measures** for consideration to be included for submission to the Merit-Based Incentive Payment System (MIPS) coordinated by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). Through this effort, SITC aims to ensure that cancer patients across the United States will receive the best and most appropriate treatment for their cancer.

SITC submitted its first quality measure to CMS in 2021: "Appropriate intervention of immune-related diarrhea or colitis in patients treated with immune checkpoint inhibitors"

SITC Patient Engagement and Advocacy Panel

The SITC Patient Education and Advocacy Panel is a new initiative that **provides support to immunotherapy patients and integrates their perspective** into SITC efforts. The panel is developing new educational and advocacy content, implementing novel communications and dissemination strategies, and facilitating patient integration into SITC efforts.

NEW



Science and Research

CHALLENGE THE THINKING and seek the best research in the exploration and development of tumor immunology and cancer immunotherapy

SEEKING THE BEST RESEARCH: SITC SCIENTIFIC WORKSHOPS

In 2021, SITC's scientific workshops dove into critical scientific questions, propelling the field forward. From **identifying targetable antigens in cellular therapy to optimizing bispecific targets to rational approaches to sequencing and combinations**, these scientific workshops and symposium featured timely and crucial topics.

- Interrogating the Tumor-Specific Surfaceome for Immune Targeting Workshop
- Bispecific T cell Engagers Workshop
- Cytokines in Cancer Immunotherapy Workshop
- Immuno-Resistance and Sequencing Symposium

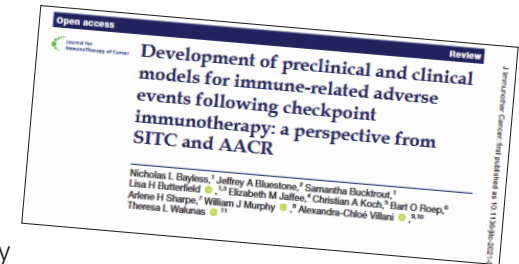
JOURNAL FOR IMMUNOTHERAPY OF CANCER

The *Journal for ImmunoTherapy of Cancer* (JITC) is SITC's open access, peer-reviewed online journal.

JITC's readership has doubled over the past year, encompassing over 200 countries throughout the world.

ADDRESSING HURDLES IN THE FIELD: SITC AND AACR COLLABORATION

SITC and the American Association for Cancer Research (AACR) collaborated to define recommendations for **advancing the understanding of immune-related adverse events resulting from immunotherapy treatments**. A direct output of The Cancer Biology Underlying Immunotherapy-Induced Autoimmunity workshop in 2020, the publication, *Development of preclinical and clinical models for immune-related adverse events following checkpoint immunotherapy: A perspective from SITC and AACR*, outlines recommendations published in the *Journal for ImmunoTherapy of Cancer* (JITC) and provides the field with guidance on how to address the pressing issue of toxicities.



COVID-19 AND CANCER IMMUNOTHERAPY REVIEW SERIES

Authored by leading voices in the immuno-oncology, infectious disease, and virology fields, this *JITC* series provided a valuable resource to readers as both a **source for hypothesis-generation for future basic and translational studies** as well as initial guidance in clinical decision-making relating to novel coronavirus.

13.751 Impact Factor

Top 5% percent of all journals published in the category of immunology and top 7% in the category of oncology according to the 2021 Journal Citation Reports.



**Journal for
ImmunoTherapy of Cancer**

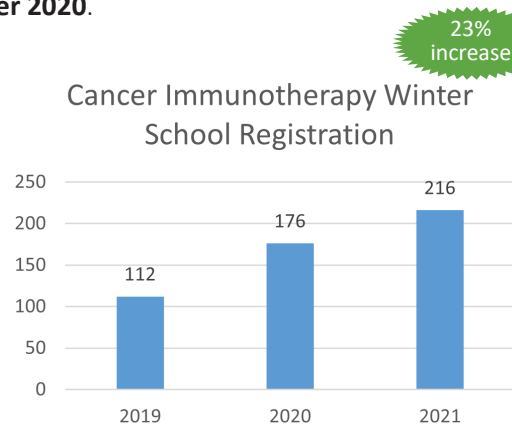


Leadership Development

CULTIVATE THE NEXT GENERATION of leaders and innovators in tumor immunology and cancer immunotherapy

CANCER IMMUNOTHERAPY WINTER SCHOOL

In its third year, the SITC Cancer Immunotherapy Winter School provided early career scientists and clinicians a deep understanding of the core principles of tumor immunology and cancer immunotherapy as well as developing areas in the field including biomarker technology, validation, and clinical integration; clinical trial design, data analysis and considerations for combination therapies. **2021 saw a 23% increase in attendance over 2020.**



100% of attendees would recommend the program to a colleague

WOMEN IN CANCER IMMUNOTHERAPY NETWORK LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE



Building on the success of the only-of-its-kind Women in Cancer Immunotherapy Network (WIN) Leadership Institute in 2019, **SITC hosted two WIN Leadership Institutes in 2021.** The Leadership Institutes look to provide female professionals with the tools they need to succeed as emerging leaders in the field of cancer immunotherapy.

100% of respondents would recommend the program to a colleague

"I especially appreciate how the women leaders in the field were so honest and vulnerable about their experiences. Such a valuable experience for me!"

SPARKATHON 2.0 ACCELERATOR: EMERGING LEADERS IGNITING INNOVATION

SITC's innovative program, Sparkathon 2.0 Accelerator is designed to foster leadership development, collaborations and scientific exchange among early career investigators who are emerging leaders in the field of cancer immunotherapy with Sparkathon 2.0 Accelerator: Emerging Leaders Igniting Innovation. This year, **SITC accepted 12 applicants into the Sparkathon Class of 2021**, beginning their journey together at the SITC 36th Annual Meeting & Pre-Conference Programs, focusing on the topic of mechanisms of resistance.



MEET-THE-EXPERT PROGRAMS

Throughout 2021, SITC hosted Meet-the-Expert webinars, an offshoot of SITC's Annual Meeting luncheons, focusing on **unique issues related to the career development of early career scientists.**

Topics included:

- Spinning your Lab into a Small Business
- Women in Immunotherapy

Forward Fund

ABOUT THE FORWARD FUND

In an effort to create opportunities that further the mission of SITC and expand the knowledge of and interest in cancer immunotherapy, SITC established the *Forward Fund*. Since 2014, SITC has awarded more than **\$5 million in research** funding to deserving early career scientists.



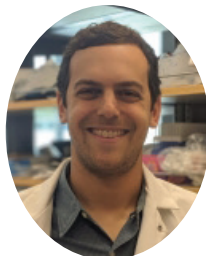
STEVEN A. ROSENBERG, MD, PHD, ENDOWED SCHOLARS FUND

Established in 2020 in honor of Dr. Rosenberg, this fund recognizes his many contributions to the field of cancer immunotherapy by providing research support to emerging leaders in the field. Each year, SITC seeks the best and brightest to continue Dr. Rosenbergs's legacy as a Rosenberg Scholar.



Dr. Steven A. Rosenberg MD, PhD
Cancer Researcher, Professor and Surgeon

This select group of deserving applicants will look to advance the science and tackle the hurdles facing cancer immunotherapy. **This year, SITC recognized Evan Weber, PhD as the second Rosenberg Scholar at SITC's 36th Annual Meeting.**



Evan Weber, PhD

FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS PROGRAM

Through the *Forward Fund*, SITC's Fellowship and Award program supports the development of early career scientists in the field to cultivate the next generation of cancer immunotherapy experts.

Four Cancer Immunotherapy Fellowship Awards totaling \$450,000 in support of early career scientists were awarded in 2021:

- 2021-2023 SITC-Bristol Myers Squibb Postdoctoral Cancer Immunotherapy Translational Fellowship Award: \$200,000 (two-year)
- 2021 SITC-Amgen Cancer Immunotherapy in Hematologic Malignancies Fellowship Award: \$100,000 (one-year)
- 2021 SITC-AstraZeneca Immunotherapy in Lung Cancer Clinical Fellowship Award: \$100,000 (one-year)
- 2021 SITC-Nektar Therapeutics Equity and Inclusion in Cancer Immunotherapy Fellowship \$50,000 (one-year)

Two Technology Awards

- SITC-Akoya Spatial Phenotyping Award
- SITC-NanoString Technologies Spatial Profiling Award

38 Abstract Travel and Presidential Awards

- SITC fosters the growth and development of the next generation of cancer immunotherapy experts and tumor immunologists by providing them additional support and opportunities to present their research at the SITC Annual Meeting. Young Investigator Awards include Abstract Travel, Annual Meeting, Presidential Travel and Presidential Awards.

26 SITC Meeting Travel Awards

- In addition to the Annual Meeting Travel Awards, SITC provided support to early career scientists to attend SITC's Cancer Immunotherapy Winter School, Cytokines and the World Immunotherapy Council.

12 New Class Members Added to Sparkathon

- Sparkathon, Class of 2021, welcomed 12 new members and met just prior to SITC 2021. Emerging leaders gathered to continue the Sparkathon tradition for early career scientists to ignite innovation with experts in the field.

To learn more about the *Forward Fund*, please visit sitcancer.org/donate.



