SITC 2018 Award Ceremony

Saturday, Nov. 10, 2018
Hall D
About the Award Ceremony

The Society for Immunotherapy of Cancer’s (SITC) 33rd Award Ceremony celebrates the achievements of current and future leaders in the cancer immunotherapy field.

The work of these dedicated individuals that include young investigators and luminaries in the field seeks to propel the field forward and build a solid foundation for future advances and soon, a cure.

About the Forward Fund

The future of cancer immunotherapy lies in research and education, primarily by early career scientists. The Forward Fund was established to stimulate the future of the science, development and application of cancer immunotherapy through financially supporting its education and research.

The Forward Fund provides grants that will help attract the brightest young minds in cancer and/or immunology research to the cancer immunotherapy domain. It informs those outside of the cancer immunotherapy field about the huge promise of this modality, which offers the potential of creating long-term remissions and/or prolongation of survival for people suffering from an expanding array of advanced cancer types.

The Forward Fund relies on the generosity of our members, foundations, industry partners and others to make these awards possible. Please contribute to ensure that we can keep providing these awards and ensure the future success of immunotherapy.

The Forward Fund is proud to financially support the Richard V. Smalley, MD, Memorial Lectureship Award, the SITC Presidential Award, Young Investigator Travel Awards, Named Postdoctoral Fellowships, and the SITC Sparkathon, as well as collaborative awards and fellowships.
33rd Award Ceremony
Saturday, Nov. 10, 2018
Hall D • 6:35–7 p.m.

Welcome
Lisa H. Butterfield, PhD – SITC President

Presentation of Awards

2018 Connect-a-Colleague Top Referrer

2018 Journal for ImmunoTherapy of Cancer (JITC) Best Paper Awards
  • JITC Best Basic Science Paper
  • JITC Best Clinical/Translational Paper

2018 Journal for ImmunoTherapy of Cancer (JITC) Founding Editor Awards

2018 Young Investigator Travel Awards
  • SITC Abstract Travel Awards
  • SITC Presidential Travel Awards

SITC Sparkathon Class of 2017

SITC Sparkathon Class of 2018

2018 Cancer Immunotherapy Fellowship Awards
  • SITC-AstraZeneca Postdoctoral Cancer Immunotherapy in Combination Therapies Clinical Fellowship Award
  • SITC-Bristol-Myers Squibb Postdoctoral Cancer Immunotherapy Translational Fellowship Award
  • SITC-Merck Cancer Immunotherapy Clinical Fellowship Award

2018 Collaborative Award
  • NCI Immunotherapy Fellowship

2018 Richard V. Smalley, MD, Memorial Award and Lectureship

2018 SITC Presidential Award

The celebration continues immediately following tonight’s Award Ceremony:

Poster Reception
Hall E • 7–8:30 p.m.

The CheckPoints Party
Marriott Marquis, Liberty Ballroom • 8:30–11:30 p.m.
The Connect-a-Colleague campaign is designed to encourage members to personally reach out and invite potential members to join the society. An online tool makes it easy for members to refer multiple potential members at a time. New members are also encouraged to indicate SITC members who referred them for membership. Nearly 320 SITC members have participated in the campaign, referring 26 percent of all new members. This year’s recipient has referred nine new members using the online tool.

Francesco M. Marincola, MD
Refuge Biotechnologies
2018 Journal for ImmunoTherapy of Cancer (JITC) Best Paper Awards

The JITC Best Paper Awards celebrate excellence in scientific research and are awarded to researchers demonstrating leadership in the field as well as innovation and high-quality execution and discussion in their manuscripts. Papers published in the last 12 months authored by SITC members were eligible for nomination for these awards.

JITC Best Basic Science Paper

Articles nominated in this category present innovative research in basic medical sciences that have a direct relevance to future research in clinical medicine.

Presented to First Author:

Patrick Danaher, PhD
NanoString Technologies

“Pan-cancer adaptive immune resistance as defined by the Tumor Inflammation Signature (TIS): results from The Cancer Genome Atlas (TCGA)”

Patrick Danaher, PhD; Sarah Warren, PhD; Rongze Lu, PhD; Josue Samayoa, PhD; Amy Sullivan, BS; Irena Pekker, PhD; Brett Wallden, MS; Francesco M. Marincola, MD and Alessandra Cesano, MD, PhD

*Journal for ImmunoTherapy of Cancer* 2018, 6:63 (22 June 2018)
2018 Journal for ImmunoTherapy of Cancer (JITC) Best Paper Awards (continued)

JITC Best Clinical/Translational Paper

Papers in this category present clinical research that has a clear potential to optimize patient care, with particular emphasis on high quality randomized controlled trials, novel combination treatments, therapies, novel diagnostic or prognostic insights and new insights into mechanism of action.

Presented to First Author:

Howard L. Kaufman, MD, FACS
Replimune Group

“Durable response rate as an endpoint in cancer immunotherapy: insights from oncolytic virus clinical trials”

Howard L. Kaufman, MD, FACS; Robert H. I. Andtbacka, MD, CM, FACS, FRCS; Frances A. Collichio, MD; Michael Wolf, MS; Zhongyun Zhao, PhD; Mark Shilkrut, MD, PhD; Igor Puzanov, MD, MSCI, FACP and Merrick Ross, MD

The *Journal for ImmunoTherapy of Cancer* (JITC) reached a monumental achievement this past summer by earning its first Impact Factor of 8.374. This accomplishment would not have been possible without the dedication and service of those who led the journal to always strive for excellence during its founding years. The JITC Founding Editor Service Awards recognize those who have served as the senior leadership of JITC’s Editorial Board since the journal’s founding.

**JITC Founding Editor-in-Chief Six-year Service Award**

*Pedro J. Romero, MD*

*Ludwig Center for Cancer Research*

**JITC Founding Section Editor Six-year Service Award**

*Lisa H. Butterfield, PhD*

*University of Pittsburgh*

*Thomas F. Gajewski, MD, PhD*

*University of Chicago*

*Cornelis J.M. Melief, MD, PhD*

*ISA Therapeutics BV*
2018 Journal for ImmunoTherapy of Cancer (JITC) Founding Editor Awards (continued)

JITC Founding Section Editor Five-year Service Award
F. Stephen Hodi, MD  
*Dana-Farber Cancer Institute*

JITC Founding Section Editor Four-year Service Award
Christian Capitini, MD  
*University of Wisconsin-Madison*

Bernard A. Fox, PhD  
*Earle A. Chiles Research Institute*

JITC Founding Editor Three-year Service Award
Leisha A. Emens, MD, PhD  
*University of Pittsburgh*

Alfred Zippelius, MD  
*University Hospital Basel*
JITC Founding Editor Two-year Service Award

Robert L. Ferris, MD, PhD
University of Pittsburgh

JITC Founding Editor One-year Service Award

Sandra Demaria, MD
Weill Cornell Medical College

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

Walter J. Urba, MD, PhD
Earle A. Chiles Research Institute
2018 SITC Abstract Travel Awards

Created in 2007, the Abstract Travel Award highlights promising young investigators who submitted high-scoring abstracts to the SITC Annual Meeting, based on the quality of their research and potential to advance the field. In 2018, 33 young investigators will receive travel awards in the abstract travel and presidential travel categories.

- Lawrence Andrews, PhD
  University of Pittsburgh

- Priyamvada Jayaprakash, PhD
  University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center

- Christopher A. Chuckran
  University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine

- Daniel H. Johnson, MD
  University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center

- Ellen Duong
  Massachusetts Institute of Technology

- Anusha Kalbasi, MD
  University of California, Los Angeles

- Colt Egelston, PhD
  Beckman Research Institute, City of Hope

- Chang Liu, PhD
  University of Pittsburgh

- Beth Helmink, MD, PhD
  The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center

- Alak Manna, PhD
  Mayo Clinic
2018 SITC Abstract Travel Awards (continued)

Teresa Manzo, PhD  
*European Institute of Oncology, Milan*

Jessica Roelands  
*Sidra Medical Research Center*

Ileana S. Mauldin, PhD  
*University of Virginia*

Alexander I. Salter, BS  
*Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center*

Ravi Patel, MD, PhD  
*University of Wisconsin*

Nicole E. Scharping, BS  
*University of Pittsburgh*

Sangeetha Reddy, MD, MSci  
*University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center*

Meenu Sharma, PhD  
*University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center*

Aaron M. Ring, MD, PhD  
*Yale University School of Medicine*

Eugene Shenderov, MD, PhD  
*Johns Hopkins Hospital*

Dayana B. Rivadeneira, PhD  
*University of Pittsburgh*

John-William Sidhom  
*Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine*
2018 SITC Abstract Travel Awards (continued)

Kellie N. Smith, PhD
Johns Hopkins School of Medicine

Jiao Wang, PhD
Purdue University

Ashwin Somasundaram, MD
University of Pittsburgh

McLane Watson, BS
University Of Pittsburgh

Davis Y. Torrejon, MD
UCLA Hematology-Oncology Department

Jiajia Zhang, MD, MPH
Johns Hopkins University

Joshua R. Veatch, MD, PhD
Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center
2018 SITC Presidential Travel Awards

Presidential Travel Award recipients’ abstracts are the top scoring among those submitted for the Annual Meeting by young investigators, based on quality of research, excellence in results and methods, and the potential of their work to advance the field. Of the four recipients pictured below, one will be selected to receive the SITC Presidential Award.

Gabriel Abril-Rodriguez, MS
University of California, Los Angeles

Yu Cao, PhD
H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center & Research Institute

Kristin G. Anderson, PhD
Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center

Hiroshi Yano, BS
University of Pittsburgh

2018 SITC Presidential Award

Established in 1991, the SITC Presidential Award is the most prestigious Young Investigator Award recognizing the young investigator deemed to have the most outstanding oral abstract presentation among those delivered in the Presidential Session of the SITC Annual Meeting.

The Presidential Award recipient will be announced at the end of the Award Ceremony.
The SITC Sparkathon program, launched in 2017, featured a “hackathon” meets “shark tank” retreat in Chicago. A class of 29 emerging leaders with a vested interest in cancer immunotherapy were invited to participate with the goal of identifying tangible projects that could be developed in the next 15+ months to tackle the hurdles facing the field.

Teams TimIOS and METIOR Incubator are working on the following projects:

- **TimIOS:** While facilitating cross-institutional collaboration through public-private partnership, TimIOS is working to build a research platform to identify fundamental differences between elite responders and non-responders to immune checkpoint inhibitor therapy.

- **METIOR Incubator:** This team-based, year-long mentored training program establishes interdisciplinary collaborations between clinicians, researchers and industry partners. METIOR fills the communication gap by providing teams with the tools to develop fundable hypothesis-driven immunotherapy projects.

### TimIOS

- Maria Ascierto, PhD  
  MedImmune

- Valentin Barsan, MD  
  University of California San Diego

- Praveen Bommareddy, MS  
  Rutgers University

- Alexandria Cogdill, MEng  
  MD Anderson Cancer Center

- Cara Haymaker, PhD  
  MD Anderson Cancer Center

- Uqba Khan, MD  
  St. John Hospital & Medical Center
SITC Sparkathon Class of 2017
(continued)

Heather McGee, MD, PhD
Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai

Anne Monette, PhD
University of Montreal, CHUM Research Center, Montreal Cancer Institute

Yana Najjar, MD
University of Pittsburgh

Wungki Park, MD
Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center

Vinita Popat, BA
UT Southwestern Medical Center

Nils-Petter Rudqvist, PhD
Weill Cornell Medicine

Houssein Sater, MD
National Cancer Institute

Randy Sweis, MD
University of Chicago

Nicholas Tschernia, MD
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Sara Valpione, MD, PhD
The Christie NHS Foundation Trust

Erik Wennerberg, PhD
Weill Cornell Medicine

Roberta Zappasodi, PhD
Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center
SITC Sparkathon Class of 2017 (continued)

METIOR Incubator

Sebastiano Battaglia, PhD
Roswell Park Cancer Institute

Saman Maleki, PhD
Lawson Health Research Institute

Rukmini Bhardwaj, PhD
U.S. Food and Drug Administration

Mahmoud Mohamed, R.Ph, MSc
Hamad Women’s Hospital

Alexandra Cadena, BS/BA
MD Anderson Cancer Center

David Page, MD
Earle A. Chiles Research Institute, Providence Cancer Center

Claire Friedman, MD
Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center

Marco Ruella, MD
University of Pennsylvania

Brian Henick, MD
Yale University

Claire Vanpouille-Box, PhD
Weill Cornell Medicine

Giedre Krenciute, PhD
St. Jude Children’s Hospital
SITC Sparkathon Class of 2018

SITC is pleased to recognize the SITC Sparkathon Class of 2018 featuring 28 emerging leaders in the fields of cancer immunotherapy, physical sciences, systems biology and statistics. The SITC Sparkathon program brings together investigators early in their careers with various backgrounds, degrees and professional experiences to collaboratively address obstacles the field of cancer immunotherapy faces.

The 2018 class launched its work during a three-day retreat in September during which participants worked together to develop innovative solutions to hurdles in the field. The class will present their finding during the 34th Annual Meeting in November 2019.

David Aggen, MD, PhD
Columbia University Medical Center

Sarah Church, PhD
NanoString Technologies

Kristin G. Anderson, PhD
Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center; University of Washington

Vaia Florou, MD
University of Miami - Miller School of Medicine

Todd Bartkowiak, PhD
Vanderbilt University

Christopher “Kit” Fuhrman, PhD
NanoString Technologies

Namrata Chandhok, MD
Yale University; Yale New Haven Hospital

Jennifer Guerriero, PhD
Dana-Farber Cancer Institute
SITC Sparkathon Class of 2018
(continued)

Rachel Howard, PhD
H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center & Research Institute

Sabina Kaczanowska, PhD
National Cancer Institute, National Institutes of Health

Claire Margolis, MS
Dana-Farber Cancer Institute

Thomas Marron, MD, PhD
Tisch Cancer Institute - Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai

Abdul Rafeh Naqash, MD
East Carolina University; Vidant Medical Center

Hong Ha “Rosa” Nguyen, MD
University of Maryland; St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital

Sabina Kaczanowska, PhD
National Cancer Institute, National Institutes of Health

Abigail “Abby” Overacre-Delgoffe, PhD
Children’s Hospital of Pittsburgh

Ravi Patel, MD, PhD
University of Wisconsin-Madison

Sangeetha Reddy, MD, MSci
University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center

Maria Rodriguez-Ruiz, MD, PhD
Weill Cornell Medicine

Aideen Ryan, PhD
National University of Ireland – Galway
SITC Sparkathon Class of 2018 (continued)

Esha Sachdev, MD
Olive View Medical Center; Cedars Sinai Medical Center

Yinghong “Mimi” Wang, MD, PhD
University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center

Michal Sheffer, PhD
Dana-Farber Cancer Institute

Yuanquan “Aaron” Yang, MD, PhD
Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Center

Dipti Thakkar, PhD
Hummingbird Bioscience

Rania Younis, BDS, MDS, PhD
University of Maryland – Baltimore

Jessica Thaxton, PhD, MsCR
Medical University of South Carolina

Jiajia Zhang, MD, MPH
Johns Hopkins University

Support the SITC Sparkathon and Double Your Impact!

Give to the SITC Forward Fund and your gift will be matched by an anonymous donor!*

Learn more about the Forward Fund and donate at sitcancer.org/donate

*Match applies to new and increased gifts
As a 501(c)(3) organization, donations made to SITC are tax deductible as a charitable contribution to the extent allowed by law.
2018 Cancer Immunotherapy Fellowship Awards

SITC is proud to announce the recipients of the 2018 Cancer Immunotherapy Fellowships Awards. Established through the Forward Fund, the SITC Fellowship Award program supports the development of young investigators in the field to cultivate the next generation of cancer immunotherapy experts.

SITC would like to thank AstraZeneca Pharmaceuticals LP, Bristol-Myers Squibb, Merck & Co. Inc. and the National Cancer Institute for helping to make these awards possible.

**SITC-AstraZeneca Postdoctoral Cancer Immunotherapy in Combination Therapies Clinical Fellowship Award**

Bryan D. Choi, MD, PhD
*Massachusetts General Hospital and Harvard Medical School*

“Combination Immunotherapy with Chimeric Antigen Receptor T cells and Bispecific T-cell Engagers for Glioblastoma”

**SITC-Bristol-Myers Squibb Postdoctoral Cancer Immunotherapy Translational Fellowship Award**

David Liu, MD, MPH, MS,
*Dana-Farber Cancer Institute*

“Dissecting Differential Response to Immunotherapy in Melanoma through Clinical Computational Oncology”
2018 Cancer Immunotherapy Fellowship Awards (continued)

SITC-Merck Cancer Immunotherapy Clinical Fellowship Award

Kelly G. Paulson, MD, PhD,
Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center

“Turning immunotherapy responses into immunotherapy cures for the virus-associated Merkel cell carcinoma”
2018 Collaborative Award

NCI Immunotherapy Fellowship

This award, co-sponsored by the National Cancer Institute (NCI) of the National Institutes of Health and SITC and made possible in part by a grant from EMD Serono, provides a young investigator with an opportunity to further their education and experience in the field of cancer immunotherapy. This fellow will have exposure to multiple clinical immunotherapeutic approaches, and also to key opinion leaders in the field of clinical immunotherapy during this one year program at the CCR in Bethesda, MD.

Jason M. Redman, MD
National Cancer Institute
2019 Cancer Immunotherapy Fellowship Opportunities

SITC is proud to offer the following fellowship in 2019 made possible through the generosity and partnerships of the organizations outlined below. More information about these awards, including the submission timeline, criteria and deadlines will be released in December on SITC Cancer Immunotherapy CONNECT, the society’s official website. The submission site will open in January.

2019 SITC-AstraZeneca Immunotherapy in Lung Cancer/(Early stage NSCLC) Clinical Fellowship Award

A one-year award ($100,000) for an individual with an MD or combined MD/PhD degree, interested in furthering the research and translation of immunotherapeutic approaches for treating patients with early stage NSCLC.

SITC’s Holbrook Kohrt, MD, PhD

Cancer Immunotherapy Translational Memorial Fellowship Award (Sponsored by Genentech)

A one-year award ($100,000) for an individual with an MD, PhD or combined MD/PhD degree, interested in furthering the research and translation of cancer immunotherapy.

This fellowship award is named after Holbrook Kohrt, MD, PhD, assistant professor at the Stanford University School of Medicine, renowned for his clinical trials research examining novel immunologic approaches and his translational research on novel therapies to enhance anti-tumor immunity. Dr. Kohrt was a member of the Levy Laboratory, which helped develop and test the first U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA)-approved antibody against cancer for the treatment of lymphoma in 1997. He started his own laboratory in 2012, and helped develop five novel patented approaches to cancer immunotherapy.
2018 Richard V. Smalley, MD, Memorial Award and Lectureship

About the Smalley Award

The Richard V. Smalley, MD, Memorial Award and Lectureship is named in honor and memory of the past SITC president and charter member. A charter member of the society, Dr. Smalley was an integral part of SITC’s fabric from its inception, serving on the original Board of Directors from 1984-1990, and as the society’s third President from 1988 - 1990, leading the society through some of its most formative years.

Established in 2005, the SITC Smalley Award is the society’s most prestigious award given to a recognizable clinician/scientist and luminary in the field that has significantly contributed to the advancement of cancer immunotherapy research. The award honors those who have been pioneers in their work and made a notable impact worthy of high regard and recognition by their peers.

SITC is proud to recognize Philip D. Greenberg, MD, Head, Program in Immunology, Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center (Seattle), and Professor, Medicine (Oncology) and Immunology, University of Washington (St. Louis, Mo.), as the 2018 Richard V. Smalley, MD, Memorial Award and Lectureship recipient.
About Philip D. Greenberg, MD

Dr. Greenberg is a world expert in discovering how disease-fighting immune cells known as T cells can be manipulated to treat a range of cancers. As head of Fred Hutch’s Program in Immunology, Dr. Greenberg led the team that first showed it is possible to extract T cells from a sick patient’s body, isolate the desired disease-fighting T cells, multiply them to billions in the laboratory, and infuse these targeted T cells back into the patient to seek and destroy particular diseased cells. That same approach has since been used to treat patients with advanced melanoma and other cancers.

Among other honors, Dr. Greenberg has twice received the National Institutes of Health MERIT Award, and his peers have elected him a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science and the American College of Physicians. He has played a role on numerous national committees and boards, and he is currently a member of the Scientific Advisory Council of the Cancer Research Institute.

Dr. Greenberg also developed a way to aim T cells specifically at leukemia cells, genetically engineering them to efficiently recognize a protein that “flags” tumor cells while sparing healthy cells without the protein flags. Currently, this therapy is in clinical trials for leukemia patients who have relapsed and is showing great promise. His lab is also developing equivalent approaches targeting lung, ovarian and pancreatic cancers. In addition to his cancer research, Dr. Greenberg is collaborating with a large team to develop effective laboratory models to facilitate the development of a vaccine to augment the immune system’s response to HIV.
The Society for Immunotherapy of Cancer would like to thank all of the individuals, corporations and foundations who have generously donated this year to the Forward Fund.

Your generous donations are paving the way for the future leaders in the cancer immunotherapy field. With the financial support of so many, the Forward Fund was proud to have financially supported the following awards in 2018: Richard V. Smalley, MD, Memorial Award & Lectureship, the SITC Presidential Award, 33 Young Investigator Awards, three Named Postdoctoral Fellowships and 28 SITC Sparkathon Recipients!

Thank you for your support!

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Rosanna Wustrack, MD
Lei Xiong, PhD
Clinton Yam, MD
Daisy Yang
Xiangcang Ye, PhD
Maurice Zauderer, PhD

2018 Memorial Donations

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Aaron and Ellen Edelstein
Vicki Flannery
Sharon Helmink
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Kerry Malland
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In Memory of Mr. Claude Hobbs
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Allison Pozeznik

In Memory of Natasha Powderly
Geraldine Hall

Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of this list. If you note an error, please accept our sincere apologies and inform the Development Office at (414) 271-2456 or development@sitcancer.org.

2018 Forward Fund Donors as of Oct. 15, 2018
“Throughout my career as a grad student and postdoc, the Forward Fund provided critical support, so now it’s time for me to give back. I am helping to provide early career scientists with similar opportunities so that they can succeed too.”

Stefani Spranger, PhD
2014 SITC Presidential Travel Award Recipient
2019 SITC Annual Meeting Program Organizer

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*Match applies to new and increased gifts