

2020 Board and Officer Elections Nominations from the Membership (10.27.2020)

President-Elect

Amy H. Bouton, PhD, Harrison Distinguished Professor in Microbiology, Immunology and Cancer Biology; Associate Director for Education and Training, UVA Cancer Center; University of Virginia.

- My research focuses on intracellular signaling pathways that drive aggressive breast tumor behaviors
- I serve as AD for Education in the UVA Cancer Center, PI of an NCI T32 and co-PI of an NCI R25. I served on NCI-F (T32), and was a member and Chair of both Tumor Cell Biology (TCB) and NCI-I (K99/R00). I serve on external advisory boards of cancer training programs at Georgetown, U Colorado, U Nebraska, UNC, Vanderbilt and Yale.
- I have attended multiple CABTRAC retreats and served on the Exec Board (2017-19). I have led numerous sessions on T32, F and K awards.
- These are uniquely challenging times, rendered more difficult by a pandemic that disproportionately threatens the career trajectories of our trainees and junior faculty. It would be an honor to work with the CABTRAC community to tackle these challenges as part of our mission to train the next generation of cancer researchers.

Mary Reyland, PhD, Professor (tenured), Department of Craniofacial Biology, and Director, Graduate Program in Cancer Biology, University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus

- My Research: Protein kinase C (PKC) family in apoptosis and cancer, with current focus on how PKC β regulates DNA repair.
- Leadership in Cancer Biology Education: Program director for the Cancer Biology Graduate Program; co-PI of an NCI T32 and PI of an R25 for summer fellowship program. Nationally, I have reviewed T32, K12, R25, and NRSA proposals and serve on many External Advisory Boards and review teams.
- Participation in CABTRAC: Attended CABTRAC retreat since 2010 (except 2016). Planning team for several retreats; host institution representative in 2014. (Co-)presented often (e.g., workshops for T32 development and review). This year I will co-lead workshops on the “new” T32 submission, R25 grants, and Diversity Recruitment. CABTRAC Board member since 2018.
- My Motivation: I bring years of experience with training programs that span undergraduate to postdoctoral trainees and 10 years of active participation in CABTRAC. As President I will strive to ensure that CABTRAC provides our community with the tools needed for success in cancer biology training at all levels.

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Board Director

Menashe Bar-Eli, PhD, Professor and Deputy Chair, Department of Cancer Biology, M.D. Anderson Cancer Center.

- I am a world leader in the field of melanoma growth and metastasis.
- At M.D. Anderson, I serve as the Director of the GSBS Cancer Biology Program, Co-Director of the T-32 training grant in Cancer Biology, Co-Director of the Cancer Metastasis Center, and Co-Director of MDA Cancer Biology and Metastasis program, Cancer Center Support Grant.
- Every year, we send a representative to the CABTRAC annual Retreat (one of my co-directors). This year, I have decided to join the Board myself to serve on one of the open Director positions.
- As the Director of one of the largest Cancer Biology Program in the country, I can share my experience in helping the Board
- In recruiting underserved students, enhance diversity and to bring training in Cancer Biology to the forefront of Science.

Janet V. Cross, PhD, Associate Dean for Graduate and Medical Scientist Programs and Associate Professor of Medical Education and Pathology, University of Virginia School of Medicine

- My scientific or professional discipline or field: Cancer Cell Signaling, Tumor Immunology, Graduate Education
- My role(s) in Cancer Biology training at your institution, and on relevant advisory boards or review panels elsewhere: Recruiting Director for the NCI T32-supported Cancer Training Program; co-PI of Summer Research Experiences in Cancer (SuRE-C) R25; Advisory Board, Hampton University U-RISE
- My participation in CABTRAC, including number of annual retreats attended, sessions (co-)presented, service on committees and/or committees chaired, or prior Board experience: Attendee for last 5 years. Chair, Enhancing Diversity Committee since 2017. For 2019 meeting, organized sessions and hosted speakers for several sessions and a panel discussion with speakers and student reps. Also co-led session (w/ Adrienne Cox) for trainees on preparing fellowship applications.
- What I might bring to the Board and my motivation for wanting to serve on the Board: I have been an active member of the CABTRAC community for a number of years, including serving in a leadership position for the DEI initiatives within the group. I would welcome the opportunity to take a broader role in the leadership of the organization so that I might bring this and other experience to the discussion and design of future directions.

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Kristin A. Eckert, PhD, Oncology, Professor of Pathology; Chief, Division of Experimental Pathology Division; Associate Director for Cancer Research Training and Education Coordination, Penn State Cancer Institute, Penn State University (PSU).

- My NCI-funded laboratory uses transdisciplinary approaches to study human genome replication and the factors inducing genome instability during carcinogenesis.
- Distinguished Educator; created new Cancer Biology PSU graduate program; past Graduate School council member. MPI of new program for underserved pre-college students, teachers and undergraduates. Past Director, Office of Postdoctoral Affairs; regular member, NCI fellowship and grant review panels. Serve on Board of Directors of local non-profit organization.
- Attended 3 CABTRAC meetings since becoming AD (2018). Participated in speed mentoring(3x) and poster judging (2x).
- My career has been dedicated to cancer research training, and I am motivated to continue my efforts at the national level. I bring extensive and broad experiences in research, education, mentorship, leadership, administration, and service as a Board member.

Jon C.D. Houtman, PhD, Associate Professor of Microbiology and Immunology, Associate Director for Career Enhancement, Holden Comprehensive Cancer Center at the University of Iowa

- I study how external stimuli modulate human T cell activation and lead the Human Immunology Core, which provides correlative science support for immune oncology clinical trials.
- I am the Associate Director of Career Enhancement, where I oversee all educational initiatives at the HCCC. I am the co-Principal Investigator for an R25 YES Summer Research program to be resubmitted soon to NCI.
- I have attended the last three CABTRAC retreats. I have presented in 2018 on Minority Recruitment into Graduate Programs and 2020 on Surviving Virtual Site Visits for CCSGs.
- I would bring to the board expertise on the development of educational programs at a Cancer Center and experience in the recruitment and training of underrepresented minorities and students from rural backgrounds.

Brian Keith, PhD, Professor and Dean of Biomedical Studies, The Wistar Institute

- My research, performed in collaboration with Dr. Celeste Simon, focuses on the roles of hypoxia, HIF proteins, and altered metabolism in tumor progression.
- I am Associate Director for Education and Training at the Wistar Institute Cancer Center, serve on the EAB of Wistar's NCI T32 grant, and co-direct the Wistar Institute-USciences

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PhD Program in Cancer Biology. I was formerly Associate Director of Education at the University of Pennsylvania's Abramson Cancer Center, where I directed a Cancer Biology graduate group for nearly 10 years.

- I have attended 6 CABTRAC retreats, initially representing UPenn, and since 2017 as Wistar's representative
- I have developed and taught Cancer Biology curricula for undergraduate, graduate, and medical school students, participated in CABTRAC curriculum development committees, and want to help better integrate basic and clinical cancer education

Kathleen O'Connor, PhD, Professor of Molecular and Cellular Biochemistry, Associate Director of Cancer Education and Mentoring for the Markey Cancer Center, University of Kentucky

- I am an integrin biologist studying how integrins read the microenvironment to influence cell motility/invasion, epigenetics, DNA repair and therapeutic outcome in carcinomas with an emphasis on triple negative breast cancer.
- At the UK Markey Cancer Center, I serve as the inaugural Associate Director of Cancer Education and Mentoring where I developed the cancer education and training environment at Markey from the ground up. I am the co-director/co-PI of two T32 training programs (one in cancer biology [predo/postdoc level] and one for surgeon-scientists) and am the PI of our ACS-IRG. I also serve as an external advisory board member or site visit consultant for other NCI-designated cancer centers and serve on multiple NIH study sections including (F awards, T32/R25 awards and F99/K00 awards.)
- I have attended the last three CABTRAC meetings, served on a discussion panel for this year's CCSG CRTEC discussion, worked with other CABTRAC members to generate a database of CABTRAC-associated faculty educators and education coordinators, and helped draft the letter to Dr. Henry Ciolino that helped eliminate the predoc:postdoc ratio for T32s.
- I bring the perspectives of a CRTEC associate director from a smaller cancer center who understands how to effectively build cancer education and mentoring programs. I have extensive experience in cancer curriculum development, run a fellowship boot camp, run a successful faculty mentoring program and actively serve nationally in grant review. I have been impressed with the collegiality and mission of CABTRAC and want the opportunity to serve and help the continued growth and success of CABTRAC. Ultimately, I would like to see all CCSG CRTEC programs rate as exceptional and believe that CABTRAC can play a central role in making it a reality.

Lalita Shevde-Samant, PhD, Professor of Pathology, Associate Director for Education & Training, O'Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center, Univ. of Alabama at Birmingham.

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- My program leads research to define the role of developmental signaling on immune regulation in breast cancer.
- I direct the Cancer Biology Ph.D. Theme at UAB (total 12 years at two institutions). I am co-PI of an NCI YES program to build an innovative and effective pathway to cancer research careers, focused on minorities. I regularly participate in NCI P30 Cancer Center Site Visits.
- I have attended 6 of 9 CABTRAC retreats since 2011. I judge poster sessions and participate in speed-mentoring.
- I founded a global program, the Early Career Ambassadors of Metastasis Research (ECAM), as a conduit for mentees to interact with senior metastasis researchers for career advancement. I am excited to bring this portfolio to CABTRAC.

Nathan Vanderford, PhD, MBA, Assistant Professor of Toxicology and Cancer Biology, Assistant Director for Education and Research, and Director of the Appalachian Career Training in Oncology Program, University of Kentucky (UK).

- I am recognized for scholarship on the subject of trainee career development.
- At UK, I am the director of an NCI R25 program that engages undergraduate and high school students. I teach a grant writing and career development course. I serve on ASBMB's Education/Professional Development Committee. I also serve on an NIH special emphasis fellowship study section (> 10 times).
- I have attended one CABTRAC meeting in which I presented on career development for PhD trainees.
- I would like to serve on the board to share my experience in creating, evaluating and disseminating information about innovative approaches to enhance the career development of trainees.

Angela Wandinger-Ness, PhD, of Pathology, Associate Director Education, Training and Mentoring, University of New Mexico Comprehensive Cancer Center and Health Sciences Center

- Internationally recognized research on GTPases and therapeutic translation for ovarian cancer; 7 awarded US patents.
- Associate Director Education, Training, Mentoring; University of New Mexico Comprehensive Cancer Center (UNMCCC)
- UNMCCC joined CABTRAC on my recommendation, attended CABTRAC 2014, PhD student presented research from my lab in 2016, two UNMCCC faculty supported to

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attend in 2018, will attend 2020 meeting with two co-directors and two UNMCCC trainees.

- I will bring significant education leadership experience as PI CURE program for cancer research training of Native American scholars (2015-21), Director Cancer Biology Concentration (2015-20), Assistant Dean for Graduate Studies (2005-08), PI K12 Institutional Research and Career Development Award for postdocs (2009-24), elected member AAMC GREAT Postdoctorate Leaders Section Steering Committee (2019-22).