



**GEORGIA  
CANCER CENTER**  
AUGUSTA UNIVERSITY



## First Annual Georgia Cancer Center Retreat

Augusta Marriott at the Convention Center

Friday, June 28, 2024

7:30AM - 4:30PM

7:30 - 8:00	<b>Registration and Breakfast</b>
8:00 - 8:15	<b>Welcome</b> David Hess, MD, EVP, Medical Affairs and Dean, Medical College of Georgia
8:15 - 9:30	<b>Keynote Lecture</b> Raymond N. DuBois, MD, PhD, Director of MUSC Hollings Cancer Center
9:30 - 10:00	<b>Path Towards NCI Designation</b> Jorge Cortes, MD, Director, Georgia Cancer Center
10:00 - 10:30	<b>BREAK</b>
10:30 - 11:30	<b>Molecular Oncology and Biomarkers Research Program</b>
10:30-10:45	<b><i>Molecular Oncology and Biomarker Research Program, Present and Future</i></b> Nahid Mivechi, PhD, Professor of Radiation Oncology and Program Leader for Molecular Oncology and Biomarker Research Program
10:50-11:05	<b><i>Kidney, Bladder and Prostate Research Program at Georgia Cancer Center</i></b> Balakrishna Lokeshwar, PhD, Professor, Georgia Cancer Center
11:10-11:25	<b><i>Blockade of TREM1 signaling as a novel therapeutic approach for cancer treatment</i></b> Anatolij Horuzsko, MD, PhD, Professor of Medicine, Biochemistry and Molecular Biology
11:30 - 12:00	<b>State of the Research in Georgia Cancer Center</b> Balveen Kaur, PhD, Professor of Pathology and Associate Director, Georgia Cancer Center
12:00 - 2:00	<b>Lunch and Posters</b>
2:00 - 3:00	<b>Cancer Immunology Research Program</b>
2:00 - 2:15	<b><i>Cancer Immunology Program Overview</i></b> Catherine "Lynn" Hedrick, PhD, Professor of Medicine, Head of Cancer Immunology, Inflammation, and Tolerance (CIIT) Division of GCC
2:15-2:30	<b><i>The CD73-ADO immune checkpoint during tumor progression and therapy</i></b> Yan Cui, PhD, Professor of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology
2:30-2:45	<b><i>Targeting the RAS-MAPK signaling pathway to unleash antitumor immunity</i></b> Gang Zhou, PhD, Professor of Medicine, Biochemistry and Molecular Biology
2:45-3:00	<b><i>CAR T cell affinity: Moderate is better</i></b> Yukai He, MD, PhD, Professor of Medicine, Biochemistry and Molecular Biology
3:00 - 3:30	<b>State of Clinical Research</b> Vamsi Kota, MD, Professor of Medicine, Director of Bone Marrow & Stem Cell Transplant Program
3:30 - 4:15	<b>Outstanding Awardee Talks (Two 20-minute talks)</b>
4:15 - 4:30	<b>Posters and Art of Cancer Science awardee announcements</b>