

News & Views



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NEWSLETTER OF THE STONY BROOK UNIVERSITY CANCER CENTER

Christopher S. Lee, MD, has joined the Stony Brook University Cancer Center as Assistant Professor in the Departments of Urology and Molecular Genetics and Microbiology. Dr Lee comes to Stony Brook from New York University (NYU) Medical Center where he practiced in the Department of Urology and was director of Translational Research at the NYU Cancer Institute.

He serves as the Cancer Center's Director of the Genitourinary Cancer Vaccine Program and the Minimally Invasive Urologic Oncology Program. His clinical focus is treating prostate cancer and bladder cancer patients by using minimally invasive approaches, namely advanced laparoscopic and robotic applications in surgery, as well as the use of adjuvant immunotherapy and chemotherapy. He is an expert in the field of robotic surgery, and in 2003 performed the first successful robotic prostatectomy in the Washington, DC, area while practicing at Walter Reed Medical Center.

While at NYU Medical Center, Dr Lee was the principal investigator on numerous clinical trials, including two trials evaluating prostate cancer vaccines for hormone-refractory prostate cancer. He is working to reopen these prostate cancer vaccine trials at Stony Brook.

Dr Lee's joint faculty appointment is a natural fit for promoting translational research within the Department of

Urology and helping the Cancer Center remain at the forefront of cancer vaccine research. His lab concentrates on



developing prostate and bladder cancer vaccines. Dr Lee has conducted extensive studies developing preclinical vaccine models for bladder and kidney cancers and has studied the pathogenesis of cancer through gene arrays and proteomics.

Another new research scientist is working with Dr Lee on building the translational vaccine research program. Sandra Reynolds, PhD, comes to the Cancer Center from New York University School of

Medicine in Manhattan where she worked on clinical trials for cancer vaccines. She and Dr Lee are co-principal investigators for a prostate cancer peptide vaccine that is currently in a clinical trial there. They hope to open this trial in Stony Brook for patients with prostate cancer.

Dr Reynolds expertise is in the area of immune monitoring of patients during cancer vaccine trials. She has also worked to develop new serum markers for melanoma and plans to continue this work at Stony Brook.