The Cancer Institute of New Jersey Associate Director Named AAAS Fellow

Eileen White, PhD, associate director for basic science at The Cancer Institute of New Jersey (CINJ) and adjunct professor of surgery at UMDNJ-Robert Wood Johnson Medical School, has been named as one of 503 fellows by the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) for her contributions to medical sciences. AAAS is an international professional organization dedicated to advancing science and technology. Dr. White, who is also a professor of molecular biology and biochemistry at Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, is internationally recognized for her work in programmed cell death (apoptosis) and cell self-digestion (autophagy). Recent breakthroughs in this latter area of study -- described as a means of survival for a cancer cell through self-cannibalization -- have been discovered in the laboratory of White and her colleagues. Dr. White joins Chung S. Yang, PhD, who leads CINJ’s Carcinogenesis and Chemoprevention Program. Dr. Yang, chair and professor of chemical biology in the Ernest Mario School of Pharmacy at Rutgers University, conducts research on the mechanisms behind cancer development in the esophagus and colon and natural methods of cancer prevention.

The Cancer Institute of New Jersey Foundation is Named Panera Bread’s 2011 'Community Breadbox Partner'

Panera Bread® has expanded its contributions to the fight against cancer by selecting the Cancer Institute of New Jersey Foundation as its Community Breadbox Partner for 2011. Now through year’s end, funds collected through coin boxes near the registers at Panera Bread bakery-cafés in the central and northern regions of the state will benefit treatment, research, prevention and education efforts at CINJ. Panera will also match a portion of the donations. The Community Breadbox initiative is part of Panera’s comprehensive Operation Dough-Nation® Program, which has a concentrated focus on giving back to patrons and the communities in which Panera’s bakery-cafés are located. The Community Breadbox campaign also will include unique opportunities for CINJ to provide education and information about the latest cancer research and the importance of early detection and prevention education both to Panera’s patrons and its employees. It was in 2007 that Panera in northern and central New Jersey first partnered with CINJ on its Pink Ribbon Bagel campaign to support breast cancer research and care.

The Cancer Institute of New Jersey and the New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services Commemorate Teen Cancer Awareness Week

In recognition of Teen Cancer Awareness Week, New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services Commissioner Dr. Poonam Alaigh recently visited the Alicia Rose Teen Lounge at The Cancer Institute of New Jersey. The room, named in honor of the South Jersey teen who lost her battle with cancer at age 17 and established through the Alicia Rose ‘Victorious’ Foundation, features such amenities as laptop computers, a television, and gaming system. Dignitaries including Commissioner Alaigh, State Senator James Beach, and Assemblyman Louis Greenwald joined Gisele and Mario DiNatale, founders of the Alicia Rose Victorious Foundation, at the special commemoration event to address the unique needs faced by teenage cancer patients. Celebrity Chef Buddy Valastro of Carlo’s Bake Shop of Hoboken and TLC’s Cake Boss provided a cake for the event.