

2026 President-Elect (& 2027 President) Candidates

One Seat Open



Lawrence Boise, PhD

Professor & Vice Chair for Faculty
Development & Promotions
Dept of Hematology and Medical
Oncology
Emory University School of Medicine

Associate Director for CRTEC
Winship Cancer Institute of Emory U



Kathleen O'Connor, PhD

Professor of Molecular and Cellular
Biochemistry

Associate Director of Cancer
Education and Mentoring

Markey Cancer Center,
University of Kentucky



Rebecca B. Riggins, PhD

Professor of Oncology

Associate Director for CRTEC

Georgetown Lombardi
Comprehensive Cancer Center



Lalita Shevde-Samant, PhD

Professor of Pathology
University of Alabama at Birmingham
(UAB)

Associate Director for CRTEC
UAB O'Neal Comprehensive Cancer
Center



Lawrence Boise, PhD

- Intrinsic and extrinsic factors that influence myeloma cell survival and response to therapy.
- I am AD for Education and Training at the Winship Cancer Institute. I am the contact PI on a T32 and have served in leadership roles in 4 graduate programs.
- I am on the CABTRAC Director's Board (since 2022) and serve as an NCI liaison and on the CRTEC committee. I have attended 5 of the last 6 retreats and have participated in speed mentoring, F and K award panels and CRTEC panels.
- I am committed to the mission of CABTRAC and bring leadership experience in cancer education and career development for all levels of learners.



Kathleen O'Connor, PhD

- I study how integrins influence cell motility/invasion, epigenetics, DNA repair and therapeutic outcome in TNBC.
- I served as Associate Director of Cancer Education and Mentoring since 2010 where I grew our cancer education and training environment from the ground up I director five training programs and serve on EABs for other NCI-designated cancer centers.
- I have attended the last 8 CABTRAC meetings, served on multiple discussion panels, organized faculty development sessions, worked with other CABTRAC members to advocate for our trainees.
- I bring the perspectives of a smaller cancer center and understand how to effectively build cancer education and mentoring programs. I love the collegiality and mission of CABTRAC and want the opportunity to serve continue to serve CABTRAC.



Rebecca Riggins, PhD

- Orphan and ligand-regulated nuclear receptor signaling in cancer.
- Internal Advisor for Georgetown pre- and post-doc T32s; External Advisor for Yale and Northwestern T32s; PI of American Cancer Society institutional grants for early career faculty and undergraduates.
- First attended CABTRAC in 2007 as a trainee, and all CABTRAC retreats since 2019; Panelist or co-lead for CABTRAC sessions since 2023; CABTRAC Board since January 2024.
- My leadership of pre- and postdoctoral training initiatives and CRTEC brings a unique viewpoint that integrates our increasingly diverse membership. Twenty five (25) of my 33 trainees identify as women, 15 of 33 as minoritized scientists, and they have thrived in diverse research-intensive careers, from industry and health policy roles to academic faculty.



Lalita Shev de Samant, PhD

- Director, Cancer Biology PhD Theme
- PI/CoPI, NCI R25, American Cancer Society grants, multiple CCSG Reviews
- CABTRAC Board Member 2021-2026; CABTRAC member since ~2011, attended most meetings since then
- Participated in poster judging poster, speed mentoring, panel discussant
- I would like to expand the footprint for CABTRAC in cancer education and career pathways via two action items
 - (i) defining a set of uniform CRTEC metrics
 - (ii) creating a body of early career researchers representing graduate and postdoctoral trainees in basic/translational cancer biology/treatment/population sciences to develop leadership and professional skills in a structured setting.

2026 Board Director 3-yr Term Candidates



Scott M. Dehm, PhD
Professor of Laboratory
Medicine and Pathology,
University of Minnesota



Steven Kridel, PhD
Chair, Department of
Cancer Biology
Wake Forest
University School of
Medicine



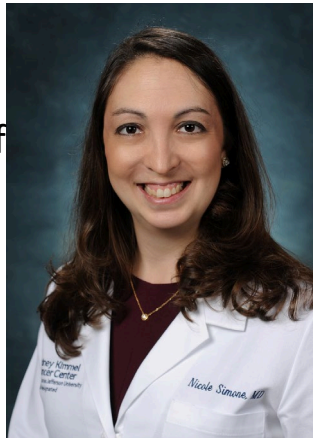
Kay Oyajobi, PhD
Professor, Cell System
& Anatomy and UT
Distinguished
Teaching Professor,
Member, Mays
Cancer Center
(MCC)UT San Antonio
Health Science
Center



Lisa Harlan-Williams, PhD
Associate Professor of Education,
Department of Cell Biology &
Physiology; Associate Director for
Education
University of Kansas Cancer Center
University of Kansas Medical Center



Julie Rhoades, PhD
Professor in the Department of
Medicine at Vanderbilt
University Medical Center
Department of Hematology
Oncology.



Nicole Simone, MD
Professor and Vice
Chair of Radiation
Oncology
Thomas Jefferson
University



Inna Smalley, PhD
Assistant Member,
Metabolism and Physiology
Moffitt Cancer Center

Two Seats Open

2026 Board Director 2-yr Term Candidates

One Seat Open



**Ifeanyi "Beverly" Chukwudozie,
PhD(c), MBA, MPH**

Administrative Director, Cancer
Research Training and Education
Coordination (CRTEC)

University of Illinois Cancer Center
University of Illinois Chicago



Rashieda Jonine Hatcher, PhD

Program Manager of CRTEC

Dan L Duncan Comprehensive
Cancer Center
Baylor College of Medicine



Amanda Purdy, PhD

Associate Chief
Academic Officer

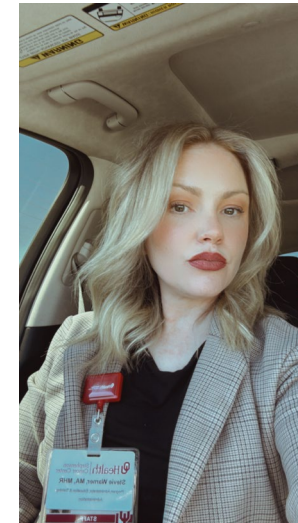
Fox Chase Cancer
Center



Kellee Gauthier, MPH

Senior Director of Education,
Training, and Growth

The Ohio State University
James Comprehensive Cancer
Center



Stevie Warner, MA, MHR

Administrative Director, Cancer
Research Training and Education
Coordination (CRTEC)

OU Health Stephenson Cancer Center