

# LIVER DIGEST

March 10, 2023

A bi-weekly update of PLRC happenings



## In this issue:

### • PLRC Faculty Highlights

- \* Drs. Jianhua Luo, Silvia Liu, Yanping Yu and George Michalopoulos publish in American Journal of Pathology
- \* Dr. Juliane Beier Consulted for Train derailment

### • PLRC Seminars

- March 21 @ noon Dr. Mark Kay S120 BST & Zoom
- March 28 @ noon Dr. Luke Wiseman, S120 BST & Zoom
- March 7th @ noon Dr. David Wink Jr. in S120 BST & Zoom

### • Announcements

- CLA Program & Events
- Pathology Retreat registration is OPEN!

### • Funding Opportunities

### • Want Ads :

- Postdoc position available
- Research Fellow seeking position at UPMC

Please acknowledge all support from the PLRC in your publications and presentations.  
(NIH/NIDDK P30DK120531)

Please continue to share your relevant accolades (grants, publications, awards and other news worthy items) with us, as it relates to the PLRC mission, so we can share with all of our members.

Please visit the PLRC website ([www.livercenter.pitt.edu](http://www.livercenter.pitt.edu)) for up-to-date news, and upcoming seminar and event information. Contact Aaron Bell ([bellaaaro@pitt.edu](mailto:bellaaaro@pitt.edu)) if you have specific questions or suggestions.

## Faculty Highlight

PLRC Genomics & Systems Biology Core directors Jianhua Luo MD, PhD, and Silvia Liu, PhD along with assistant director Yanping Yu, MD, PhD and Pathology Chairman George Michalopoulos, MD, PhD published an article in the American Journal of Pathology entitled, "*Fusion Gene Detection in Prostate Cancer Samples Enhances the Prediction of Prostate Cancer Clinical Outcomes from Radical Prostatectomy through Machine Learning in a Multi-institutional Analysis*"

Yu YP, Liu S, Ren BG, Nelson J, Jarrard D, Brooks JD, Michalopoulos G, Tseng G, Luo JH. Fusion Gene Detection in Prostate Cancer Samples Enhances the Prediction of Prostate Cancer Clinical Outcomes from Radical Prostatectomy through Machine Learning in a Multi-Institutional Analysis. Am J Pathol. 2023 Jan 18:S0002-9440(23)00029-9. doi: 10.1016/j.ajpath.2022.12.013. Epub ahead of print. PMID: 36681188. [PDF Link](#)

### The American Journal of Pathology

Fusion Gene Detection in Prostate Cancer Samples Enhances the Prediction of Prostate Cancer Clinical Outcomes from Radical Prostatectomy through Machine Learning in a Multi-Institutional Analysis



Jianhua Luo, MD, PhD



Silvia Liu, PhD



Yanping Yu, MD, PhD



George Michalopoulos, MD, PhD

(<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ajpath.2022.12.013>)



### Our mailing address is:

Pittsburgh Liver Research Center  
S414 Biomedical Science Tower  
200 Lothrop St. | Pittsburgh, PA 15261



Copyright © 2019 Pittsburgh Liver Research Center, All rights reserved.

# LIVER DIGEST

March 10, 2023



## PLRC SEMINARS

- March 21 12:00 pm – 1:00 pm **HYBRID**  
S120 BST & via Zoom



**Mark Kay, MD, PhD**  
Professor of Pediatrics and Genetics  
Director, Program in Human Gene Therapy  
Stanford University  
Stanford, California

**Title:** AAV directed gene transfer: Lessons learned in virology and liver biology

- February 28 12:00 pm – 1:00 pm **HYBRID**  
S120 BST & via Zoom



**R. Luke Wiseman, Ph.D.**  
Professor: Department of Molecular Medicine  
The Scripps Research Institute

**Title:** Pharmacologically Targeting the Unfolded Protein Response: *Where do we go from here?*

- April 18 @ 12:00 pm – 1:00 pm **HYBRID**  
S120 BST & via Zoom



**David Wink Jr, PhD.**  
Deputy Chief  
Cancer Innovation laboratory  
National Cancer Institute

**TITLE: TBD**

## Faculty Highlight

A train derailment on Friday February 3rd, in East Palestine Ohio, 50 miles from Pittsburgh, PA, resulted in a spillage of chemicals including vinyl chloride, from tanker cars, massive fire and evacuation of nearby residents. The cleanup and toxic aftermath still make headlines today.



PLRC Faculty **Juliane Beier, PhD** who studies vinyl chloride and its effects on liver disease, is considered an expert in the field and was interviewed by NPR radio, CBS News, WTAE television and many other local and national media outlets. See links to some of those interviews below. Dr. Beier received prior funding from the Pittsburgh Liver Research Center Pilot & Feasibility program to study the effects of vinyl chloride exposure on liver cancer, the results of which lead to further funding by the National Institutes of Health, which she still investigates today.

Read more on how Vinyl Chloride, the chemical used to make PVC plastics, which was released from the Ohio train derailment, can damage the liver and exacerbate underlying disease in “The Conversation”.

**NPR interview:** [NEWS story on WTAE:](#)

**CBS News :** [The Conversation:](#)

[UPMC FAQ Web Link](#)

# LIVER DIGEST

March 10, 2023



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

[Communityliveralliance.org](https://communityliveralliance.org)



**2023 Pathology Research Day & Retreat [May 17th 2023](#). Registration is OPEN!**

**Abstracts Due by April 7th to Shanning Wan ([shw126@pitt.edu](mailto:shw126@pitt.edu)).**

**Register at: <https://www.path.pitt.edu/events/department-pathology-2023-research-day-and-retreat>**

## WANT ADS

This section is available for PLRC members to communicate wants or needs in your laboratories.

Available positions / Collaboration ideas / Equipment needs

Please send any "wants/needs" to be advertised to Aaron Bell ([bellaaro@pitt.edu](mailto:bellaaro@pitt.edu))

## OPEN POSITIONS:

- Postdoc/Technician: [Bone cell Differentiation](#) \$45K; PI: Harry Blair: US citizen ONLY!  
Contact: 412-383-9616 or [hcblair@pitt.edu](mailto:hcblair@pitt.edu)

## JOB SEEKERS:

- An ECFMG certified medical graduate from Hyderabad, India, currently working as a research fellow at Mayo Clinic, Rochester, MN in the department of Gastroenterology and Hepatology Artificial Intelligence lab is seeking a 1 yr paid research fellow position starting from June/July 2023 in Gastroenterology at UPMC ([More info and CV available here](#)) or email [bellaaro@pitt.edu](mailto:bellaaro@pitt.edu)

## Funding Opportunities

Gilead Research Scholars-Liver Disease program. [Junior Faculty . May 1, 2023](#)

- To see all NIH Grants sorted by week, please visit: [NIH Guide: 2022](#)
- Or click below:

**Week of:** [Feb 24](#) [Mar 3](#) [Mar 10](#)

[Click here](#) for all current NIDDK Funding opportunities