MEMBERSHIP OVERVIEW
The University of Kansas Cancer Center aims to provide the optimal environment for basic, translational, clinical, and population-based research in oncology by developing and fostering a collaborative, collegial, and dynamic culture of scientific inquiry supported by outstanding nationally-recognized cancer research programs and high quality investigator-focused, customer-friendly shared resources utilizing the latest technology. Researchers and clinicians associated with the University of Kansas, its Medical Center, and affiliated organizations are eligible to be considered for membership in the University of Kansas Cancer Center. All areas of cancer research are encouraged including basic, translational and clinical research, pharmaceutical sciences, population sciences, and behavior and psychosocial science.

THE UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS CANCER CENTER MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES
The following membership categories and requirements were developed under the guidance of the National Cancer Institute (NCI) to ensure that The University of Kansas Cancer Center meets the requirements of the NCI Cancer Center Support Grant.

Full Member: Investigators meet the following criteria:
• located at one of the University of Kansas campuses or at an institution with which the Cancer Center has a consortium agreement, and
• actively involved in cancer-related basic, translational, and/or clinical research as evidenced by being an investigator on peer-reviewed cancer-related grants or contracts (defined below) within the last three years, or an investigator of peer-reviewed investigator-initiated cancer-related clinical trials within the last three years, and
• author or co-author of peer-reviewed cancer-related publications within the last three years, or
• has a significant administrative or leadership role within the Cancer Center.

Associate Member: Investigators meet the following criteria:
• located at one of the University of Kansas campuses or at an institution with which the Cancer Center has a consortium agreement, and
• engaged in cancer-focused research and/or clinical practice, but does not have peer-reviewed cancer-related funding within the last three years.

Affiliate Member: Investigators meet the following criteria:
• associated with institutions outside of the KU system that the Cancer Center does not hold a consortium agreement, and
• demonstrates a commitment to cancer research and/or clinical activities and the research, education and patient care mission of The University of Kansas Cancer Center.

BENEFITS OF MEMBERSHIP
The University of Kansas Cancer Center provides members with a number of centralized resources to support collaborative research and clinical trials. All members may access the following resources:
• **Shared Resources** – Associate Director for Shared Resources, Matthew Mayo, PhD, MBA
  [mmayo@kumc.edu](mailto:mmayo@kumc.edu), 913-588-4735. Contact each Shared Resource for a full listing of services.

  ○ **Biospecimen** – Collects and distributes high quality biospecimens which are essential for translational research.
    *Scientific Director* – Andy Godwin, PhD, [agodwin@kumc.edu](mailto:agodwin@kumc.edu), 913-945-6334

  ○ **Biostatistics and Informatics** – Responsible for data management, statistical oversight, data analysis, assistance in interpretation of results, and writing appropriate sections in manuscripts, abstracts, and presentations.
    *Scientific Director* – Brooke Fridley, PhD, [bfridley@kumc.edu](mailto:bfridley@kumc.edu), 913-945-5039

  ○ **Lead Development and Optimization** – Assists researchers and clinicians in the discovery and development of novel therapeutics for the treatment and prevention of cancer.
    *Scientific Director* – Michael Baltezor, PhD, [mbaltezor@ku.edu](mailto:mbaltezor@ku.edu), 785-864-1040

  ○ **Transgenic and Gene Targeting Institutional Facility** – Provides centralized technical services for the production of transgenic and gene-targeted rodents and genetically altered pluripotent stem cells.
    *Scientific Director* – Jay Vivian, PhD, [jvivian@kumc.edu](mailto:jvivian@kumc.edu), 913-588-0341

  ○ **Health Communications Research** – Assists investigators with the design, planning, implementation and evaluation of strategic health communication campaigns.
    *Scientific Director* – Mugur Geana, MD, PhD, [geanam@ku.edu](mailto:geanam@ku.edu), 785-864-7692

  ○ **Clinical Pharmacology** – Provides bioanalytical chemistry, pharmacokinetic, and pharmacodynamic services for clinical trials.
    *Scientific Director* – Greg Reed, PhD, [greed@kumc.edu](mailto:greed@kumc.edu), 913-588-7513

• **Research Programs** – Cancer Center Members are assigned to one of the four research programs:
  - Cancer Biology
  - Cancer Control & Population Health
  - Cancer Prevention & Survivorship
  - Drug Discovery, Delivery & Experimental Therapeutics

• **Clinical Trials Office** – Provides a comprehensive support network that spans the life cycle of a clinical trial from concept through final manuscript publication.
  *Medical Director* – Stephen Williamson, MD, [swilliam@kumc.edu](mailto:swilliam@kumc.edu), 913-588-6029

• **Disease Working Groups** – Cancer Center Members may participate in any of the following disease working groups:
  - Brain, Breast, Gastrointestinal, Genitourinary, Gynecology, Head and Neck, Lung,
  - Leukemia/Myeloid, Lymphoma/Myeloma, Sarcoma/Melanoma, Midwest Cancer Alliance,
  - Community, and Early Phase Clinical Trials
• **Cancer Center Seminars and Symposiums** – Cancer Center sponsored programs throughout the year.

• **Pilot Project Funding** – Competition for pilot funding for cancer-related research projects. [Associate and Affiliate Members may submit pilot project applications when they exhibit clear evidence of collaboration with a Full Member].
  
  Contact Susan Harp at sharp@kumc.edu, 913-588-4786.

• **Grants Development Office** – A centralized administrative research proposal resource is provided to help Cancer Center members with proposal development for cancer-related funding.
  
  Contact Susan Harp at sharp@kumc.edu, 913-588-4786.

• **Communications Office** – Provides strategic communications planning as well as implementation of news articles for print, website and social media venues. The communications office can create and write brochures, news releases, web content, videos and other communications collateral to promote KUCC to various audiences. The office also handles the Cancer Center’s Brand Standards and can provide templates for fliers, PowerPoint presentations and logos.
  
  Contact Jean Peat at jpeat@kumc.edu, 913-945-6896.

**MEMBERSHIP REVIEW PROCESS**

The Membership Committee reviews all applications and makes recommendations to Director Roy Jensen, MD, on the appropriate membership research program placement. Matt Mayo, PhD, Teresa Christenson, Lisa Harlan-Williams, PhD and the Program Leaders serve on the Membership Committee. Applicants will be notified of their membership appointment by the end of August. The Membership Committee and Director reserve the right to reassign the membership category and program assignment for renewing members based on current criteria provided by the National Cancer Institute and member information. The Cancer Center may offer additional application submission and membership review opportunities during the membership year as needed.

**RESPONSIBILITIES OF MEMBERSHIP**

• Actively participate in the research programs and serve on Cancer Center committees.
• Develop interactions with other Cancer Center members as measured by joint publications, joint grants, or joint research activities.
• Attend Cancer Center-sponsored meetings and seminars.
• Submit all clinical cancer studies to the PRMC for scientific review.
• Utilize Cancer Center shared resources and importantly – acknowledge use of Cancer Center facilities, shared resources, space, or assistance (when appropriate) in research publications, presentations, and grant submissions.
• Accrue patients to institutional clinical trials and, where appropriate, to NCI National Clinical Trials Network (NCTN) trials that are activated at the Cancer Center.
- Provide accurate annual and special requests for research progress, clinical trials, other support, publications, and biosketch in a timely manner.

**DEFINITION OF PEER-REVIEWED RESEARCH**

As described in the Cancer Center Support Grant (CCSG) Guidelines, eligibility criteria for applying for a CCSG application and for meeting the minimum standard to be considered a research program require specific minimum levels of “peer reviewed, funded research projects.” In addition, peer-reviewed, funded research projects always have access to CCSG shared resources.

To be considered as a “peer reviewed, funded project,” the responsible funding agency or organization should meet the general NIH standards of peer review and funding. These include meeting three criteria:

1. A peer review system which uses primarily external reviewers and is free of conflict-of-interest;
2. A ranking or rating system in the review process based on the scientific merit of the proposed research; and
3. A funding system based primarily on the peer review ranking or rating of the research applications.

**FUNDING ORGANIZATIONS QUALIFYING AS “PEER-REVIEWED”**

1. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ)
2. American Association of Cancer Research (AACR)
3. American Cancer Society (ACS), (national office only)
4. American Foundation for AIDS Research (amfAR)
5. American Institute for Cancer Research (AICR)
6. California Institute for Regenerative Medicine (CIRM)
7. Cancer Prevention Research Institute of Texas (CPRIT)
8. Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)
9. Central Office of the Veterans Administration (VA), (excluding local/regional and “block” grants)
10. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)
11. The Flight Attendant Medical Research Institute (FAMRI)
12. Florida Biomedical Research Program (FBRP)
13. Food and Drug Administration (FDA)
14. Howard Hughes Medical Foundation
15. Leukemia and Lymphoma Society
16. Melanoma Research Alliance (MRA)
17. Multiple Myeloma Research Foundation (MMRF)
18. National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH)
19. National Science Foundation (NSF)
20. New York State Department of Health Wadsworth Center/New York State Stem Cell Science Program (NYSTEM)
21. Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI)
22. Prevent Cancer Foundation
23. Prostate Cancer Foundation (PCF)
24. Susan G. Komen for the Cure
25. The California Breast Cancer Research Program (CBCRP)
26. The California Tobacco Related Disease Research Program (TRDRP)
27. U.S. Army (DOD) special research programs *

*Note: Grants funded through the U.S. Army’s, (DOD) special research programs in ovarian, breast and prostate cancer may also be listed in the category of peer-reviewed funded grants