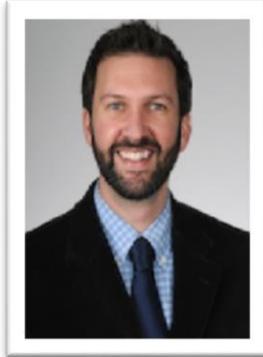


## GUEST SPEAKER BIOS



### KEYNOTE SPEAKER

#### Dr. Adam Soloff

*Assistant Professor, Department of Cardiothoracic Surgery, School of Medicine, University of Pittsburg*

Adam Soloff, Ph.D. is a cancer and viral immunologist who seeks to translate over 15 years of experience in vaccine development towards creating new immune-based treatments for breast cancer. Working closely with a multidisciplinary team of basic science researchers, clinical investigators, and care providers, his research strives to develop and translate next generation immunotherapies for the treatment of advanced breast cancers. This approach investigates disease at all levels from genetic regulation to response to therapies, spanning preclinical discovery to clinical trials. He feels strongly that by empowering the immune system to combat malignant disease, future immunotherapies may augment or potentially replace surgical, radiologic and chemotherapeutic treatment of breast cancer dramatically reducing morbidity and mortality.



### CONFERENCE HOST AND FACILITATOR

#### Dr. Devon A. Lawson

*Assistant Professor, Department of Physiology and Biophysics, Chao Family Comprehensive Cancer Center, School of Medicine, UCI*

Dr. Lawson is an Assistant Professor at the University of California, Irvine, where she directs a breast cancer research laboratory in the Chao Family Comprehensive Cancer Center. Her laboratory researches how breast cancer cells metastasize to vital organs of the body, including the lung, liver, bone and brain. Despite major advances in cancer treatments, the metastatic spread of cancer cells from the breast to other organs of the body continues to cause death in more than 30% of breast cancer patients and over 40,000 women every year. Dr. Lawson's laboratory uses cutting-edge new genomics technologies to study individual cancer cells as they metastasize, in order to discover the genetic and biological properties that enable them to do so. Her work has led to important discoveries about the role of stem cells, cellular metabolism, and the immune system in breast cancer metastasis. The long-term goal of her research is to develop new therapies that target these properties of metastatic cells, in order to kill metastatic tumors and increase survival of metastatic breast cancer patients.



### CONFERENCE COMMITTEE CHAIR

#### Sandra Spivey

*Susan G. Komen® Orange County Volunteer*

Sandra Spivey has been involved in many local and national breast cancer organizations since her stage II diagnosis in 1995 at age 42. After being diagnosed with metastatic stage IV breast cancer to her bones in 1998, she began her quest to learn more about the science of breast cancer, so she could further influence research. Sandi has worked with scientists and oncologists on over two dozen peer review panels for breast cancer research projects. She is a member of UCI's Breast Disease Orientation Team, where she represents patient voices.

THE FOLLOWING SPEAKERS ARE LISTED IN PRESENTATION ORDER



**Megan Klink**

*Susan G. Komen® Orange County*

Megan Klink, CEO of Susan G. Komen Orange County, is committed to leading the organization in supporting breast cancer research, accessible screening, support services and grant funding for the local Orange County community. She currently serves as the Chair for UC Irvine's Chao Cancer Center's Community Equity Board and is a member of the Susan G. Komen

Affiliate Leadership Council.



**Dr. Richard Van Etten**

*Director, UCI Chao Family Comprehensive Cancer Center*

Dr. Richard Van Etten is a fellowship-trained hematologist and oncologist who specializes in the treatment of leukemia and other blood disorders. As director of the Chao Family Comprehensive Cancer Center, he leads a team of more than 200 physicians, scientists and other health science professionals. Van Etten's research lab studies the pathogenesis and therapy of human blood cancers, with particular emphasis on myeloid and lymphoid neoplasms that are associated with dysregulated tyrosine kinases. Dr. Van Etten received an MD and PhD in Biophysics from Stanford University School of Medicine, where he worked with David Clayton on molecular genetics of mammalian mitochondrial DNA.



**Dr. Jose Carillo**

*Neuro-Oncologist, St. Jude Medical Center*

Jose Carrillo, MD, is a board-certified neurologist and neuro-oncologist specializing in the diagnosis and treatment of primary and secondary brain tumors, including glioblastoma multiforme, primary CNS lymphoma, meningioma, and brain metastases, as well as the neurologic complications of cancer. In addition, Dr. Carrillo is involved in the enrollment of patients into several clinical trials.



**Dr. Wade Smith**

*Medical Oncologist, City of Hope Orange County*

Wade Smith, M.D., specializes in the treatment of breast cancer at City of Hope's new location in Newport Beach. Dr. Smith, an Assistant Clinical Professor in the Department of Medical Oncology & Therapeutics Research, has led numerous clinical trials exploring targeted therapies to treat chemotherapy-resistant cancers, particularly breast cancer. Dr. Smith earned his medical degree from Creighton School of Medicine and completed a hematology/oncology fellowship at Winship Cancer Institute in Atlanta. He is committed to providing patients with access to City of Hope's world-renowned research and nationally recognized compassionate care.



**Dr. Ronald Tang**

*Oncologist, Breastlink*

Dr. Ronald Tang is Board Certified in Hematology, Oncology and Internal Medicine and a cum laude graduate of UCLA with his undergraduate degree in Molecular, Cell and Developmental Biology. He performed his Osteopathic Categorical Internal Medicine internship at Valley Hospital Medical Center in Las Vegas, Nevada and his Internal Medicine residency at LAC-USC Medical Center in Los Angeles, California. He received his Hematology and Oncology fellowship training at the University of California Irvine. Dr. Tang is the recipient of many awards including the "Super Doctors in Southern California- Rising Stars edition" since 2018. Dr. Tang has been regularly featured as a medical consultant for the media, appearing on Good Day LA, FOX11, KCAL, KCBS and KNX radio. Dr. Tang has been an associate physician of the Los Angeles Cancer Network practice since 2015 and has been a co-medical director at Breastlink since 2019.



**Dr. Farshid Dayyani**

*Oncology, Keck Medicine of USC*

Dr. Farshid Dayyani is a board-certified UCI Health medical oncologist who sees patients at the UCI Health Chao Family Comprehensive Cancer Center and the adjacent UCI Health H.H. Chao Comprehensive Digestive Disease Center. Dayyani earned his medical degree at Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich in Germany and completed a residency in internal medicine at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center in Boston, a teaching hospital of Harvard Medical School. He also completed a fellowship in medical oncology at the University of Texas' MD Anderson Cancer Center in Houston. Dayyani's goal is to bring cutting edge treatments to patients with gastrointestinal cancers through innovative clinical trials.



**Deedee Weathers-Cox**

*Physical Therapy Assistant, The Center for Cancer Prevention and Treatment, St. Joseph Hospital*

Deedee Weathers-Cox has worked for St. Joseph hospital for over ten years. She currently works in the Rehab department in the Cancer Center and teaches wellness classes in the Comprehensive Wellness program. She loves to infuse her knowledge of athleticism and experiences of entertainment with the creativity it takes to work in rehab and the wellness program.



**Dr. Jamie C. Fertal**

*Hospice and Palliative Care from St. Joseph Health*

Jamie C. Fertal, Dr. Fertal is board certified in internal medicine, geriatrics, and palliative medicine. She is committed to serving patients with life changing or limiting illness by managing pain and symptoms that come with serious illness. She works at The Center for Cancer Prevention and Treatment associated with St. Joseph as the medical director of the outpatient palliative care clinic. Dr. Fertal graduated from AT Still University School of Health Sciences Kirksville College of Osteopathic Medicine in 2006 and has been in practice for 14 years.



**Amanda Trimmel**

*RD, Clinical and Home Care Dietician, Memorial Care*

Amanda has been a practicing Dietitian for 8 years. She received her bachelor's degree in Nutritional Science from Cal State Long Beach and her graduate degree in Dietetics from Iowa State University. She currently works at MemorialCare Medical Center, Saddleback with their Home Health division as well as their Radiation Oncology Center. She specializes in nutrition support and is very passionate about her oncology patients.



**Anusha Wijeyakumar**

*MA, CPC, RYT, Dip Mentoring, Wellness Consultant for Hoag's Women's Health Institute, Mindfulness and Meditation Coach*

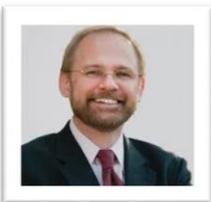
Anusha Wijeyakumar has over 15 years of international senior management experience. She has obtained a MA, Diploma in Mentoring, Certified Professional Coach qualification, Registered Yoga Teacher with Yoga Alliance and is a Meditation Practitioner. She is actively engaged at Hoag championing mindfulness and meditation practices in early risk assessment for breast and ovarian cancer prevention programs and breast cancer survivorship programs.



**Jean Dean**

*PT, DPT, CLT, Physical Therapist, Neuro and Cancer Rehab, St. Jude Centers for Rehabilitation and Wellness*

Jean Dean received her Doctorate and graduated from Western University in 2009. Patients have varied from orthopedic to neurological and that includes cancer survivors. Dean is a Certified Hand and Lymphoma Therapist specializing in Oncology and Breast Cancer Rehabilitation. She has been working at St Jude's for the last 30 years in outpatient, currently serving as the Lead Physical Therapist at the Centers for Rehab and Wellness Outpatient Cancer Rehabilitation.



**Dr. Mariusz Wirga**

*Medical Director, PsychoSocial Oncology Program, Todd Cancer Institute, Long Beach Medical Center*

Mariusz Wirga, MD, serves as the Medical Director of Psychosocial Oncology at the Todd Cancer Institute of Long Beach Memorial Medical Center. He is also on the Board of Advisors for the National Association of Cognitive-Behavior Therapists and served as the Medical Director of the Simonton Cancer Center after Dr. Simonton's death. Since 2004, Mariusz has helped run Beat the Odds® – A Comprehensive Cancer Survivorship Program in Long Beach, a course consisting of 10 classes teaching how to effectively deal with different aspects of cancer and its treatment. Mariusz lectures and teaches workshops in cognitive-behavioral medicine and psycho-oncology internationally.