

NEW SCULPTURE UNVEILED

AT MAYS
CANCER CENTER

The drive in to work just got a bit more inspirational with the recent installation of the Wings of Hope – Hands of Healing sculpture in the circle at the main entrance to the cancer center.

The striking work of art was donated by The Jack and Valerie Guenther Foundation.

Jack and Valerie Guenther are longtime supporters and major donors to the Mays Cancer Center. Mr. Guenther was the attorney who drafted the articles of incorporation for the cancer center back in 1974, and the Urschel Tower is named in honor of Mrs. Guenther's parents, Charles and Betty Urschel.

"Four years ago, my wife Valerie and I were talking with the former director of the cancer center and thought an institution of this magnitude should have a publicly viewable sculpture representing its mission to decrease the burden of cancer in San Antonio and South Texas," said Jack



Guenther. "We decided to commission world-renowned sculptor Kent Ullberg."

Ullberg's inspiration was clearly felt when he said, "We wanted to honor all cancer patients and the medical profession with five feet Healing Hands in bronze, out of which emerges the 15-foot tall sparkling Wings of Hope in polished stainless steel that forms a 'V' for victory over cancer."

A formal dedication ceremony will be scheduled for later this fall.

NEWSLETTER

7.25.2019

2019-2020 BENEFITS ANNUAL ENROLLMENT IS OPEN FROM JULY 15-31

It's time for [Annual Benefits Enrollment](#). UT Health San Antonio employees receive a competitive benefits package including insurance and retirement benefits as well as many other programs and services to support your health and well-being. Significant benefit contributions are made on your behalf by the university, adding great value for UT Health San Antonio employees.

DURING ANNUAL ENROLLMENT JULY 15-31, YOU CAN:

- Make changes to your benefits
- Request new coverage for eligible dependents
- Remove dependents

HOW TO ENROLL

LOGIN TO [MY UT BENEFITS](#) TO ENROLL OR CHANGE YOUR BENEFITS

DEADLINES

- **July 31** - Enroll or make changes to benefits by midnight July 31
- **Aug. 15** - Review confirmation statement, upload required documents and submit evidence of insurability if required
- **Sept. 1** - New coverage begins for fiscal year 2020 plan year and changes made during Annual Enrollment are effective

NEW, MORE EFFECTIVE WAY TO DETECT CANCER BEING DEVELOPED

Startup called Echolase is working with UT Health San Antonio

BY MAX MASSEY REPORTER/ANCHOR, KSAT

There's a group working to make a more efficient and effective way to detect cancer, and it's being developed right here in San Antonio.

The startup is called Echolase, and it is working with UT Health San Antonio to develop a probe beam deflection technology.

"When I was working in England the university had some expertise in using laser light," said Saher Maswadi, who has a PhD in physics biomedical optics.

Maswadi, Nikolay Akimov and Dr. Randolph Glickman are Echolase, the group working on the probe beam deflection technology.

"An optical acoustic technology, or photo acoustic they call it, is whenever you sense some light and it gets sounds. It's become very popular for imaging, especially for tumor imaging, and the personalization of vessels foreign body imaging," Maswadi said.

By using a series of lights and sounds, the tech is effectively able to detect what's going on inside the human body.

"What we do here is we're imaging with only a single laser now which makes the

system much less expensive and easier to build. And because we have non-contact detection we achieve higher resolution and there is no ringing, making the image much cleaner than a conventional system," said Akimov, who has a master's degree from the Moscow State University department of physics and masters degree in biophysics.

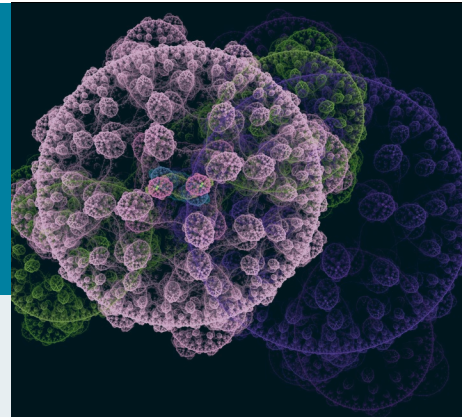
The lasers and the tech might seem complicated, but simply it's a device that can be more efficient in detecting cancer than what is being used in hospitals now.

"IN BREAST CANCER DETECTION WE CAN DETECT BLOOD VESSELS GROWING INTO THIS TISSUE BEFORE IT CAN BE DETECTED BY A CONVENTIONAL ULTRASOUND SYSTEM WHICH CAN ONLY DETECT CALCIFIED TUMORS"

- NIKOLAY AKIMOV

The device they built won't have X-ray radiation so it reduces risks, and it's much clearer than current options.

"You can see the image you get on the screen of the system. So those three beats you're detecting, you can see the ultrasound and



the resolution is in general much lower," said Akimov.

This is just the prototype, Echolase has plans for a much more compact product; as for the laser technique, this could just be the start.

"I would describe our technology as a platform technology in that it's very versatile and can be applied to quite a few different applications," said Glickman.

These applications can be useful for our defense department.

"What I see that would be a great use for the military is foreign body detection. A lot of the shrapnel that's used today are designed to be hard to find and X-ray plastic projectiles. And so our technology I can see that ours could really address that very well," Glickman said.

The probe beam deflection technique can also be used in fighting innovative weaponry.

[Click here](#) to read more and watch the video.

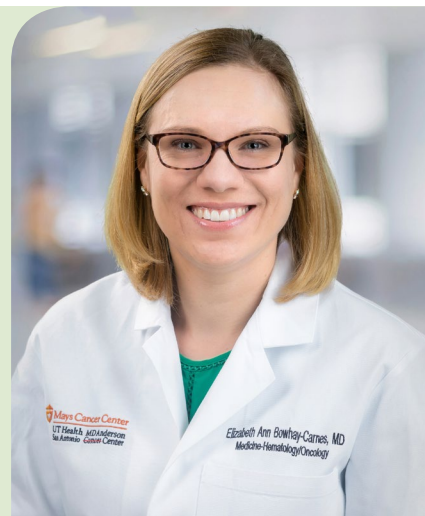


Patient
Empowerment
Network

Key Genetic Testing after Acute Myeloid Leukemia (AML)

Dr. Elizabeth Bowhay-Carnes provides advice on key genetic tests that should take place after an AML diagnosis and how they can inform your treatment options.

[CLICK HERE](#) TO WATCH THE VIDEO.



Grand Rounds



Philip A. Beachy, Ph.D. has no relevant financial relationships with commercial interests to disclose.

The Cancer Grand Rounds Planning Committee (Ruben Mesa, MD) has no relevant financial relationships with commercial interests to disclose.

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Philip A. Beachy, Ph.D.

Ernest and Amelia Gallo Professor
in the Stanford University School of Medicine
Departments of Urology and Developmental Biology and
(by courtesy) Chemical and Systems Biology
Institute for Stem Cell Biology and Regenerative Medicine
Stanford Cancer Institute

TOPIC

“Biological Basis of the Field Effect in Bladder Cancer”

WHEN & WHERE

Thursday, August 1, 2019
12:00-1:00 p.m.

UT Health San Antonio MD Anderson Cancer Center
Mabee Conference Room G406



Mays Cancer Center

UT Health San Antonio MD Anderson
Cancer Center