

Presenter Biographies

Chris Anker M.D. is a radiation oncologist and member of the University of Vermont Cancer Center (UVMCC), where he helps lead the clinical and research efforts of the lung cancer transdisciplinary team. He works to bring the latest in cancer care to the UVMCC, aided by his membership with the NRG Oncology cooperative group organization where he contributes to the development of national research protocols. He has multiple grants supporting his research team that includes members both here at UVMCC and across the nation, for whom the goal is to personalize cancer care in early stage lung cancer through advances in radiology and liquid biopsy technology.

Richard Barth Jr., M.D. is a surgical oncologist at Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center. He is a professor of surgery at the Geisel School of Medicine and has been Chief of the Section of General Surgery for the last 15 years. He is the principal investigator on clinical trials, studying new ways to more precisely do lumpectomies for breast cancer. He has also investigated appropriate opioid prescribing after breast and other operations.

Tasha Bailey was diagnosed with stage IV metastatic breast cancer. What she thought was a pulled muscle turned out to be more. Although she was too young to start getting mammograms, she soon learned that she not only had breast cancer but that it had metastasized to her lymph nodes, liver, spine, and lung. In an instant, she went from being a young mother of three to a young mother living with cancer. While Tasha has completed chemotherapy she continues to receive treatments every three weeks to keep her cancer from spreading. She now manages the day-to-day lives of her young family along with her ongoing health-care.

Carol Becker is a Physical Therapist and Fitness Hula Hooping Instructor. She has worked in many rehabilitation settings throughout the country. She is a Physical Therapist by day and Hooper by night.

Margie Bekoff is a Certified Therapeutic Harp Practitioner (CTHP), employing the joy and power of harp music and healing sound to help people dealing with medical and emotional challenges. She has been working in hospitals

and other medical care facilities in Vermont since 2006. Prior to this work, Margie was a homeschooling mom and a biomedical researcher (Ph.D. Immunology). Margie enjoys cycling, hiking, skiing and other outdoor activities in the Green Mountains.

Amy Bertrand is a Patient Navigator with the American Cancer Society at the UVMCC. She has worked as a Patient Navigator for 5 years and has over 26 years of experience as a medical social worker. As an ACS Patient Navigator Amy helps patients, families and caregivers navigate the cancer systems. As a trained patient navigator she links those dealing with cancer to needed programs and resources. She meets with patients at the time of diagnosis and helps them identify any barriers to cancer treatment, as well as identify underserved patients who might not think treatment is obtainable due to socioeconomic barriers.

Jennifer Bremser, Ph.D. is an Assistant Professor of Psychology at SUNY Plattsburgh and Certified Yoga Teacher. Her interest in health psychology became personal in 2014, when she was diagnosed with breast cancer.

Blair Brooks is a retired general internist who, since his diagnosis of multiple myeloma in early 2016, still teaches at Geisel Medical School and does some resident teaching as well. He has been coaching for 30 years; the last 15 he has coached Hanover High School Crew and enjoyed every minute. He is on the board of Vermont's Coverts, a grassroots organization that helps Vermonters improve their woodlands to better support wildlife. He also sings in a community chorus and since diagnosis has begun writing poetry and short stories. He's been blessed with a wonderfully supportive wife and two great daughters. Life is very different since 2016, but with many new opportunities and silver linings to offset the journey with the myeloma!

Alicia Brown received her master's degree in Physical Therapy in 2001 and has been working as an outpatient, orthopedic therapist for most of her career. Just one year prior to Chris' diagnosis, Alicia took on the role at St. Joseph Hospital in Nashua, NH., as the Cancer Rehabilitation Coordinator. While promoting the coordination of care between local cancer cen-

ters and rehab services, she also assists patients in returning to their highest possible level of function during and after treatment. This role certainly has new significance since Chris and Alicia's journey through diagnosis and treatment for AML in 2015. Alicia, along with daughters Olivia and Paige, have been Chris' favorite cheerleaders and supporters; Chris is their Superman in so many ways.

Chris Brown has worked as a Personal Trainer / Strength and Conditioning Coach since 2002. Chris was diagnosed with Acute Myeloid Leukemia in June 2015, 7 months after he ran the New York City Marathon. Following his diagnosis, Chris received an Allogenic Stem Cell Transplant with his donor (and hero), his brother Daniel. Nine months following his transplant, Chris along with his wife Alicia and many of their friends formed a team for The Prouty and completed the 100 mile ride and have done so every year since then. On the 2-year anniversary of his Stem Cell Transplant, Chris completed a solo 235-mile bike ride from the Canadian border of New Hampshire to Hollis, N.H. This spring, Chris will complete his certification as a Certified Cancer Exercise Trainer through the American College of Sports Medicine (ACSM), where he plans to help other cancer patients with their fitness levels as they go through treatments.

Gerette Buglion is an educator, business owner, Reiki Practitioner and life-loving enthusiast. As we never know when our days walking this wonderful earth will end, she strives to live each day focused on kindness and gratitude. She studied dream-work for nearly 20 years, but it was only when she learned Reiki that her passion was ignited for sharing the magic of Reiki and dreams with others. Since 2014 she has been working with Nancy Mosher to develop this work and is honored to be presenting it at the Stowe Weekend of Hope.

Robert Cade graduated from Virginia Tech with bachelor's degrees in biology and biochemistry. After brief stints in industry and government supporting laboratory cancer research, and a short time spent studying for the Catholic priesthood, he became a pharmacy technician. It was there that he found his calling, and entered Virginia Commonwealth

University School of Pharmacy in 2007. He cultivated an interest in oncology pharmacy during pharmacy school following a family member's diagnosis with vestibular schwannoma. Following graduation from pharmacy school he completed a pharmacy practice residency at Eastern Maine Medical Center. He then went on to complete an oncology pharmacy specialty residency at H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center and Research Institute. He has been employed at University of Vermont Medical Center since 2013, where he practices oncology pharmacy on the inpatient hematology/oncology teaching service.

Mary Chamberlin, M.D. is a medical oncologist at Dartmouth-Hitchcock specializing in breast cancer and global oncology care in low- and middle-resource countries in Africa and Central America. She is director of the Dartmouth Molecular Tumor Board, and Program Director of the DHMC Hematology-Oncology Fellowship Program and Global oncology fellowship elective program in Rwanda.

Laura Colello is a certified genetic counselor with the Familial Cancer Program at the UVM Medical Center in Burlington, Vt.

David Cranmer is a leukemia and bone marrow transplant survivor, and a member of the National Cancer Institute's Leukemia Steering Committee. He serves as a Patient Advocate for the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society and the UVM Cancer Center and is Co-Founder and President of the Vermont Cancer Survivor Network.

Susan Cummings is a writer, actress and a survivor of early-stage breast cancer. A single woman when she was diagnosed and for a number of years thereafter, she had many body image issues after her mastectomy.

Bob David has facilitated thousands of groups over the years with people facing a variety of challenges. Manager of the Cancer Support Programs at Boston Medical Center since 2008, he currently leads several monthly cancer support groups and a weekly class that explores cutting-edge techniques in mindfulness.

David Decicucies has been an R.N. in cardiology, oncology and urology for 30 years. He is now in private practice with Dr. Perez.

Kim Dittus is a medical oncologist with a background in nutrition and lifestyle change. She is the medical director of the oncology rehabilitation program at UVM Medical Center. Her research interests broadly encompass cancer survivor issues. In particular, she is particularly interested in developing weight loss and exercise interventions for cancer survivors.

Dr. Martha Eddy began Moving For Life in 1999 and was invited to the Stowe Weekend of Hope in 2002. Martha and her group have been coming ever since.

Janet Ely is a family nurse practitioner with advanced certification in both oncology and palliative care. She is an advance practice provider in the University of Vermont Cancer Center where she has practiced for the last 10 years. She is a graduate of the University of Vermont and George Washington University where she received her Masters degree in nursing. She also completed the Harvard Palliative Care Education and Practice program for advanced training in palliative care. She provides comprehensive physical symptom management, psychosocial support and advance care planning for patients diagnosed with advanced cancers, and teaches oncology and palliative care to a variety of learners.

Krista Evans joined the Division of General & Gastrointestinal Surgery at the University of Vermont Medical Center in 2016. Dr. Evans received her medical degree at the University of Vermont College of Medicine, moving on to a general surgery residency at the University of North Carolina. Dr. Evans recently completed a colorectal surgery fellowship at Saint Francis Hospital. She brings expertise in all aspects of colorectal surgery, including cancer, diverticulitis, inflammatory bowel disease as well as minimally invasive surgical techniques including laparoscopic and robotic surgical techniques.

Dr. Gerry Florio has over 25 years' experience working with people and families living with and beyond cancer. He earned his Ph.D. in Counseling Psychology from the State University of New York at Buffalo, and completed postgraduate Fellowships in Psychosocial Oncology at Roswell Park Cancer Institute in Buffalo,

Continued on next page



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N.Y. and Fox Chase Cancer Center in Philadelphia. Dr. Florio currently holds two positions: Clinical Health Psychologist at the CR Wood Cancer Center at Glens Falls Hospital, and Director of Psychological Services at the Double H Ranch, one of the Serious Fun Network camps for children with a serious illnesses.

Dr. Daniel Fram is the director of Radiation Oncology at Central Vermont Medical Center and an

assistant professor at Robert Larner College of Medicine in Burlington.

Louise Margaret Granahan is a Visual Arts Specialist in the Toronto District School Board where she has taught for 29 years. She holds seven earned degrees, including a Ph.D in Education from the University of Toronto as well as three master's degrees in theology. Artist, author, book-binder, printer, and breast-cancer

survivor, Louise helps people express themselves through art.

Roz Grossman, M.A. provides a safe, caring atmosphere in her workshops and brings compassion from her own journey of healing from cancer. Roz has taught mindfulness practices at the University of Vermont Medical Center since 2010. Roz is a certified instructor of the Mindfulness-Based Stress Reduction Program (MBSR). She offers meditation instruction through her business, Mindful Stress Relief.

Jennifer Hauptman MSW, LICSW, ACM-SW is a full-time social worker and certified case manager at University of Vermont Medical Center's inpatient hematology and oncology unit. Jennifer was a mental health therapist in Northwest Vermont for three years and continues to serve as a medical social worker in a small, rural hospital in St Albans. Jennifer is passionate about connecting her clinical and therapeutic social work experience with the resource referral and community connection aspects of social work. While fairly new to the oncology world, Jennifer is honored and inspired each day by this resilient and courageous patient population.

Dr. John Hill is an Associate Professor of Medicine at the Geisel School of Medicine at Dartmouth and Director of the Allogeneic Blood and Marrow Transplant Program at Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center. He is particularly interested in efforts to optimize use of adoptive immunotherapy in the post-transplant high-risk and relapsed settings, as well as to minimize toxicity of allogeneic stem cell transplant and enhance post-transplant quality of life overall.

Greta Irwin is an Occupational Therapist and Medical Practice Management Executive. She is a stage IV melanoma survivor and a firm believer in the use of water-based exercise for maintaining strength, range of motion and for the management of lymphedema. Greta retired from her full-time career in 2015 and now teaches an Aqua Aerobics, Strength and Conditioning class at the Spa at the Essex.

Seth Irwin lives in Johnson, Vermont. He was diagnosed with Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia at 19, and is now a senior at Johnson State College studying Therapeutic Wilderness and Adventure Programming.

Rachel Lacourcier is a registered yoga teacher (RYT) with Yoga Alliance and has been practicing yoga for almost 20 years. She currently teaches group classes in a wide variety of venues, as well as privately. Rachel specializes in teaching to the needs of the individual, bringing students a practice designed to improve their individual flexibility, strength and overall well-being.

Josh Lebow is the creator of The Body Tailor, an experienced teacher, instinctive educator and inspirational coach. He prioritizes the importance of respiratory, endocrine and organ health, and has commanding understanding of the integrated nature of physiology. He is trained to target the fundamentals of movement, nutrition, rest and attitude as the primary guidelines for client success. Josh focuses on the influence of respiration and the diaphragm on musculoskeletal pain and physiological

performance. He can successfully address pain, injury, performance, aesthetics, and overall wellness. Josh is a cancer survivor, cancer free since the start of 2017. He believes strongly that exercise and a healthy lifestyle are an essential aspect of every cancer patient's recovery and overall survival.

Amy Littlefield, N.D., LAc. FABNO is a naturopathic physician and acupuncturist with 16 years of experience in the field of integrative oncology. She emphasizes scientific evidence and the value of patient empowerment to support improved quality of life and clinical outcomes.

Dr. Karen Lounsbury is a professor in pharmacology at UVM College of Medicine. Dr. Lounsbury has an interest in novel ways of treating side effects from treatment.

Rick Lovett, M.D. is a 1985 graduate of the University of Vermont College of Medicine, where he serves as Associate Professor. A radiation oncologist for over 25 years, he is certified by the American Board of Radiology.

Ginger MacDonald has been practicing yoga for 10 years and maintains a daily yoga and meditation practice. She teaches vinyasa flow yoga for all levels, hatha yoga for beginners, meditation, yoga nidra and yoga for people with cancer, anxiety and depression. Her yoga classes focus on mindful awareness, attention to breath and intention, self-compassion and safe-alignment. She completed 200- and 300-hour teacher trainings at Honest Yoga. Later, she completed the Bodhi and Mind training for teaching yoga to people with cancer histories. Ginger currently teaches yoga through Bodhi and Mind, as well as private individual and group classes. In addition to being a yoga instructor, Ginger is a clinical psychologist who works with children, teens, families and adults.

Laura Malloy is a licensed independent clinical social worker and certified yoga therapist. She is Director of Yoga Programs and a program leader for the Mind Body Program for Successful Aging at the Benson Henry Institute for Mind Body Medicine at Mass General Hospital. She has been practicing yoga since 1994 and teaching since 2001.

Kathy Manns began this cancer journey when her partner of 37 years was diagnosed in 2015. As partner, witness and caregiver there were innumerable places to feel overwhelmed. The tools taught in her session helped Kathy to stay connected and focused.

Jennifer May, RD, CD has been a registered dietitian at the University of Vermont Cancer Center for the past 11 years. She provides nutrition counseling to oncology patients and offers lectures on various cancer and nutrition topics. Jennifer received her bachelor's of science in Dietetics/Nutrition & Food Sciences at the University of Vermont, and completed her dietetic internship at Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston.

Kathleen McBeth is a Licensed Clinical Psychologist, with a focus on health psychology and adjustment to illness. Kathleen has been working with cancer patients and their caregivers since 2006 for the University of Vermont Cancer Center. She is a member of the American Psychosocial Oncology Society, on the steering committee

for Vermonters Taking Action Against Cancer, the Nursing & Allied Health Professional Advisory Committee, on the board of Northern New England Clinical Oncology Society and the vice president of the Stowe Weekend of Hope. She has presented at the University of Vermont Cancer Center's Women's Cancer Conference, the Dartmouth Lymphoma Symposium, the Stowe Weekend of Hope, and at the Northern New England Oncology Society annual conference. Kathleen was diagnosed with cancer twice, the first time in 1997 with Lymphoma. After treatment she went back to graduate school to become a psychologist and focus on the needs of oncology patients. Since her second diagnosis of breast cancer she continues to support the individuals who experience a cancer diagnosis from a key understanding of the uncertainty that comes with this disease as well as the impact it has on the entire family.

Marilyn McEnery was diagnosed with a very rare, fast-growing ovarian cancer in October, 2015. So many feelings! She used this theory and tool to keep her alive in the present and thinking, "Life is good and I want to be a part of it as long as I can."

Nicole Messier, RN, BSN, OCN, ONN-CG is the Clinical Program Coordinator/Nurse Navigator for the Upper and Lower Gastrointestinal and Genitourinary Multidisciplinary Care Cancer Clinics at The University of Vermont Medical Center. Nicole works as an oncology nurse at the UVMC in a variety of roles, including staff nurse on the inpatient oncology unit and as a primary nurse in the Department of Surgical Oncology. She has previously served as a Leadership Council member of the Academy of Oncology Nurse Navigators and participated on the AONN+ Evidence Into Practice Standardized Navigation Metrics Project Team. Nicole currently sits on the Board of Directors for the Northern New England Clinical Oncology Society and serves as co-chair for the Nursing & Allied Health Professional Advisory Committee of NNECOS.

Carissa Morton graduated in 2013 from Colby-Sawyer College with a bachelor's in Nursing. She is a Bone Marrow Transplant Certified nurse and has been a nurse on the Hematology/Oncology Special Care Unit at Dartmouth Hitchcock for four years. As a sophomore in college Carissa was diagnosed with stage IV Hodgkin's disease; she completed 6 months of chemo while continuing with classes and clinical. Within a month of stopping that chemo, it was confirmed that she had recurrent Hodgkin's and that she needed to start salvage chemo and continue with an autologous stem cell transplant. It will be seven years since her transplant this November.

Nancy Mosher is a Reiki Master Teacher and Leadership Consultant, with 20 years experience in a style of dream exploration which helps the dreamer experience and learn from the mysterious language of their dreams. Nancy also has two decades of experience as a women's health practitioner. For the past seven years, Nancy and her partner Gerette Buglion have been facilitating women's groups,

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Emma O'Brien has helped her mom, Patti, remain active when Patti was in cancer therapy. She is now studying to become a physical therapist that specializes in Oncology Rehabilitation. She designed the Steps to Wellness Logo when the program started, and continues to work on research related to exercise. She and her mom enjoy yoga and being on ski/snowboard slopes together.

Patricia O'Brien is a 22-year cancer survivor, faculty member at the UVM College of Medicine, and member of the UVM Cancer Center. Patti specializes in treating cancer survivors with lymphedema or other medical issues related to cancer treatment. She works with the Steps to Wellness Oncology Rehabilitation program. She believes in exercise as an important part of a healthy lifestyle.

Dr. David Ospina is a hematologist/medical oncologist at UVM Health Network - Central Vermont Medical Center. He is passionate about new developments in cancer care and enjoys sharing his knowledge – and enthusiasm – with his patients and the community.

Lois Parmelee was diagnosed with breast cancer in 2008, and then again in 2009. Bill was her caregiver. They have attended SWOH for eight years. At the Weekend they learned that healthy eating and exercise were imperative in prevention of reoccurrence of cancer. They started biking three years ago. Two years ago they rode 500 miles, last year 700 miles. All riding was done on rail trails. They topped off their riding last year with a ride in the Laurentians, completing 70 miles in two days. Each time they attend SWOH they leave with more knowledge and a sense of peace and hope. They live their lives by the motto "Life isn't about waiting for the storm to pass, it's about learning to dance in the rain."

Dr. Matthew Perchemlides is a specialist in integrative oncology, a Fellow of the American Board of Naturopathic Oncology, who holds a master's degree in Nutrition and a bachelor's degree in Nursing. Dr. Perchemlides' mother, a nurse practitioner and single mom of five boys, inspired his nursing career. The loss of his father to cancer sparked his dedication to integrative oncology. His wife and children continue to inspire his ground-breaking work in the area of integrative oncology.

Enrique Peredo comes to you with a combined perspective of life with his own chronic life threatening illness and as partner to a man diagnosed with cancer. Learning the fine balance between listener and talker has proven very useful in the discovery of underlying issues as they deal with their health. He is a gardener, enjoying both the beauty of flowers and vegetables in the landscape.

Dr. Betsy Perez has been in private practice for urology for 17 years. She went to UVM for medical school and graduated in 1995. She completed her residency at the Albany Medical School in 2000.

Scott Perrapato is a Urologic Oncologist at the UVM Cancer Center and on staff at the main medical center and area hospitals. He is coordinator of the UVM Cancer Center Genitourinary Multidisciplinary Clinic and the

Division of Urology Quality Assurance Program. He is Director of the UVM Robotic Surgery Division with his clinical special interest of differentiating 'clinically significant' versus 'low risk' prostate cancer.

Korey Pierce was diagnosed with Aplastic Anemia four days after his 19th birthday. After a year of being transfusion dependent and receiving cyclosporine and ATG he underwent a matched unrelated full allogeneic bone marrow transplant. Korey underwent one total hip replacement and a bilateral shoulder replacement. Korey finally met his German-born BMT donor, Fabian, and married his wife all within the same week. Fabian was honored to be in attendance at their wedding. Korey has been an active member of the Young Adult Cancer Survivor Support group since 2013, a NCCC Prouty team member, is the President of the Firefighters Association in Ashland, N.H. He is the advisor for the Fire Department Explorer program.

Lonnie Poland is a native Vermonter. She is a Physical Therapist, certified Kripalu Yoga Teacher, Gendai Reiki Teacher, mindfulness facilitator and level II iRest teacher in training. Lonnie owns and operates Experience Yoga Studio in Milton, offering group yoga classes, private medical therapeutic yoga, Reiki, meditation, iRest, corporate workshops, and retreats.

Sarah Quinttus is a passionate teacher and serves as a facilitator of transformation and change for her students. Sarah began practicing yoga as a way to rehabilitate from severe knee operations and injuries, but the practice has grown into a way of living for her, both on and off the mat. Through living and sharing yoga, she has learned the power of intention, positive thinking and remaining present. Sarah provides support and space in her classes for students to explore connection to the truest self, step into their own strength and power, and live the best life. She has been inspired by so many wonderful teachers on her path and is grateful to share and pass on the traditions of this beautiful practice to others.

Ruth Reich resides on Jovita Farm. She is an Equine Human Educator specializing in Equine Assisted Education and Equine Assisted Therapy. Ruth is also a certified Centered Riding Instructor. She started creating jewelry 12 years ago as a way to offer a scholarship program for those who wish to immerse themselves in education and healing at Jovita Farm.

"Through artistic creation, we can express our many emotions, thoughts and ideas, allowing form, color, texture and the creative process to offer healing and awareness." Ruth was diagnosed with breast cancer and underwent multiple surgeries, chemotherapy and radiation. She received a second breast cancer diagnosis which resulted in a need for surgery, radiation and chemotherapy.

Jillian Ritter was diagnosed with Stage III colorectal cancer soon after her 30th birthday. Facing her biggest fear, cancer, she found healing in an integrative approach to treatment. Alongside chemotherapy and surgery, she embraced changes in mind, body and spirit. She is now passionate about sharing what she learned through her journey with others.

Cherrita Ti Robertson encourages her students to love themselves in every moment. She invites them to come as they are, recognizing we all have good days and bad days. There needs to be darkness in order for cracks of light to shine through, and much joy is to be found in the abundance of compassion. The secret to success is to simply do the best that we can with the moments we are given. Cherrita believes that yoga, music, laughter, love and running barefoot is the true formula for happiness. Since yoga has given her many opportunities in life and health for thirteen years, it is her goal to share the gift of movement, mindfulness, and breathing with as many people as she can.

The Boobie Sisters are all breast cancer survivors. The purpose of this group is to spread hope to those impacted by this disease. This is done through singing songs that bring laughter and inspiration.

Deborah Rubin, M.D. is an Associate Professor Emerita at the UVM School of Medicine, and works in Radiation Oncology at UVMMC, CVMC, and RRMC. Deborah served as a Member and Chair for the UVM IRB, the committee which reviews ethical concerns related to research in human subjects.

Sara Smith began her bone marrow transplant nursing career on Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center's bone marrow transplant unit after graduating from Saint Anselm College. When Sara was 12 years old her father was diagnosed with Hodgkin's Lymphoma. After months of treatment, he is cancer free. Her father heads a family team for the Prouty called Hope in Motion. Sara is a highly regarded, passionate RN and a strong patient advocate. She is one of the primary nurse educators in BMT at DHMC, is a member of

their research team and is working towards her bone marrow transplant nursing certification.

Erica Sussman received the message, "Through movement, tranquility is found," on her first yoga membership at The Loft in San Francisco where she began her exploration into yoga. Movement has always been integral to her life and she has channeled her energy into ballet, soccer, tennis, hiking, running, and now yoga. Over the past several years she has been influenced by many teachers and various styles, all of which she enjoys blending into her classes, and is grateful for the support and loving instruction from each of her teachers. She loves the laughter that yoga has brought into her life and seeks to spread that joy to her students.

Beatriz Tendler, M.D. is an Associate Professor at the UCONN Health; Endocrine Neoplasia Clinic. She was the President of the Connecticut Endocrine Society from 2012-2016 and is on the Ethics Committee, and American Thyroid Association.

Dr. Alissa Thomas is a neurologist specializing in neuro-oncology at the University of Vermont Medical Center. In her clinical practice Dr. Thomas sees patients with primary brain tumors including glioblastoma, metastatic brain tumors, CNS lymphoma, and neurological complications of cancer. Her research focuses on improving outcomes and quality of life for patients with malignant gliomas. Dr. Thomas graduated from Brown Medical School, completed her neurology residency at Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center, and her fellowship in neuro-oncology at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center. She is an assistant professor in the department of neurological sciences at the UVM Larner College of Medicine and a member of the University of Vermont Cancer Center.

Vanessa Underwood is a survivor, fitness trainer, wellness consultant, motivational speaker, and owner of Underwood Sports and Fitness. She has sustained three kidney transplants, anal cancer, and skin cancer. She believes her greatest secret to success is fitness of mind, body and soul. As a result of positive thinking, a daily prescription of exercise, and a healthy lifestyle, she has continued to defy the odds. She travels nationally presenting her personal and inspiring journey, Moving Into Wellness, manages her fitness and consulting business, teaches Senior Fitness, Zumba, Boot Camps, Pilates, and makes it a priority to do her own personal

workout every day!
Professor Laura Vandenberg trained in cancer biology focusing on breast cancer. Her laboratory at UMass has opened new avenues of study. She has an international reputation for her work focused on chemicals and breast cancer.

Lisa Wesinger is a graduate of Mount Wachusett Community College where she received her associate's degree in nursing. She always wanted to pursue her BSN – so for her 50th birthday present to herself she graduated with her bachelor's in nursing from Franklin Pierce University. Lisa has been a bone marrow transplant (BMT) clinical nurse at Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center for 20 years. She has a strong passion for BMT, patient advocacy, nursing education and research. She leads a qualitative nursing research team entitled "Enhancing BMT Care and Survivorship through the Patient Experience". The research team presents locally, regionally, and nationally. Lisa is involved in many patient related endeavors including the Norris Cotton Cancer Center's biggest fundraising event the Prouty held every July.


Candy Weston is the partner and caregiver to keynote speaker Tim Kavanagh. One of Candy's greatest passions is connecting with and enriching the lives of others. That's shown in her work as an interior designer, an energy worker and author of "This Is Me ... A Cancer Caregiver." She feels strongly that all our life experiences can serve to help us grow stronger, love deeper, and live more fully.

Dr. Cheung Wong is the Director of Gynecological Oncology at UVM College of Medicine. Dr. Wong's expertise involves treating women with pre-cancer and malignant conditions.


Scott Woodward works as an independent technology consultant. Scott is a veteran of the U.S. Army, having served in Europe and a tour of duty in Saudi Arabia and Kuwait during the Persian Gulf War. When he's not working, Scott enjoys spending time with friends, being outdoors and staying active. Scott never tires of observing nature. Since having gone through transplant, Scott has been glad to restart the annual tradition of running the Big Sur Marathon with his brother Tom.

Professor R. Thomas Zoeller trained in endocrinology at the NIH and has investigated the ability of environmental chemicals to interfere with hormone system. He has advised EPA, FDA, UN, WHO and EU governments and organizations.

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