

Dr. Carl June to be Honored as the 2018 Duane Roth Endowed Award Lecture Recipient by UC San Diego Moores Cancer Center Office of Industry Relations

Award to be Presented at the 14th Annual Industry/Academia Translational Oncology Symposium

SAN DIEGO, CA, Feb. 15, 2018 – The UC San Diego Moores Cancer Center Office of Industry Relations today announced that it will recognize Carl June, M.D., as the 2018 Duane Roth Endowed Award Lecture recipient. The award will be presented by David Brenner, M.D., Vice Chancellor of UC San Diego Health Sciences and Dean of the UC San Diego School of Medicine during the annual Industry/Academia Translational Oncology Symposium on Thursday, February 22, at the UC San Diego Moores Cancer Center.

Dr. June is a leading pioneer of T-cell treatments, and his research team at the University of Pennsylvania has created a new era in oncologic innovation with CAR-T cell therapies. Research conducted by his team, despite many challenges faced in the field, was foundational in this therapeutic area. His lab's research ultimately supported the advancement and development of Kymriah by Novartis, the first FDA approved therapy based on gene transfer. In addition, this research has been foundational in inspiring numerous other academics and biotechnology companies to pursue CAR-T cell therapies.

“Duane Roth had a reputation for always finding ways to overcome obstacles, and this award serves as a way to honor his memory by recognizing leaders in the oncology space who share this spirit,” said Ida Deichaite, Ph.D., director of UC San Diego Moores Cancer Center's Office of Industry Relations and an organizer of the symposium. “For the fifth year, we have looked for an individual who has kept the cancer patients in mind when making deep, personal commitments and sacrifices to their work by tackling significant barriers in drug research and development with the utmost tenacity.”

Added Dr. David Brenner, “Through his research at the University of Pennsylvania, Dr. June has embodied the resilient spirit of Duane Roth and created a new era in immunotherapy for treatment of cancer. By maintaining a steadfast commitment to his research and staying at the forefront of innovation, Dr. June's research has helped provide patients with life-altering treatment options. We are pleased to bestow this honor upon him.”

About the Duane Roth Endowed Award Lecture

The Duane Roth **Endowed** Award Lecture is bestowed upon patient-focused leaders in health care whose work has overcome numerous scientific, financial, institutional, political and cultural obstacles to create new paradigms in research and treatment. Named after Duane Roth, an esteemed leader in the biotech industry who was tragically killed following a bicycle accident in 2013, the award is given to those who demonstrate his deep commitment to innovation and the patient. Past recipients include: Sandra Horning, M.D., head of global product development and chief medical officer, Genentech; Dennis Slamon, M.D., Ph.D., UCLA Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center; Brian Druker, M.D., Knight Institute at Oregon Health and Science University; and Laura Esserman, M.D., UCSF Helen Diller Family Comprehensive Cancer Center. Biographies of past winners and their accomplishments are available online.

About the Industry/Academia Translational Oncology Symposium

Since 2005, UC San Diego Moores Cancer Center's Office of Industry Relations annually organizes the Industry/Academia Translational Oncology Symposium— a unique forum where distinguished investigators, scientists, and clinicians join top industry decision-makers to discuss the latest breakthroughs in translational oncology research. Talks include personalized medicine, targeted therapy discoveries, collaborative clinical trials paradigms and case studies of previous successful collaborative projects. An interactive panel session comprised of industry and academia panelists and the concluding networking reception allow for further dialogue of ideas and the fostering of collaborative relationships.

About the UC San Diego Moores Cancer Center's Office of Industry Relations

Industry Relations at UC San Diego Moores Cancer Center, a NCI-designated Comprehensive Cancer Center, builds relationships for collaborative translational oncology projects. With the power of industry/academia collaboration, the lead time and enormous costs of cancer therapy development are significantly reduced, overcoming numerous translational gaps that often cause clinical trials to fail. Industry Relations unifies the efforts of the sciences within cancer research to better stratify patients according to their biomarker profiles, reducing toxicity, improving drug development efficiency, minimizing extraneous costs and meeting patients' specific needs quickly.

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