

## RESEARCH MENTORS

**Gary R. Morrow, Ph.D., M.S.** Dr. Morrow is a Dean's Professor of Oncology in the Departments of Surgery, Radiation Oncology and Psychiatry at the University of Rochester Medical Center. Dr. Morrow is Head of the Clinical Research Division for the Department of Surgery, Director of the James P. Wilmot Cancer Institute Cancer Control and Survivorship Research Program, Director of the National Cancer Institute Community Oncology Research Program (NCORP) Research Base, and Director of the Cancer Control Research Training Program. He is an internationally recognized expert in the management of toxicities and side effects stemming from cancer and its treatments. He has been funded continuously, since 1976, for his work in supportive care with federal and national grants from NCI, OCCAM, NCCAM, NINR, DOD, the American Cancer Society and the Nathan Cummings Foundation that total over \$40 million. He has conducted clinical trials with pharmaceutical companies including GTx Inc, Alza Pharmaceutical, Pfizer, Glaxo, Cephalon, Janssen, and Upjohn. His personal research focuses primarily on developing new treatments to mitigate emesis and nausea, but he has also mentored junior faculty in developing and testing a wide variety of behavioral, pharmaceutical and nutraceutical treatments for many different toxicities and side effects. Dr. Morrow has chaired 7 NCI phase III nationwide, multi-site, clinical trials and has co-chaired an additional 23 testing novel treatments. He was the founding Chair of the Psychosocial and Behavioral Research Review Committee of the American Cancer Society. Dr. Morrow's dedication to the mentoring of junior faculty, including both clinicians and scientific faculty, is exceptional and has been honored with departmental, university and national mentoring awards including the Distinguished Research Mentor Award from the Society of Behavioral Medicine. Furthermore, in recognition of his outstanding contributions to the field of oncology and the University of Rochester Medical Center, Dr. Morrow was recently named a Distinguished Professor of Supportive Care in Cancer by virtue of an endowed chair from a grateful anonymous patient donor. Upon Dr. Morrow's retirement, it will be named the Dr. Gary and Joan Morrow Distinguished Chair of Supportive Care in Cancer and remain forever within the Medical Center Division that houses the Research Base—thus promoting continued institutional recognition and stability of support.



**Karen M. Mustian, PhD, M.S., MPH, ACSM, FSBM.** Dr. Mustian is an Associate Professor in the Departments of Surgery, Radiation Oncology and Public Health Sciences at the University of Rochester Medical Center. Dr. Mustian is Deputy Director of the URCC NCORP Research Base, Director of the URMCC PEAK Human Performance Clinical Research Lab, and Director of the Wilmot Cancer Institute Integrative Oncology Supportive Care Center of Excellence Initiative. She also serves as a member of the URMCC Medical Faculty Council. Nationally and internationally, Dr. Mustian is a Distinguished Research Fellow in the Society of Behavioral Medicine. Dr. Mustian is Co-Chair of the NCI NCTN NCORP Symptom Management and Quality of Life



Steering Committee (SxQOL)—where she is responsible for all peer-review of clinical trials with toxicity or quality of life endpoints across all cancer types—including surgical trials--conducted through the NCI NCTN and NCORP. Dr. Mustian is also a Member of the NCI NCTN Community Oncology and Prevention Trials Research Group's (COPTRG) Community Oncology Cardiotoxicity Task Force, the NCI NCTN Disease Steering Committee Chairs Group and the scientific program committee for ASCO. Dr. Mustian is Chair of the Multinational Association of Supportive Care in Cancer (MASCC) International Fatigue Study Group, and Chair of the MASCC International Cancer-Related-Fatigue Treatment Guidelines Committee. Dr. Mustian helped establish the mission and guidelines for the inaugural American Cancer Society Palliative Care Initiative and Review Committee, the American College of Sports Medicine Oncology Exercise Specialist Certification, and the American College of Sports Medicine Exercise Guidelines for Cancer Patients and Survivors. Dr. Mustian is an international leader in the fields of Cancer Control and Survivorship, Behavioral Oncology, Exercise Physiology, Exercise Psychology and Exercise Oncology. Currently, Dr. Mustian has \$36.6M in funding, with \$5.1M as PI, \$6.8 with her mentees as PI, and \$24.7 with her co-investigators. Dr. Mustian has been funded by NCI, NCCAM, OCCAM, NINR, PCORI, and DOD and worked with pharmaceutical companies including GTx Inc. Dr. Mustian's research is in the area of cancer control and survivorship with primary foci on investigating the influence of physical activity and exercise on toxicities and side effects (acute, chronic and late) stemming from cancer and its treatments including translational foci investigating psychoneuroimmunological (e.g., cytokines and circadian rhythm) and genetic (nuclear and mitochondrial) mechanistic pathways. Dr. Mustian has authored over 100 articles and book chapters in the field of oncology, and she has been recognized for her excellence and leadership with more than 40 distinguished research awards from groups, such as the American Society of Clinical Oncology. Most recently, Dr. Mustian was honored with the 2013 Drew/Butterfield Distinguished Visiting Professorship by Princess Margaret Cancer Center in Toronto, Canada, the 2014 Society of Behavioral Medicine's Outstanding Research Citation Award, 2014 University of North Carolina Greensboro's Distinguished Research Alumni Award, and the 2016 Society of Behavioral Medicine, Outstanding Academic Research Leadership Fellowship. Dr. Mustian also serves on editorial boards and reviews for many excellent peer-review professional journals. She serves on grant review committees for the NCI, NIA, the ACS, PCORI and others. Dr. Mustian has successfully mentored over 76 undergraduate, graduate and post-doctoral students, as well as junior faculty whom have successfully matriculated to positions at URM and other prestigious universities; 8 of her mentees have received external NIH K-awards; 4 mentees received internal CTSI KL2 awards, all of them have successfully acquired pilot funding, and she has successfully helped other faculty acquire external R01 level funding. Dr. Mustian's excellence in teaching and mentoring was honored with the URM Rubin-Mitchell Outstanding Teaching and Mentoring Award.

**Supriya Gupta Mohile, M.D., M.S.** Dr. Mohile is an Associate Professor in the Department of Medicine, Division of Hematology-Oncology. Dr. Mohile is also Director of the Specialized Oncology Care & Research in the Elderly (SOCARE) geriatric oncology clinic and Chair of Cancer Care Delivery Research for the URCC NCORP Research Base. She is board-certified geriatrician and oncologist. A graduate of Pennsylvania State University, she earned her M.D. at Thomas Jefferson Medical School. She completed internship, residency and fellowships in hematology/oncology and geriatrics at University of Chicago Medical Center, where she also earned a Master's degree in health outcomes research. Her research interests include the evaluation of patterns of care, health outcomes, and quality of life related to treatment for systemic cancer in older patients. She has previously received an American Society of Clinical Oncology Young Investigator Award and Merit Awards. Dr. Mohile was a Hartford Geriatrics Health Outcomes Research Scholar sponsored by the American Geriatrics Society and was a Clinical and Translational Science Institute K-L2 Awardee. In 2013, she was awarded a Patient Centered Outcomes Research Institute Award and a NCI R01 to evaluate whether geriatric assessment can improve outcomes of older patients with cancer. She is an expert in geriatric oncology with over 120 publications in this area. She serves on the editorial board of the Journal of Clinical Oncology and is Deputy Editor of the Journal of Geriatric Oncology. She also leads the American Society of Clinical Oncology Geriatric Oncology Task Force and the Geriatric Oncology Clinical Guideline subcommittee. Dr. Mohile has been invaluable as a source of medical expertise for the development of URCC concepts and protocols within the URCC NCORP Research Base. Her availability for answering medical questions on protocols when community affiliates call the research base is a vital aspect of our responsiveness to such questions which can directly influence study accrual and conduct. She was the Study Chair of the closed *URCC07004: ATTRACT-CPN*. She also provides medical expertise as part of the audit program, attending and supervising on-site visits and reviewing medical information as needed.



**Michelle C. Janelins, Ph.D., M.P.H.** Dr. Janelins is a Tenure-Track Assistant Professor in the Department of Surgery, Cancer Control at University of Rochester Medical Center (URMC) and University of Rochester James P. Wilmot Cancer Institute (WCC) and Director of the Cancer Control and Psychoneuroimmunology Laboratory (CCPL). Dr. Janelins is also Chair of Translational Science for the National Cancer Institute Community Oncology Research Program (NCORP) Research Base. Her research is internationally known and focuses on clinical, psychological, and biological mechanisms of chemotherapy-related cognitive impairment (CRCI) and on behavioral and pharmacological interventions to alleviate cognitive impairments in cancer patients and survivors. She also conducts translational animal model studies to better understand mechanisms of CRCI and to develop interventions for translation into early-stage human trials. To date, she has received \$4.9 million in funding as PI. She is the recipient of a prestigious NIH/NINDS Ruth L. Kirschstein National Research Service Award (NRSA). More recently, she is also the recipient of an NIH/NCI K07 Award, where she is currently investigating the effects of interventions targeting inflammation for CRCI in breast cancer patients in a Phase II randomized clinical trial. She is also funded by NCI to lead the largest nationwide longitudinal study conducted to date of cognitive function in breast cancer and lymphoma patients receiving chemotherapy to better understand the trajectory of cognitive impairment and biological and genetic mechanisms. To date, Dr. Janelins



has published 58 peer-reviewed manuscripts and has received 22 awards from various professional societies and organizations including: NIH/NCI, NIH/OBSSR, Society of Behavioral Medicine (SBM), American Society of Preventive Oncology (ASPO), and the Multinational Association for Supportive Care in Cancer (MASCC). She reviews grants for the American Cancer Society and NCI Symptom Management and Quality of Life Committee. She also is involved in University and professional organization committees, and reviews for over 20 excellent peer-reviewed journals. She is involved in teaching lectures in Behavioral Medicine and Neuro-Oncology courses at URM. She currently collaborates on cancer-related projects with several colleagues at URM, Memorial Sloan Kettering, and Stanford University and is serving or has served as a mentor or co-mentor for 16 junior faculty, fellows, and students at URM.

**Luke Peppone, PhD, MPH.** Dr. Peppone is a Tenure-Track Assistant

Professor in the Departments of Surgery and Orthopaedics at the University of Rochester Medical Center. Dr. Peppone received his Ph.D. in Epidemiology and Community Health from SUNY Buffalo in 2007 and then decided to change career directions and accepted a NCI funded R25 Fellowship position in the University of Rochester Cancer Control Clinical Training Program which allowed him to gain hands-on experience with cancer patients in a clinical research setting, collaborate with experienced cancer control researchers, and begin developing his research interests. Dr. Peppone has since become a leader in the fields of Cancer Control and Survivorship, Behavioral Oncology, and Nutritional Supplementation in cancer patients. Currently, Dr. Peppone has \$2.4M in funding as PI and \$4.1M with his co-investigators. Dr. Peppone has been funded by NCI, ACS, and CTSI and worked with nutritional supplement companies including Bio-Tech and Nordic Naturals. Dr. Peppone's research is in the area of cancer control and survivorship with primary foci on investigating the influence of nutritional supplementation and exercise on toxicities and side effects (acute, chronic and late) stemming from cancer and its treatments including translational foci investigating psychoneuroimmunological (e.g., cytokines and circadian rhythm) and genetic (nuclear and mitochondrial) mechanistic pathways. He is currently investigating the effects of high-dose vitamin D, marine  $\omega$ -3 polyunsaturated fatty acids, and guaraná (a Brazilian botanical product) supplementation. The effect of high-dose vitamin D supplementation is being tested on arthralgias, bone mineral density, and fatigue among breast and prostate cancer patients on hormonal therapy. Both marine  $\omega$ -3 polyunsaturated fatty acids and guaraná supplementation are being tested for their effects on fatigue and cognitive issues. In addition to his own line of research, Dr. Peppone also serves as the chair of Novel & Early Stage Therapy Development committee for the URCC NCORP Research Base. Dr. Peppone has authored over 45 articles and book chapters in the field of oncology, and he has been recognized for his excellence and leadership with more than 12 distinguished research awards from groups, such as the American Society of Clinical Oncology, the Society of Behavioral Medicine, and the Multinational Association for the Supportive Care in Cancer (MASCC). Dr. Peppone has presented his research findings at numerous national and international meetings, including ASCO, SBM, MASCC, and ASPO. He has received awards from ASCO (Merit Award), SBM (Citation Award), and ASPO (Outstanding Abstract Award) for his research. Dr. Peppone also received a Loan Repayment Award (LRP) for his accomplishments in 2011 and received a renewal for an additional 2 years of LRP in 2013 and an additional renewal for 2014. In addition, he received a M.P.H. degree in May 2011 from the University of Rochester.



**Charles Kamen, PhD, MPH.** Dr. Kamen is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Surgery. He received his PhD in Clinical Psychology from the University of Georgia, completed a postdoctoral fellowship in the Department of Psychiatry at Stanford University, and obtained a Masters of Public Health from the University of Rochester as part of the R25 Cancer Control training program. His background and training focuses on behavioral medicine, health disparities, and dyadic interventions. Dr. Kamen's program of research involves 1) assessing cancer-related health disparities, specifically those that impact lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) cancer survivors, and 2) developing, testing and disseminating interventions that are effective when delivered to both cancer survivors and their care partners (dyadic interventions). As Chair of Health Disparities for the University of Rochester Cancer Center NCI Community Oncology Research Program (URCC NCORP) Research Base, he also reviews health disparities protocols and develops, promotes, and oversees research that incorporates minority/underserved populations. His current trial, funded by an NCI K07 career development award, focuses explicitly on LGBT cancer-related health disparities and aims to establish preliminary efficacy of a dyadic exercise intervention for addressing psychological distress among LGBT cancer survivors and their caregivers. He is also piloting a curriculum to help research staff members working in NCORP sites to engage with their local minority and underserved communities using a community-based participatory research framework. He has over 40 peer reviewed manuscripts in press. Dr. Kamen has experience mentoring graduate students, postdoctoral fellows, and faculty members from a variety of disciplines; he is currently interested in working with trainees in assessing and addressing cancer-related health disparities and/or developing interventions for cancer patient/caregiver dyads.



**Joseph A. Roscoe, Ph.D.** Dr. Roscoe received his Ph.D. in Social Psychology in May, 2000, and is currently a Research Associate Professor in the Department of Surgery at the University of Rochester, School of Medicine and Dentistry, Rochester, New York. He is Assistant Director of the Cancer Control Training Program and Director of Cancer Control Research for the URCC NCORP Research Base. He has been either the Principal or Co-Investigator on five multicenter URCC NCORP/CCOP CINV protocols. He received seven nationally competitive research awards, including an American Cancer Society career development award to examine disturbances of sleep architecture in breast cancer patients undergoing chemotherapy and an NCI-supported R01 testing the efficacy of a behavioral intervention in reducing insomnia and fatigue in cancer survivors. He currently has an R01 examining a non-pharmacological adjunct to standard antiemetics for controlling chemotherapy-induced nausea in breast cancer patients, as well as an R01 examining optimal treatment of refractory nausea. Dr. Roscoe has 71 peer-reviewed publications on issues of symptom management.



**Charles E. Heckler, PhD., M.S.** Dr. Heckler is Research Assistant Professor in the Department of Surgery. Dr. Heckler serves as the Biostatistics Chair for the URCC NCORP Research Base, and is involved in all statistical aspects of the Research Base protocols, from initial inception, obtaining grant funding, execution, data quality monitoring, final analysis and publication. Dr. Heckler is actively involved in obtaining funding from other sources, such as PCORI, DOD, and NCI R series grants as the lead biostatistician for all funded grants. Dr. Heckler oversees and mentors the other statistical resource personnel in the group. Dr. Heckler advises the R25 trainees on the appropriate use of statistics to perform secondary analyses and design their clinical trials (e.g. pilot grants and K awards). He was honored with the W.G. Cochran Memorial Prize. He has expertise in many areas of Statistics, including design of experiments, clinical trials, multivariate analysis, variance components and mixed models, longitudinal analysis, missing data techniques, statistical learning, statistical graphics, exploratory data analysis and statistical computing. He has applied these skills to diverse areas in Cancer Control research, including circadian rhythms analysis, characterization of actigraphy, genomics, meta-analysis, power analysis of complex designs, and limits of detection for biomarkers. He teaches an undergraduate/graduate course in statistical computing and exploratory analysis. He has co-authored/authored over 45 articles, most of which are biostatistical applications to Cancer Control. He has reviewed ten statistics texts for the journal *Technometrics*.



\*The faculty highlighted are key mentors available to R25 fellows. There are over 25 mentors across a wide variety of disciplines throughout the University of Rochester. Additional mentor information can be found by searching the Faculty Directory.