

WCX Quarterly



In this issue



Upcoming Events



Your recent achievements



Spotlight: Dr. Mila Seelaender



In the News

Upcoming Events

WCX initiative



Presents

Women in Cachexia 'Community Meeting'



A networking meeting to identify interests and needs in the WCX community

March 17th, 2025
12pm EST

Via ZOOM

Join us in March for a *Community Meeting* where we will provide community support and identify quickly-evolving interests and needs of women and marginalized genders in the cancer cachexia field.

All WCX members are encouraged to attend.

[Register to attend.](#)

Not a member but interested in getting involved?

[Register here to join!](#)

WCX initiative



Presents

Stories & Science with Dr. Michelle Law: "A heart for cancer cachexia research"



April 2, 2025
12pm EST
Via Zoom

Join us in April as we welcome Dr. Michelle Law for a *Stories & Science* seminar. Dr. Law will share her path to success, in both her career and her exciting ongoing work.

Everyone is welcome to attend this seminar, and we encourage your support of Dr. Law for this new seminar series.

[Register to attend.](#)

Michelle Law, PhD RD
Assistant Professor, Department of
Human Sciences and Design
Baylor University

Upcoming seminar of interest:
International Women's Day Symposium

*The Power of Persistence- Women Transforming
Cancer Research and Care*
Friday March 7th, 2-5pm EST
[More information and registration](#)



Celebrating your recent achievements



Publications

- **Dr. María Borja-González**, a recent PhD graduate from University of Galway, is first author on a preprint: *"miR-379-3p counteracts cancer cachexia through regulation of pyrimidinergic receptor, mitochondrial stress and interferon response"*: DOI: [10.1101/2025.01.11.632559](https://doi.org/10.1101/2025.01.11.632559)
- **Dr. Deena Snoke**, a Postdoc at University of Vermont, is first author on a review article assessing current knowledge on longitudinal measurements of body composition in patients with lung cancer. DOI: [10.1152/ajpcell.01048.2024](https://doi.org/10.1152/ajpcell.01048.2024)
- **Dr. E. Angela Murphy**, a Professor at University of South Carolina, is senior author on a new paper published in AJP Cell Physiology: *'The impact of diet-induced obesity on 5 fluorouracil-induced tumor and liver immune cell cytotoxicity'* DOI: [10.1152/ajpcell.00687.2024](https://doi.org/10.1152/ajpcell.00687.2024)

Awards, Conference Presentations & other announcements

- **Dr. Yan Sun**, a recent PhD graduate and current Postdoc at Maastricht University, received the 'Best Roadshow Award' in the Innovation and Entrepreneurship Competition at the World Young Scientists Summit. Way to go, Dr. Sun!
- **Dr. Brittany Counts**, Postdoc at Oregon Health Sciences University, received a prestigious T32 fellowship in *Quantitative and Experimental Cancer Systems Biology*. Congratulations, Dr. Counts!

Spotlight: Dr. Marilia (Mila) Seelaender



Dr. Seelaender is an Associate Professor at the University of São Paulo, Brazil

Her full interview is inspiring: [read it here.](#)

Some highlights from our interview with Dr. Seelaender:

An achievement she is most proud of: *"nothing makes me prouder than the success of my former students and knowing that I managed to open some doors for them."*

Health disparities and limited access to healthcare in many regions of Brazil motivate Mila to study cancer cachexia. "Cachexia is more common than in other countries, because patients present with more advanced disease... malnutrition is present throughout Brazil, further complicating the already complex management of cancer"

"Do not fall into the trap that you cannot have a family and still be an outstanding scientist. As a woman with 3 children, I can assure you my productivity and recognition are not below that of my colleagues who are men."

In the News

Stop Telling Women They Have Imposter Syndrome



For many women, feeling like an outsider isn't an illusion – it's the result of systemic bias and exclusion.

[Read the article in *Harvard Business Review*.](#)

Image: Tulshyan and Burey, *Harvard Business Review* 2021.

Interested in whether you may have implicit biases? Take a test to assess yourself [here](#).

Did You Know?

Jeannette Villepreux-Power (1794 - 1871) invented the modern aquarium for observing and describing octopuses and argonauts solving the long mystery of how argonauts make their distinctive egg cases.

Through careful observation, experiments and pioneering aquaria she was one of the first people to observe living breathing cephalopods and their behaviour.



Source: Natural History Museum, University of Oxford

Important Links & Resources

Upcoming meetings:

[Advances in Skeletal Muscle Biology](#), March 19-21
[8th Cancer Cachexia Conference](#), September 25-27



WCX members: [Submit your recent achievements](#) to be highlighted in our next newsletter

Know someone with wisdom to share? [Nominate a speaker](#) for a WCX-sponsored event

Not a part of the WCX community? [Register here to join!](#)

Looking for a job or mentorship opportunity? [Access the WCX network](#) (network members only; access request required)