Elliot Arsoniadis, MD was one of two recipients to receive a 2015 CHAAMPS Disparity Scholars Program (CDSP) Award from the Center for Healthy African American Men through Partnerships (CHAAMPS). His CDSP research will focus on if African American men undergo a higher rate of anal-sphincter-sacrificing surgery for rectal cancer compared to non-African American men and if African American men have a higher mortality rate or complication rate after surgery for rectal cancer compared to non-African American men. Read more about the award on the CHAAMPS website.

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**LECTURES**
FUNDING ANNOUNCEMENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES

Funding Opportunities:

**Research Projects on Disparities in African American Men's Health**
Center for Health African American Men through Partnerships (CHAAMPS)
Request For Applications
Letters of Intent Due: November 16, 2015, 11:59 p.m. (submit electronically)
Invitations to Submit a Full Application: December 1, 2015
Applications Due: February 8, 2016, 11:59 p.m. (submit electronically)
Announcement of Recipients: May 2, 2016
Project Start Date: July 1, 2016

Applicants from the University of Minnesota should contact Lisa Rogers, roger031@umn.edu to discuss budget preparation.

**Development of Innovative Informatics Methods and Algorithms for Cancer Research and Management (R21)**
PAR-15-334
The purpose of this Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) is to invite exploratory/developmental research grant (R21) applications for the development of innovative methods and algorithms in biomedical computing, informatics, and data science addressing priority needs across the cancer research continuum, including cancer biology, cancer treatment and diagnosis, cancer prevention, cancer control and epidemiology, and/or cancer health disparities. As a component of the NCI's Informatics Technology for Cancer Research (ITCR) Initiative, this FOA encourages applications focused on the development of novel computational, mathematical, and statistical algorithms and methods that can considerably improve acquisition, management, analysis, and dissemination of relevant data and/or knowledge.

Funding:
**Damon Runyon Clinical Investigator Award**
Damon Runyon Cancer Research Foundation
The Damon Runyon Clinical Investigator Award supports young physician-scientists conducting patient-oriented cancer research. The goal is to increase the number of physicians capable of moving seamlessly between the laboratory and the patient’s bedside in search of breakthrough treatments. Five proposals are allowed per institution.
Funding: $450,000 total over 3 years - no idc allowed
Key Dates:
One page description and budget to MCC - Dec. 1st, 2015
Nomination decision - Dec. 8th, 2015
Full Application - Feb. 2nd, 2016

**Research Professor Awards**
American Cancer Society (ACS)
The American Cancer Society offers a limited number of grants to provide unique research opportunities to foster maximal productivity in cancer research. These grants provide flexible funding for established investigators in mid-career who have made seminal contributions that have changed the direction of cancer research. Furthermore, it is expected that these investigators will continue to provide leadership in their research area.
Funding: Two 5-year awards of up to $80,000 made annually.
Key Dates:
Letter of Intent - Feb. 1st, 2016
Full Application: April 1st, 2016

**Comprehensive Partnerships to Advance Cancer Health Equity (CPACHE) (U54)**
National Cancer Institute (NCI)
PAR-15-103 (Re-issue of PAR-12-055)
This (FOA) invites cooperative agreement (U54) applications for the implementation of Comprehensive Partnerships between institutions serving underserved health disparity populations and underrepresented students (ISUPS) and NCI-designated Cancer Centers (CC). The purpose of this limited competition funding opportunity announcement (FOA) is to continue fostering and supporting intensive collaborations among investigators at ISUPS and CCs in order to develop stronger national cancer programs aimed at understanding the reasons behind the significant cancer disparities and related impacts on these populations. This FOA is intended for: (1) supporting active Comprehensive Partnerships under the U54 mechanism or inactive Comprehensive Partnerships but formerly supported by the U54 mechanism; and (2) elevating the promising U56 partnerships and other similar partnerships to the comprehensive status.
Funding: $3,000,000 per year for a maximum of 5 years
($2.5 million Direct cost per year for dyads and $3.0 million Direct costs per year for triads)
Key Dates:
Letter of Intent: Dec. 28th, 2015
Full Application: Jan. 28th, 2016
Do you see someone working hard in your area and contributing to the department’s success by fulfilling our mission, vision and values? If so, take a moment to nominate this person for an Employee Recognition Award.

Completed nomination forms should be sent to Michelle Lunden.

The Department of Surgery Update is sent to department faculty, fellows, residents, and staff. To submit an item for publication in Update, send the information to surgupdt@umn.edu

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