COURSE FACULTY & SPEAKERS

Benjamin Olney Anderson, MD, FACS
Chair and Director, The Breast health Global Initiative
Joint Full Member, Epidemiology, Division of Public Health Sciences
Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center
Professor of Surgery, Department of Surgery
Professor of Global Health-Medicine, Department of Global Health
University of Washington School of Medicine
Director, Breast Health Clinic
Seattle Cancer Care Alliance

Julie R. Gralow, MD
Jill Bennett Professor of Breast Medical Oncology
Professor of Global Health
University of Washington School of Medicine
Director of Breast Medical Oncology
Seattle Cancer Care Alliance, Washington, USA
Full Member, Clinical Research Division
Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center

Shilpen Patel, MD
Adjunct Associate Professor, Global Health
Associate Professor, Radiation Oncology
Department of Global Health
University of Washington

John Scheel, MD, PhD
Assistant Professor, Radiology/Breast Imaging
University of Washington
Physician
Seattle Cancer Care Alliance
FACULTY BIOGRAPHIES

BENJAMIN O ANDERSON, MD, FACS
Dr. Anderson’s clinical practice is devoted to the care of patients with breast health issues and breast cancer. Since 2005 he has published on novel surgical techniques in oncoplastic breast surgery, procedures that simultaneously improve oncologic and cosmetic outcomes in breast conservation surgery. Dr. Anderson is past-president of the American Society of Breast Disease (ASBD) and currently serves as vice chair of the National Comprehensive Cancer Network (NCCN) Breast Panel and chair of the NCCN International Program Committee.

Dr. Anderson’s is an internationally recognized leader in global cancer control. With joint appointments at the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center Division of Public Health Sciences and the UW Department of Global Health, Dr. Anderson created in 2002, and continues to chair, the Breast Health Global Initiative (BHGI), a unique program to develop “resource-stratified” guidelines for breast cancer early detection, diagnosis, treatment and palliative care in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs). In 2011 the American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO) awarded Dr. Anderson their Partners in Progress Award and in 2013 the National Consortium of Breast Centers (NCBC) awarded him their 2013 Inspiration Award, recognizing his dedicated efforts to improve the quality and effectiveness of breast cancer care around the globe. Since 2012, Dr. Anderson has served on the Board of Directors of the Union for International Cancer Control (UICC). Dr. Anderson now co-chairs the Breast Cancer Initiative 2.5 (BCI2.5), a global campaign to reduce disparities in breast cancer outcomes for 2.5 million women between now and 2025.

JULIE R GRALOW, MD
After receiving her bachelor’s degree from Stanford University, Dr Gralow graduated with a medical degree from the University of Southern California School of Medicine. She completed her residency in internal medicine at Brigham and Women’s Hospital at Harvard Medical School and a medical oncology fellowship at Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center/University of Washington, where she also spent time researching HER2 immunity in patients with breast cancer.

Dr Gralow has dedicated her life to fighting breast cancer. She is involved in research, teaching and caring for patients. She is an internationally recognised expert in breast cancer clinical trials, with expertise in bone metastases. She is Executive Officer for breast and lung cancer for the Southwest Oncology Group (SWOG), one of the major National Cancer Institute-supported cancer clinical trials groups. She is the co-chair of the Breast Cancer Initiative 2.5, and founded WE CAN (Women’s Empowerment Cancer Advocacy Network) to empower and educate breast cancer patients around the world.

A member of the American Society of Clinical Oncology since 1995, Dr Gralow has received awards for her research, has chaired several committees and has participated in expert panels looking at various aspects of breast cancer treatment and research. She is currently a member of the American Society of Clinical Oncology’s (ASCO) International Affairs Committee, the ASCO Global Oncology Task Force, and the ASCO Breast Cancer Advisory Guideline Group. She was elected a fellow of the American College of Physicians (FACP) in 2008, and received the American Society of Clinical Oncology Statesman Award (FASCO) in 2008. She received the Seattle Business Magazine Leaders in Healthcare Achievement in Community Outreach Award in 2014, the Helen H. Jackson “Women of Valor” Award for Medicine and Health Care in Washington State in 2006, and the Outstanding Community Volunteer Award in 2005 from Susan G. Komen for the Cure, Puget Sound Affiliate.
Dr. Gralow is committed to improving the quality of life for breast cancer patients through education, exercise and diet, and to promoting breast cancer awareness in the community. Exercise has long been a focus of Dr Gralow’s mission. She believes that exercise helps women withstand the rigours of cancer treatment and improves their quality of life during and after treatment. She is co-founder and medical director of Team Survivor Northwest, an exercise and fitness program for female cancer survivors and joins Team Survivor climbing mountains, snowshoeing, running and doing triathlons. In addition, Dr Gralow co-authored Breast Fitness: An Optimal Exercise and Health Plan for Reducing Your Risk of Breast Cancer.

SHILPEN PATEL, MD
Shilpen Patel, MD is a Radiation Oncologist who specializes in thoracic and gastrointestinal malignancies who works as an Associate Professor in both Radiation Oncology and Global Health at the University of Washington. He received his MD from the University of Texas and did his residency at the University of Maryland. He has actively worked in global health for a number of years and has done projects in Peru, Vietnam, China, and Tanzania. He also serves on the board of Radiating Hope. Most recently he led the Rad Aid delegation to Yinchuan, China to improve the practice of radiation oncology.

JOHN SCHEEL, MD, PHD
Dr. Scheel is a physician at the Seattle Cancer Care Alliance and a UW assistant professor of radiology. Dr. Scheel earned his B.S. with high honors from the University of California, Riverside. He earned his M.D. and Ph.D. from the University of California, San Diego and completed his radiology residency and breast imaging fellowship at the University of Virginia. His clinical practice includes all aspects of breast imaging, including mammography, ultrasound, MRI and tomosynthesis, and breast interventional procedures. His research activities are focused on identifying and addressing health care access barriers in underserved communities (both locally and globally).

ALLISON DVALADZE, MPH
Allison Dvaladze is Director of Global Strategy, Partnerships and Advocacy in the Division of medical Oncology at the University of Washington in Seattle, Washington. She supports multiple global initiatives based at the Seattle Cancer Alliance and Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center including the Women’s Empowerment Cancer Advocacy Network (WE CAN), a network for breast cancer survivors and Breast Cancer Initiative 2.5 (BCI2.5), a global campaign to reduce disparities in breast cancer outcomes. Her current work focuses on the development of a series of communication and education tools for breast cancer control planning. She collaborates regularly with a range of partners in Eastern Europe, Africa and Latin America to improve access to breast cancer care. Ms. Dvaladze’s research interests include perceptions of breast health, barriers to detection and treatment of breast cancer and cancer support networks. She has a BSFS from the School of Foreign Service at Georgetown University and an MPH in Global Health from the University of Washington.
BEATRICE WIAFE ADDAI, MD, PHD
Dr. (Mrs.) Beatrice Wiafe Addai has 26 years of experience as a Medical Doctor in Ghana; thus from 1989 to date. She has been a Breast Surgeon a consultant in Breast Cancer Management for the past several years. Her training and wide scope of study as a specialist in Breast Cancer Management and a Consultant Surgeon has placed her at a convenient exposition as the Chief Executive Officer Founder and Medical Director of the Peace and Love Hospitals both in Accra and Kumasi; a Specialist hospital that is championing the course of Breast Cancer and Breast diseases in Ghana. Dr. Mrs. Beatrice Wiafe Addai is also the Founder and President of the most vibrant nongovernmental organization, Breast Care International. Dr. Wiafe graduated from the Zaporoshye Medical University in 1989. She started work at the Komfo Anokye Teaching Hospital and entered into the Residency Program as a Resident Surgeon in 1994. In 2001, she specialized in General Surgery at the Moscow Medical Academy, followed by a PhD, making her the first Ghanaian Female General Surgeon. She majored in Breast Surgery and Breast Cancer management, Ultrasonography, and Oncology.

PETER BIRD, MD
Dr Peter Bird graduated MBBS from Monash University, Melbourne Australia in 1986, and became a Specialist General Surgeon and Fellow of the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons in 1996. He spent 2 years in South England training further in Oncoplastic Breast Surgery, then a very young specialty. In 2000, he left Australia with his wife, Sue, and two young daughters – Sarah and Melanie - to work as a missionary surgeon in Kijabe, Kenya. Two other daughters – Elizabeth and Joanna - were born in Kenya. At Kijabe Hospital, Dr Bird has been the Head of Surgery for the past 13 years, leading one of the busiest surgical departments in East Africa. He is an Assistant Clinical Professor of Surgery at Vanderbilt University School of Medicine. He has continued working in his interest area of breast cancer, with research collaborations both nationally and internationally.

ROBAI GAKUNGA, BVM, MBA
Dr. Robai Gakunga is a private healthcare researcher in Kenya, offering research consultancy She has provided consultancy services for among other organizations, the Kenya Hospices and Palliative Care Association (KEHPCA) in a study on the quality of life of terminally ill cancer patients, which assessed the deficit and need for palliative care in the Kenyan Public Healthcare System, the Nairobi Hospice in a study on the impact of fungating wounds on the quality of life of cancer patients and the Africa Cancer Registry Network (AFCRN) to explore the use of cancer registry data in sub-Saharan Africa. Dr. Robai is currently providing consultancy services to RTI International on a project to cost the Kenya National Non Communicable Diseases (NCDs) Strategy for the Ministry of Health and is finalizing a project with KEMRI/CDC Research and Public Health Collaboration on a study: Economic Assessment of Resources required to report Cancer Registry Data in the context of sub-Saharan Africa. She has also been leading the American Cancer Society’s “Meet The Targets” project at the Kenya Cancer Association: Developing an evidence based strategy to integrate Breast and Cervical cancer as well as other Non Communicable Diseases education and screening services into HIV Testing and Counseling Centers in Kenya, aiming at maximum uptake. She is the Treasurer of the Board of Directors of Kenya Cancer Association (KENCASA) and her motivation is to see better cancer prevention, control, treatment and care.