



2023-24 Education Scholars Program Participant Bios



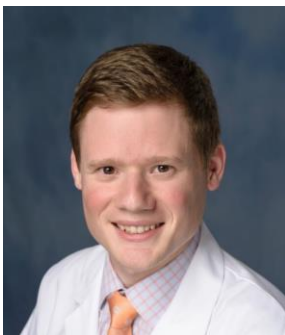
Viswatej Avutu, MD | *Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center*

Vishu earned his medical degree from the University of Texas Southwestern Medical School; from there, he completed his residency in the combined internal medicine-pediatrics program at the Harvard Brigham and Women's/Boston Children's Hospitals, where he served as Chief Resident. Afterwards, he completed his medical oncology fellowship at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center and currently serves as an assistant attending in the Medical Oncology Service and Pediatrics Solid Tumor Group, specializing in caring for adolescents and young adults (AYAs) with sarcomas. Vishu's interests span the gamut from health outcomes in AYAs to early phase clinical trials in soft tissue and bone sarcomas. He is also eager to continue a long-standing passion - medical education. As an associate program director for the medical oncology fellowship program at MSK, Vishu is dedicated to developing trainee opportunities focusing on the multidisciplinary cancer care of AYAs, an endeavor that traces back to his medical school years.



Bhavana Bhatnagar, DO | *West Virginia University Cancer Institute & the Mary Babb Randolph Cancer Center*

Dr. Bhatnagar is an Associate Professor of Medicine and the Director of Hematology and Medical Oncology at West Virginia University Cancer Institute, Wheeling Hospital. She specializes in the care of patients with blood disorders and blood cancers, specifically acute leukemias, myelodysplastic syndromes, chronic myelogenous leukemia and myeloproliferative neoplasms. She has a wide array of research interests and has led numerous clinical trials pertaining to these conditions. Given her expertise, Dr. Bhatnagar has previously served as a panelist for the National Comprehensive Cancer Network (NCCN) for both acute lymphoblastic leukemia and chronic myelogenous leukemia. She also has a special interest in healthcare disparities research and improving care delivery for young adults with cancer. She has authored over 50 peer-reviewed manuscripts and is the recipient of many teaching and patient satisfaction awards. She is passionate about providing high-quality, patient-centric care.



Jess DeLaune, MD | *University of Florida College of Medicine*

Jess DeLaune is a medical oncologist at the University of Florida and the Malcolm Randall VA with a focus on genitourinary malignancies. He is also the Associate Program Director for the fellowship program and the Course Director for the Cancer Biology & Clinical Oncology course in the medical school. Dr. DeLaune earned his undergraduate degree from Florida State University and his medical degree from the University of South Florida. He completed his training at UF, during which he served as chief resident and chief fellow. Medical education has been a passion throughout Dr. DeLaune's career. He has received several teaching excellence and peer mentor awards. He currently serves on the ASCO SEP Item Writing Task Force and has given recent presentations at the ASCO Program Directors' Meeting and Quarterly Connection Meeting. Dr. DeLaune enjoys spending time with his wife and children. He also enjoys biking, CrossFit, traveling, and playing/watching sports.



Keerthi Gogineni, MD, MSHP | *Emory University Winship Cancer Institute*

Keerthi Gogineni, MD, is Associate Professor in the Department of Hematology and Medical Oncology at Emory University School of Medicine. Dr. Gogineni serves as Associate Director of the Hematology and Medical Oncology Fellowship Program and as Co-Vice Chair of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in the Department of Hematology and Medical Oncology. Board certified in hematology and medical oncology, she sees patients with breast malignancies and is a member of the clinical care team in the Glenn Family Breast Center at Winship Cancer Institute. She actively collaborates with other Winship members in clinical trials and health policy research. After completion of her fellowship training, she was appointed to the Division of Hematology-Oncology at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania in 2010, where she specialized in the evaluation and treatment of patients with breast malignancies. As a breast oncologist, she expertly guided patients through a complex maze of treatment options and explained potentially debilitating effects of disease and treatment. She also taught residents and fellows about fundamental principles of breast cancer management and lectured them on health policy issues affecting oncology.



Amy Jones, MD | *University of Texas Southwestern Medical School*

Dr. Amy Jones is an Assistant Professor of Internal Medicine in the division of Hematology/Oncology at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center with a clinical focus on gastrointestinal malignancies, sarcoma, and melanoma. She has been the program director of the hematology-oncology fellowship program at UTSW since 2022, is a core faculty member of the internal medicine residency, and previously served as one of the associate program directors for the fellowship. She completed medical school at UTSW, internal medicine residency at Duke University, and fellowship at MD Anderson where she served as the chief fellow of quality improvement during her second year and chief fellow of education her third year, when she was awarded the Jesse H. Jones Endowed Fellowship for Cancer Education. Her clinical practice and research activities are at Parkland Health, the safety net hospital for Dallas County, where she serves as the medical director of the inpatient hematology-oncology unit and is passionate about providing high quality, compassionate cancer care for the underserved. She is part of the NCCN guideline panel for Cancer in People with HIV/Kaposi Sarcoma.



Danielle Pastor, DO, PhD, FACP | *National Institutes of Health*

Dr. Pastor is an Assistant Research Physician and Staff Clinician in the Center for Immuno-Oncology at the National Cancer Institute of the National Institutes of Health in Bethesda, Maryland. She oversees the Medical Oncology Consult Service and serves as the Associate Program Director for Medical Oncology for the NIH Hematology Oncology Fellowship Program. Although surgically trained, Dr. Pastor's deep interest in gastrointestinal malignancies and its multidisciplinary management motivated her to pursue additional training in internal medicine and medical oncology, which she completed at Albany Medical Center and the National Institutes of Health, respectively. Her work focuses on developing combination immunotherapy-based treatment regimens for individuals with gastrointestinal malignancies through early-phase clinical studies, including first-in-human trials. She has special interest in hereditary colorectal cancer syndromes, as well as in the processes contributing to carcinogenesis in early-onset colorectal cancer and patient populations known to be at higher risk for the development of intestinal cancer.



Reema Patel, MD | *University of Kentucky Medical Center*

I am an Associate Professor of Medicine in the Department of Medical Oncology at the University of Kentucky with a clinical focus on gastrointestinal malignancies and bone and soft tissue sarcomas. I also am serving in my second year as Program Director of our Hematology and Medical Oncology Fellowship program, with four years of experience as associate program director. I attended medical school at Quillen College of Medicine, East Tennessee State University. I completed both my internal medicine residency and hematology and medical oncology fellowship at the University of Kentucky. I have been the recipient of the Edward Romond Teaching Award and the Academy of Medical Educators Teaching award. My journey into medical education was organic and I found resources and mentors over time. It was during the first virtual ASCO Program Directors Retreat that I realized I had found my tribe of like minded individuals. I am optimistic that participation in the ASCO Education Scholars Program will enhance my teaching skills and bring innovation to our fellowship program.



Dulcinea Quintana, MD | *University of New Mexico Comprehensive Cancer Center*

I practice medicine in the same institution where I completed my medical training and in the same city where I was born – the University of New Mexico Comprehensive Cancer Center in Albuquerque, New Mexico. It was my dream during fellowship to join the UNM faculty because I have a deep sense of commitment to the underserved communities in New Mexico. Teaching is a central part of my career and my focus as an academic oncologist. I have been the Program Director for our Hematology/Oncology Fellowship since 2018. I am a core faculty member for the Hematology teaching block for our first-year medical students annually. I worked with three pathologists to develop the curriculum for this brand-new teaching block in 2015. I have a very busy clinical practice where I focus on hematology. My clinical passion is treating acute leukemia and I am the director for our adult Hemophilia Treatment Center.



Ramila Shilpakar, MBBS, MD | *National Academy of Medical Sciences, Bir Hospital, Nepal*

Dr. Ramila Shilpakar is a medical oncologist at National Academy of Medical Sciences (NAMS), Bir Hospital, Nepal. Dr. Shilpakar is an American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO) Editorial Fellow and also received the Merit Award from Conquer Cancer, the ASCO Foundation, in 2019 and IDEA award in 2022. Her main areas of interest are global oncology, cost-effective therapies and equity in cancer care.



Andrea Sitlinger, MD | *Duke University Trent Center for Bioethics Humanities and History of Medicine*

I am a malignant hematologist at Duke Cancer Institute who specializes in lymphoma, specifically chronic hematologic malignancies such as chronic lymphocytic leukemia, follicular lymphoma, and marginal zone lymphoma. My research is focused on improving outcomes and population health. Specifically, I focus on adjuncts to cancer care such exercise, co-morbidity management, cancer screenings, and financial toxicity. I am also passionate about systems improvement and education (both of patients and the next generation of physicians). As such, I am the fellowship curriculum director for Duke's adult hematology/oncology fellowship. My goal is to maximize patient care through research, systems improvement, and education.



Raymond Wadlow, MD | *Inova Fairfax Medical Campus*

Raymond Wadlow, MD, is a gastrointestinal oncologist specializing in pancreatic and gastrointestinal cancers at the Inova Schar Cancer Institute in Fairfax, VA. Dr. Wadlow graduated from the University of Virginia School of Medicine in 2000, completed internal medicine residency at the University of Pennsylvania in 2003, and did his hematology-oncology fellowship training at the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute and Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston. After seven years as a laboratory-based physician-scientist and gastrointestinal oncologist in Boston, Dr. Wadlow worked for nine years in community practice as part of the U.S. Oncology Network. In his current position, he serves as co-director of the gastrointestinal oncology research program and program director for the Inova Schar Hematology-Oncology Fellowship. Dr. Wadlow is also the director of the high-risk pancreatic clinic at the Inova Saville Cancer Screening and Prevention Center, and a principal investigator in the Pancreatic Cancer Early Detection (PRECEDE) Consortium.



Federico Waisberg, MD | *Instituto Alexander Fleming, Argentina*

Dr. Federico Waisberg is a staff medical oncologist in the Breast Cancer Unit at the Instituto Alexander Fleming, Buenos Aires, Argentina. He is one of the coordinators of the Academic Research Department at the Institute and actively mentors fellows and residents in their research activities. Dr. Waisberg has been elected as a Board Member of the Argentinean Society of Clinical Oncology (AAOC), where he has been serving as the coordinator of the “Postgraduate Course for Clinical Oncologists” since 2018. Additionally, Dr. Waisberg holds the position of Associate Professor of Cell Biology and Genetics at the University of Buenos Aires and is a member of the Local Argentinean Breast Cancer cooperative group (SUMA).



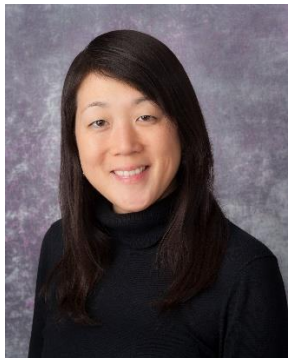
2023-24 ASCO Education Scholars Program Volunteer Coaches



Julie Close, MD, MBA | *University of Florida*

Julia Close, MD, MBA is a Professor of Medicine in the Division of Hematology and Oncology at the University of Florida. Her primary appointment is as the Senior Associate Dean of Graduate Medical Education and the Designated Institutional Official (DIO) for the University of Florida College of Medicine. She was previously the Program Director for the Hematology/Oncology Fellowship Program. She is a clinician educator, with research interest in curriculum related to general oncology and interactions with patients at the end of life. She is actively nationally in education, having served on the American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO)'s Professional Development Committee and the In-Training Exam Writing Committees for both Internal Medicine and Oncology.

She has completed the Educational Scholars Program (ESP) with ASCO, a competitive program focused on skills related to educational and leadership. She was previously Section Chief of Oncology at the Gainesville VAMC, and was the Assistant Chief of the Medical Service from 2015-2018. She previously chaired the VHA Oncology Field Advisory (FAC) Committee, a national committee providing guidance for national VA policy.



Annie Im, MD | *University of Pittsburgh/UPMC Hillman CancerCenter*

Annie Im, MD, FASCO is an Associate Professor of Medicine in the Division of Hematology/Oncology at the University of Pittsburgh/UPMC Hillman CancerCenter. Dr. Im completed her undergraduate degree at Williams College and earned her medical degree at Stony Brook School of Medicine. She then came to the University of Pittsburgh for her Internal Medicine residency training, where she also served as Chief Medical Resident. She stayed in Pittsburgh to pursue Hematology/Oncology Fellowship and Blood and Marrow Transplant training at UPMC, where she served as Chief Fellow. She has been on faculty at UPMC since 2013, focusing on hematologic malignancies and stem cell transplantation.

She currently serves as Director of Education for the Division of Hematology/Oncology, Program Director for the Hematology/Oncology Fellowship, and Subspecialty Education Coordinator for the Internal Medicine Residency. She has been involved in education nationally, through ASCO, ASH, and ASTCT; previous roles have included serving as Chair of the ASCO Oncology Training Programs Committee, Chair of the ASCO Faculty Development Task Force, and as a member of the ASCO Education Council. Her research and clinical interests focus on chronic graft-versus-host disease (GVHD), survivorship and late effects after stem cell transplant, and acute myeloid leukemia in older patients.



Samuel Lubner, MD | *University of Wisconsin*

Dr. Sam Lubner is a faculty member in the Division of Hematology, Medical Oncology and Palliative Care at the University of Wisconsin. He has worked closely with the School of Medicine and Public Health on education of students, residents and fellows in the practice of oncology. He directs the Hematology and Medical Oncology fellowship program and serves on the Education Council for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. He has received numerous awards for clinical care including being named Ambulatory Patient Experience Physician Champion, being selected for the Department of Medicine Clinical Excellence Award, and being named multiple times to "Madison Magazine Top Doctors" and "Best Doctors in America" lists. Dr. Lubner is a Fellow of the American College of Physicians and a member of the American Society of Clinical Oncology and the American Association for Cancer Research. He is an investigator with the American College of Surgeons Oncology Group and the Eastern Cooperative Oncology Group.

Dr. Lubner's clinical practice focuses on gastrointestinal malignancies. He sees patients at the UW Carbone Cancer Center, and the William S. Middleton Memorial Veterans Hospital. Dr. Lubner's performs clinical research in gastrointestinal malignancies. He has been the principal investigator on trials in biliary tract cancer, neuroendocrine tumors, colorectal cancer and hepatocellular cancer. He is the leader of the Gastrointestinal Disease Oriented Team at the Carbone Cancer Center.



Deepa Rangachari, MD | *Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center (BIDMC)*

Dr. Deepa Rangachari is the Director of Hematology/Oncology Graduate Medical Education and the Hematology/Oncology Fellowship Programs at the Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center (BIDMC) in Boston, Massachusetts, where she is also a thoracic medical oncologist and Assistant Professor of Medicine at Harvard Medical School.

She additionally serves as co-leader of the Beth Israel Lahey Health (BILH) Thoracic Oncology Clinical Practice Group and member of the Dana Farber/Harvard Cancer Center (DFHCC) Lung Cancer Program. Her clinical and scholarly work emphasizes comprehensive care of patients with advanced lung cancers through novel applications of targeted and immune therapies. She is additionally deeply committed to leadership and evidence-based innovation within graduate and post-graduate medical education and Hematology/Oncology, with a passion for mindful mentorship and curriculum development.