Warneke Family is Helping Tucson Stay Sun Safe

The SCI received a very generous donation from the Warneke family last winter that is being put to great use in the community. We used a portion of the funds they provided to purchase sunscreen kiosks with unique signage to educate the community on sunscreen application. These stations go out to support local events, like the Festival of Books, Melanoma Walk and community health fairs.

We have also purchased over 8 gallons of sunscreen that are being used at several University of Arizona athletic events (like softball and baseball) and throughout the community at local events.

With their generous donation, we also intend to update our sun safety and skin cancer educational materials, which are frequently handed out on the University of Arizona campus, local elementary, middle and high schools, as well as to community members.

Thank you to the Warneke family for their support of the Skin Cancer Institute and for helping us continue our mission to prevent and cure skin cancer!

Our Annual Event is Getting a New Twist

We are very pleased to announce that we've added a 5k run to our annual Melanoma Walk. The event opens at 8:30am this year, with the run at 9am followed by a remembrance walk at 10:30am. We will still be offering all the fun extras of past years.

The silent auction will be open from 9:30am to 11:30am and we already have many wonderful donations including a two night stay at White Stallion Ranch, a signed UA football, and a year membership to the Reid Park Zoo. Plus, we will have the usual gift baskets full of fun skin care and sun safety items!

We will also be doing free skin cancer screenings from 9:30-11:30am on a first come, first served basis. Many sponsors will have tables at the event, and we will have a kid's activities table too.

Join us for a morning of fun and inspiration as we celebrate our 12th Melanoma Walk and make it even greater with a 5k run.
2022 Seed Grant Winners

The ‘Skin Cancer Seed Grant Research’ competition is designed to help University of Arizona researchers test novel ideas for prevention, detection or treatment of melanoma and other skin cancers. These proposals are small grants designed to be ‘seeds’ to help new research ideas grow into larger research proposals that can be competitive for national funding and to help young investigators grow their careers.

Abhijit Date, PhD

"Reformulating Phenformin to Improve its Repurposing for Melanoma Therapy"

Dr. Date’s project will try to develop new but cost-effective nanotechnology to reformulate the drug phenformin for melanoma therapy.

Leslie Dennis, PhD, MS

"How Vendor vs Recalled Residential Histories Compare as Environmental Markers of UVR"

Dr. Dennis will be examining whether using vendor supplied residential histories alleviates the expense and effort needed to collect detailed recalled residential histories in cancer studies.

Sally Dickinson, PhD

"PD-L1 as a Target for Topical Photochemoprevention"

Dr. Dickinson’s overall goal is to characterize whether PD-L1 (a protein found in higher-than-normal amounts on some types of cancer cells) may be a good target for topical pharmacological skin cancer prevention.

Team Highlight

Dr. Meghan Skiba joins us as an Assistant Professor in the College of Nursing Biobehavioral Health Science Division. She has her MS in Nutritional Sciences, an MPH and PhD in Public Health, and is a registered dietitian nutritionist (RDN). Dr. Skiba is a perfect addition to the SCI team because she has an interest in integrative health, but also a passion for cancer prevention. She recently completed a postdoctoral fellowship at Oregon Health and Science University with training in exercise science, human performance and functional mobility.

She grew up in Vail, Arizona, and has trained and worked at the University of Arizona, University of Houston, MD Anderson Cancer Center, and Oregon Health & Science University.

Welcome to the team Meghan!