



News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

UNM Cancer Center Researcher Garners Prestigious National Award

Dr. Diane Lidke to be honored by the Biophysical Society

Albuquerque, NM—March 9, 2011—Dr. Diane Lidke, Assistant Professor of Pathology at the University of New Mexico and a member of the UNM Cancer Center, will be honored this month with the prestigious 2011 Margaret Oakley Dayhoff Award for her exceptional work in the field of biophysics. Bestowed by the Biophysical Society, a national organization that encourages development and dissemination of knowledge in biophysics, the Margaret Oakley Dayhoff Award recognizes one junior woman scientist annually who holds very high promise or has achieved prominence while developing the early stages of a career in biophysical research.

“The UNM Cancer Center is incredibly proud of Dr. Lidke and her achievement,” said Dr. Cheryl Willman, Director and CEO of the UNM Cancer Center. “This distinguished award provides nationwide recognition for young scientists, and we are thrilled that one of our own has received such an outstanding honor.”

National Award for UNM Cancer Center Researcher, cont.

The award recognizes Dr. Lidke for her work in the integration of biophysics, bio-imaging and quantitative biology, allowing researchers to observe cellular functions at a fundamental level to improve understanding of diseases. Her research provides a better look at how medicines interact within a cell, a crucial step toward developing more customized and integrated drug design for cancer, allergies and other medical conditions.

“I am so honored to receive the 2011 Margaret Oakley Dayhoff Award and feel privileged to be in the company of the previous recipients,” said Dr. Lidke. “I am thrilled that my research at the UNM Cancer Center has been recognized by the Biophysical Society, and hope that our continued research will yield a greater understanding of diseases and how best to treat them.”

The Margaret Oakley Dayhoff Award was established in 1984 to honor the memory of Dr. Margaret Oakley Dayhoff, a former president of the Biophysical Society, director of research at the National Biomedical Research Foundation and professor of biophysics at Georgetown University. Dr. Dayhoff was a pioneer in the use of computers in chemistry and biology.

Dr. Lidke accepted the Margaret Oakley Dayhoff Award, which includes a \$2,000 prize, at the 55th Annual Meeting of the Biophysical Society, held March 5-9. She received her Ph.D. in biophysical sciences and medical physics from the University of Minnesota, and performed her postdoctoral research in fluorescence microscopy and cell signaling at

National Award for UNM Cancer Center Researcher, cont.

the Max Plank Institute for Biophysical Chemistry in Goettingen, Germany. Dr. Lidke joined UNM and the UNM Cancer Center in 2005.

About the UNM Cancer Center

The UNM Cancer Center is the Official Cancer Center of New Mexico and the only National Cancer Institute (NCI)-designated cancer center in the state. One of just 66 NCI-designated cancer centers nationwide, the UNM Cancer Center is recognized for its scientific excellence, contributions to cancer research and delivery of medical advances to patients and their families. It is home to 85 board-certified oncology physicians representing every cancer specialty and more than 125 research scientists hailing from such prestigious institutions as M.D. Anderson, Johns Hopkins and the Mayo Clinic. The UNM Cancer Center treats more than 65% of the adults and virtually all of the children in New Mexico affected by cancer, from every county in the state. In 2010, it provided care to more than 15,800 cancer patients. The Center's research programs are supported by over \$59 million annually in federal and private funding.

UNM Cancer Center contact information

Dorothy Hornbeck, JKPR, (505) 797-6673, dhornbeck@jameskorenchen.com

Rae Ann Paden, UNM Cancer Center, (505) 925-0480, RPaden@salud.unm.edu

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