CHINESE AMERICAN HEMATOLOGIST AND ONCOLOGIST NETWORK

SPECIAL REPORT
Fall 2026

13TH NEW YORK ONCOLOGY FORUM · OCT 3–4, 2026 · FLUSHING, NY

From 40 to 422

21 Years, One Shared Future

CAHON's 13th New York Oncology Forum opens a new chapter

By **Yumeng (Julia) Zhang, MD** · Moffitt Cancer Center

Attendees of the 13th Annual CAHON New York Oncology Forum, Flushing, New York, October 2026.

21	422	300+	8.50
years since the founding at ASH 2005	members, up from 40 in 2005	attendees at the 2026 Forum	CME credits, a Forum first

IN 2005, Chinese American hematologists and oncologists founded CAHON at the American Society of Hematology (ASH) Annual Meeting in Atlanta with 40 members, united by a simple belief: that we are stronger together.

Twenty-one years later, CAHON counts 422 members. On October 3–4, 2026, more than 300 physicians, scientists, fellows, and students attended the 13th Annual New York Oncology Forum (NYOF) in Flushing, New York.

For those of us early in our careers, the Forum held particular significance. Over two days, we shared rooms with the investigators whose discoveries fill our textbooks: the science behind rituximab, PD-L1, and cGAS-STING.

Every talk pointed in the same direction. We were not looking back at what oncology has achieved. We were looking ahead at what it must become, and at the role our generation will play in getting there.

THE PROGRAM

Science Pointed Toward Tomorrow

Under Forum Chair Dr. Delong Liu (New York Medical College) and Co-Chair Dr. Yiwu Huang (Maimonides Medical Center), NYOF assembled a program in which every lecture carried a forward vector. The organizing committee reflected CAHON's tradition of shared leadership across generations.

ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

FORUM CHAIR Dr. Delong Liu	FORUM CO-CHAIR Dr. Yiwu Huang	PRESIDENT Dr. Cynthia Ma	IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT Dr. Liang Deng
BOARD CHAIR Dr. Lei Zheng	CHAIR-ELECT Dr. Chong-Xian Pan	IMMEDIATE PAST CHAIR Dr. Jing-Zhou Hou	

Keynote Lectures

Dr. Zhijian "James" Chen UT Southwestern **2024 Lasker Laureate**	The cGAS-STING pathway and the next frontier of innate immunity, beyond the checkpoint era.
Dr. Lieping Chen Yale	Where cancer immunotherapy must go next, from the scientist whose work on PD-L1 helped launch the checkpoint era.
Dr. Brandon Huffman Dana-Farber	How KRAS, long considered undruggable, is becoming a real target in pancreatic cancer.
Dr. Charles Rudin Memorial Sloan Kettering	The present and future of small cell lung cancer care.

THE PROGRAM, CONTINUED

Parallel Clinical Tracks

For the first time, NYOF ran parallel solid tumor and hematology tracks, distilling the latest data from ASH, ASCO, and SITC into practice-ready updates.

Solid Tumor Track Moderated by Dr. Weijing Sun	Hematology Track Moderated by Dr. Michael Wang
Dr. Cynthia Ma Breast cancer	**Dr. Adam Kittai** Chronic lymphocytic leukemia
Dr. Nagashree Seetharamu Head and neck cancer	**Dr. Jia Ruan** Diffuse large B-cell lymphoma
Dr. Jingsong Zhang Prostate cancer	**Dr. Eunice S. Wang** Acute myeloid leukemia
Dr. Matthew Galsky Muscle-invasive bladder cancer	**Dr. J. Christine Ye** Relapsed/refractory multiple myeloma

Case Discussions

Case discussions led by Dr. Iris Zhi, Dr. Yue Zhang, Dr. Hongtao Liu, Dr. Zhengrui Xiao, and Dr. Suhu Liu translated these advances into decisions for real patients.

CME · A FORUM FIRST

8.50

AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™

We were not looking back at what oncology has achieved. We were looking ahead at what it must become.

PUBLISHING

A Home for Our Science

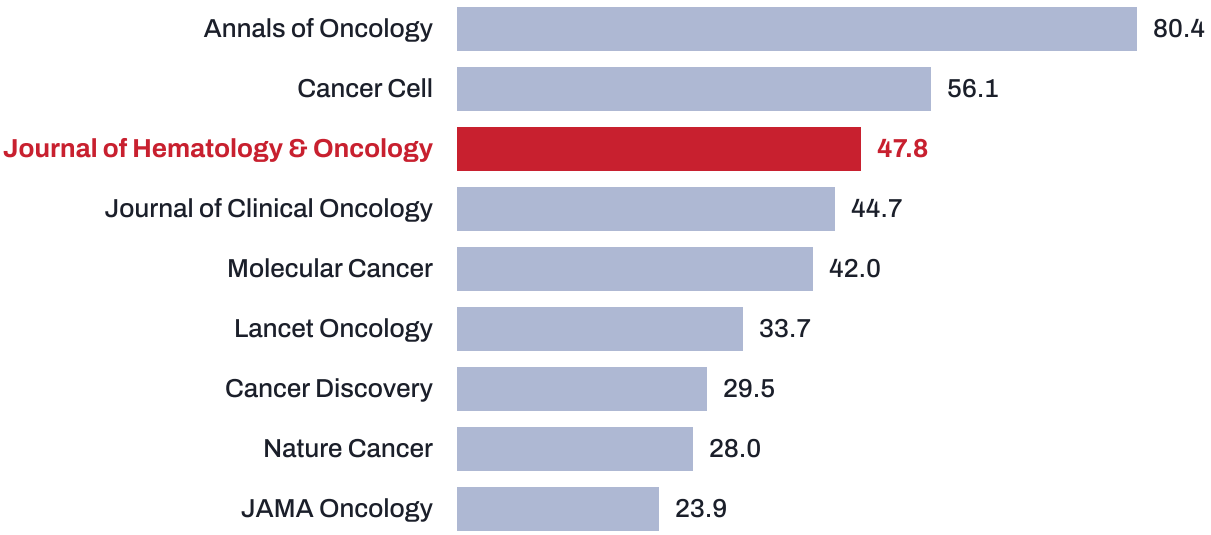
In his opening remarks, Forum Chair Dr. Delong Liu, Editor-in-Chief of the *Journal of Hematology & Oncology* (JHO), shared a milestone for CAHON's flagship open-access journal. Founded in 2008, JHO now stands among the highest-impact journals in hematology and oncology.

47.8
impact factor (June 2026)

#1
among hematology journals

#3
among oncology journals

Leading oncology journals by 2026 impact factor



Also highlighted by Dr. Liu

Experimental Hematology & Oncology
Established 2012
17.5
impact factor

Biomarker Research
Established 2013
13.6
impact factor

Dr. Liu projected continued growth, with 2027 impact factor estimates of approximately 60 for JHO, 24 for *Experimental Hematology & Oncology*, and 20 for *Biomarker Research*.

HONORS

Legacy as a Launchpad

The Lifetime Achievement Award to Dr. Ronald Levy of Stanford University was the weekend's most powerful image of what lies ahead. Dr. Levy turned a laboratory idea, the idiotype antibody, into rituximab and helped make monoclonal antibodies a cornerstone of cancer care. The award was presented by Dr. Wenru Song, one of his former postdoctoral fellows.

For the trainees in the audience, that moment was not nostalgia. It was a map: mentor to mentee, bench to bedside, one generation handing the work to the next. That is the lineage we hope to join. Dr. Levy has stood with CAHON since its inaugural meeting at ASH 2005, and his message to young investigators was unmistakable.

Discovery becomes hope only when someone carries it all the way to patients.

2026 Honors

LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Dr. Ronald Levy

Stanford University

HONORARY LIFETIME MEMBER

Dr. Zhijian "James" Chen

UT Southwestern

OUTSTANDING SERVICE AWARD

Dr. Liang Deng

Memorial Sloan Kettering

As President, advanced CAHON's strategic plan, launched the *CAHON Connect* newsletter and monthly virtual lectures, and modernized membership growth.

OUTSTANDING SERVICE AWARD

Dr. Peter Q. Jiang

John B. Amos Cancer Center

Has spent years preserving the faces and friendships of this community through his camera lens.

The Outstanding Service Awards recognized two members who built the infrastructure our generation now inherits.

COLLABORATION

A Platform Built for Collaboration

The most consequential shift at this year's Forum may be structural: CAHON is evolving from a network that meets into a platform that builds.

On October 4, Dr. Zihai Li and Dr. Sen Zhuang led a session on novel immunotherapy trials. Dr. Ke Liu and Dr. Wenru Song led a session on clinical trials and research partnership, bringing academia and industry into the same conversation.

From a network that meets to a platform that builds.

Committee Initiatives

Clinical Research Committee

Encouraging members to co-develop investigator-initiated trials, open them across CAHON sites, and pool data for multicenter retrospective studies.

Industry Committee

Building a platform to share pharmaceutical letters of intent directly with CAHON investigators.

Fellow Committee

Adding lectures on AI in medicine, preparing trainees for tools that will reshape how we design trials and deliver care.

For a young investigator, this changes everything.

CAHON's members practice across

243
academic centers

107
community practices

Dozens
of industry and government roles

A trial concept born in one institution can now find partner sites, patients, and sponsors across the country.

COLLABORATION, CONTINUED

2027 Seminar Series

A 2027 seminar series will teach members how to put this platform to work.

01 Leading a cooperative group trial from concept to activation

02 Securing funding for investigator-initiated trials

03 Succeeding as a site in industry-sponsored studies

04 Running multi-institutional retrospective research

THE FUTURE

Investing in the Next Generation

At the Dinner and Awards Banquet, CAHON's leadership unveiled the **CAHON Future Fund**, a long-held dream of the founders now becoming reality.

The Fund is envisioned as a permanent resource to sustain the organization and develop the next generation of hematology and oncology leaders. Current and former Board members made the seed contribution, and a formal campaign launch is planned for the end of 2026.

Organizational Momentum

30+
Young and Junior Investigator Awards each year

29%
membership growth since 2024

175%
rise in educational activity

Mentor–Mentee Matching
A pilot program is underway.

Year-Round Career Pathway
The Career Development Committee is replacing one-off events with a continuous pathway: Learn, Connect, Advance, and Give Back.

CAHON also launched a **Wellness Committee** in response to member data showing widespread burnout, recognizing that long careers in science require sustainable lives.

LOOKING FORWARD

The Chapter Ahead

From 40 members to 422, CAHON has spent 21 years building bridges between institutions, between countries, and between generations. Today it has the science, the collaborative platform, and, with the Future Fund, the resources to carry that vision forward.

The 13th NYOF made clear that CAHON is now asking more of itself: not only to share knowledge, but to generate it together; not only to celebrate its pioneers, but to fund and train their successors. For the young members who left Flushing this weekend, the invitation is clear.

The organizers extended their thanks to all participants and sponsors who made the 13th New York Oncology Forum possible.

The next chapter is ours to write.

From 40 to 422: 21 years, one shared future.

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