

**Nebraska Cancer and Smoking Disease  
Research Program**



**Fiscal Year 2024-25 Competitively Awarded Research Projects**

| <b>PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR</b> | <b>CAMPUS</b> | <b>PROJECT TITLE</b>   |
|-------------------------------|---------------|--|
| Abhijit Aithal, PhD           | UNMC          | Immuno-peptidome analysis of mucins in pancreatic cancer                           |
| Gloria Borgstahl, PhD         | UNMC          | Deciphering Mechanisms of Mitoxantone Action in HR-Deficient Cancer                |
| Pi-Wan Cheng, PhD             | UNMC          | Development of Siglec 7-based therapy of pancreatic cancer                         |
| Kurt Fisher, MD, PhD          | UNMC          | Assessment of vulnerabilities of oncogenic driver mutations in colorectal cancer   |
| Robert Lewis, PhD             | UNMC          | Lung Tumor Initiation and Drug Resistance  |
| Xu Luo, PhD                   | UNMC          | Novel Mechanisms of Bcl-xL-mediated Resistance to Apoptosis                        |
| A. Angie Rizzino, PhD         | UNMC          | SOX2 Levels Control Transcriptional Dynamics in Tumor Cells                        |
| Polina Shcherbakova, PhD      | UNMC          | Investigation of a Mutator Effect of Human DNA Polymerase $\epsilon$ Variant V411L |
| Jingjing Sun, PhD             | UNMC          | Codelivery of FOXM1-RHNO1 siRNA and Olaparib for Enhanced HGSC Therapy             |
| Tahir Tahirov, PhD            | UNMC          | Exploring the Human Cytomegalovirus Replisome as a Target for Novel Drugs          |