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UT Arlington researchers receive $1.2 million for cancer research

The Cancer Prevention & Research Institute of Texas has awarded two University of Texas at Arlington bioengineering researchers more than $1.2 million to explore better methods of detecting cancer, the school has announced.

Baohong Yuan, an assistant professor who joined UT Arlington in 2010, this week won a $1 million award that he will use to create a better imaging system to detect cancer in deep tissue – tens of millimeters below the surface of the skin.

Liping Tang, a bioengineering professor whose work has focused on tissue engineering, won $200,000 that he will use to develop what he describes as a “chemical trap” that will mimic bone marrow, which attracts cancer cells.

Texas voters approved CPRIT via constitutional amendment in 2007, authorizing the state to issue $3 billion in bonds to fund groundbreaking cancer research and prevention programs and services in Texas. Under its latest grant cycle, the institute is providing more than $100 million to Texas cancer research projects.

Statewide, the institute has awarded more than $550 million in funding for cancer research, prevention and commercialization projects over the last two years.

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