**Speaker:** Steffan Nawrocki, PhD  
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**Presentation Q&A:**  
1:10 – 1:40 PM  
1:40 – 1:45 PM

**Title:** “New strategies to overcome resistance to histone deacetylase inhibitors”

**Abstract:** Aberrant gene expression plays a pivotal role during the development and progression of many forms of cancer including T-cell malignancies. Based on these findings, several histone deacetylase (HDAC) inhibitors have been FDA-approved for T-cell lymphoma therapy. Despite the promising anticancer activity of HDAC inhibitors as a drug class, resistance is a significant clinical issue. Identification of new strategies that are more effective in the drug resistant patient population is a high priority, but the rarity of the disease makes this challenging to study in the preclinical setting. To better understand how resistance develops to HDAC inhibitor therapy and identify novel strategies to more effectively treat this patient population, we generated T-cell lymphoma cell lines with acquired belinostat resistance. Comprehensive characterization of these resistant models revealed new actionable targets for the treatment of resistant disease. We will discuss our findings and highlight opportunities for first-in-class new drug development with potential applications that extend beyond patients that are relapsed/refractory to HDAC inhibitor-based regimens.