The Kopp lab is interested in the way tumors develop from different cell types in the pancreas and what impact that has on tumor biology. Pancreatic ductal adenocarcinoma, based on its histological appearance, has been hypothesized to arise from ductal cells. However, experimental evidence using lineage tracing studies in our laboratory and others have suggested that acinar cells, through cellular plasticity, can also contribute to pancreatic cancer. Our recent efforts have developed animal models that can target mutations to different cell types in the pancreas and we found that under the right circumstances both cell types are capable of giving rise to pancreatic ductal adenocarcinoma, but the route that they use to achieve that goal may be different.