The Eureka educational initiative is based on:
- an attitude of teamwork
- critical thinking skills
- knowledge of Translational Medicine

Eureka’s mission

The Institute's mission is to develop a community of translational medicine professionals equipped to catalyze the application of discoveries for the benefit of human health. We do this by educating and building a community.

Overall Educational Objectives
Participants in the Certificate Program will:

1. Analyze the business, scientific and regulatory aspects of Translational Medicine
2. Explore the challenges professionals encounter in Translational Medicine
3. Develop critical thinking skills to approach the challenges in Translational Medicine
4. Develop communication skills for presenting various topics to a broad spectrum of people

Educational Strategies
We use a number of educational strategies to achieve the overall course objectives and the goals of each individual activity. Key among these is creating an open and safe environment through which participants can navigate, and in which participants may interact.
Support

We thank the kind support of our partners: University Medical Center Utrecht, SingHealth Duke–NUS Academic Medical Centre, University of Arizona, University of Miami, Stanford Maternal and Child Health Research Institute University of Toronto, United Arab Emirates University and supporters: University College London, Parent Project Muscular Dystrophy, Danone Nutricia Research, Nature Medicine and Nature Medicine Biotechnology.

We deeply appreciate the Faculty for the 2019 International Certificate Course. They are generously donating their time and expertise to participate in the course. Our sincere gratitude also goes to Tanneke Zeeuw, who managed the logistics and kept us all in line.
About Translational Medicine

Today, the term “translational medicine” is a buzzword in biomedical sciences with a rapidly increasing number of meetings about it; courses on it; and institutes dedicated to it. A simple Pubmed search on “translational medicine” generates over 77,000 papers, while a Google search yields nearly 9,000,000 hits. Because of its popularity and its increased use, the meaning of the term translational medicine has become progressively ambiguous and is often used synonymously with clinical testing.

In our opinion, translational medicine encompasses the continuum of activities that extend from the conception of an idea all the way into Phase II/III clinical testing and, ultimately, the development of a tangible product that makes a significant difference in the lives of patients. This itinerary includes multiple and diverse components requiring very different skills and competencies ranging from molecular medicine to pharmacology; from animal testing to clinical trial design; from intellectual property to venture capital.

Translational medicine is therefore the framework needed to ensure the evolution of novel technologies into tangible benefits for patients.

About the Program

In the following pages you will find:
- a brief introduction to Eureka and Translational Medicine
- basic logistical information
- course materials organized by day
- faculty and participants bios

This is a living document that will grow and change with you as you move through the course. Because we focus on active participation rather than passive processes, the program will be tailored to your needs and expectations, both the ones pre-defined and those that arise in situ. The program materials are organized chronologically. For each session, you will find an abstract as well as its principal learning objectives.

Most days will start at 08:15 with coffee and brief social period, which will segue into the first session of the day (at 08:30). The course is balanced between didactic sessions, interactive discussion, and practical application. Please make opportunities to synthesize the discussions and explore, in a personal context, how the topics covered can be applied to your own work.

Evaluation of the course is an important part of reflecting on the experience and providing feedback aimed at course improvement. You will be provided with an e-based evaluation that can be completed daily throughout the course and should be submitted by the end of the course.

Course Venue

Most of the lectures, case studies and mentoring sessions will be held at the Borgia del Casale, located in the Piazza Duomo in the heart of Ortigia.

Address:
Borgia del Casale, Via Pompeo Picherali 10, Stairs B, Interno 4 (off the piazza Duomo) 96100 Ortigia, Siracusa, Italy.

Rooms dedicated for the conference:
Salotto dei Viaggiatori
Salotto delle Artri
Alcova
Stanza degli specchi

Lunches with be held at Gran Caffe Del Duomo; Piazza Duomo, 18/19, 96100 Siracusa.

In the event that you need to contact the venue:
Mobile: +39 339 1305797 (Vittorio, on-site coordinator)
Mobile: +65 8168 6884 (Tanneke Zeeuw, Program Administrator)

Eureka 11th Certificate Program Committee:
Chair - Carol Gregorio, PhD
Vice Chair - Norm Rosenblum, MD, FRCP and Sabine Fuchs, MD PhD

Pedagogy sub-committee
Anita Small, MSc, EdD
Salmaan Sana

Key Data
Coffee Service and Informal Discussion: 8:15
Debriefing: 8:30
Start Time: 9:00
(Late start on Friday, refer to respective day schedule)
Wine and Cheese Events: Monday and Thursday
Dinners: Sunday 19:00 and Saturday 20:00
## Faculty Roster

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Title and Institutions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Salvatore Albani, MD, PhD</td>
<td>Professor, Duke-NUS Medical School Singapore, Director, Translational Immunology Institute, UCAN-A Chair, President, Eureka Institute</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rajni Agarwal, MD</td>
<td>Associate Professor, Medical Director of the Stem Cell Transplant and Regenerative Medicine program</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manuela Battaglia, PhD</td>
<td>Chief Scientific Officer of the Telethon Foundation, Vice-director of the San Raffaele Diabetes Research Institute, Steering Committee of TrialNet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wain Fishburn</td>
<td>Capital attorney, Vice-Chairman Critical Path Institute, Chairman of the Sanford Burnham Prebys Medical Discovery Institute, Executive Committee UCSD Moores Cancer Center, Corporate Directors Forum, BIOCOM, Advisory Board for Tech Launch Arizona</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sabine Fuchs, MD, PhD</td>
<td>Pediatrician Wilhelmina Children’s Hospital / UMC Utrecht, Utrecht Translational Medicine Summer School, TULIPS, Eureka Institute</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pat Furlong</td>
<td>Founding President and CEO of Parent Project Muscular Dystrophy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brian Goeltzenleuchter, MFA</td>
<td>Artist, Faculty Fellow, The Weber Honors College, Research Fellow, The Institute of Public and Urban Affairs, San Diego State University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carol Gregorio, PhD</td>
<td>Luxford/Schoolcraft Professor, Vice Dean for Innovation and Development, Professor and Head of Cellular and Molecular Medicine, Co-Director, Sarver Heart Center, Director, Molecular Cardiovascular Research Program, College of Medicine, University of Arizona</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>David Hafler, MD</td>
<td>William S. and Lois Stiles Edgerly Professor of Neurology and Immunobiology, Chairman, Department of Neurology, Neurologist-in-Chief, Yale-New Haven Hospital</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Janet Hafler, EdD</td>
<td>Professor of Pediatrics, Director of The Teaching &amp; Learning Center, Associate Dean for Educational Scholarship, Yale School of Medicine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jim Margolis</td>
<td>Founding partner of GMMB</td>
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<tr>
<td>Patrick Maxwell, MD</td>
<td>Regius Professor of Physic and Head of the School of Clinical Medicine, University of Cambridge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lisa Melton, PhD</td>
<td>Senior News Editor at Nature Biotechnology, lecturer in Science Communication at the University of the West of England, Bristol</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Frank Miedema, PhD</td>
<td>Dean and Vice Chairman of the Board and Professor of Immunology, University Medical Centre Utrecht, the Netherlands</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sergio A. Quezada, PhD</td>
<td>Group Leader, Immune Regulation and Tumour Immunotherapy Lab CRUK, Senior Cancer Research Fellow, UCL Cancer Institute</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Suhrud M. Rajguru, PhD</td>
<td>Associate Professor Departments of Biomedical Engineering and Otolaryngology at the University of Miami, co-Director of the University’s Institute for Neural Engineering, Assistant Director of the Miami CTSI Team Science Program</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maria-Grazia Roncarolo, MD, PhD</td>
<td>George D. Smith Professor; Division Chief, Paediatric Stem Cell Transplantation and Regenerative Medicine; Director, Center for Definitive and Curative Medicine (DCDM); Co-Director, Institute for Stem Cell Biology and Regenerative Medicine; Co-Director, Bass Center for Childhood Cancer and Blood Diseases; Department of Paediatrics, Stanford School of Medicine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nancy Sweitzer, MD, PhD</td>
<td>Professor of Medicine; Chief of Cardiology; Director, Sarver Heart Center, University of Arizona; Editor-in-Chief, Circulation: Heart Failure</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uri Tabori, MD</td>
<td>Professor of Paediatrics and Medical Biophysics, University of Toronto Garron Family Chair in Childhood Cancer Research, Senior Scientist, Research Institute and The Arthur and Sonia Labatt Brain Tumour Research Centre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paul Peter Tak, MD, PhD, FMedSci</td>
<td>CEO of Kintai Therapeutics, Venture Partner at Flagship Pioneering, Professor of Medicine Amsterdam University Medical Centre (AMC), Honorary Professor of Rheumatology Ghent University and Honorary Senior Visiting Fellow University of Cambridge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vicki Seyfert-Margolis, PhD</td>
<td>Founder and CEO, My Own Med, Inc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anita Small, MSc, EdD</td>
<td>Founder and owner of Small Language Connections</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Khee Chee Soo, MD</td>
<td>Surgical oncologist and Head and Neck Surgeon, Head of Department of General Surgery at Singapore General Hospital, founding director of National Cancer Centre, Principal Investigator, Deputy CEO in charge of research and education at the SingHealth Duke-NUS Academic Medical Centre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salmaan Sana</td>
<td>Educational Program Designer Facilitator - Consultant Meaningful Learning Specialist</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Ambassadors

Gordon Baylis, DVM, DPhil
Associate Provost for Research at UAE University, Vice President for Research at Western Kentucky University, University of South Carolina

Charles B. Cairns, MD, FACEP, FAAEM, FAHA
Dean of the College of Medicine and Health Sciences at the United Arab Emirates University

Scott Compton, PhD
Associate Professor, Associate Dean, Quality Assurance & Accreditation, Director of Medical Student Research & Scholarship, Duke-NUS Medical School

Mary Leonard, MD, MSCE
Arline and Pete Harman Professor and Chair, Department of Pediatrics, Adalyn Jay Physician-in-Chief, Lucile Packard, Children’s Hospital Stanford
Director Maternal and Child Health Research Institute

Felix Ratjen, MD, PhD, FRCPC, FERS
Division Chief of Pediatric Respiratory Medicine at The Hospital for Sick Children, Professor of Paediatrics at The University of Toronto, Program Head and Senior Scientist at the Research Institute in the Translational Medicine research program

Thomas N. Robinson, MD, MPH
Professor in Child Health, Professor of Pediatrics, of Medicine, of Health Research and Policy, in the Divisions of General Pediatrics, the Stanford Prevention Research Center, and Epidemiology, at Stanford University

Harold VM van Rijen, PhD
Director of the Utrecht University Graduate School of Life Sciences. Program director of the Master Biomedical Sciences. Professor of Innovation in Biomedical Education.

Tan Say Beng, Associate Professor, MA, MSc, PhD, CStat
Group Director Research, SingHealth, Senior Associate Dean, Research, Duke-NUS Medical School Covering Executive Director, National Medical Research Council, Singapore

Introduction e-learning module for Translational Medicine

The Eureka course started with an online introduction prior to the face-to-face course in Siracusa since the 2014 course. The course was developed by the Eureka faculty members Juan Carlos Lopez and Sylvia Brugman (a 2010 Eureka alumni), together with Davey van de Heijden and Renee Filius (both at Elevate Health). It was made possible thanks to generous support from EUTRAIN and the Child Health program of UMC Utrecht.

Elevate Health is an online academy that educates international health professionals, elevating professional knowledge and improving health worldwide. This online e-learning course (e-course) aims to get everyone up to speed with regards to the definition and components of Translational Medicine before the participants arrive at the face-to-face course.
EUREKA
International Certificate Course 2019

Schedule
Sunday, April 7th

COFFEE
Time: 8:15 - 8:30

Welcome and introductions
Facilitator: Janet P. Hafler
Time: 8:30 - 10:00

Introduction to the Curriculum & Committee
Facilitator: Carol Gregorio
Time: 10:00 - 10:10

BREAK 10:10 - 10:30

Mapping Translational Medicine: Intro to Translational Medicine and EUREKA
Speaker: Salvo Albani
Time: 10:30 - 11:45

Abstract
In this session, the objectives of the course and concepts of translational medicine will be introduced and defined also by leveraging on personal experience.

Objectives
1. Define the field of translational medicine
2. Analyse the components involved
3. Discuss the challenges of translational medicine

Group Lunch 11:45 - 13:00

Promoting Learning
Speaker: Janet Hafler
Time: 13:00 - 13:45

Abstract
In this session teaching to promote learning will be discussed. The participants will begin to use their journals to promote self-reflection focused on teaching and learning.

Objectives
1. Explore how teaching can promote learning
2. Explore strategies of effective teaching
3. Develop observational skills to observe teaching
4. Discuss a variety of teaching formats

Sisyphus – A Study in Hopes, Dreams and Reality
Speaker: Norman Rosenblum
Time: 13:45 - 15:15

Abstract
Sisyphus is a real-life case about the development of a therapeutic compound for humans. The case highlights the translational pathway and highlights both typical and atypical challenges that must be addressed at the level of science, networking, regulation, funding, and professional activity. Here, the case serves as a text using which we will identify themes in translational medicine and processes towards team-based critical analysis and problem-solving, as a foundation for further learning during this course.

BREAK 15:15 - 15:30
Sunday, April 7th cont.

From Discovery to Clinical Trial: the Translational Pathway
Speaker: Maria Grazia Roncarolo
Time: 15:30 - 16:30

Abstract
Investigators developing technologies in an academic setting need to have the tools to evaluate the options that are available to them, when to utilise academic resources, and when to seek other options. This session will examine the TM itinerary in relation to the respective roles of academia, intellectual property, patents and technology transfer.

Objectives
1. Explore the pathway of intellectual property development within an institution
2. Discuss the benefits and detriments of technology transfer
3. Discuss the options, obligations, and strategies of the investigator

The Patient in Translational Medicine
Speaker: Pat Furlong
Time: 16:30 - 17:30

Abstract:
Patients and family members, when faced with a catastrophic diagnosis (rare or otherwise) feel isolated and alone. The dreams and plans for the life they imagined are gone. Parents with sick children feel as if they have failed parenthood, no longer able to ‘fix’ things or dry every tear. As parents, we have few choices and by default, necessarily become an advocate. We search the internet, sign up for Google alerts, connect on FB and Twitter. We join registries or develop new ways to collect qualitative and quantitative data. We travel across the world to identify physicians with expertise and interdisciplinary care. We solicit interested researchers to characterize the disease of interest. We start foundations, partner with industry and fund start-up companies. We become caregivers, caretakers, investors and partners. We are the new generation: Citizen Scientists.

We educate family, extended family, school, community and every individual that crosses our path. We learn the language of science, drug development and medicine. We drive regulatory change and healthcare policy. We are aggressive, fearless and effective. Our only interest is to change the world.

Objectives
1. Discuss the trajectory of a pediatric rare disease diagnosis
2. Identify opportunities and time points for intervention, support, engagement
3. Discuss the ecosystem of rare diseases and opportunities for partnership between healthcare professionals, researchers, parents/family members and the biopharmaceutical industry

BREAK 17:30 - 19:00

Sunday Social Program

19:00 Tour of the Borgia del Casale
19:30 Opening Dinner @ Porta Marina - de Salvo, via dei Candelai, 35, Ortigia (Gather at Borgia, 5 min walk)

Please join us to celebrate the 11th Annual International Certificate Program in Translational Medicine
Monday, April 8th

COFFEE
Time: 8:15 - 8:30

Collaboration, Managing Conflict, Identifying Challenges, Establishing Personal Goals and Creating Change in Translational Medicine
Program Designers and Facilitators: Salmaan Sana, Anita Small and Sabine Fuchs
Time: 08:30 - 15:30

Abstract
The goal of our program is to address developing collaborative skills that may be applied to translational medicine. This series of activities provide the opportunity to reflect on individual approaches and group processes that can be used to address translational medicine challenges.

In this part of the program, you will learn how to develop your personal skills within groups, to lead collaboratively and more effectively as a team and to translate your learning into meaningful practice in translational medicine. It simultaneously focuses on encouraging you to realize your potential influence.

You will work individually and in teams to become aware of your role and your colleagues’ roles in team function as it relates to the potential impact you and your colleagues can have. The program is also designed to discover approaches for dealing with conflict and finding collaborative, innovative solutions. Learn about yourself and how you can convert your strengths and system critique into constructive and innovative change in your translational medicine work.

The session is broken up into the following themes:
Getting to collaboration and dealing with conflict (morning)
Learn how to work collaboratively and bring others with you to create a movement for change (morning)
Connect Before You Lead (afternoon)
Themes for Change in Translational Medicine (afternoon)
Feedforward (afternoon)

Objectives
1. Refine your teamwork skills.
2. Develop skills to work collaboratively in interdisciplinary teams within a translational medicine context.
3. Reflect on personal skills related to your goals in translational medicine

In-session lunch and breaks

BREAK 15:30 - 17:00
Monday, April 8th cont.

Introduction to Presentation Workshop
Facilitators: Carol Gregorio and Nancy Sweitzer
Time: 17:00 - 17:30
See p. 21 on the Eureka Presentation Workshop for more details

Keynote Encounter I
Precision Medicine and the Vision of ImmunoSurgery
Speaker: Markus Mauerer
Time: 17:30 - 18:45

The advent of cellular therapies for patients with cancer has changed the clinical outcome for patients with certain cancers, particularly hematopoietic cancers. Cellular targeted therapies use ‘living drugs’ – immune cells that may be harvested from the patient (autologous) or from other donors (allogeneic). Targeted cellular therapies employ antigens harvested from tumor lesions. The decision which therapy may be the most promising for each individual patient requires a detailed examination of both the tumor (microenvironment and mutational landscape) and the patient (immune system).

These advanced treatments require an educated and active role of the patient in decision making, intervention and follow-up. In addition, they need a very close interaction between different clinical disciplines, i.e. oncology, internal medicine, surgery, intensive care, immunology, molecular, functional pathology, and imaging. Complex medical treatments require early involvement of the regulatory structures and may turn out to be challenging in providing ‘personalized medicine’.

We will discuss the aims, the visions and challenges of personalized host-directed therapies, and the role of physician-scientists in advanced therapies. Together we will seek new models for how medicine can be practiced to provide the best option and outcome for individual patients.
**Tuesday, April 9th**

**COFFEE**  
Time: 8:15 - 8:30

**Debriefing**  
Facilitators: Janet P. Hafler and Sergio Quezada  
Time: 08:30 - 09:00

**The concept of Druggability: Challenges and Opportunities**  
Speaker: Salvatore Albani  
Time: 09:00 - 10:15

**Abstract**  
This encounter will distil from the keynote encounters of the previous day the common elements related to identifying, nurturing and developing an idea. The content will evolve from self-biographic to more analytical and objective. Specifically, the concept of what makes a discovery attractive for translational developments, what it takes, with whom one associates and what objective parameters are considered by the various stakeholders will be defined.

**BREAK 10:15 - 10:30**

**Small Group Parallel Session II**  
Time: 10:30 - 11:30  
Options:  
- Models of Human Diseases and Therapies in Preclinical Experimental Systems  
- Big Data  
- Putting the Patient First: the Role of Advocacy Organizations  
See pp. 19-20 on Eureka Dynamic sessions for more details

Small Group wrap-up/exchange lessons learned  
Facilitator: Carol Gregorio  
Time: 11:30 - 12:15

**GROUP LUNCH 12:15 - 13:30**

**Stories of Success in Translational Medicine: what does ‘success’ mean?**  
Speakers: Maria Grazia Roncarolo, Sergio Quezada, Uri Tabori  
Time: 13:30 - 15:45

**Abstract**  
Clinicians and entrepreneurs who have successfully taken ideas from the research laboratory to the clinic will discuss their stories of how they successfully navigated the science, business and administrative challenges involved in translational medicine. The session will include examples of new product development, changes in clinical practice and technology. They will also feature different models of how to work in translational medicine- new company, within a university or hybrid models.

**BREAK 15:45 - 16:00**

**Unfolding Case Study I – the magic bullet**  
Time: 16:00 - 17:00  
See p. 19 on Eureka Dynamic sessions for details

**Introduction to Mentoring: preparing for your mentoring groups**  
Facilitators: Janet P. Hafler with all Faculty Mentors  
Time: 17:00 - 17:15

**Goal**  
To prepare both faculty and participants for participation in the mentoring groups

**Objective**  
1. To discuss effective mentoring  
2. To explore strategies to facilitate discussion in the groups

**Mentoring Session I**  
Time: 17:15 - 18:30  
See p. 19 on Eureka Dynamic sessions for details

**FREE EVENING**
Wednesday, April 10th

COFFEE
Time: 08:15 - 08:30

Debriefing
Facilitators: Janet P. Hafler and Sergio Quezada
Time: 08:30 - 09:00

Theory behind creativity
Speaker: Anita Small
Time: 09:00 - 09:15

When to Throw a Painting to a Drowning Men: an introduction on Translational Creativity
Artist/Facilitator: Brian Goeltzenleuchter
Time: 09:15 - 11:45
See p. 22 on Eureka Translational Creativity for more details

Abstract
Paintings for Drowning Men: Workshops on Translational Creativity is a series of participatory art workshops based on the video When to Throw a Painting to a Drowning Man, commissioned by Eureka Institute for Translational Medicine in 2011. The central idea of this series of workshops is that creativity is not a talent that one either has or does not have; rather it is a disposition that can be engaged and disengaged as needed to generate ideas, solve problems, build networks, facilitate collaboration, and assist in resilience and team-building. The workshop format will be used to create situations that encourage collective agency in order to stimulate social encounters and produce aesthetic objects. The temporary community formed by workshop attendees will be confronted with multi-modal challenges that mirror real-life opportunities for learning and engagement.

Objectives
By the end of the workshop, students will be able to:
1. Recognize and develop their own creative potential, noting when it is most useful to engage as a tool for generating ideas and solving problems
2. Apply knowledge of self to facilitate interpersonal communication and collaboration
3. Demonstrate understanding of active learning, self-regulation, and metacognition and their value in the creative process
4. Demonstrate knowledge of available resources, techniques, and high impact creative activities to catalyze goals and facilitate pathways

GROUP LUNCH 11:45 - 13:00

Academic/industry partnerships
Speaker: Paul Peter Tak
Time: 13:00 - 14:00

Abstract
This interactive seminar will explore the challenge of drug discovery in pharmaceutical industry. Differences in remit and mindset between academia and pharma will be discussed, and new models will be presented that may help create a more efficient ecosystem to discover and develop medicines for patients who need them.

Objectives
1. Understand why return on investment is too low in discovery in big pharma
2. Discuss how to increase the probability of success in drug development
3. Identify new ways of collaboration between drug development
4. Explore new models to discover and advance potential medicines for patients

Contemporary Clinical trials I: Pre-Market Product Development: interactive exploration of clinical trial design
Speaker: Nancy Sweitzer
Time: 14:00 - 15:00

Abstract
A background on the latest trends in pre-market product development including biomarkers, diagnostics, devices, drugs and biologics will be discussed with respect to the applied science of product development needed to move more innovative products to the market for patients who need them. Various aspects involved in the science needed to improve product development, from pre-clinical to clinical trials will be described as well as the latest policies under discussion in the United States and Europe.

Objectives
1. Discuss the latest trends, gaps and opportunities in the applied science of product development and evaluation (regulatory science)
2. Describe the stakeholders, priorities and up-to-date efforts on-going in regulatory science
3. Examine the various policy discussions surrounding pre-market product development from discovery to market launch, including funding, regulatory, reimbursement, and other considerations
Wednesday, April 10th cont.

**BREAK 15:00 - 15:15**

**Contemporary Clinical trials II: Post-Market analysis/real world evidence**
Speaker: Vicki Seyfert-Margolis
Time: 15:15 - 16:00

**Abstract**
Developing a new medical product today not only means getting an approval from a regulatory agency. Increasingly the action for successful marketing of new medical products has shifted to the world post-approval. We will explore what the post-market world means for successfully bringing a new product to patients and for continuing to monitor how well the product works in real world medical practices. We will also discuss new models of approval that incorporate more real world post-market research into an evolving approval process.

**Contemporary Clinical trials III: Regulatory considerations**
Speaker: Vicki Seyfert-Margolis
Time: 16:00 - 16:45

**Abstract:**
While the randomized controlled clinical trial is still the gold standard for regulatory approval of new medical products, advances in science, mathematics, and novel electronic data sources are contributing to a broadening of policies for regulatory agencies worldwide. Additionally, the advent of patient-centered-ness in drug development is included in how regulatory agencies address the benefit-risk for new medical products. This session will explore the traditional paradigms of regulatory approval mechanisms, and elaborate on how seamless clinical trials are becoming an increasingly utilized approach for contemporary regulatory policies.

**Speed Dating I**
Time: 16:45 - 18:00
See p. 19 on Eureka Dynamic sessions for details

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**FREE EVENING**

The title for the “Gastronomic Capital” of Italy is certainly a matter for debate. While some would claim it to be in the Northern regions of the country (specifically Bologna), the South is rich with fresh delicacies. As an island, it makes sense that fish would rank among these fine foods. Bluefin tuna is native of Sicilian waters and sought throughout the world, especially Japan. Fishing techniques date back over a millennium, with some traceable to Arab rule, and others suspected to be vestiges from the Carthaginian period. Tonnarotti (Italian for tuna fisherman), might recommend a simple breaded tuna steak, while others could tout the finer qualities of “purpetti” (tuna croquettes), or “salsiccia di tonno” (tuna sausage), or even tuna stew. However, one cannot live on fish alone (arguably).

Arabic influences transcend savory dishes, and inspires the sweet. Honey, almonds, and sesame seeds are all linked with the Arabic era in Sicily. They are also the main ingredients for sweets in Siracusa. The “giuggiulena” is a perfect example. Giuggiulena is a hard candy made from exactly those three ingredients. Pistachios, ricotta cheese and chocolate also grace many recipes. Consider the “cassata siracusana” with ricotta cheese and chocolate, or perhaps save your calories for authentic and irreproducible Sicilian cannoli. Since we’ll be in Siracusa during the Santa Lucia festival, one might try a “cuccìa”, made with ricotta cheese and candied squash and fruit. Granita (an icy concoction with almond milk) is paradise on a hot summer day.

After all this eating, you might be thirsty. One thing to try (aside from granita) is Nero d’Avola. The origin of the varietal is unknown, and has thus far only been found in Sicily. A sweeter palate will revel in the wine described by Homer and Hesiod: Moscato di Siracusa, which is rumored to be oldest wine in Italy.
Thursday, April 11th

COFFEE
Time: 8:15 - 8:30

Debriefing
Facilitators: Janet P. Hafler and Sergio Quezada
Time: 08:30 - 09:00

Unfolding Case Study 2 – the magic bullet
Time: 09:00 - 10:00
See p. 19 on Eureka Dynamic sessions for details

BREAK 10:00 - 10:15

Science 3.0: Academic Leadership and the transition to Open Science
Speaker: Frank Miedema
Time: 10:15 - 11:00

Abstract
In May 2016, the EU Competitiveness Council adopted conclusions on ‘The transition towards an Open Science system’. It acknowledges that “Open Science has the potential to increase the quality, impact and benefits of science and to accelerate advancement of knowledge by making it more reliable, more efficient and accurate, better understandable by society and responsive to societal challenge, and has the potential to enable growth and innovation through reuse of scientific results by all stakeholders at all levels of society, and ultimately contribute to growth and competitiveness of Europe”. Open Science encompasses Open Access, Open Research Data and Methods, Open Source, Open Educational Resources, Open Evaluation, and Citizen Science.

The transition to Open Science represents a policy challenge which can best be tackled in close cooperation with all stakeholders and on an international scale.
1. The implementation of Open Science touches upon the social roles and responsibilities of publicly funded research and the organization of the science system.
2. European academic leadership is crucial but national strategies for the implementation of Open Science are essential.
3. Open Science is enhancing knowledge markets and improving innovation, but this requires systematic review and substantial evidence.

This presentation will focus on the role of academic leadership in the development of the incentive and rewards system in the transition towards Open Science.

Translation Leads to Company Start-ups! (session I)
Intellectual Property, Venture Capitalists & Beyond
Speaker: Wainwright Fishburn
Time: 11:00 - 12:00

Abstract
Learn the key aspects that are involved in launching a life sciences start-up. Topics will include corporate structure, fundraising, establishing a board and protecting and monetizing your intellectual property. The session will cover real-world examples as well as global venture financing trends, in addition to the basic steps involved in assessing commercialization potential and patentability.

GROUP LUNCH 12:00 - 13:15

Personal work time for Presentation Workshop
Time: 13:15 - 14:15
See p. 21 on the Eureka Presentation Workshop for more details

Translation Leads to Company Start-ups! (session II)
I survived starting a company - lessons learned
Facilitator: Wainwright Fishburn
Panelists: Salvatore Albani, Suhrud Rajguru, Vicki Seyfert-Margolis
Time: 14:15 - 15:15

Abstract
Seasoned entrepreneurs will share the challenges faced when launching a company. This session will focus on an interactive discussion teasing out real-world examples from experienced founders.

Small Group Parallel Session II
Leadership - North America, Asia and Europe
Time: 15:15 - 16:00
See pp. 19-20 on Eureka Dynamic sessions for more details

Small Group wrap-up/exchange lessons learned
Facilitator: Nancy Sweitzer
Time: 16:00 - 16:30

BREAK 16:30 - 16:45

SPECIAL SESSION with Jim Margolis:
Social Media – how is it used/misused
Thursday, April 11th cont.

Keynote Encounter II
Integration of science research with social justice in global health initiatives
Speaker: Jonathan Monahan
Time: 17:00 - 18:15

One of the enduring challenges facing the fields of global health and translational science is creating the right mechanisms for deliberately bridging the world of science and discovery and the world of policy and regulation.

Over the past decade or more, universities have sought to play this bridging role in global and domestic health policy, practice, and management. However, such inter-disciplinary academic enterprises aimed at influencing public, private, and philanthropic decision-makers can be difficult to organize and sustain. Plus, the impact and value these kinds of entities can be hard to measure and prioritize in the highly competitive funding environment for academic research.

John Monahan led Georgetown University’s first health law institute (2007-2009) and has been playing a lead role in organizing its university-wide Global Health Initiative (2017-present).

Outside of academia, Monahan has worked in all three branches of the US federal government (executive, legislative, and judiciary) and has held senior health policymaking positions at the Department of Health and Human Services and Department of State in the Clinton and Obama Administrations, as well as on Capitol Hill.

Monahan will reflect on his experiences in building academic structures that seek to bring evidence from academic researchers to policymakers in a timely, actionable format. He also will describe the role that Georgetown’s historic commitment to social justice plays in supporting such efforts to promote the common good. Finally, he will offer some practical lessons that early-career translational researchers might consider in making themselves and their work relevant for policymakers.

Thursday Social Program
Wine and Cheese @ Barcolo (Borgia’s court yard)
18:15 - 20:00
Q&A with Jim Margolis and Jonathan Monahan

Siracusa

Some 2,700 years ago, one of the first Greek settlers dubbed this area “Sirako”. This was in reference to the surrounding salt marshes, beautiful areas dense with sensitive and highly specialized vegetation. Its strategic location and savvy inhabitants helped make Siracusa one of the most powerful city-states in all of Magna Grecia. Cicero called it “the most beautiful of them all”. Ruling factions have changed over time, with the Romans, Byzantines, Arabs, Normans and Swabians all fighting for supremacy in the region. Sicily (and Siracusa) has survived each invasion, and absorbed some important influences evident today.

For example, May is the opening month of the Greek Theatre, a premier theatrical event in all of Italy. Architecture further infuses the bones of the city, doric and ionic, baroque and roccoco. And art (high and low, old and new) adorns the city-scape and enriches its museums. Siracusa is not buried in its past, however. The city’s heartbeat is strong with the song of the dolce vita; “ragazzi” enjoy the night life sitting at an open-air coffee-shops, or dancing in one of the many clubs that are concentrated in the area between Piazza Archimede, Piazza Duomo, the Aretusa Fountain and the Alfeo Promenade.
Debriefing
Facilitators: Janet P. Hafler and Sergio Quezada
Time: 09:45 - 10:15

COFFEE 10:15 - 10:30

Population Medicine
Speaker: Charles Cairns
Time: 10:30 - 11:30

Abstract
This interactive seminar will explore the Population Medicine movement, including population health management and the challenges of applying precision medicine to population health. Will explore innovative opportunities for investigators to bring new discoveries, technologies and care models to address the needs of population medicine and health.

Objectives
1. Understand population health management
2. Define the "triple aim" of health care systems
3. Explore the intersection between precision medicine and population health
4. Understand the challenges of incorporating new discoveries, technologies into health care systems
5. Identify strategies to incorporate innovation into population medicine and health

Unfolding Case Study 3 – the magic bullet
Time: 11:30 - 12:30
See p. 19 on Eureka Dynamic sessions for details

GROUP LUNCH 12:30 – 14:00
Arranged by hubs/led by Ambassadors

Small Group Parallel Session III
Options:
• How to find a Mentor and Develop the Mentee/Mentor Relationship
• Clinical Research Life Balance
• Preparation of a Winning Grant Application
• Discover your Communication Style
Time: 14:00 - 15:00
See pp. 19-20 on Eureka Dynamic sessions for more details

Small Group wrap-up/exchange lessons learned
Facilitator: Carol Gregorio
Time: 15:00 - 15:30

BREAK 15:30 - 15:45

Beyond a Paper: what does a translational researcher have to tell "real" people?
Speaker: Lisa Melton
Time: 15:45 - 16:30

Abstract
As science and technology touch every aspect of peoples' lives, we as scientists are having an ever more profound impact on our society. And much of our work is sponsored by the public. Yet we often don’t think about our responsibility to engage our communities and societies outside of our peers. What is our social contract with the people who fund us and who we serve?

Speed Dating II
Time: 16:30 - 17:30
See p. 19 on Eureka Dynamic sessions for details

Mentoring Session II
Time: 17:30 - 18:45
See p. 19 on Eureka Dynamic sessions for details

FREE EVENING
Saturday, April 13th

COFFEE
Time: 08:15 - 08:30

Debriefing
Facilitator: Janet P. Hafler
Time: 08:30 - 09:00

Presentation Workshop
Facilitators: Carol Gregorio and Nancy Sweitzer
Time: 09:00 - 10:30
See p. 21 on the Eureka Presentation Workshop for more details

Abstract
Building on the skills developed in Presentation Workshop I and the curriculum on the nature of translational medicine, the presenter may focus on an issue related to the translational medicine pathway that the presenter seeks to bring to an institutional leader in order to generate a change that will enhance translational medicine.

Objectives
1. Develop the best methods to deliver a persuasive presentation to an institutional leader to generate collaboration towards change
2. Identify strengths and areas for improvement in your presentation approach
3. Identify factors and strategies that will allow you to present more effectively to an institutional leader

BREAK 10:30 - 10:45

Lessons Learned
Program Designers: Anita Small and Salmaan Sana
Facilitator: Anita Small
Time: 10:45 - 11:45

Objectives:
Reflect individually and as a group on EUREKA impact and priorities moving forward

GROUP LUNCH 11:45 - 12:45

Teach the Teacher: where do we go from here?
Speaker: Janet Hafler
Time: 12:45 - 14:45

Abstract
In this interactive session we will synthesize our learning about effective teaching. We will build our knowledge from our observations of teaching during the course and reflections that are written in our journals. A commitment to change worksheet will be used to launch our pathway to great teaching.

Objectives
1. Explore how ones’ own teaching can promote learning
2. Explore strategies of effective teaching
3. Develop a commitment to change to connect with teaching after Eureka

Ambassador’s Wrap-up Panel: reflections & ideas for building sustainable EUREKA hubs / incorporating Eureka 2.0
Facilitator: Salvo Albani
Time: 14:45 - 15:45
Not mandatory for participants

Saturday Social Program
20:00 closing dinner

After a week of hard work, creativity and fun please join us for an amazing dinner with enticing wines. Dinner will be served at Ristorante Don Camillo (Via delle Maestranze, 96). It is located at the historical city center of Siracusa and set in the beautiful Catalan vaults.
Eureka Dynamic Sessions

A significant element of the programme is going to involve YOU talking, either one-to-one or in small groups. The aim of all these sessions is to help you to learn from each other and the faculty directly, and to focus on those parts of translation medicine, and a career in translational medicine, that matter most to you.

For some sessions, you will be allocated to a specific group (Unfolding Case Study; Mentoring); for the others, you will choose who you want to meet and/or which topic you want to discuss (Speed dating; Small Group Parallel Sessions).

Unfolding Case Study – the magic bullet
Written by: Vicki Seyfert-Margolis

This case examines the full translational tightrope of a targeted therapy, from lead identification to Phase II and III clinical trials. You will work in depth with the case in a pre-allocated small-group setting over three separate sessions (Tuesday, Thursday and Friday).

Through this case, you’ll grapple with the development of a therapy intended for a targeted sub-population, and explore the issues arising in the post-market phase. In addition, you will discuss and determine research and business strategies necessary to “translate” a potential therapeutic and co-develop its companion biomarker. Parallel concepts of collaboration and team will also be explored.

Recommended reading:


Mentoring

You will each present a dilemma you are currently facing to a small group of peers. You will be allocated to a group, which will be mentored by a faculty member. Your fellow course participants will act as a consultation group. The objective is to advance personal learning while practicing and improving approaches to, and organization of, problem solving. Reflections using practical real-world problems will anchor the concepts raised in the didactic portion of the program.

As some of you already know, work with or have worked with some of the faculty members, every effort will be made to ensure you have “neutral” tutors guiding the sessions. In addition, unless otherwise specified and agreed to by the group, discussions in the mentoring session are treated as confidential.

You will have your first session on Tuesday afternoon, then come back together on Friday afternoon.

Speed Dating

“Speed Dating” provides the opportunity for you to have a series of one-on-one discussions with individual faculty for 10 minutes each. Who you talk with and on what topics are your choices!
Please consult the faculty biographies at the end of this booklet prior to completing the signup sheet, which will be prominently displayed and made available from Sunday. There will be two sessions: late Wednesday afternoon and late Friday afternoon.

Small Group Parallel Sessions

In each of these sessions, you will have the opportunity to choose a topic that most interests you – maybe it is far from what you normally think about? Maybe it is something you think about frequently and would like to participate by sharing your experiences? Maybe you just want to get to know the session organizers better?
Immediately following each session, all groups will get back together to share what they learned.

>>
Eureka Dynamic Sessions cont.

Session I (Tuesday morning)
Models of Human Diseases and Therapies in Preclinical Experimental Systems
Facilitators: Norm Rosenblum and Uri Tabori

Animal Models are commonly used to model human disease. How reliable are these models? How does the researcher decide? Participants will analyze dilemmas researcher can face while working with animal models and will explore other fast-expanding experimental models.

Objectives:
1. Discuss when, why, and how to use animal models
2. Explore the limitations of using animal models to model human disease
3. Discuss non-animal and animal models e.g. iPS cells, humanized animals, organoids and their utility in modeling human disease

Big Data
Facilitator: David Hafler

You might have been taught by your grammar school teacher that the scientific approach begins with a hypothesis. Unfortunately, your teacher was incorrect as in fact, you start with an observation and from there, a hypothesis can be generated. In past years, we began in the medical sciences with observations made under a microscope or from observing patients. The discovery of Affymetrix RNA chip analysis, followed by a series of other new technologies, have allowed a new approach to generating non-hypothesis limited observations that can then be used to generate more focused, unbiased hypotheses. These technologies range from elucidating the genetic architecture of a human disease to RNAseq that allows the elucidation of the total RNA expression of a cell type. This session will explore how “big data” can be used to generate broad testable unbiased hypotheses to allow the precise mapping of disease pathogenesis, as well as discuss the challenges associated with interpretation of the data collected.

Objectives
1. Define the different types of “big data” as applied to medical science
2. Give an example as to how you can use these datasets to understand a biologic problem

Putting the Patient First: the Role of Advocacy Organizations
Facilitator: Pat Furlong

To make a real difference in health care, funds are required. Setting up an Advocacy Organization whose goal is to accelerate innovative research, raise voices to impact policy, demand optimal care for every single family and strive to ensure access to approved therapies is hugely difficult. We will discuss what is involved and who needs to be involved.

Objectives:
1. Understand the role of patients across therapy development
2. Ideas on how to access and engage the patient community in developing therapies, in scientific exchange venues, in protocol development, regulatory discussions and in fund raising, etc.
3. Understanding the components of a successful advocacy strategy.

Session II (Thursday afternoon)
Leadership – North America, Asia and Europe
Facilitators:
North America: Chuck Cairns, Carol Gregorio, Felix Ratjen
Asia: Salvo Albani, Khee Chee Soo
Europe: Frank Miedema, Manuela Battaglia

What does it take to be a leader? What types/forms of leadership are there? Are there gender differences with respect to leadership?

In this session, you will meet with current leaders who will share their positive and negative experiences in being effective leaders. Strategies of being an effective leader will be discussed.

You will learn
1. How to position yourself for leadership opportunities in translational medicine in academia and in industry
2. What is actually involved in being a leader
3. The difference between being a leader vs. being a manager – and what is the most effective balance?
4. To develop leadership skills, without being a leader

Session III (Friday afternoon)
How to find a Mentor and develop the Mentee/Mentor Relationship
Facilitator: Janet P. Hafler

In this interactive session, we will explore how you might select a mentor. In addition, we will explore the use of a mentor/mentee contract and the characteristics of effective mentee/mentor relationships. Good communication is essential to a successful relationship, which includes setting and aligning expectations, receiving feedback, and active listening.

You will:
1. Identify how to select a mentor
2. Discuss the advantages of a mentee/mentor contract
3. Identify characteristics of effective mentee/mentor relationships

Clinical Research Life Balance
Facilitator: Nancy Sweitzer

This session will primarily be run as Q & A but will broadly cover:
1. The reality of compromise in a multi-dimensional career
2. Ensuring that you preserve priorities
3. How to recognize when the balance isn’t working for you
4. Strategies to change the balance – with an emphasis on understanding that getting to your “ideal” balance often involves getting funding…and hard work.

Preparation of a Winning Grant Application
Facilitators: Carol Gregorio and Sergio Quezada

Participants will focus on elements of persuasive translational medicine grant writing. If available, participants can use samples of their own grant summary pages as a foundation for their learning.

Objectives:
1. Explore effect structures (e.g. flow of abstract and/or specific aims page)
2. Examine content for message, clarity and delivery
3. Learn self-assessment strategies for written work

Discover your Communication Style
Facilitator: Anita Small

Using the interactive styles questionnaire used by international mediators, this session provides the opportunity to discover your personal communication styles in different work circumstances. You will learn how your personal strengths contribute to resolving conflict that can address translational medicine concerns.

This particular part of the program is enlightening as it encourages you to:
1. Learn your personal interactive style strengths
2. Discover how your specific strengths relate to conflict resolution and inventing options in translational medicine.
Raising Your Communication Game
The Eureka Presentation Workshop

Communication is not something you add on to science; it is the essence of science.
- Alan Alda

Bad presentations are a contagion, spread by fear and lack of preparation. In this session, we discuss unusual and effective techniques for engaging in clear scientific communication, using techniques gleaned from the TED talks series, from the Alan Alda Center for Communicating Science at Stonybrook University, and the experience of our mentors and instructors. Goals of this interactive and experiential session are to raise each presenter’s speaking game, with improved audience awareness and focus, including a focus on tailoring communication style to the audience and predictable, high audience engagement.

In addition to a brief introductory session focused on general concepts of excellent scientific communication, this session will involve TED-talk type presentations by each participant in a small group setting. Each presentation will be recorded. After the presentation, the speaker will then review her/his own tape in private. During this time, the group will prepare constructive feedback for the presenter. Afterward, the group gets back together to hear the presenter’s own reflections and provide feedback intended to further raise that presenter’s game.

For those interested, tips on giving feedback are provided in the material for this session.

Feedback Tips

**Definition**
The process of giving data back to the participant for the purpose of bringing about change.

Feedback involves responding specifically to an event or occurrence, whether that event be good or bad. Positive and negative feedback should be distinguished from complimenting and criticizing.

Evaluation is an assessment of a learner’s achievement and/or performance.

1. Feedback should be undertaken with the observer and participant working as allies with common goals. Begin by discussing respective expectations.
2. Feedback should be descriptive rather than evaluative.
3. Feedback should deal with specific events, rather than generalizations.
4. Feedback should be well-timed, and expected, in close proximity to the event, but not when— the recipient is postcall or angry about the issue; facts are missing; or both sides of the situation have not been explored.
5. Feedback should be based on first-hand data.
6. Feedback should be focused on behaviors that are amenable to change.
7. Feedback should involve sharing of information, rather than giving advice, leaving the receiver free to decide for themselves in accordance with their own goals and needs.
8. Feedback can be structured to include subjective data, as long as it is clearly labeled as such.
9. Feedback should be checked to insure clear communication by having the receiver try to rephrase the feedback.
10. Feedback should be followed by attention to the consequences of feedback.

**Taking the Plunge**
1. Be clear about the purpose of the feedback session.
2. Get the receiver’s perspective as to how things are going.
3. The sandwich technique (i.e., good / bad / good) isn’t always reliable.
4. Ask the recipient to offer solutions.
5. Develop solutions to the problem, and a plan to improve the situation.

Eureka Translational Creativity

In 2011, the time was ripe for the Eureka Institute for Translational Medicine to add art into its program: Eureka Translational Creativity was born. Translational Creativity was developed to complement Eureka’s education and community building initiatives.

Brian Goeltzenleuchter is an internationally respected artist who have a long history of collaboration. His Eureka workshop, together with Anna van Suchtelen, “When to Throw a Painting to a Drowning Man” highlights the false dilemma of considering art and science as binary opposites. Focusing instead on the commonality of innovation, the artists produced curriculum for science innovators who strive to come to terms with the uncertainty that comes with working collaboratively and across disciplinary borders.

The core theme of the workshop is that creativity is not a talent that one either has or does not have: rather, it is a tool that can be activated and deactivated. Through participating in hands-on and often laughter-inducing group activities, students learn when, why, and how creativity can be deployed in their professional lives.

Translational Creativity CV

2011
Artists-in-Residence: Brian Goeltzenleuchter and Anna van Suchtelen

2012
Film release: When to Throw a Painting to a Drowning Man

2013
Artist-in-Residence: Kate Breakey; Artwork: The Syracuse Still Life

2014-2018
Workshop: Brian Goeltzenleuchter and Anna van Suchtelen, When to Throw a Painting to a Drowning Man; Artwork: Paintings for Drowning Men Artists’ Multiple (2014) and Hardbound Folio (2015)

On the film
When to Throw a Painting to a Drowning Man is an artist-made self-help video that shows how creativity can be useful to anyone. The video offers parables and exercises that evoke the structure of a self-help book. It celebrates the transcendent nature of creativity, examining its potential as a skill and tool for problem solving, critical thinking, networking, and team building.

(http://vimeo.com/47049893)
## FACULTY AND AMBASSADOR DISCLOSURES

### Nothing to disclose
- Rajni Agarwal, MD
- Salvo Albani, MD, PhD
- Manuela Battaglia, PhD
- Gordon Baylis, DVM, Dphil
- Charles Cairns, MD, FACEP, FAAEM, FAHA
- Scott Compton, PhD
- Wain Fishburn
- Sabine Fuchs, MD, PhD
- Pat Furlong
- Brian Goeltzenleuchter, MFA
- Carol Gregorio, PhD
- Mary Leonard, MD, MSCE

### Disclosures

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Disclosures</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>David Hafler, MD</td>
<td>Discloses affiliations with: Compass Therapeutics LLC, EMD Serono, Novartis Pharmaceuticals, Sanofi Genzyme and Versant Ventures as a consultant; Genentech (a member of the Roche Group) and Proclara Bioscience as a member of their Scientific Advisory Boards; and JDRF as a reviewer for DIL. Receives grant/research support from Genentech and Bristol Myers Squibb.</td>
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<td>Janet Hafler, EdD</td>
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<td>Uri Tabori</td>
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<tr>
<td>Paul Peter Tak</td>
<td>Discloses an affiliation as an employee of Kintai Therapeutics and Flagship Pioneering, and as a former employee and shareholder of GSK.</td>
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Disclosure not available at time of printing: Jim Margolis
Salvatore Albani, MD, PhD, is an internationally renowned rheumatologist and immunologist. He is a Professor at Duke-NUS Medical School Singapore and Director of the Translational Immunology Institute at SingHealth-Duke-NUS Academic Medical Centre.

Before joining Duke-NUS, Dr. Albani served as Director of the Translational Medicine Unit at the Clinical Investigation Institute at the University of California, San Diego, where he also was Professor of Medicine and Pediatrics. His fundamental research interest is in understanding human immunity and contributing the knowledge to therapeutic and diagnostic advancements. He has developed several innovative approaches in the area of induction and maintenance of immune tolerance in humans, being responsible for the whole translational process from idea to the conclusion of a Phase II clinical trial in autoimmune inflammatory diseases, which have a large impact on society and individuals.

He has been responsible for conception and execution of each of the stages of this complex itinerary, which spans a wide and diverse gradient of technologies and challenges. These include molecular immunology, lead identification and validation, intellectual property, CMC (Chemistry, Manufacturing and Controls), IND (Investigational New Drug filings), trial design, data management and analysis, interfacing with Venture Capital and Pharma, leading complex groups in a multi-center setting, etc. The technology platform has applications in diseases that could benefit from a restoration of immune tolerance. This translational research itinerary has been the original backbone of his career, and witnessed by a rich publication trail (among others Nature Medicine, Lancet, JCI, PNAS, Nature Rheumatology, A&;& R, ARD, etc, H factor 40) and by approximately 100 patents. Development of high throughput technology platforms is also part of his scientific career. These platforms aim to provide tools for knowledge-based diagnostic and therapeutic decisions.

In his role as an educator, it has been his privilege to mentor many talented individuals, and to provide the right challenges and learning opportunities to help them grow and advance. He seeks to expand this even further by helping to create and nurture the next generation of translational scientists. An important step is cultivating in translational professionals the necessary awareness, knowledge and experience to contribute significantly to the advancement of the field.

“My professional mission is to build bridges between unmet medical needs and Translational Sciences.”

Salvatore Albani, MD, PhD
Dr. Agarwal is Associate Professor of pediatrics, section chief and clinical director for the division of Pediatric Stem Cell Transplantation and Regenerative Medicine.

Dr. Agarwal trained extensively in India as a pediatric hematologist-oncologist. Due to a strong interest in pursuing translational research in the field she chose to come to the USA and joined Cincinnati Children’s Hospital Medical Center (CHMC) in Ohio. She received extensive training and expertise in stem cell biology at the hospital for sick children Toronto, Canada and National institutes of health (NIH) in Bethesda, MD. At the hospital for sick children, she learned and developed stem cell assays and invivo models of human hematopoiesis that were critical in understanding of stem cell biology and its clinical applications. At the NIH she spent two years and developed gene transfer assays in Hematopoietic cells. At the NIH, she also worked on developing the mammalian models for in vivo gene transfer in hematopoietic cells. During this time her work was published on chronic myeloid leukemia addressing the role of interaction of stromal cells with hematopoietic cells in the bone marrow. This publication defined conditions to favor the growth of benign hematopoietic cells in patients with chronic myeloid leukemia.

At CHMC, Cincinnati, she established the stem cell biology laboratory to further investigate the field of Hematopoietic stem cells focusing on the umbilical cord blood. She started the clinical Umbilical cord blood transplant program at CHMC. In the laboratory she was able to set up the assays to identify and collect highly purified hematopoietic cells from the cord blood. The engraftment and expansion potential of the cord blood derived hematopoietic cells was studied in the immune deficient mice. These models were then used to develop assays for gene transfer in Fanconi Anemia stem cells. She has been at Stanford for the past 18 years and currently serves as the Medical Director of the Stem Cell Transplant and Regenerative Medicine program. Most of her work is focused on two projects 1) developing antibody based conditioning for patient’s undergoing stem cell transplantation. Antibody based conditioning is a breakthrough in the field and has the promise to reduce regimen related toxicity and 2) clinical trial using Tr1, regulatory T cell therapy to induce tolerance and reduce the risk of GVHD.
Manuela Battaglia has been recently appointed as Chief Scientific Officer of the Telethon Foundation – the second biggest biomedical charity in Italy fostering science that leads to cures for rare genetic diseases. Before joining the Telethon Foundation, Manuela served as Vice-director of the San Raffaele Diabetes Research Institute in Milan (Italy) and she has been a successful researcher in the field of autoimmunity and transplantation for almost 20 years.

She received her PhD from the Medical College of Wisconsin in 2001, and eventually returned to Italy as a post-doctoral fellow at the San Raffaele Telethon Institute for Gene Therapy in Milan under the direct supervision of Prof. Maria Grazia Roncarolo. After six years of intensive work in the field of gene therapy, Manuela decided to invest her scientific career in understanding, and possibly finding a definitive solution for, type 1 diabetes. Thus, in 2007 she moved to the San Raffaele Diabetes Research Institute (Milan, Italy) as a group leader, and she was subsequently promoted head of unit (2012). Manuela has been a member of the Steering Committee of TrialNet (an NIH-founded international network of researchers who are exploring ways to prevent, delay and reverse the progression of type 1 diabetes) for 5 years. Manuela's overriding goal is to “be the change”: be proactive rather than reactive, stop complaining and act, deeds not words. Now, in her new role, she aims at catalyzing the best science towards patient benefits.
FACULTY BIOGRAPHIES

Wain Fishburn

Wainwright Fishburn, Jr. is a prominent venture capital attorney and global chair of the firm's Digital Health group.

As a recognized life science and digital health thought-leader, Wain is a frequent speaker at programs addressing industry issues, including at the International CES Digital Health Summit, USC's Body Computing Conference, Impact Forum and the Samsung: Health + Tech Conference. Wain has also served as the Chair of the BIO Digital Health Forum at the BIO International Convention from 2014 – 2019.

As both a founder and counsel, Wain has worked with venture capital-backed companies across a variety of fields. For example, in the field of genomic medicine, he works with groups that develop and deploy high performance technology for genomic research and medicine. He is also Vice-Chairman of the board of the Critical Path Institute, a public-private partnership created in part by the FDA, dedicated to integrating scientific advances into the development pathway. Mr. Fishburn has been widely recognized as a leading attorney in numerous publications, including among others, his recognition by The Daily Journal as one of California's top attorneys. He was named by Nature as instrumental to the success of San Diego as a life science cluster.

As a community leader, Wain is past Chairman of the Sanford Burnham Prebys Medical Discovery Institute, one of the nation’s leading independent research institutes. He is a member of the Executive Committee of the board of the UCSD Moores Cancer Center where he is afforded a clinical perspective on the application of breakthroughs in genomic medicine and is assisting with the Center for Personalized Cancer Therapy. He is a founding director of both the Corporate Directors Forum and BIOCOM, representing more than 1100 members life science companies and is a member of its Executive Committee.

Wain is a co-founder of seven companies, two of which became public. He is a third-generation Arizonan and earned his B.A. from the University of Arizona where he serves on the Advisory Board for Tech Launch Arizona. He completed post-graduate work as a Senior Fellow at the Australian National University and received his JD degree from the University of California, Hastings College of the Law where he served as President of the Hastings Board of Governors.

“Wain has worked with venture capital-backed companies across a variety of fields, both as a founder and as counsel.”
Sabine Fuchs (MD, PhD) is a pediatrician in metabolic diseases at the Wilhelmina Children's Hospital / UMC Utrecht. She studied pharmacy (cum laude) and medicine (cum laude) at the University of Utrecht. She combined her pediatric training with a PhD in the department of metabolic diseases in the Wilhelmina Children’s Hospital / UMC Utrecht. She now combines clinical work with research in the field of genetic/ metabolic liver diseases. In collaboration with the Hubrecht Institute (prof. Clevers), she uses liver organoids to improve therapeutic strategies for patients with metabolic/liver diseases – both as a unique in vitro model to unravel disease mechanisms and develop and test novel treatment strategies and as a new source for liver stem cell transplantations. She has been awarded with several prestigious grants (ZonMW AGiKO, ZonMW Clinical Fellows grant) and prizes (Elisabeth von Freyburg penning).

She participated in the EUREKA certificate program in 2010 and helped to start up the Utrecht Translational Medicine Summer School, supported by the Eureka Institute and Science in Transition as a member of the Organizing Committee (2016 - now). She further aims to improve translational medicine and pediatric care as a board member of TULIPS (Training Upcoming Leaders In Pediatric Science), an organization devoted to improving child health by empowering young clinician scientists to achieve high quality research.

“Sabine participated in the 2010 ICC and helped to start up the Utrecht Translational Medicine Summer School.”
Pat Furlong is the Founding President and CEO of Parent Project Muscular Dystrophy (PPMD), the largest nonprofit organization in the United States solely focused on Duchenne muscular dystrophy (Duchenne). Their mission is to end Duchenne. They accelerate research, raise their voices in Washington, demand optimal care for all young men, and educate the global community.

Duchenne is the most common fatal, genetic childhood disorder, which affects approximately 1 out of every 3,500 boys each year worldwide. It currently has no cure.

When doctors diagnosed her two sons, Christopher and Patrick, with Duchenne in 1984, Pat didn’t accept “there’s no hope and little help” as an answer. Pat immersed herself in Duchenne, working to understand the pathology of the disorder, the extent of research investment and the mechanisms for optimal care. Her sons lost their battle with Duchenne in their teenage years, but she continues to fight—in their honor and for all families affected by Duchenne.

In 1994, Pat, together with other parents of young men with Duchenne, founded PPMD to change the course of Duchenne and, ultimately, to find a cure. Today, Pat continues to lead the organization and is considered one of the foremost authorities on Duchenne in the world.
Brian Goeltzenleuchter (b. 1976) is an artist based in San Diego, USA. His recent projects investigate the use-value of cultural objects and institutions. In 2001 Goeltzenleuchter received his MFA from the University of California, San Diego. From 2002 - 2008 he was Associate Professor of Art at Central Washington University. He is currently a Research Fellow at the Institute for Public and Urban Affairs at San Diego State University, and Artist-In-Residence at the Institute for Art and Olfaction in Los Angeles. His work has been screened, performed, and exhibited throughout the United States, Canada, Austria, Italy, China, Croatia, and the Netherlands.

Selected projects include: Sillage, Santa Monica Museum of Art (2014); Adaptive Equipment, Lust Gallery, Vienna, Austria (2011); c (pronounced /k/) Wellness Centre, Southern Alberta Art Gallery, Canada (2010); c Boutique, Museum of Contemporary Art, San Diego (2010); Sponge X Sponge, Colorado State University (2007); Institutional Wellbeing, Centrum Beeldende Kunst, The Netherlands (2006); Who’s not for sale, Banff Centre, Canada (2006); Unpacking Iraq, International Festival of New Film/New Media Split, Croatia (2004)
Dr. Gregorio is the Vice-Dean for Innovation and Development at the University of Arizona. She also built and currently directs the Sarver Molecular Cardiovascular Research Program (MCRP) at the University of Arizona. Researchers in the MCRP are focused on discovering and disseminating knowledge about the underlying biological and molecular mechanisms of heart development, heart function, heart disease and other malfunctions of the cardiovascular system. Their efforts emphasize translational research. She is also the head of a medical school academic department whose primary missions are to decipher the primary cause of human disease and to train the next generation of Translational Scientists. Dr. Gregorio herself runs an active and well-funded research program with a focus broadly summarized as understanding the cellular mechanisms involved in the assembly, regulation and maintenance of contractile proteins in cardiac and skeletal muscle in health and disease. Dr. Gregorio is a Principle Investigator on a National Institutes of Health Training grant, is an active member of several editorial and philanthropic boards, and is a frequent grant reviewer at the National Institutes of Health. She received her Doctorate from Roswell Park Cancer Institute in Buffalo, NY with a major in Molecular Immunology, and did her postdoctoral fellowship at the Scripps Research Institute in La Jolla, CA.
Dr. Hafler is the William S. and Lois Stiles Edgerly Professor and Chairman Department of Neurology and Professor of Immunobiology, Yale School of Medicine, and is the Neurologist-in-Chief of the Yale-New Haven Hospital. He graduated magna cum laude in 1974 from Emory University with combined B.S. and M.Sc. degrees in biochemistry, and the University of Miami School of Medicine in 1978. He then completed his internship in internal medicine at Johns Hopkins followed by a neurology residency at Cornell Medical Center-New York Hospital in New York. Dr. Hafler was trained in immunology at the Rockefeller University and then at Harvard where he joined the faculty in 1984 and later became the Breakstone Professorship of Neurology at Harvard and was a founding Associated Member of the Broad Institute at MIT. In 2009 he moved to Yale as the Chair of the Department of Neurology. Dr. Hafler is a clinical scientist with a research interest in the mechanism of multiple sclerosis with over 400 publications in the field of MS, autoimmunity and immunology.

He is a co-founder of the International MS Genetic Consortium a group that identified the genes causing MS. He has served as a member of the editorial boards for *Journal of Clinical Investigation* and the *Journal of Experimental Medicine*, and is co-founder of the Federation of Clinical Immunology Societies and leads the NIH Autoimmunity Prevention Center Grant at Yale. He was a Jacob Javits Merit Award Recipient from the NIH and has won many awards including Dystel Prize for MS research from the American Academy of Neurology, the University of Miami Annual Distinguished Alumni Award, the Raymond Adams Prize from the American Neurologic Association, and was the 2016 Frontier Lecturer at the AAN. Dr. Hafler has been elected to membership in the Alpha Omega Society, the American Society of Clinical Investigation, and the National Academy of Medicine.
Janet Hafler is a Professor of Pediatrics and is the Associate Dean for Educational Scholarship at Yale University School of Medicine. As the Director of the Teaching and Learning Center her responsibilities include developing and implementing medical education and teaching and learning programs for faculty members, students and residents. Over her career she has nurtured a climate in teaching and learning where faculty and residents have been exposed to the cutting edge literature and ideas in medical education. She has focused on assisting faculty and residents in exploring innovative ways to effectively promote learning in both the classroom and clinical settings.

Promoting, influencing and nurturing a climate in which physicians, residents and students can teach — and learn — has been foremost among her career objectives. She has focused on providing an awareness of context for students, residents and faculty, urging them to be innovative in their many teaching environments and encouraging them to explore ways to understand how they can effectively promote learning in their interactions among themselves.

Dr. Hafler runs an active research program applying qualitative research methods in medical education. She collaborates with and mentors clinicians and faculty on the elements of qualitative research in the field of medical education and medical care. In turn, mentored faculty members have learned to develop and demonstrate the tools necessary to effectively teach and lead others. Dr. Hafler has published over 100 book chapters, curriculum materials and original articles in medical education and clinical journals. She has served as visiting professor internationally and has been invited to present regularly at regional and national professional meetings.
Jim Margolis got his start in politics at age 15 in Kalamazoo, Michigan. It was there that he was Field Director for an inspirational – but losing – congressional candidate (perhaps the aspiring congressman should have hired a lead organizer old enough to drive). Thankfully, since that defeat, Jim has been more successful helping candidates, corporations, advocacy groups, foundations and government agencies develop strategic communications and advertising programs that impact people’s lives and help change the world.

As a founding partner of GMMB, Jim served as a senior advisor to Barack Obama in both the former President’s campaigns for the White House, leading each cycle’s half-billion dollar advertising effort and helping direct the campaign as part of the core strategic team. Jim also co-produced the two Obama inaugural celebrations and both of Mr. Obama’s national conventions. In the 2016 presidential election, Jim served as senior advisor to former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, leading her paid advertising effort and co-producing the 2016 Democratic National Convention in Philadelphia.

Nationally, Jim has helped elect dozens of senators, governors and other public servants to office. From Oregon to Florida, from North Dakota to Puerto Rico, his strategic advice and award-winning creative has helped turn amazing candidates into forceful officeholders. Similarly, overseas, Jim has advised progressive presidential and prime ministerial candidates in Africa, Asia, Europe and Latin America.

In the business and philanthropic world, Jim has provided counsel to some of America’s most iconic corporations and nonprofits, including AT&T, AFSCME, Airbnb, AMERICORPS, Ashoka, Cisco Systems, Facebook, The Gates Foundation, L’Oréal, Microsoft, The Pritzker Foundation and VISA.

“Before joining GMMB, Jim served as a top appointee in both the U.S. House and U.S. Senate.”
FACULTY BIOGRAPHIES

Patrick Maxwell, MD

“He is the 27th Regius Professor of Physic in Cambridge – a post created by King Henry VIII in 1540 and still appointed by the Queen”

Professor Patrick Maxwell is currently Regius Professor of Physic at the University of Cambridge.

He graduated from Corpus Christi College, Oxford, in 1983 with First Class Honours in Physiological Sciences. Subsequently, he did his clinical training at St Thomas’ Hospital where he won the Mead Medal in Medicine and the Cheselden Medal in Surgery. The principal thrust of his research is in transcriptional control of genes by oxygen. He has worked on this for more than twenty years, initially in Oxford and then as Professor of Nephrology at Imperial College before moving to UCL in 2008 as Professor of Medicine and then Dean of Medical Sciences.

His research programme has received substantial national and international recognition and has considerable potential for translation into new therapies for patients.

In 2003 with three other scientists, he set up ReOx, an Oxford University spin-out company which ultimately aims to develop medicines from these discoveries.

Professor Maxwell is a Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians, Fellow of the Academy of Medical Sciences and a Fellow of Trinity College Cambridge.

The Regius Professor of Physic is Head of the School of Clinical Medicine at the University of Cambridge and Executive Director of Cambridge University Health Partners, the Academic Health Sciences Centre for Cambridge.
Lisa Melton, PhD

Lisa Melton, PhD is a scientist and journalist/editor. She is Senior News Editor at Nature Biotechnology and lecturer in Science Communication at the University of the West of England, Bristol. Lisa has a degree in Biochemistry and a PhD from the University of Buenos Aires, Argentina. After graduating, she undertook a residency in clinical nutrition, followed by investigational work in Nutrition and Immunology, which led to her PhD. For her postdocs, Lisa selected the National Institutes for Medical Research in London, then exchanged the bench for a keyboard to become a science writer.

Her first stint as a science journalist was at the Wellcome Trust, followed by a writer-in-residence job at the Novartis Foundation, an invitation-only think-tank, from where she sourced many ideas for stories. This privileged role allowed her to interacted with many of life science’s thought leaders, and resulted in publications in Scientific American, the Economist, New Scientist and the Times, as well as appearances on radio and television. In 2008, Lisa joined Nature Biotechnology.

As the news editor for Nature Biotechnology, Lisa keeps a close eye on the biotech world, tracking everything from papers to deals, investments and commercialization. Whether it’s the latest CRISPR patent wrinkle, the merits of long-range sequencing or the mystery causes behind narcolepsy, Lisa’s job is to spot the stories, commission freelance writers, edit the content and spread the news far and wide. Lisa is often engaged in chairing panels at conferences, at accelerators with young entrepreneurs, and enjoys being a part of the biotech scene.

Lisa’s claim to fame was the story ‘The antioxidant myth’ published in New Scientist, which was published around the world and earned her a barrage of complaints from supplement makers among other incensed readers.

“What can be a better job than to tell people about the newest and coolest trends in life sciences and their impact on society?”
Frank Miedema (1954) studied biochemistry at the University of Groningen, specializing in immunology, with a minor in Philosophy of Science. He obtained a PhD from the University of Amsterdam at the Central Laboratory of the Blood Transfusion Service (CLB), now Sanquin. There, from 1983 he was project leader immunovirology of HIV/AIDS as part of the Amsterdam Cohort Studies. In 1996 he was appointed full professor at AMC/University of Amsterdam and in became Director of Sanquin Research in 1998. In 2004 he became head of the Immunology department at the University Medical Center Utrecht. Was Dean and vice chairman of the Executive Board at the University Medical Center Utrecht until March 1, 2019. He is now leading the Open Science program at Utrecht University.

He is one of the initiators of www.scienceintransition.nl/english. Science in Transition believes that the scientific incentive and reward system is in need of fundamental reform. Next to Science for Science (articles in journals), the added value for society needs to be more appreciation and societal stakeholders should be involved more integrally in the production of knowledge. Since 2016 he is active in promoting science in the Netherlands and the EU.
Sergio Quezada is a Professor of Cancer Immunology and Immunotherapy at University College London Cancer Institute. He is an internationally recognised leader in the field of cancer immunology, tumour microenvironment, regulatory T cells and immune checkpoint blockade. His research unveiled the critical role of Fc receptors and the tumour microenvironment in the mechanism of action of anti CTLA-4 antibodies, and he is an inventor of several key patents supporting the clinical development of antibodies targeting immune checkpoints including VISTA, ICOS and CD25. Sergio co-led the development of a first in class Treg-depleting anti-human CD25 antibody with TUSK Therapeutics which was acquired by Roche in a 585m Euro deal. Sergio holds a PhD from Dartmouth Medical School. From 2004 to 2010 he held a post-doctoral position in the laboratory of Professor James Allison at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center.

“Dr. Sergio Quezada is Professor of Cancer Immunology and Immunotherapy at UCL’s Cancer Institute in London...”
Suhrud Rajguru, PhD

Suhrud M. Rajguru, Ph.D. is an Associate Professor in the Departments of Biomedical Engineering and Otolaryngology at the University of Miami. In addition, he is the Co-Director of the University’s Institute for Neural Engineering and Assistant Director of the Miami CTSI Team Science Program.

His research focus is on studies of the auditory and vestibular neurophysiology and development of tools that improve the diagnosis and treatments of inner ear disorders, and improve human health. A current major focus of the laboratory is the development of novel optical stimulation strategies to interface with the inner ear organs in order to improve the efficacy of neural prostheses. In addition, his group is also developing applications of therapeutic hypothermia for protection of sensory cells and neurons against trauma. In addition to his research interests, Dr. Rajguru is closely engaged with the University of Miami Clinical & Translational Science Institute and leads the development of a I-Corps@NCATS life science program with PIs from eight other NIH-funded clinical & translational science centers.

“Suhrud is closely engaged with the University of Miami Clinical & Translational Science Institute and leads the development of a I-Corps@NCATS life science program.”
Maria Grazia Roncarolo, MD, PhD

Her efforts focus on the translation of scientific discoveries in genetic diseases and regenerative medicine...

Maria Grazia Roncarolo, MD, is the George D. Smith Professor in Stem Cell and Regenerative Medicine, Professor of Pediatrics and of Medicine (blood and marrow transplantation), Chief of the Division of Pediatric Stem Cell Transplantation and Regenerative Medicine, Director of the Center for Definitive and Curative Medicine (CDCM), Co-Director of the Institute for Stem Cell Biology and Regenerative Medicine, and Co-Director of the Bass Center for Childhood Cancer and Blood Diseases.

Her efforts focus on the translation of scientific discoveries in genetic diseases and regenerative medicine into novel patient therapies, including treatments based on stem cells and gene therapy. Dr. Roncarolo, a pediatric immunologist by training, spent her early career in Lyon, France, where she focused on severe inherited metabolic and immune diseases, including severe combined immunodeficiency (SCID), better known as “bubble boy disease”.

Dr. Roncarolo was a key member of the first team to carry out stem cell transplants given before birth to treat these genetic diseases. Dr. Roncarolo then worked at the DNAX Research Institute for Molecular and Cellular Biology in Palo Alto, where she contributed to the discovery of novel cytokines, studying their role in the induction of tolerance and promotion of stem cell growth and differentiation. As director of the Telethon Institute for Cell and Gene Therapy at the San Raffaele Scientific Institute in Milan, Dr. Roncarolo successfully led the first stem cell-based gene therapy trial for SCID patients lacking adenosine deaminase (ADA), a severe life-threatening disorder. The trial, combining gene corrected blood stem cells with low-dose chemotherapy, is now considered the gold standard for gene therapy in inherited immune diseases. She was also the principal investigator in a successful gene therapy trial for Wiskott Aldrich Syndrome.

During her research on inherited immune diseases, Dr. Roncarolo also discovered a new class of T cells, called T regulatory type 1 cells. These cells play a key role in maintaining immune-system homeostasis by preventing autoimmune and inflammatory diseases and helping the immune system tolerate transplanted cells and organs. She recently discovered specific biomarkers for these T regulatory type 1 cells, which will be used to purify the cells for clinical use and for tracking in patients. She was the first to complete a successful clinical trial using T regulatory type 1 cells to prevent severe graft-versus-host disease in leukemia patients undergoing allogeneic hematopoietic stem cell transplantation.

Dr. Roncarolo has brought many basic-science discoveries from the bench to patients in the field. She holds eight patents, with six more pending, for methods used in novel cell and gene therapies. She has published more than 280 scientific papers along with 22 book chapters, and her publications have been cited over 20,000 times. She is a Member of the Academia Europaea of Sciences and of the Austrian Academy of Sciences.
Dr. Norman Rosenblum is Professor of Paediatrics, Physiology, and Laboratory Medicine and Pathobiology at the University of Toronto, and a Paediatric Nephrologist and Senior Scientist in the Research Institute, the Hospital for Sick Children. He is the recipient of a Tier I Canada Research Chair in Developmental Nephrology. In 2018, Dr. Rosenblum assumed the role of Scientific Director of the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) Institute of Nutrition, Metabolism and Diabetes (INMD). CIHR is Canada’s federal health research granting agency. INMD is one of 13 Institutes dedicated to development of Canada’s health research strategy in specific subject areas.

Dr. Rosenblum is a MD graduate of Dalhousie University. He completed a Pediatric residency and a fellowship in Pediatric Nephrology at the Children’s Hospital, Boston followed by a postdoctoral fellowship in the laboratory of Bjorn Olsen in the Department of Anatomy and Cell Biology, Harvard Medical School. Dr. Rosenblum was recruited in 1993 as a clinician scientist to the Hospital for Sick Children and University of Toronto. Since then, the focus of his research has been to elucidate molecular mechanisms that control normal and malformed kidney development in genetic mouse models with a focus on signaling by bone morphogenetic, WNT and Hedgehog proteins.

His lab has generated several models of human kidney-urinary tract malformation. He has published over 120 peer-reviewed original manuscripts and book chapters.

Dr. Rosenblum has been deeply engaged in developing and managing career development programs for clinician scientists. He founded and led the Canadian Child Health Clinician Scientist Program from 2001-2012 and served as Associate Dean, Physician Scientist Training in the Faculty of Medicine, University of Toronto, from 2008-2017. Dr. Rosenblum is Past-President of the Canadian Society for Clinical Investigation and a current member of the Council of the American Pediatric Society. He is a founding member of the EUREKA Institute for Translational Medicine and a current member of the Board of Directors.

Dr. Rosenblum is the recipient of the 2004 Aventis Pasteur Research Award, the American Pediatric Society inaugural 2006 Norman J. Siegel New Member Outstanding Science Award, the Society for Pediatric Research 2010 Maureen Andrew Award in Mentoring, and the Kidney Foundation of Canada 2011 Medal for Research Excellence.
Salmaan’s mission is to get people to discover who they are and how they can have a more significant positive impact on the world around them. He uses his knowledge & experience on leadership, development, compassion and change in a way that is both personal and invigorating.

For the past four years he has been working as a senior consultant and meaningful learning specialist for Better Future. Better Future is a purpose driven consultancy helping leaders and their team make a difference. This is done by designing and crafting journey’s, connecting teams from all over the world, from NGO’s to cooperates, in order to create social impact. Here you can find a video on Better Future and how they work on their mission: http://bit.ly/BF-MissionWater

Salmaan’s focus is to create change agents. He finds ways to get individuals to become more aware of themselves, their responsibility and gain insights on their inner drive. He harnesses the power of frustration and transfers this into a constructive and positive force that can be used to shift things from the inside out, both personally and organisationally.

As he is a specialist in designing and facilitating leadership programs, his focus is on creating a culture and organisational change within different fields. He has a long history within the field of healthcare. In 2011 he started a foundation together with other healthcare professionals on Compassionate Healthcare (http://www.compassionforcare.com/en/). This especially lifted off after taking the stage at TEDxMaastricht (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UXaT-YxQds4). He also co-initiated and help run leadership programmes for healthcare professionals in the form of summer schools (http://humansofhealth.com).

The last years he has developed a series of programs within the medical educational department, working with, amongst other; Medical Specialists, Clinical Educators, Researchers, Clinical Residents, Nurses, Management Boards and entire hospital departments.

On any other day, you can find Salmaan living in the south of Amsterdam, using his bike to commute while he builds consistency in cross fit and writing.

For more background information - please check his Linkedin: www.linkedin.com/in/salmaansana or find him on other social media platforms which he uses to share his story.

“Don’t ask what the world needs. Ask what makes you come alive, and go do it. Because what the world needs is people who have come alive.” - Howard Thurman
Vicki Seyfert-Margolis, PhD

“...founded My Own Med, Inc. in January 2013, based on over two years of work on a database, web and mobile application platform technology for family-based co-management of health.”

Vicki Seyfert-Margolis, PhD is the founder and CEO of My Own Med, Inc., a company specializing in using digital technologies to support real world evidence clinical research. Previously, Dr. Seyfert-Margolis was the Senior Advisor for Science Innovation and Policy in the Office of the Commissioner of the US Food and Drug Administration. While at the FDA, she oversaw the development and execution of an agency wide strategic plan for regulatory science. Prior to the FDA, she served as Chief Scientific Officer at the Immune Tolerance Network (ITN), a non-profit consortium of researchers seeking new treatments for diseases of the immune system. At ITN, Dr. Seyfert-Margolis oversaw the development of over 20 leading edge assay development and centralized laboratory facilities, bringing them to GLP and CLIA compliance. She designed and implemented biomarker discovery studies for over 25 Phase II clinical trials across a broad array of immunologically mediated diseases including autoimmune disorders, allergy, and solid organ transplantation. Prior to this, she served as Director of the Office of Innovative Scientific Research Technologies at the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases at NIH, where she worked to integrate emerging technologies into existing immunology and infectious disease programs. Dr. Seyfert-Margolis completed her PhD in immunology at the University of Pennsylvania’s School of Medicine, and her post-doctoral fellowship work at Harvard University and the National Cancer Institute. Vicki also serves on Board of Directors for the EveryLife Foundation for Rare Diseases, and Eureka Institute for Translational Medicine.
FACULTY BIOGRAPHIES

Anita Small, MSc, EdD

Dr. Anita Small is a sociolinguist, educator and researcher. She is inspired to bridge seemingly different worlds through communication, language and culture.

Dr. Small is founder and owner of small LANGUAGE CONNECTIONS, consulting to non-profit organizations, theatres, opera, museums, broadcast companies and educational institutions. Her work engages diverse groups to co-create collaborative communicative contexts for program innovation and organizational change. She is most known for her innovative program development in the Deaf community. She is Co-Founder and past Co-Director of the DEAF CULTURE CENTRE, Canada, the first of its kind internationally, featuring a museum, art gallery, library, archives and multi-media production studio. Dr. Small taught in the Deaf Education Training Program, Faculty of Education, York University for 12 years and has taught comparative linguistics in the Linguistics Department, Faculty of Education, York University for 12 years and has taught comparative linguistics in the Linguistics Department, University of Toronto since 2010. She is cross-appointed to Hogeschool Utrecht University, Institute for Sign Language & Deaf Studies, Netherlands researching Deaf performing arts. She has authored publications on language planning, bilingual pedagogy, sign language literacy and sign language performance arts, Deaf identity and cross-cultural interaction.

Anita Small has obtained over eleven million dollars in language and culture project grants and mentors artists and organizations on effective grant writing. She spearheaded and served as content manager and co-creator of numerous award-winning sign language productions (children's books, videos, DVD's and websites). She is recipient of a United Nations International World Summit/ UNESCO Award (2013) as co-creator of the Deafplanet educational television series and website www.deafplanet.com and of the International W3 Award (2012) for the first Animated American Sign Language (ASL) Dictionary for Children, www. aslphabet.com. Dr. Small established the Canadian Literary and Deaf Arts Awards of Excellence through the Canadian Cultural Society of the Deaf and the International Deaf Documentary Awards through Deaf History International. She is Director, Cross-Cultural Development and Research for THE BLACK DRUM, first signed musical, to be featured in Canada and France (2019).

Dr. Small was project manager and author of the Deaf Artists and Theatres Toolkit (DATT), 2016, an online guide to engage Deaf performing artists and audiences across Canada. She served on the Ontario Museums Inclusive Leadership Advisory Board co-creating a practitioner's guide to inclusive museums and is content manager and author of the online guide for employers on workplace inclusion through the Canadian Hearing Society. She served as content manager to create the innovative digital platform, Unlocking Culture for curriculum development, instruction and evaluation for sign language instructors of parents of Deaf children and interpreters across Canada.

Dr. Small has her Doctorate of Education in Sociolinguistics (1986) and Cultural Mediation and Dispute Resolution Training (1992). She has taught, consulted and mediated in the U.S., Canada, Japan, Italy and the Netherlands and has provided cross cultural interaction training and mediation with Deaf and hearing personnel for 30 years. Dr. Small is recipient of the singular national award from the Canadian Deaf community (2006) given to a hearing individual. www.anitasmall.com
Khee Chee Soo, MD

“Dr Soo is the Deputy CEO in charge of research and education at SingHealth Duke-NUS Academic Centre.”

Dr Soo is a surgical oncologist, and Head and Neck Surgeon. He was Head of Department of General Surgery at Singapore General Hospital for 11 years and was also the founding director of National Cancer Centre. His research interest is focused on Biphotonic and running phase 3 clinical trials. Currently he is the Principal Investigator of a clinical trial involving 12 different countries and the trial is to be completed in the next few months. He was the Deputy CEO in charge of research and education at the SingHealth Duke-NUS Academic Medical Centre.
Nancy K. Sweitzer, MD, PhD, is director of the University of Arizona Sarver Heart Center, professor of medicine and chief of the Division of Cardiovascular Medicine at the University of Arizona College of Medicine - Tucson. She is a board-certified advanced heart failure and transplant cardiologist and physician-scientist, specializing in heart failure, mechanical circulatory support and heart transplant.

Nationally recognized for her leadership and experience in physiologic research and clinical trials, Dr. Sweitzer’s research program focuses on better understanding how to improve symptoms and organ function in heart failure patients. She has done extensive work on the physiology of heart failure with preserved ejection fraction. She has led and collaborated on clinical trials sponsored by the National Institutes of Health as well as industry, foundation and academic sponsors. She has served on numerous NIH committees and currently serves as a member of the NHLBI Clinical Trials Study Section.

Dr. Sweitzer is editor-in-chief of Circulation: Heart Failure. One of the most widely respected cardiology journals published, its impact ranking is 15 out 139 cardiovascular medicine journals. She is active in leadership of the American Heart Association, the American College of Cardiology and the Heart Failure Society of America. She is the president-elect of the Association of Professors of Cardiology, a group of US national leaders in cardiovascular medicine, and was inducted into the Association of University Cardiologists in 2017.

Dr. Sweitzer received her undergraduate degree at the University of Pennsylvania. She received her MD and a PhD in Physiology from the University of Wisconsin. She completed her postgraduate medical training at Brigham and Women’s Hospital and Harvard Medical School, where she also trained in cardiology and advanced heart failure and transplant cardiology. A passionate educator, Dr. Sweitzer was the program director of the Cardiovascular medicine and Advanced Heart failure fellowships at the University of Wisconsin from 2004-2013. She has won teaching award at Harvard Medical School, the University of Wisconsin and the University of Arizona.
FACULTY BIOGRAPHIES

Uri Tabori, MD

“Uri leads the international bMMRD consortium which is supporting patients and families in diagnosis, management and therapies in 45 countries.”

Dr. Uri Tabori is pediatric Oncologist and is a Professor in the Departments of Medical Biophysics, Institute of Medical Science and Paediatrics, University of Toronto.

Based on his clinical background and expertise, his research focuses on translational aspects of cancer originating from patients need, through basic discoveries and clinical trials to changes in how society is managing specific cancers. Specifically, Dr Tabori focuses on the development of systems for early detection, intervention and therapeutics in individuals highly predisposed to developing brain tumors.

Dr Tabori leads the international bMMRD consortium which is supporting patients and families in diagnosis, management and therapies in 45 countries. The consortium is running international clinical trials for children with hypermutant cancers with immune checkpoint inhibitors and combinations. Dr Tabori is also developing animal models and companion biomarker designed for immunotherapy therapeutics.

Dr Tabori also co-leads the pediatric low grade glioma taskforce which uncovers novel alterations in this most common brain tumor in children and offers targeted therapies and trials. He is responsible for the development of companion biomarkers to these trials.

Dr. Tabori has been the recipient of numerous awards, including the Canadian Cancer Society’s Bernard and Francine Dorval Prize in 2016 and the Early Researcher Award from the Ontario Ministry of Development in Innovation in 2014. He also holds the Garron Family Chair appointment in Childhood Cancer Research.
Paul Peter Tak, MD, PhD, FMedSci

“Academic, clinician, entrepreneur and business leader - passionate about biotech and groundbreaking medicines that change lives.”

Paul Peter Tak is currently CEO of Kintai Therapeutics and Venture Partner at Flagship Pioneering (both in Cambridge, MA), Professor of Medicine at the Amsterdam University Medical Centre (AMC), Honorary Professor of Rheumatology at Ghent University and Honorary Senior Visiting Fellow at the University of Cambridge.

He received his medical degree cum laude from the Free University in Amsterdam and was trained as an internist, rheumatologist and immunologist at Leiden University Medical Center, where he also received his PhD. He has worked as a scientist at the University of California San Diego for two years. He served as Professor of Medicine and founding Chair of the Department of Clinical Immunology and Rheumatology at the Academic Medical Centre/University of Amsterdam (AMC) for 12 years, where he was also the Program Director for the Rheumatology fellowship. His scientific work in academia has focused on the discovery of the cholinergic anti-inflammatory pathway in rheumatoid arthritis (RA), synovial tissue analysis in different stages of arthritis and in response to various targeted treatments, the development of gene therapy for autoimmune diseases, and studies on the earliest stages of RA.

He has published extensively in peer-reviewed journals (560 publications; H factor 121 [Google Scholar]), and served on numerous editorial boards, including as Co-Editor of Arthritis & Rheumatism. He received the Medal of Honour from the Netherlands Society for Rheumatology, was elected ‘Toparts Reumatoegie’ (Elected by peers as ‘Best Rheumatologist’ in the Netherlands based on his clinical work), was awarded Honorary Membership by the European League Against Rheumatism and has been elected Fellow of the Academy of Medical Sciences in the U.K.

At GlaxoSmithKline he served as Senior Vice President, Chief Immunology Officer, and Global Development Leader. He oversaw the creation of a portfolio of potential medicines for immune-mediated inflammatory diseases and pain, including anti-OSM antibody, anti-LAG3 antibody, RIP1 kinase inhibitor, ESM-BET inhibitor, anti-GM-CSF antibody, anti-CCL17 antibody and Benlysta sc. Later, he also led the Oncology and Infectious Disease Therapy Area Units. He is also the founder of GSK’s Immunology Network, a collaboration between GSK and leading academics, which provides the latter with privileged access to the latest research and facilities GSK has to offer.

In addition to his work in academia and big pharma, he established a biotech company developing intra-articular gene therapy (Arthrogen b.v., Amsterdam), has been CEO of Tempero Pharmaceuticals (Cambridge, MA), is one of the founders and board directors of Sitryx Therapeutics (Oxford), and serves on the board of directors of Levicept (London).
Markus Maeurer MD PhD FRCP(London)

Markus J Maeurer took 1989 took his Medical degree at the Johannes Gutenberg University of Mainz, Germany, respectively the University of Zurich, Switzerland. Between 1989-92 he worked as a physician at the Division of Infectious Diseases, University of Mainz. During 1992-95 he worked as a Research Fellow at the Department of Surgical Oncology, University of Pittsburgh, USA with Prof Michael Lotze. Until 1997 he worked as resident and physician at the Department of Medical Microbiology, University of Mainz; in 1998-99, he was appointed Associate Professor of Medical Microbiology at the same University. In 1999 he became Professor of Microbiology at the University of Mainz and Head of the diagnostic Laboratory at the Department of Medical Microbiology. During 2000-04 he was Deputy Director of the Institute of Medical Microbiology and Hygiene, University of Mainz. Markus Maeurer was appointed February 15, 2005 Professor of Infectious Diseases, particularly Clinical Immunology, at the Karolinska Institute, at the MTC (Microbiology, Tumor Biology Center). He served as head of the division Therapeutic Immunology at Karolinska Institute and Senior Physician of the Center for allogeneic stem cell transplantation, CAST, Karolinska Hospital 2012-2017; he accepted a position as co-director for cellular therapies at the KHNW, Frankfurt, Germany in 2017. Maeurer has been re-appointed advisor to the Gates foundation in April 2018. Dr. Maeurer is now head of Immunotherapy / ImmunoSurgery at the Champalimaud Foundation, Lisbon, Portugal. His research and clinical interests are host-directed immunological therapies, particularly in Tuberculosis and Cancer to offer new treatment modalities for patients. He holds degrees to practice medicine in Sweden, Germany and in the US (ECFMG) and has been appointed a Fellow of the Royal Chamber of Physicians (FRCP,London). Maeurer has published more than 285 scientific articles in Immunology and Infectious Diseases, particularly in augmenting immune responses fighting against infectious pathogens or tumor cells. He reviews grant applications for many international grant agencies and various international governmental bodies, he serves as a reviewer for internationally recognized journals and has well documented networks in research, clinical trials and education. Dr. Maeurer focus at the Champalimaud foundation is to develop, facilitate and implement immunotherapeutic strategies within multidisciplinary teams – and to make academic medicine a reality for patients.
John T. Monahan is a Senior Advisor for Global Initiatives to Georgetown University’s President John J. DeGioia and a Senior Fellow at Georgetown’s McCourt School of Public Policy. In his current position, he advances university-wide initiatives in global health and related areas; chairs a senior-level committee examining the future of Georgetown’s masters programs in international development; co-chairs the Lancet-Georgetown Commission on Global Health and Law; and has been teaching global health courses in Georgetown’s foreign service, law, and nursing schools. Over the course of his distinguished career, Monahan has played multiple leadership roles in government, diplomacy, politics, philanthropy and academia at the global, national, and state/local levels. He has focused on managing complex health, social service, and development issues and programs affecting low-income and vulnerable populations in the United States and abroad.

From 2010-2014, Monahan served as Special Advisor for Global Health Partnerships at the United States Department of State. Under the leadership of Secretaries Clinton and Kerry, he was the chief architect of the Obama Administration’s successful strategy for reforming the operations and replenishing the finances of the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, an innovative public-private partnership based in Switzerland. He served as the US Government’s representative on the Global Fund’s Board; a member of the Board’s Comprehensive Reform Working Group; and Vice-Chair of the Board’s Finance and Operational Performance Committee.

In 2009-2010, he was Director of the Office of Global Health Affairs at the Department of Health and Human Services and served as a primary liaison to the World Health Organization’s leadership during the H1N1 influenza pandemic. He also served as Counselor to the Secretary of HHS and represented the Department on the White House-led interagency task force implementing the stimulus legislation in 2009.

Monahan also has extensive experience with domestic public policy issues. From 2000-2007, he served as Senior Fellow at the Annie E. Casey Foundation, a philanthropy dedicated to low-income children in the United States. He also served as Counselor to the Secretary of HHS and represented the Department on the White House-led interagency task force implementing the stimulus legislation in 2009.

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Monahan holds bachelors and law degrees cum laude from Georgetown University.
AMBASSADORS BIOGRAPHIES

Gordon Baylis, DVM, DPhil

“Dr Baylis is passionate in his belief that the pursuit of knowledge and its application to challenges in the world is the most interesting career imaginable.”

Gordon C. Baylis, DVM DPhil is a cognitive neuroscientist with interests in the effects of brain damage on cognitive and motor functions, and how recovery from brain damage can be maximized. He is currently serving as Associate Provost for Research at UAE University.

Prior to his arrival in UAE, Gordon Baylis has more than fifteen years experience in research administration – especially biomedical research – in addition to extensive experience in teaching and research in the area of brain function. His fundamental interest is on the neural basis of cognitive function, or how the brain “runs” the mind, and how this can be compromised by damage or dysfunction of the brain. He has used high-field MRI to understand brain function, and brain damage, and to track how recovery of function can occur in damaged brains. More recently, his interest includes the functions of consciousness, and how the brain constructs our sense of consciousness, and our sense of self-agency. These two cognitive functions are crucial to our sense of being human, and our well-being.

Gordon Baylis was previously Vice President for Research at Western Kentucky University where he led research administration and technology-based economic development. The Center for Research and Development was cited by the Commonwealth of Kentucky for excellence in technology-based economic development.

At the University of South Carolina, Dr. Baylis was involved for many years with building translational research centers across multiple universities and healthcare systems in the state under the state Centers of Economic Excellence initiative. This work entailed building public-private partnerships to facilitate translational research, especially in biomedicine, by raising funds to build research infrastructure and fund endowed professorships. Dr. Baylis coordinated the recruitment of endowed professors, as well as a program to hire interdisciplinary clusters of faculty, and a program to hire large numbers of research faculty on grant funding.

Dr. Baylis is passionate in his belief that the pursuit of knowledge and its application to challenges in the world is the most exciting career imaginable. Moreover, he believes that sustainable systems of wealth creation increasingly require the support of twin pillars of research universities and academic medical centers driving translational research. He has been married to his wife Leslie for thirty years, and has two adult daughters; he loves theatre and movies, and is an avid road cyclist.
Charles B. Cairns, M.D. is Professor and Dean of the College of Medicine and Health Sciences at the United Arab Emirates University. Previously, he served as Dean of the College of Medicine and Assistant Vice President for Clinical Research at the University of Arizona, as Chair of the Department of Emergency Medicine at the University of North Carolina and as Director of Emergency Medicine Research at the Duke Clinical Research Institute, the world’s largest academic clinical research organization. His research interests include the host response of patients and populations to acute infections, cardiopulmonary and trauma resuscitation. Dr. Cairns has served as Director of the NIH United States Critical Illness and Injury Trials Group and as the Founding Director of the Discovery research network of the Society for Critical Care Medicine (SCCM). He has served in leadership positions of emergency and critical care medicine societies, including the American College of Emergency Physicians (ACEP), Society for Academic Emergency Medicine (SAEM), Emergency Medicine Foundation (EMF), National Foundation of Emergency Medicine, SCCM and American Heart Association (AHA). He has published over 200 scientific articles and reviews and has secured more than $100 million in research funding, including grants from the National Institutes of Health (NIH), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Food and Drug Administration (FDA), Biomedical Advanced Research and Development Authority (BARDA), Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response (ASPR), the Department of Defense (DoD) and the Department of Homeland Security (DHS). Dr. Cairns has received numerous honors and awards, including the ACEP Outstanding Contribution in Research Award, the EMF Established Investigator Award, the SCCM Presidential Citation Award and the SAEM John Marx Leadership Award, the highest award of the field of emergency medicine.

Dr. Cairns has also served on expert panels for the NIH, CDC, FDA, BARDA, DoD, DHS and the National Academy of Medicine in the areas of medical and scientific research, research ethics and regulation, medication and device review, public health preparedness, disaster and emergency response. He has also served a consultant to the White House on influenza and to the governments of Canada and Great Britain on regionalization of care and medical research strategy. He is a fellow of the American College of Emergency Physicians, the American Academy of Emergency Medicine and the American Heart Association.
Scott Compton, PhD

“In his career, Dr Compton has focused his research efforts on out-of-hospital cardiac arrest, palliative emergency medicine, and on medical education.”

Associate Professor Scott Compton is the Associate Dean for Quality Assurance & Accreditation at the Duke-NUS Medical School. He earned his PhD from Wayne State University (USA) in Educational Evaluation & Research, where he was mentored by one of the world’s leading educational statisticians, Shlomo Sawilowsky, PhD, Professor & Distinguished Faculty Fellow of Educational Statistics. In his career, Dr. Compton has focused his research efforts on out-of-hospital cardiac arrest, palliative emergency medicine, and on medical education. As a scientist, he has published approximately 60 peer-reviewed publications, secured over $1.5 million (USD) in research grants, and presented his research work in over 100 international scientific presentations. Additionally, he has served on multiple medical school accreditation site reviews, and as an expert reviewer for the National Institutes of Health (USA), the Ministry of Education (Singapore), and as a member of the Editorial Boards of three academic journals. As a teacher, he has received teaching awards at every level of the educational spectrum, from elementary schools through graduate schools, and has mentored over 100 Emergency Medicine residents, medical students, faculty members, and post-doctoral fellows.
Dr. Leonard’s multidisciplinary research program is primarily focused on the impact of chronic diseases and their therapies on bone metabolism, body composition and physical function. Her NIH-funded studies (including 6 R01 grants as PI) have addressed changes in lean body mass, fat distribution, muscle strength, and bone density and structure during growth and aging, and in the setting of chronic kidney disease, systemic inflammation, glucocorticoid therapy, and treatment for malignancies. She has conducted multiple studies addressing the potential for recovery of bone and muscle deficits in children with chronic diseases, including resolution of renal osteodystrophy and sarcopenia following renal transplantation, recovery of trabecular density and cortical thickness after completion of dexamethasone therapy for acute lymphoblastic leukemia, recovery of trabecular density, muscle mass and endocortical bone following infliximab therapy in childhood Crohn’s disease, and recovery of spine trabecular density in a randomized, double blind placebo controlled clinical trial of low magnitude mechanical stimuli as an anabolic bone stimulus in children with Crohn’s disease.

Throughout her career, Dr. Leonard has devoted the majority of her effort to patient-oriented research and mentoring junior investigators. Her overarching goal is to lead a vibrant, multidisciplinary, innovative research program that attracts new trainees to clinical research, serves as a launching pad for junior investigators, and improves bone health, nutrition, and clinical outcomes in children and adults with chronic disease. As evidence of her commitment to mentoring and success as a mentor, she was funded by an NIDDK K24 award for ten years. In 2007, she was awarded the inaugural Faculty Mentor Award by the Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia. She was a member of the Executive Committee of the University of Pennsylvania Department of Biostatistics and Epidemiology, and chaired the MS thesis committee for 17 trainees: 15 currently work in academics and two in industry, and 14 were supported by varied subspecialty T32 (e.g. renal, endocrine, rheumatology, or gastroenterology epidemiology) grants. She served/serve as the primary mentor on multiple NIH and Foundation career development grants, including 4 F32, 1 K07, and 5 K23 awards, a VA Career Development award, and American College of Rheumatology, American Society of Nephrology and National Kidney Foundation awards. I was an active faculty mentor in eight T32 grants at the University of Pennsylvania, including Co-Director of a T32 Renal Biostatistics Training Grant. She also mentored medical students funded by the Doris Duke Clinical Research Foundation and other subspecialty societies.

She has published over 180 peer-reviewed manuscripts and is a member of the American Society of Clinical Investigation, the Society for Pediatric Research, and the Academic Pediatric Society. She has served as an Associate Editor for the leading kidney and bone scientific journals, and co-chaired international committees that developed clinical practice guidelines for the treatment of bone disease in children and adults with chronic disease.
AMBASSADORS BIOGRAPHIES

Felix Ratjen, MD, PhD, FRCPC, FERS

“Dr Ratjen is the Program Head and Senior Scientist at the Research Institute in the Translational Medicine research program.”

Dr. Felix Ratjen is the Division Chief of Paediatric Respiratory Medicine at The Hospital for Sick Children, Professor of Paediatrics at The University of Toronto, Program Head and Senior Scientist at the Research Institute in the Translational Medicine research program and the H.E. Seller’s Chair in Cystic Fibrosis. He is also co-leading the CF Centre at SickKids and is the Medical Director of the Clinical Research Unit.

Dr. Ratjen completed a majority of his medical education in Germany, along with a research fellowship at the Children’s Hospital in Boston. He subsequently worked at the University of Essen, where he was appointed Deputy Chief of the Department of Paediatrics in 1998 and Professor of Paediatrics in 2001. Until 2005 he was the chief executive of the scientific board of the German CF foundation before relocating in Canada in the same year. He is on the organizing committees of the major respiratory meetings (American Thoracic Society, European Respiratory Society and the North American CF conference), works on multiple grant review panels, and is a member of the several editorial boards including the American Journal of Respiratory and Critical Care Medicine, Thorax, Pediatric Pulmonology and the Journal of Cystic Fibrosis.

Dr. Ratjen is conducting multiple clinical trials addressing cystic fibrosis lung disease including new therapeutic strategies to target the underlying defect, treatment of airway infections such as first infection with Pseudomonas aeruginosa, airway inflammation and other important aspects of the disease. While some of these studies are single centre studies within the CF centre at SickKids or in collaboration with the adult centre at St. Michael’s Hospital, many of them include both national and international collaborations with centres in Canada, the US, Europe and Australia. In addition, he is involved in developing and validating new outcome measures to quantify important aspects of CF lung disease that can be utilized in clinical trials. He also studies other lung diseases and over the recent years has developed an interest in the clinical evaluation of Hereditary Hemorrhagic Telangiectasia (HHT), for which he is leading one of the largest dedicated pediatric clinics.
Thomas Robinson focuses on designing solutions to help children and families improve their health behaviors. Dr. Robinson is the Irving Schulman, MD Endowed Professor in Child Health, Professor of Pediatrics, of Medicine, and, by courtesy, of Health Research and Policy, in the Divisions of General Pediatrics, the Stanford Prevention Research Center, and Epidemiology, at Stanford University. He also directs the Stanford Solutions Science Lab and the Center for Healthy Weight at Stanford University and Lucile Packard Children’s Hospital Stanford. He originated the solution-oriented research paradigm, to guide study design and methods to directly inform medical and public health practice and policy. He is known for his pioneering obesity prevention and treatment research, including the theory of stealth interventions. Dr. Robinson’s solution-oriented research is primarily experimental in design, conducting family-, school-, and community-based randomized controlled trials to test the efficacy and/or effectiveness of theory-driven behavioral, social, environmental, and technology-driven interventions to prevent and reduce obesity, improve nutrition, increase physical activity and decrease inactivity, reduce children’s screen time, and promote energy efficiency and environmental sustainability.

Robinson’s research is grounded in social cognitive models of human behavior, uses rigorous methods, and is performed in real World settings with diverse populations, making the results of his research more relevant for clinical and public health practice and policy.

Dr. Robinson is published widely in the scientific literature, Principal Investigator on numerous prevention and treatment studies funded by the U.S. National Institutes of Health, and a frequent appointee to expert and advisory panels for leading national and international scientific and public health agencies and organizations. Robinson received both his B.S. and M.D. from Stanford University and his M.P.H. in Maternal and Child Health from the University of California, Berkeley. He completed his internship and residency in Pediatrics at Children’s Hospital, Boston and Harvard Medical School, and his post-doctoral training as a Robert Wood Johnson Clinical Scholar at Stanford. He has been a faculty member at Stanford since 1991. Dr. Robinson also is Board Certified in Pediatrics and practices General Pediatrics at Lucile Packard Children’s Hospital Stanford.
Harold van Rijen studied Biology at Utrecht University and obtained his degree in 1992. He became a PhD student at the department of Physiology of the Academic Medical Center Amsterdam, studying the biophysical properties of gap junction channels in endothelial and smooth muscle cells in the human vascular wall. In 1998, he returned to Utrecht as a postdoc at the department of Medical Physiology of the University Medical Center, investigating abnormal electrical properties of gap junction channels in the diseased heart. In 2003, he became assistant and in 2008 associate professor, dividing his time between medical physiology education, leading a research group on basic mechanisms of slow conduction related cardiac arrhythmias and heading the mouse phenotyping lab of the division Heart and Lungs of the University Medical Center. In 2006 he started with the implementation of several forms of e-learning in his own (patho)physiology courses, such as weblectures, microlectures, formative assessments, e-modules and classroom response systems, and launched the customised e-learning platform ‘Physiopedia.nl’. Furthermore, he developed two cardiovascular course packs, entitled ‘Hart en Vaten’ and ‘Leef met je hart!’ in collaboration with the Netherlands Heart Foundation and the Junior College Utrecht for the 2-year program “Nature, Life & Technology”, in secondary school (VWO&Havo). In 2012 he was appointed ‘Professor of Innovation in Biomedical Education’ and initially focused on development of effective blended learning models in the biomedical curricula. In 2012 he became head of the strategic Educational IT program ‘Onbegrensde Leren’.

Since 2015 he is the program director of the 12 master’s programmes of Biomedical Sciences and as of 2018 also the Director of the Utrecht University Graduate School of Life Sciences. His current design based educational research is focused on ‘Future Proof Education’, comprising blended and online learning, learning analytics, development of 21st century skills and selection/admission for graduate education.

LinkedIn: https://www.linkedin.com/in/harold-van-rijen-90209810/
AMBASSADORS BIOGRAPHIES

Tan Say Beng, Associate Professor, MA, MSc, PhD, CStat

Group Director Research, SingHealth
Senior Associate Dean, Research,
Duke-NUS Medical School
Covering Executive Director,
National Medical Research Council, Singapore

Tan Say Beng is a senior research leader in Singapore. As Group Director Research SingHealth, he provides broad oversight of research initiatives and infrastructure in Singapore’s largest public healthcare cluster. This includes research ethics and regulatory compliance, talent development, research operations and research support platforms. He also drives strategic planning and research policy development, champions research collaborations and engages with national and international research funders and stakeholders. In his complementary role as Senior Associate Dean, Research, at Duke-NUS, he supports the work of the Office of Research to ensure close research partnerships between Duke-NUS and SingHealth.

As Covering Executive Director of the National Medical Research Council (NMRC), he continues the work he previously did as the full time Executive Director where he oversaw the development and administration of research policies and strategic initiatives to drive biomedical research in Singapore. This included leading NMRC to come up with the first ever National Healthcare Research Strategy for the Singapore Ministry of Health.

Say Beng’s other previous appointments include Senior Vice President and Chief Scientific Officer of the Singapore Clinical Research Institute (SCRI), Head of Strategic Planning and Principal Biostatistician of the National Cancer Centre Singapore, Visiting Consultant to the Health Sciences Authority and Director of the Clinical Trials and Epidemiology Research Unit (CTERU), Singapore.

Say Beng received his initial training in Mathematics at Balliol College, University of Oxford, before proceeding to do a Masters in Applied Statistics there. He then pursued a PhD at Imperial College London in Biostatistics, where he developed Bayesian decision theoretic approaches for the design of clinical trials.

He has more than 70 scientific publications, including first author research articles in leading clinical journals like the BMJ and top research methodology journals like Statistics in Medicine. He has 2 patents to his name, more than 15 research grants as Principal Investigator or Co-Investigator and more than 40 conference abstracts. He has co-authored three books published by Wiley covering the areas of sample sizes for research studies and early phase clinical trials, and has also contributed chapters for various other books. He is a member of the Board of Directors of the Singapore Clinical Research Institute, the National Health Innovation Centre, and various advisory boards including the Singapore Sports Institute Science, Technology and Innovation Advisory Board. He is also an Associate Editor of several scientific journals, including Statistics in Medicine, Contemporary Clinical Trials and the Journal of Biopharmaceutical Statistics.
Tanneke Zeeuw

Tanneke’s original degree was in Applied Biology and her Masters was in Information Management; these two areas both continue to hold her interest.

She has therefore spent the last 25 years involved with life science focused organisations, from working with biotech trade associations to venture capitalists with a biotech/pharma focus, to employment within pharma and biotech companies.

And throughout her career, her focus has been on operations, on improving the systems and processes for the organisation she’s with. Her passion is to create a strong operational and data-management back-bone in the organisation or the section she is with, so that the specialists within the group do not have to think about functionality but can stay focused on what they are best at!

She has been with the Eureka Institute as the Chief Operation Officer since June 2018, and is enjoying putting her energy into the implementation of the Eureka 2.0 projects.
Christopher Ahuja is a 4th year neurosurgery resident at the University of Toronto and PhD student in the lab of Dr. Michael Fehlings at Krembil Research Institute, University Health Network in Toronto, Canada. He studied neuroscience and psychology for 3 years at the University of Toronto at Scarborough before completing his MD at Queen's University in Kingston, Ontario, Canada. There he developed a fascination with neurobiology and avenues of research for developing better therapies for patients.

His early clinical research focused on degenerative conditions such as Alzheimer’s disease and Parkinson’s disease. He later studied disorders of the vasculature including ischemic stroke and ruptured aneurysms. He then joined the University of Toronto’s Division of Neurosurgery residency program to further his skillset. The opportunity to provide meaningful treatments to acutely ill individuals from all walks of life was inspiring. Unfortunately, many conditions, particularly those of a chronic nature, lacked effective therapies. This sparked his motivation to join The Fehlings’ Lab for Neural Repair and Regeneration with a focus on generating effective and safe stem cell therapies for central nervous system disorders.

Christopher currently studies the effects of human stem cell xenografts in acute and chronic rodent models of cervical and thoracic spinal cord injury. His current projects focus on novel bioengineered approaches to breach barriers to regeneration. In particular, he has developed novel lines of human induced pluripotent stem cell-based neural stem cells which are capable of inducibly expressing scar-degrading enzyme(s) into their local environment. These enzymes can degrade or modify the inhibitory chondroitin sulfate proteoglycan-gliarial scar that typically restricts meaningful axon regrowth within the perilesional region. He is also studying combinatorial approaches using human neural stem cells engrafted with a novel self-assembling peptide biomaterial (QL6; Medtronic Inc.) which provides a structural lattice within the injured cord microenvironment.

His long-term vision is to integrate a basic science laboratory with his surgical practice and establish a bench-to-bedside-and-back translational program for CNS diseases to develop effective therapies for patients with these truly devastating impairments. He is attending the Eureka Institute International Certificate Course to advance his understanding of the scientific, regulatory and business aspects of translational medicine and form partnerships with a global network of translational medicine collaborators.
Rami Beiram

As of 2017 Rami is the newest junior member to join the Department of Pharmacology & Therapeutics at College of Medicine and Health Sciences (CMHS)-UAE University as an Assistant Professor. He completed the National Teaching Assistant Program at UAEU which is geared towards identifying potential undergraduate students to prepare for a future in academia as faculty members. Rami completed his Bachelor in Biology in 2006 at the University of North Georgia, USA, his Doctor of Pharmacy (PharmD) 2012 at Harding University, USA, and in 2017 his PhD in Pharmaceutical Sciences from the University of Rhode Island, USA.

With a Doctor of Pharmacy (PharmD) background along with a PhD in Pharmaceutical Sciences; predominantly field of interest is in Health Outcomes Research, specifically in the area of Alzheimer’s Disease. This research field addresses the effects of medication use and their cost in populations, emphasizing effects on health and well-being of population along with analyzing effects on health care costs in the population. The field of Health Outcomes Research requires an understanding of pharmaceutical practices, knowledge of disease states and health care issues, in addition to strong understanding of statistics. The field provides solutions to real life problems through developing research questions, conducting research and sharing finds with scientific community. During the time of his PhD dissertation a model was developed comparing current medication therapy with future proposed disease modifying medications in treatment of Alzheimer’s. The model considered the quality-of-life years gained (QALYs) and the cost of each therapy. This model was to help provide information on both clinical and cost analysis of the next generation of Alzheimer’s medications making them a more viable treatment option when compared to what is currently available.

Upon joining the Pharmacology & Therapeutics Department at CMHS-UAEU as a faculty member his research focus will be on developing a longitudinal population-based research study of Alzheimer’s Disease in the Emirati native population here in the United Arab Emirates. The aim is to provide a nationwide database of Emirati Alzheimer’s patients to investigate prevalence, incidence, type of care, medications prescribed, costs associated with care, and overall demographic and epidemiological information that is lacking for this specific population. Additionally, a genotype mapping of the population will further help us identify related genes and study epigenetic factors that might influence Alzheimer’s development in the Emirati population.

Rami is a member of the Research Grant Committee at the CMHS-UAEU, and has an active role in the Post-Graduate Non-Traditional Doctor of Pharmacy (PharmD) Program at CMHS. Rami’s experience will provide teaching and research needs in; epidemiology, economics, and clinical areas in the health care field in the UAE.
Niels Bovenschen

Niels Bovenschen is Associate Professor, Principal Investigator, and group leader at the department of Pathology and Laboratory of Translational Immunology at the University Medical Center Utrecht, The Netherlands. Furthermore, he is Senior Fellow at the Center for Academic Teaching at Utrecht University, and as such heavily involved in scholarly education and teaching at the faculty of Medicine.

He studied Medical Biology at the Free University of Amsterdam and he obtained his PhD degree in 2003 at Sanquin Research, Amsterdam. In 2004, he moved to the University Medical Center Utrecht. He obtained several prestigious research grants for his work on unravelling the working mechanism of cytotoxic cells in the immune system. In 2009, he became an independent group leader (Assistant Professor) and in 2012 he was appointed Associate Professor. His research group now focuses on the effector immune response in eliminating tumor cells and virus-infected cells. He aims to translate his fundamental findings into clinical applications. In addition, he is in charge of the Pathology Research Laboratory and the Laboratory of Translational Immunology core facility Proteins.

Since 2017, Niels Bovenschen has been appointed as Senior Fellow at the Center for Academic Teaching at Utrecht University. He is in charge of the strategic educational theme ‘Teaching Science’ of the University Medical Center Utrecht and the faculty of Medicine at Utrecht University. His mission is to enhance academic and scientific skills of students by engaging (bio)medical students in science and inquiry already at the early undergraduate level. He augments Translational Medicine by creating synergy between education, scientific research, healthcare (professionals), and society. He scholarly evaluates educational best-practices. In addition, he is examiner and coordinator of several (bio) medical educational programs at the faculty of Medicine.

Jared Churko

Jared Churko, PhD, is an assistant professor at the University of Arizona within the Department of Cellular and Molecular Medicine. He received his PhD in Anatomy and Cell Biology from Western University and trained as a postdoctoral fellow at Stanford University within the Cardiovascular Institute. His lab seeks to understand the mechanisms leading to heart disease by combining single cell transcriptomics, systems biology, stem cell biology, drug screening, genetic engineering, and bioinformatics. Specifically, his lab utilizes human induced pluripotent stem cells (hiPSC) to generate cardiac cell types and develops tools for precision and regenerative medicine. He is appointed as the director of the University of Arizona iPSC Core funded by BIOS and the Center for Innovation in Brain Science.
**Claire Deakin**

I am a Senior Research Associate in biostatistics at University College London (UCL), based at the NIHR Biomedical Research Centre (BRC) at Great Ormond Street Hospital and the ARUK Centre for Adolescent Rheumatology at UCL, UCLH and GOSH (CAR). I am passionate about translational interdisciplinary research into rare paediatric diseases, and have a particular research interest in juvenile dermatomyositis (JDM). My work involves analysing and integrating complex biological and clinical datasets to obtain insights into JDM using statistical methodologies for analysing longitudinal data and genomics. This includes modelling longitudinal outcomes, and identifying groups of patients with similar disease course and predictors of long-term outcomes. I am also conducting genomic analyses of genetic risk factors for JDM and using transcriptomics to identify novel disease mechanisms. My recent publications include identifying myositis-specific autoantibodies and muscle histopathology scores as predictors of the risk of remaining on treatment over time (Deakin et al *Arthritis & Rheumatology* 2016, 68(11):2806). I also demonstrated the efficacy of cyclophosphamide for JDM using observational data using complex modelling strategies when a randomised controlled trial would not be possible (Deakin et al *Arthritis & Rheumatology* 2018, 70(5):785).

I previously completed my undergraduate degrees in biomedical science and law at the University of Sydney. My cross-disciplinary PhD investigated “The interdependence between biological and ethical analyses of safety and efficacy in translational gene therapy”, also at the University of Sydney. My publications on research ethics stimulated debate about values informing acceptable levels of risks in first-in-human clinical trials and also demonstrated that professional background influences researchers’ thresholds for proceeding to clinical trial.

**Eric van Diessen**

After an untroubled childhood in Tilburg (the Netherlands) and spending long summers with my Italian family in Abano Terme, I started my academical journey in 2000.

During my studies Psychology and Medicine at Utrecht University I was introduced into the field of neuroscience, which has fascinated me ever since. Although my first research experiences were obtained abroad (Canada and Italy) I found my PhD position close to home. Combining the expertise of my supervisors in neurophysiology and pediatric neurology, I spent four years investigating how complex organization of the brain can be used to improve early diagnosis and treatment options in children with epilepsy. The core of my research was – and still is – a mathematical theory called ‘network analysis’ that simplifies complex systems such as the brain into a collection of nodes and connections: a network. My research showed that a less integrated brain network configuration in children with epilepsy is already present at early stage and can be used for improving diagnosis, treatment monitoring and epilepsy surgery.

In 2015 I started my clinical training in Pediatrics at the University Medical Center Utrecht. Currently I am in my last phase of the residency program and deciding on what clinical subspeciality to choose. I combine my clinical work with post-doctoral research in which I supervise PhD candidates and have recently started a new exciting project. In this project I aim to develop and implement a medical tool to facilitate epilepsy diagnosis in resource poor and endemic regions in the world. The core of this diagnostic tool is based on brain network properties derived from wireless and affordable electroencephalography headsets and (machine learning based) decision models.

When my own brain is at rest, you can find me anywhere in the world on a bicycle, or eating and enjoying company of my family, friends, girlfriend and son Dorus in Amsterdam.
Kristian Doyle

Kristian Doyle is an assistant professor in the Departments of Immunobiology and Neurology at the University of Arizona. He earned his Ph.D. from Oregon Health & Science University investigating novel therapeutics for acute stroke in the laboratory of Dr. Mary Stenzel-Poore. Dr. Doyle then trained as a postdoctoral scholar at Stanford University under the mentorship of Dr. Marion Buckwalter researching the role of TGF-beta signaling after stroke and developing a model of post-stroke dementia. While at Stanford University Dr. Doyle was the recipient of a postdoctoral fellowship from the American Federation of Aging Research, an Anita Roberts Young Scientist Scholarship, and a K99/R00 award from the National Institutes of Health.

His current research program at the University of Arizona is focused on determining how long it takes for the inflammatory response to stroke to resolve in the brain, and discovering why it resolves much more slowly in the brain than it does following ischemia in other tissues. His laboratory is also working on developing methods that accelerate the resolution of inflammation following stroke, and methods that mitigate the impact of the chronic sequelae of stroke on the development of Alzheimer's disease.

His recently published data indicate that the inflammatory response to stroke follows a different and more damaging trajectory compared to the inflammatory response to ischemia in other organs and tissues due to the high cholesterol content of myelin. This opens the possibility that treatments that prevent macrophages turning into foam cells in atherosclerosis may also help macrophages process dead brain tissue following stroke. His professional goal is to turn his preclinical findings into new treatments for stroke patients.

Stefan van Geelen

Ever since making the transition from the Faculty of Philosophy of Utrecht University (the Netherlands) to the University Medical Center Utrecht (UMCU) in 2001, I have tried to constructively translate philosophical theory to practical healthcare settings. During the academic year 2008-2009, I was a guest researcher at the section for Phenomenological Psychopathology of the Department of Psychiatry at Heidelberg University (Germany), and in 2010, I defended my PhD-thesis “Understanding self-experience in adolescent chronic fatigue syndrome” at the Department of Medical Psychology of the Wilhelmina Children’s Hospital (UMCU). In the academic year 2014-2015, I concentrated on epidemiological investigations regarding the time-trend studies of a world-wide decreasing mental health among young people at the Center for Research on Child and Adolescent Mental Health of Karlstad University (Sweden). As a senior researcher in the Philosophy of Medicine, my current scholarly interest is in trying to tackle the severe burnout crisis in the healthcare system through novel preventive strategies and a fundamental reconsideration of our ideas regarding organizational health.

At present, I work as the program-manager for the UMCU educational strategy in the highly interdisciplinary context of the Center for Education (UMCU). Here, education and research go hand in hand, and interfacultary collaboration is recognized as essential for a future-proof healthcare-system. Education and research in the health domain are rapidly changing. Technological advances and the democratization of (biomedical) knowledge – amongst many other factors – challenge us to turn to profoundly new questions regarding well-being. The educational strategy “Fit for the Future” tries to tackle these challenges through a focus on patient participation, resilience, teaching science, interprofessional education, lifelong learning, educational careers, internationalization, and diversity & inclusion. My interest in the International Certificate Program of the EUREKA Institute is very much sparked by translational medicine's attempt to creatively bridge the continuum from basic scientific ideas to concrete applications in the field of health improvement within a broad societal context.
Dr. Joyce Gomes-Osman is a physical therapist and a neuroscientist. After completing her physical therapy degree in her native country of Brazil, she obtained her Ph.D. at the University of Miami Miller School of Medicine, and a postdoctoral fellowship at Harvard Medical School. As a rehabilitation neuroscientist, Dr. Gomes-Osman is driven to answer questions that can impact people’s ability to live more functional and independent lives. She has published many research studies focused on figuring out ways to make rehabilitation therapies more effective for instance, by combining it with nerve stimulation and non-invasive brain stimulation. In addition to her interest in physical health, her work in recent years has focused on better understanding how we can promote brain health for individuals who are aging. This interest in brain health has stemmed both from scientific curiosity, and from experiencing the reality behind the statistics, witnessing memory deficits as a family member.

Dr. Gomes-Osman is an Assistant Professor at the Departments of Physical Therapy and Neurology at University of Miami, and maintains her affiliation with the Berenson-Allen Center for Non-Invasive Brain Stimulation at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, Harvard Medical School. She divides her time between working in the Laboratory, and teaching neurophysiology and non-invasive brain stimulation. She finds great joy in mentoring the next generation of physical therapy clinicians and clinician-scientists, whether it be in the classroom, or carrying out studies to disentangle the complex relationships between physical exercise, brain health and postural control in older adults and individuals with various neurological conditions. On her free time, she enjoys spending time with her family and is passionate about cooking and growing tropical plants, including exotic orchids.

Dr. Mingxia Gu received her MD from Peking University, Beijing, China in 2009, and then she joined Dr. Joseph Wu Lab at Stanford in 2010 for a joint-training PhD program. Her PhD work focused on modeling cardiovascular diseases using patient-specific induced pluripotent stem cell (iPSC) derived cardiomyocytes and endothelial cells (ECs). Upon graduation, Mingxia joined Dr. Marlene Rabinovitch Lab in 2015 as an AHA postdoctoral fellow, and her current project aims to identify novel compound to reverse endothelial cell and smooth muscle cell phenotypes in a high-through-put and personalized manner using induced pluripotent stem cell (iPSC) derived vascular cells from patients with pulmonary arterial hypertension (PAH). In 2016, she was promoted to Instructor in Department of Pediatric Cardiology and fully funded by her NHLBI K99 career development award. Her long-term research goal is to understand the genetic and epigenetic underpinnings of the variation in disease phenotype and drug response, and to ultimately develop a better therapeutic strategy for precision medicine.
PARTICIPANTS BIOGRAPHIES

David Hong

Dr. Hong earned his BA in history at Yale University and his MD at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine. He completed his clinical training in adult, child and adolescent psychiatry at the Stanford University School of Medicine, where he also served as a chief fellow and completed a T32 research postdoctoral fellowship. Dr. Hong has received recognition for his research through several awards and fellowships, including support from R01 and K23 grants from the National Institute of Mental Health, Children’s Health Research Institute, AACAP, APIRE/Lilly Psychiatric Research Fellowship from the American Psychiatric Association, among others. Dr. Hong is also the Associate Director of Clinical Neuroscience in the Center for Interdisciplinary Brain Sciences Research (CIBSR), a large multidisciplinary research center focused on providing explanatory models for complex relationships between the brain, genes, cognition and behavior. In this capacity, Dr. Hong also is co-director of the Executive Function Clinic and the Neuroendocrine and Sex Chromosome Aneuploidy Clinic at Stanford, leading an interdisciplinary treatment team focused on the evaluation of cognitive and behavioral functions across the lifespan and spanning diagnostic categories, including ADHD and learning disorders. Much of Dr. Hong’s clinical and research initiatives focus on translating mechanistic aspects of cognition, behavior and biological variables such as sex, genetics and hormonal factors, to better understand clinical outcomes in children and adolescents.

Weiting Huang

Dr. Huang Weiting is an Associate Consultant with the Department of Cardiology at the National Heart Centre Singapore. She graduated from the NUS Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine in 2011 and completed her Internal Medicine Residency and Cardiology Senior Residency at SingHealth institutions in 2017. She assumed positions of Deputy Chief Resident and Chief Resident during her residency. She subsequently went on to obtain the Masters of Clinical Investigation at the National University of Singapore.

Her clinical sub-specialty interest is in Echocardiography and Cardiac Magnetic Resonance Imaging. Her research interests include health care services modeling, artificial intelligence and data analytics. In order to achieve the latter interests well, she took up structured courses to learn programming languages of R and python.

Beyond clinical work, she recruits and work on clinical early phase drug trials. She also works on database work locally, such as the Singapore Cardiac Longitudinal Outcomes Database (SingCloud) and Effects of Physical Activity, Ambulatory Blood Pressure and Calcium Score on Cardiovascular Health in Normal People (SingHEART) as well as regional databases such as the ASIAN-HF registry and the Pan-Asian Resuscitation Outcomes Study (PAROS). She has also worked on various prospective observational clinical and imaging cohort studies.

Her next phase of work includes partnering with institutions to explore clinical impact of digital wearables and also the application of machine learning for better risk prediction and patient management. She has also working on cross-country collaborations with Imperial College London for advanced imaging algorithms.
PARTICIPANTS BIOGRAPHIES

Barry Hudson

Dr. Hudson is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Cell Biology at the University of Miami. He has a BSc in Biochemistry and a PhD in Molecular Medicine from the University of Leeds in the UK. Following Postdoctoral training at Columbia University, New York, he setup his own lab at the University of Miami in 2010. Dr Hudson’s group is highly collaborative with ongoing collaborations with researchers throughout the U.S. Dr. Hudson lab’s research is focused on understanding the inflammatory and tumor microenvironmental mechanisms underlying breast cancer progression and metastasis, and the ultimate translation of these basic observations to human clinical studies. Dr. Hudson’s passion for translational science also includes directing the Master’s Program in Clinical and Translational Investigation at the University of Miami. His research efforts have focused on the inflammatory role of the Receptor for Advanced Glycation End-products (RAGE) and its ligands (AGEs, S100s and HMGB1) in diabetes, obesity and breast cancer. Dr. Hudson’s lab has taken these investigations from cells to mice, through to genetic and biomarker studies in various clinical cohorts. Most recently, his laboratory has made important observations of the role RAGE and its ligand in breast cancer progression and metastasis, and the importance of diabetes and obesity in these processes. He has found that blocking RAGE signaling may be an attractive therapeutic target for reducing tumorigenesis and metastasis. Dr. Hudson’s research is currently funded by the Department of Defense, the Susan G. Komen Foundation, the Florida Department of Health and the Breast Cancer Research Foundation.

Christin Kuo

Christin Kuo, MD, is Assistant Professor of Pediatrics in the Pulmonary Division at the Stanford University School of Medicine starting in 2016. Dr. Kuo obtained her bachelor’s degree in Biology from Stanford University and her MD from Saint Louis University School of Medicine. She completed residency training at UCSF Benioff Children’s Hospital, Oakland before returning to Stanford for a Pediatric Pulmonary Fellowship. During this time, she performed the first in vivo single cell labeling studies of lung neuroendocrine cells to track the behavior of individual progenitor cells during development and identified a new mode of epithelial cell migration to form clusters of NE cells called neuroepithelial bodies (NEBs) that function as mini sensory organs within the lung. Dr. Kuo’s research focuses on pulmonary neuroendocrine cell (PNEC) development and function. PNECs are a rare cell type under normal circumstances, yet in pathologic conditions, they can proliferate to give rise to the rapidly metastatic and deadly small cell lung cancer. In addition to their stem cell functions, they also have specialized sensory and neurosecretory functions. Aberrant numbers and distributions of PNECs are a characteristic finding in several pediatric and adult respiratory diseases for which there are currently no specific therapies. To address fundamental questions in NE cell biology, her lab is using single cell approaches to reveal the genetic and molecular basis of their developmental and function.
PARTICIPANTS BIOGRAPHIES

Lin Xuling
Dr Lin Xuling is a Neurology and Neuro-Oncology Consultant at the National Neuroscience Institute (NNI), Singapore. Upon completion of her Neurology Advanced Specialty Training at NNI in 2014, she was awarded the SingHealth Human Manpower Development Plan (HMDP) Award to train in Neuro-Oncology at the Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center in New York. In 2016, Dr Lin returned to NNI to spearhead the Brain Tumour service.

As the only Neuro-Oncologist in NNI, Dr Lin shoulders the responsibility of providing and coordinating clinical care, developing a Neuro-Oncology educational program, and anchoring the brain tumour clinical and translational research. She plays an essential role in the National Medical Council Research (NMRC) Translational and Clinical Research (TCR) Neuro-Oncology flagship programme by providing expertise to translate new drug targets and innovative diagnostic tools into clinical trials and practice. In 2017, Dr Lin was awarded the SingHealth Duke-NUS Neuroscience Academic Clinical Programme Nurturing Clinician Scientist Scheme (NCSS) grant to develop a cluster-wide integrated Neuro-Oncology database. This database aims to harmonize clinical research across the key institutions involved in brain tumour care, augment the translational work ongoing in the NNI Neuro-Oncology Laboratory, and provide a rich resource for future collaborations. More recently, she submitted a NMRC grant to investigate the use of targeted-therapy in glioblastoma in cell-based and animal models.

In addition, Dr Lin is interested in neuroimaging studies, and works closely with radiology and nuclear medicine clinicians/researchers to innovate and evaluate advanced neuroimaging for brain tumours in the clinics.

Amy McTague
I am a paediatric neurologist specialising in children’s epilepsy and a researcher in the genetic early onset epilepsies. My current post is as an Honorary Consultant Paediatric Neurologist at Great Ormond Street Hospital, London and a GOSH NIHR BRC Catalyst Research Fellow at UCL Great Ormond Street Institute of Child Health. Following medical school in Edinburgh, I trained in paediatrics in Glasgow and Manchester before sub-specialty training in paediatric neurology in Alder Hey Children’s Hospital, Liverpool. After a senior clinical fellowship in Complex Epilepsy at Great Ormond Street Hospital, I obtained a Medical Research Council Research Training Fellowship to study the genetics of early onset epilepsy. This equipped me with a broad range of laboratory skills and has led to a number of high-impact publications including identification of a novel gene for a rare early onset epilepsy. My research has also been recognised with a number of awards, including the Ronnie McKeith prize for contribution to paediatric neurology research in 2016 and the Jon Driver UCL Neuroscience Prize in 2017. I returned to full-time clinical work in paediatric neurology while writing my thesis and obtained my PhD in August 2018. I was recently awarded a GOSH NIHR BRC Catalyst Fellowship which has allowed me to return to the lab to learn new skills in iPSC culture and neuronal differentiation techniques. I am currently applying for further funding to establish a research group to investigate disease mechanisms and potential novel therapies in childhood epilepsies. I want to harness the possibilities of iPSCs and other models to understand disease mechanisms in my patients and use this knowledge to develop new therapies that have broad translational potential for people with epilepsy, working in partnership with industry to achieve this. The children and young people I look after are a testament to the urgent need for better treatments and spur me on to pursue my research goals.
PARTICIPANTS BIOGRAPHIES

Aurélie Najm

I am a French M.D. and M.Sc. My main research interests are focused on Rheumatic diseases especially Rheumatoid arthritis (RA). During my residency, I have been working mostly on RA, and synovial tissue. I have been doing some clinical work and translational research work using synovial tissue issued from surgical synovectomy and synovial biopsies. In our center, we perform ultrasound (US) guided synovial biopsies (SB) on a regular basis, for both clinical and research purposes.

As I wanted to work further in the synovial tissue field in translational research, I performed a research fellowship in Dublin under Professor Douglas Veale supervision. We first designed a study aiming to correlate histological aspects of synovitis and ultrasonographic features (Najm et al. RMD Open 2018;4:e000616). We also studied synovial membrane characterization with respect to RA phenotype in a well-defined cohort of RA patients. Interestingly, we found specific synovial immunophenotype in ACPA positive patients (Orr, Najm et al. Arthritis Rheumatol. doi: 10.1002/art.40218).

We are convinced that synovial immunocharacterization is of extreme interest as a biomarker for prognosis and also patient tailored therapy in RA (Orr et al. Nat Rev Rheumatol. doi: 10.1038/nrrheum.2017.115). We indeed created a new IMmuno SYnovitis SCore (IMSYC) aiming to better characterize synovial membrane in RA at the cellular level (Najm et al. Joint Bone Spine. 2018 Apr 27. pii: S1297-319X(18)30084-8). Moreover, as synovial biopsies are increasingly used, we decided together with EULAR Synovitis Study Group (ESSG) to perform a Delphi survey in order to standardize our handling and analyses procedures (Najm et al. Arthritis Research Therapy DOI: 10.1186/s13075-018-1762-1).

During my residency I have also graduated from University of Science with a Master in Science degree and spent a year in our affiliated lab in Nantes university hospital. I have been working on cytokines in RA, especially Interleukine 38 (Boutet, Najm et al. Ann Rheum Dis. 2017 Jul;76(7):1304-1312). I am now a PhD student in the lab, we work on resident key effector cells in RA using RASF and monocytes derived from patient’s synovial membrane samples and synovial fluid. I study the role and mechanisms of action of micro-RNAs involved in RA pathophysiology and also perform vivo experiments in different mice arthritis models.

In summary, I work with human samples of synovial tissue and laboratory experience with a bedside to bench approach and I am deeply convinced of the great value of a translational approach in medicine.

Kok Pin Ng

Dr Ng Kok Pin is a Consultant Neurologist at the Department of Neurology, National Neuroscience Institute, Tan Tock Seng Hospital, Singapore. He is also an Adjunct Assistant Professor at the DUKE-NUS Medical School, Clinical Lecturer at the Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine and Clinical Teacher at the Lee Kong Chian School of Medicine.

After graduating from the Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine, National University of Singapore in 2006, he obtained his MRCP(UK) in 2011 and was accredited as a Neurologist by the Ministry of Health Singapore in 2015. In 2016, he obtained his Master of Clinical Investigation (NUS). He completed a 1-year Research Training Fellowship at the McGill University Research Centre for Studies in Aging, Montreal, Canada in 2017, under the supervision of Professor Serge Gauthier and Professor Pedro Rosa-Neto.

Dr Ng subspecializes in dementia. His research interests include biomarkers in Alzheimer’s disease, neuroimaging in neurocognitive diseases (MRI and PET) and neuropsychiatric symptoms in dementia.
Francesca Polverino

Francesca Polverino is a physician-investigator specializing in respiratory diseases. During her medical school, Francesca studied the effects of cigarette smoke on the peripheral muscles of COPD patients. After completing her medical degree, she moved to the University of Padova (IT), where she was introduced to the study of COPD pathobiology. Francesca focused on autoimmune phenomena in the lungs as a result of cigarette smoke exposure. In 2008, she was awarded a research fellowship from the European Respiratory Society that allowed her to move to the Hospital Son Dureta in Palma de Mallorca (Spain). During this fellowship, Francesca extended her interest in autoimmunity in patients with COPD. In 2011, she moved to Harvard Medical School, Boston, to gain additional expertise in both clinical and translational COPD. She continued her studies on COPD pathobiology, and described the first non-human primate model of COPD in collaboration with the Lovelace Respiratory Research Institute (LRRI, Albuquerque, USA). In 2015, because of her scientific contribution to the understanding of cigarette smoke-induced lung damages, she was awarded a Flight Attendant’s Research Institute (FAMRI) Young Scientist award. In 2017, a second award from FAMRI, a Faculty Award, followed. Francesca has contributed to a body of work demonstrating anti-inflammatory activities for Club Cell Protein 16 (CC16) in the cigarette smoke-exposed lung and the aging lung. The studies of CC16 in COPD supported her successful application for a prestigious Parker B. Francis fellowship, which is awarded every year to the ten best emerging scientists in pulmonary medicine within the United States. As a result of her prolific scientific career, Francesca was promoted to Assistant Professor of Medicine in July 2017, becoming the youngest Assistant Professor of Medicine at Harvard Medical School. From a clinical standpoint, Francesca provided the first evidence that COPD patients have extensive renal damage. In 2018, Francesca published other two manuscripts describing the activities of novel proteinases in COPD. During the American Thoracic Society (ATS) Conference 2018, Francesca was awarded the Rising Star in Research Award by the ATS; Since 2015, Francesca is one of the eight members of the BODE collaborative group, composed by world leaders in COPD including Prof. Bart Celli. In August 2018, Francesca was recruited to the University of Arizona (UA) to establish a COPD laboratory. Francesca is internationally known for her work on the pathobiology of COPD. Currently, Francesca has ongoing collaborations within US (COPDgene, SPIROMICS, Temple University, Harvard Medical School, LRRI) and worldwide (Center for Lung and Heart Innovation-Canada, and BODE collaborative group-Spain). Despite her young age, Francesca’s endeavors are on track to leading to improvements in the future care of patients with COPD.

Mario Saporta, MD, PhD, MBA

Mario Saporta, MD, PhD, MBA is an assistant professor of Neurology and Human Genetics at the University of Miami, USA. He is the director of the Muscular Dystrophy Association Care Center and Charcot-Marie-Tooth Center of Excellence at the University of Miami where he coordinates a multidisciplinary team providing specialized care for patients with neuromuscular genetic disorders, with a focus on the inherited peripheral neuropathies. He is also the principal investigator of a laboratory focused on the use of cellular reprogramming and differentiation to create human in vitro models for pathomechanistic studies and drug discovery for this group of diseases. After completing his Neurology training in his home country of Brazil, Dr. Saporta trained in neuromuscular and electrodiagnostic medicine, with emphasis in the peripheral neuropathies, in centers in the United Kingdom (Institute of Neurology, University College London), France (Centre Hospitalier Universitaire de Bicêtre) and the US. He did his Neuromuscular/Neurophysiology fellowship at the Detroit Medical Center, home to the largest inherited neuropathy clinic in the world at the time and was the first clinical research fellow of the NIH Inherited Neuropathies Consortium. Dr. Saporta has published extensively on the pathophysiology of different types of inherited peripheral neuropathies, using various disease models, including patients’ skin biopsies, knockin mouse models and induced pluripotent stem cell derived motor neurons from patients with CMT. Dr. Saporta’s current research interest is the identification of downstream mediators of axonal degeneration in inherited neuropathies and therapy development for neurodegenerative genetic disorders, using cellular reprogramming and differentiation. He collaborates with groups across the US, the UK, and Australia. He has been recently awarded a KL2 Career Development Award from the Clinical and Translational Science Institute at the University of Miami to support his work in developing therapies for neuromuscular genetic disorders and provide in depth training and experience in different aspects of drug discovery, development and commercialization. Learning the steps involved in translating his research findings into therapies that will reach his patients is a fundamental step in accomplishing his long-term career goal.
Raphael Schneider

Raphael Schneider’s doctoral and postdoctoral research has primarily focused on biomarker discovery in neuroinflammatory and neurodegenerative diseases, with a particular interest in biomarkers that have the potential to enhance the diagnostic process and inform on prognosis. He undertook his first research project (Dr. med. thesis) whilst he was a medical student at the University of Freiburg (Germany) under the supervision of Dr. Sebastian Rauer. He hypothesized that oligoclonal immunoglobulin M (IgM) bands in cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) would serve as a prognostic biomarker in people with a clinically isolated syndrome (CIS) indicative for a future diagnosis of multiple sclerosis (MS). He developed a novel, sensitive technique to detect IgM in CSF, however, found that the presence of oligoclonal IgM bands had no prognostic value in their cohort of people with CIS.

He reasoned that reliable biomarkers would emerge from a better understanding of molecular disease mechanisms. Thus, after completing medical school in Germany, he dedicated three and a half years of postdoctoral research training to further develop his expertise in neuroimmunology at the Université de Montréal under the supervision of Dr. Nathalie Arbour. To explore pathomechanisms of immune dysregulation in MS, with a focus on CD8+ cytotoxic T cells, he acquired cutting-edge research techniques in addition to developing skills and expertise in experimental design and manuscript writing.

Following this scientific training, he continued his medical education with a 5-year residency in Adult Neurology at the University of Toronto (UofT). Seeing patients with chronic and progressive neurological diseases during his residency further motivated him to pursue a career as a Clinician-Scientist. To further his understanding of the molecular mechanisms underlying neurodegeneration, he joined Dr. Janice Robertson’s amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS) research group at the University of Toronto as a PhD student in 2014. After successful completion of his residency in 2016, he transitioned to a combined ALS research and clinical fellowship, a 2-year award from ALS Canada, under the co-supervision of Drs. Robertson and Lorne Zinman at UofT.

His long-term goal is to oversee a research program that focuses on the investigation of clinically relevant biomarkers for neurological diseases with a focus on MS. At St. Michael’s Hospital in Toronto, he is now starting his independent biomarker program. He believes that Clinician-Scientists are in a unique position to drive healthcare.

Hillary Snapp

Hillary Snapp, AuD, PhD is an Associate Professor and the Chief of Audiology in the Department of Otolaryngology at the University of Miami. A clinician-scientist carrying out research in the field of hearing science since 2010, Dr. Snapp’s primary interest is to develop novel clinical methods to predict treatment outcomes for hearing-impaired individuals, and deliver successful clinical interventions. Research efforts are centered on investigating the variability in auditory processing of the hearing-impaired individual and how this variability impacts outcomes with treatment of hearing loss using hearing devices and auditory implants. Her work examines the mechanisms underlying the variations observed in hearing impaired individuals for complex auditory tasks such as speech perception in noise and localization ability. She established the Auditory Spatial Laboratory at the University of Miami where she strives to better understand the benefits and limitations of hearing treatment through objective measures of auditory function. Current work focuses on identifying behavioral and objective markers of hearing, and includes novel methods of evaluating spatial auditory perception, speech recognition, and processing of acoustic signals. Dr. Snapp serves as a lead researcher, clinician and educator to students, residents and fellows at the University of Miami. She has served as the Director of Clinical Education in Audiology since 2008, and in 2017 received the Exceptional Membership Award by the American Medical Women’s Association. Specialized training and education includes auditory implants, auditory spatial perception, and vestibular diagnostics. She has lectured nationally and internationally on these topics. As the Director of Clinical Education in Audiology, she established a comprehensive clinical training program for Doctor of Audiology students. Now a highly sought after training program, the audiology fellowship at UM has proudly trained several rising leaders in audiology. She is also the 2014 recipient of the Glass Ceiling Award by the Business and Professional Women of Florida, and has been recognized by the American Academy of Audiology as a Jerger Future Leader of Audiology.
PARTICIPANTS BIOGRAPHIES

Trudy Straetemans

Trudy Straetemans is a translational scientist in the Tumor Immunology section of the Laboratory of Translational Immunology, University Medical Center Utrecht (UMC Utrecht), The Netherlands. She graduated from the WUR (Wageningen University and Research, The Netherlands) with a MSc in Animal Sciences with a focus on immunology and obtained her PhD at the Erasmus Medical Center Rotterdam, The Netherlands. There she was trained as a tumor immunologist and focused her research on T cell gene engineering strategies against cancer. She selected tumor-specific T cell receptors to redirect T cells towards cancer and developed pre-clinical in vivo models for safety, efficacy and mechanistic T cell receptor gene therapy studies. Her long-term research is driven by the intriguing interplay between cancer and the immune system and she dedicates her career to bringing immune intervention strategies against cancer into the clinic. In 2012 she started as post-doctoral fellow at the laboratory of Prof Dr Jürgen Kuball, who invented the TEG concept, alpha/beta T cells Engineered to express a Gamma/delta T cell receptor. She improved and translated the TEG concept from pre-clinical research-grade strategy until GMP-proof cellular medicine. As a result, TEG001 is at this moment tested in a phase I safety study at the UMC Utrecht and GADETA, a UMC Utrecht spin-off company, has been founded.

Currently, she is leading the TEG001 production team producing an autologous gene therapy medicinal product in close collaboration with the Cell Therapy Facility of the Pharmacy department at the UMCU, next to her role as coordinator of the in vivo work of the research group. She is aiming to use her translational expertise to improve translation of next generation cellular and gene therapy medicinal products for immunotherapy against cancer.

Trudy lives in Utrecht with her husband and 2 young children and in her free time enjoys her family life and outdoor sports such as running, sailing and horseback riding.

Noel Warfel

Noel received his B.S. in 2004 from James Madison University, with a dual concentration in Engineering and Biotechnology. Following undergrad, he was awarded the Molecular Targets and Drug Discovery Fellowship, a joint program sponsored by Johns Hopkins University and the NIH, where he earned a M.S. in Biotechnology. During this time, he trained at the National Cancer Institute in the lab of Dr. Phillip Dennis studying PI3K signaling in lung cancer. Noel received his Ph.D. in Biomedical Sciences in 2011 from UC San Diego in the lab of Dr. Alexandra Newton, where he studied mechanisms responsible for Akt activation in cancer. His postdoctoral research was conducted as a NCI Ruth L. Kirschstein postdoctoral fellow at the Penn State Cancer Institute in the lab of Dr. Wafik El-Deiry. There, he gained experience in translational medicine studying novel mechanisms of HIF-1 regulation. In 2015, Noel joined the Department of Cellular and Molecular Medicine at the University of Arizona, where he currently holds the title of Assistant Professor and is an active member the University of Arizona Cancer Center.
Selma Wiertsema

After studying Medical Biology at Utrecht University, Selma Wiertsema pursued a PhD at the department of Paediatric Immunology at the Wilhelmina Children’s Hospital in Utrecht. The aim of her PhD was to gain insight in the immune system of children with recurrent infections and to learn whether children with recurrent infections responded differently to vaccinations than generally healthy children. After obtaining her PhD, she moved to the University of Western Australia, where she started a Post-doc in the School of Paediatrics and Child Health. She continued her research into the immune system of children with recurrent infections, now combining it with an interest in the interaction between the immune system of the host and the microbes causing the infections. She showed that children with recurrent ear infections carry different types of bacteria and viruses in their upper respiratory tract and that vaccination changes the composition of this nasopharyngeal ecosystem. During her stay in Australia she obtained funding from several sources, both public and private, enabling her to further pursue her research interests. Her work on vaccine efficacy and the effect of vaccination on the host, contributed to a change in government policy on the use of pneumococcal and influenza vaccines. After a stay of 6 years in Australia, Selma moved back to the Netherlands, joining Jansen Pharmaceuticals, part of the Johnson & Johnson family of companies. In her role as scientific project leader she was responsible for the research and development of several bacterial vaccine candidates. Selma currently works as a Senior Team Leaders in the Global Centre of Excellence in Immunology at Danone Nutricia Research. The aim of this team is to better understand the effect of nutrition on the immune system and to use this knowledge to develop new nutritional concepts. In her role she translates the science performed in her team to concrete business proposals with the aim to land innovations in the market. On the other hand, she translates business requests back to the scientific platform to co-develop novel nutritional concepts to support the health of people during different stages of life.

Wong Chee Wai

Dr Wong Chee Wai is currently a Consultant Ophthalmologist at the Singapore National Eye Centre and an adjunct assistant professor with Duke-National University of Singapore (Duke-NUS). Chee Wai has shown a strong commitment towards excellence in research, having been awarded multiple accolades for his research work, including travel grants, prizes at international ophthalmology conferences and the SingHealth Publish Award in 2015. He also completed the Masters in Clinical Investigation with NUS in 2015. He has published more than 40 scientific articles in peer reviewed journals and book chapters on vitreoretinal conditions. These publications have influenced clinical practice and pushed new frontiers in the research of retinal conditions. For example, his work on polymoidal choroidal vasculopathy, the major subtype of age related macular degeneration in Asia have influenced treatment regimes today and have been widely cited. His research in the pathogenesis of myopic macular degeneration, a global leading cause of blindness in developed countries have contributed new knowledge on the role of the choroid in this condition. The potential of these findings as imaging biomarkers to predict development and progression of myopic macular degeneration will be key to fighting the global myopia epidemic. He is also the Clinical lead for the SNEC High Myopia Clinic, the first specialized clinic for the management of high myopia in Singapore.

Translational research is a core aspect of Chee Wai’s research that he has developed over the years. In 2016, he was awarded the National Medical Research Council Research training fellowship award to pursue a PhD in drug delivery in the retina with Utrecht University. In collaboration with Professor Gert Storm from Utrecht University and Enceladus, a drug development company based in the Netherlands, he has completed a study demonstrating the efficacy of liposomes as a drug delivery vehicle for suppressing ocular inflammation as part of his PhD. This work has culminated in a first in human trial that will commence in 2019. His work on posterior eye drug delivery has the potential to overcome major challenges of current treatment that has limited the long term efficacy of anti-VEGF therapies for many retinal conditions, including diabetic macular edema and exudative age related macular degeneration.
PARTICIPANTS BIOGRAPHIES

Jeremy Woods

Jeremy Woods was born in a small mountain town in the western United States and currently resides in Los Angeles, CA where he is a fellow in medical genetics. His interest in medicine was first piqued when he started managing group homes for people with neurodevelopmental disabilities shortly after college. The psychosocial and medical complexity of these individuals drove Jeremy to further his education so that he might have more to offer such patients. He subsequently enrolled in medical school at Oregon Health & Sciences University in Portland, Oregon and was attracted to cases of complex congenital diseases. This interest combined with a devotion to child health led him to pursue post-graduate medical education in a pediatric residency at the University of California Los Angeles (UCLA).

Jeremy’s training in pediatrics at UCLA took place in a high-tech environment designed to care for some of the sickest and most medically complex children in the world. The care of children at UCLA is strongly influenced by genetic testing performed at the university’s clinical genetic laboratories. This complex pediatric learning environment was ideal for the exploration of the etiology of complex congenital diseases. As such, Jeremy gravitated toward the field of medical genetics with a special interest in developing therapeutic agents to treat diseases of genetic etiology.

Jeremy entered the UCLA medical genetics fellowship program after completing his residency in pediatrics. As a fellow he also acted as a key member of the UCLA clinical site for the National Institutes of Health Undiagnosed Diseases Network (UDN). This network was designed to advance the frontiers of genetic testing through clinical evaluation, genome sequencing and RNA sequencing. As a member of the UDN Jeremy also molecularly characterized a number of novel neuromuscular and musculoskeletal disorders of genetic etiology.

Jeremy especially values his time in the Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy (DMD) clinic at UCLA and is dedicated to developing treatments for this neuromuscular genetic disorder. His dedication to the DMD community extends to the laboratory where he is a post-doc in the laboratory of Stanley Nelson. Jeremy’s laboratory research is focused upon understanding the transcriptomic mechanisms underlying differentially affected muscle groups in DMD. Jeremy is also involved in a number of clinical trials for DMD in collaboration with Stanley Nelson and PTC Therapeutics.

Jiangbin Ye

Dr. Jiangbin Ye graduated from Fudan University with a B.S degree on 2004 and received his Ph.D in the Cancer Biology Program at University of Pennsylvania on 2010. His research in Dr. Constantinous Koumenis’ lab uncovered the critical role of GCN2-ATF4 pathway in sensing amino acid depletion and maintaining metabolic homeostasis in tumor cells (EMBO J. 2010). During his graduate studies, Dr. Ye developed a strong interest in how cancer cells respond to nutrient signals and how metabolic alterations impact tumor progression. Intrigued by the emerging theory that cancer is a metabolic disease, he started the postdoctoral training in Dr. Craig Thompson’s lab at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center. Dr. discovered the unique role of serine and one-carbon unit metabolism in cancer cell proliferation, mitochondrial redox regulation, and survival upon oxidative stress (PNAS 2012, Nature 2014&Cancer Discovery 2014). His recent work also defined an important link between two major amino acid sensing mechanisms that regulate adaptation to fluctuating amino acid levels in the environment: Sestrin2 is a critical effector of GCN2 signaling that regulates amino acid homeostasis through mTORC1 suppression (Genes & Dev. 2015).

Dr. Ye initiated his independent research career at Stanford University, Department of Radiation Oncology as an Assistant Professor on 2016. His current research interests include: 1. The link between metabolic reprogramming and epigenetic regulations in cancer. 2. How to target altered metabolic pathways in metastatic cancer. 3. The metabolic control of mTORC1 activity.
PARTICIPANTS BIOGRAPHIES

Gwyneth Zai

Dr. Gwyneth Zai a Clinician Scientist at the Neurogene
tics Section, Molecular Brain Sciences Department and a Staff
Psychiatrist at the Adult General Psychiatry and Health
Systems Division at the Centre for Addiction and Mental
Health. She is also an Assistant Professor at the
Department of Psychiatry, University of Toronto. Dr. Zai
previously completed her clinical and research training
including her H.B.Sc. in immunology and human biology,
M.Sc. in psychiatric genetics, M.D., psychiatry residency,
and Ph.D. in psychiatric genetics at the University of
Toronto. She also completed a research fellowship in
cognitive neuroscience at the University of Cambridge. Dr.
Zai has published over 50 peer-reviewed articles and has
given numerous international presentations. She has been
the recipient of national and international awards and
scholarships including the 2018 International College of
Neuropsychopharmacology (CINP) Max Hamilton
Memorial Prize and the 2017 World Federation of Societies
of Biological Psychiatry (WFSBP) Young Investigator
Award. She has also been awarded three presti
uous grants to support her research work including the 2016
Brain & Behavior Research Foundation NARSAD Young
Investigator Grant for the genetics of cognitive substrates
across psychiatric disorders, the 2018 Physicians’ Services
Incorporated (PSI) Foundation Mental Health Funding
Stream Grant for the pharmaco-epi-genomes of
generalized anxiety disorder, and the 2018 Labatt Family
Innovation Fund in Brain Health for the biomarkers of
obsessive-compulsive disorder and its treatment response.
Her main clinical interest focuses on obsessive-compulsive
disorder, its related disorders, anxiety and mood disorders.
Her main research interests include psychiatric genetics
and epigenetics, cognitive neuroscience, biomarker
research, and pharmacogenetics of psychotrop
medication response and side effects, which has great
translational potential and is of interest in clinical practice.
As almost all psychiatric disorders are complex and
heterogeneous in nature, her research aims to identify
homogeneous phenotypes, such as cognitive profiles, in
psychiatric disorders, and to examine the genetics of these
specific phenotypes. Her goals are to link genetic
variations to variations in phenotypes in order to
determine mechanisms responsible for these links, and to
translate identified links into enhanced understanding,
treatment and prevention of psychiatric disorders.

Anna Zavodni

Anna Zavodni is a medical doctor about to embark on
further training in Cardiology at the University of Toronto.
After completing medical school (2005) and a Diagnostic
Imaging Residency (2010) at the University of Alberta, Dr.
Zavodni completed a Cardiovascular Imaging Fellowship at
the National Institutes of Health in Bethesda Maryland and
a Master’s Degree in Clinical Research through Duke
University (2011). Drawn to collaborative, challenging
projects at the interface of medicine and technology,
particularly in the field of cardiology, she was hired as a
Cardiothoracic Radiologist at Sunnybrook Health Sciences
Centre (2012 - 2016).

As a Cardiovascular Imaging expert she has collaborated
with integrated teams of scientists, engineers and
clinicians on numerous projects including the Multi-Ethnic
Study of Atherosclerosis (MESA). This collaboration resulted
in a first-authored paper that was awarded the prestigious
Alexander Margulis Award for the best peer-reviewed
scientific paper published by the Radiological Society of
North America. As a Clinician Investigator based at the
Sunnybrook Research Institute in Toronto, she received
funded grants as a Principle Investigator (totalling over
$300,000) and Collaborator (totalling over $4,500,000).
Over her career to date, she has produced 24 peer-
reviewed papers and delivered over 10 invited talks across
North America.

In Medical Imaging, she implemented simplified referral
processes and scanning protocols that doubled Sunny-
brook’s cardiac MRI and CT capacity. She taught health
science students at every level and have been recognized
through outstanding teaching awards within Diagnostic
Imaging in the Faculty of Medicine at the University of
Toronto. Within two years of her initial hire she was
promoted to division head.

In the future, Dr. Zavodni plans to both continue clinical
practice and pursue further research and educational
objectives. She has a knack for bringing people together,
devising work-arounds and streamlining complex
processes. She loves engaging with scientists, engineers
and representatives from industry towards these goals.
Working directly with world-class Cardiologists inspired
her to train in Internal Medicine at the University of Toronto
(2016 – 2019) to be followed by subspecialty training in
Cardiology. She plans to utilize her experience in imaging,
medicine and cardiology in order to develop more
effective diagnostic and therapeutic tools for routine
clinical practice and research.
Matthias Zilbauer

Dr. Matthias Zilbauer completed his medical training at Mainz University (Germany) and trained in pediatrics as well as pediatric gastroenterology at a number of tertiary European Hospitals. Following completion of his PhD in mucosal immunology at the Institute of Child Health (UCL, London) as well as clinical subspecialty training he was appointed as University Lecturer and Honorary Consultant in Paediatric Gastroenterology at Cambridge University in 2013. He is currently leading a translational research programme investigating the role of epigenetic mechanisms in intestinal health and the development of Inflammatory Bowel Diseases. A major focus within this research theme lies on elucidating the implication of DNA methylation in regulating gene expression and cellular function of the intestinal epithelium. As a key research method the group has established human intestinal epithelial organoid culture models as novel human cell/tissue-based research tools, which also provide promising links to pharmaceutical industry. Additionally, with an aim to translate findings into clinical practice, Dr. Zilbauer’s group is actively working on the development of disease prognostic biomarkers using gene expression and epigenetic signatures.

In 2018 he received an APL Professorship from the University of Witten Herdecke in Germany and took on the role of Deputy Head of Department of Paediatrics, University of Cambridge UK. Dr. Zilbauer was elected as the Scientific Secretary of the European Society for Paediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition and has established a special interest group within the society that actively promotes basic and translational science in the field of pediatric GI health and disease.
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