



NewsBEAT

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Message from the President

I hope all of you have been safe and healthy in these challenging times due to the COVID-19 pandemic. We also have faced violent hate crimes associated with the consequences of racism in the past year. In addition to racial injustice against the Black community, we were recently saddened by the violence against the Asian-American community, particularly Asian women. In this difficult time, I wanted to assure you that NAVBO strongly supports our members who belong to the Black, Asian, LGBTQ, or all under-represented groups. There is absolutely no room for racial injustice, sexism, or any types of disparities in this organization.



**NAVBO President,
Masanori Aikawa**

NAVBO has long embraced and promoted diversity, which is our strong tradition. I was welcomed by this community and became the first Asian president last year. So many talented women have played leadership roles and presented their science at our meetings. But after we asked ourselves what we can do to further strive for diversity, we launched the new Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee. Ten enthusiastic members with various ethnic and cultural backgrounds joined the committee and are actively working on several projects. At Vascular Biology 2020, the committee hosted round tables to discuss racial injustice, women's career development, major challenges international-trained scientists face, and how to support young scientists during the pandemic. These events were very popular, and many members preregistered. We thus had to expand the capacity of each virtual room to accommodate all. During the discussions, some unanticipated diversity-related issues were raised by the audience, which can help the committee tackle new tasks. The DEI Committee will soon launch bimonthly online programming including webinars and round tables.

There is another major challenge within our communities. As news value decreases after each incident, media focus naturally fades. Our attention thus shifts, particularly if you are not directly affected by a hate crime or do not belong to any minority group. As our minds have had to adjust with the rapidly-evolving and devastating situation of the COVID-19 pandemic that has killed over 2.7 million people worldwide, our hearts may go numb while hate crimes keeps happening. We should not forget fundamental problems our communities face. Let's continue discussing these critical issues, learning from history, and educating each other. I hope the DEI Committee's activities will help us work together to protect our core values and to further support our colleagues from underrepresented groups and women. Our ultimate goal is to establish safe and compassionate environments where we can focus on our important mission: science.

The past year has been extremely tough on all of us, particularly those who became ill, who lost loved ones, or who had to take care of children at home. However, this pandemic has forced us to become more innovative. Vascular Biology 2020 went virtual and was our first major virtual meeting. Thanks to heroic efforts of organizers and staff members, the meeting was very innovative and successful. We ran over 60 sessions smoothly and had a record-breaking number of participants. We are also expanding our virtual events, which are organized by our newly launched Online Program Committee, which consists of talented junior investigators. The committee has already been very active organizing Focus Sessions and programming symposia.

Good news is we finally see some light at the end of this tunnel of the pandemic. Let's not lower our guard yet for some more months. I hope to see all of you in person in the very near future. Please stay safe and healthy until then!

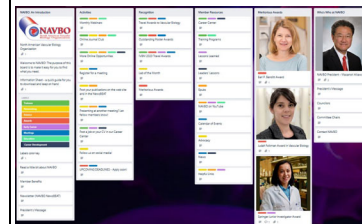
Call for Nominations

**New NAVBO Award for
Outstanding Mentorship Named**

In this issue...

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NAVBO Quick Overview



Meetings

SAVE THE DATE!

**LYMPHATIC
FORUM 2021**
**Exploring the
Lymphatic
Continuum
Virtual Meeting**
May 31–June 5, 2021

**Registration and Abstract
sites open**

Abstracts due March 31!!



Vasculata 2021

Virtual July 13-15
Now Accepting Abstracts
Registration is Open

Vascular Biology 2021



Meet at Asilomar
October 24-28



for Dr. Stephen Schwartz
This award, named for Dr. Stephen Schwartz, will honor an outstanding mentor. **Nominations for the 2021 recipient are due May 3.** For more information and to submit a nomination, [please go to the web page.](#)



2022 Earl P. Benditt Award
The Earl P. Benditt Award recognizes an individual who has made an outstanding discovery or developed a concept that has been seminal to our understanding of vascular biology or pathology. [More information is available here.](#) Nominations are due July 20, 2021.



2022 Judah Folkman Award
This award is a mid-career award in recognition of Dr. Folkman's interests and his many contributions to vascular biology. The recipient will have made a significant impact on the field through his/her original research accomplishments. [Click here for more information.](#) Nominations are due July 20, 2021.

Today's Focus Session

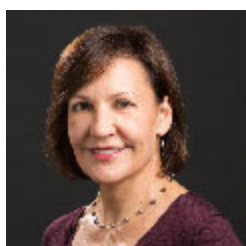
Join us **TODAY** at 1:00pmEDT for our **Focus Session on Signaling** moderated by Lisandra Vila Ellis, MD Anderson Cancer Center and featuring four short talks from selected Vascular Biology 2020 abstracts.

1. Endothelial cell cycle state determines propensity for arterial-venous fate (Nicholas Chavkin, University of Virginia)
2. Mechanosensitive mechanism of angiogenesis and lung regeneration through endothelial YAP1 (Akiko Mammoto, Medical College of Wisconsin)
3. Endothelial ETS family transcription factors regulate ocular blood vessel regression (Chris Schafer, Oklahoma Medical Research Foundation)

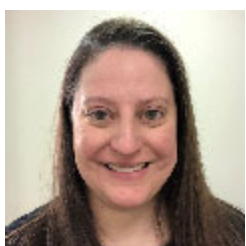
This session will NOT be recorded - so be sure to join us today at 1pmET. [Click here to register.](#)

Join future Focus Sessions, sponsored and organized by the NAVBO Online Program Committee: Inflammation; Disease; New Techniques; and Endothelium Heterogeneity.

Upcoming Webinars



Join us on April 1 at 1:00pmET featuring **Dr. Karen Hirschi**, University of Virginia. Her presentation is titled "Regulation of Endothelial Cell Specialization"



Our webinar on Thursday, May 6 at 1:00pmET will feature **Dr. Amber Stratman** from Washington University in St. Louis.



Dr. Irina Petrache, National Jewish Health, will present her talk "Lung Injury Repair by the Pulmonary Microvasculature" in our webinar series on June 3.

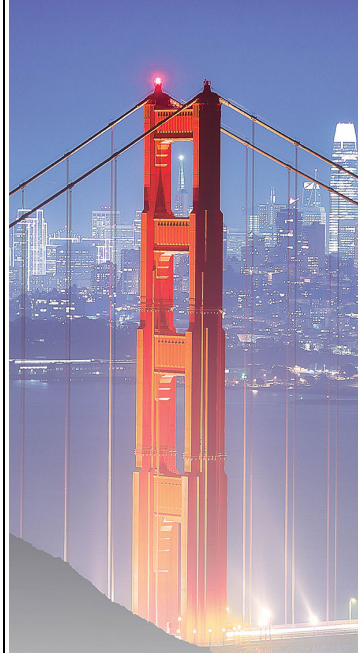
Mark your calendars for these webinars. And bookmark this [page on our web site for more exciting 2021 webinars.](#)

Call for Council Applications

If you are interested in serving NAVBO, please consider submitting your application for Council.

The NAVBO Council is pleased to announce a Call for Applications for two Councilor positions. Any Regular member in good standing (dues paid through June 30, 2021 or later) is eligible to run for the position of Councilor. [Click here for more information and to submit an application.](#) The deadline for submissions is April 30.

Lessons Learned



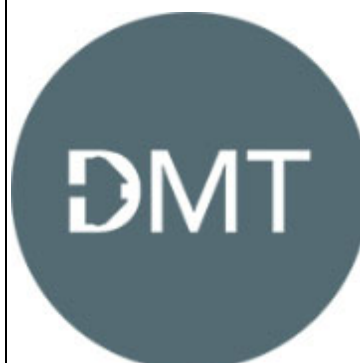
22nd International Vascular Biology Meeting
San Francisco Bay Area
October 13-17, 2022



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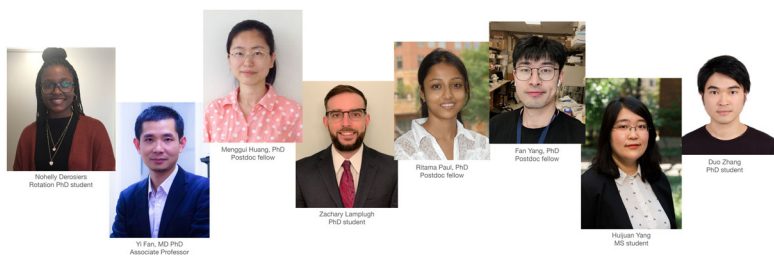


I appreciate the opportunity offered by NAVBO for me to share a reflection of my lessons learned. I am currently an Associate Professor at the University of Pennsylvania. Through my experience in the last 7 years as a faculty member, I have learned how to manage myself to be an independent scientist, a laboratory head, and a teacher. My advice to new faculty can be summarized in four themes: 1) make a practical plan toward your ultimate goal, 2) overcome frustrations, 3) build a nutritious environment for mentoring, and 4) keep learning.

Think something big, and do something small. Don't be fooled by Tom Brokaw with his quote "It's easy to make a buck. It's a lot tougher to make a difference." Considering the current funding situation, it is hard for anyone to make a buck, particularly for new faculty members. While you can keep pursuing something big to make a difference, you may need to do something small to make sure you can complete some projects, publish decent papers, and secure several grants in a timely manner. This will help you establish a track record you much need at this stage, which can serve as a foundation for your future success. I would suggest you to prioritize all of your research projects, to analyze the strengths of everyone in your group, and to leverage your available resources to draft a practical plan, by which you focus efforts to publish your first papers and get your initial grants from federal or private funding agencies that have small start-up funds for young investigators.

Read more from Dr. Fan and past Lessons Learned on our [website](#).

Lab of the Month



Lab of the Month - March 2021

The Lab of Dr. Yi Fan

This month we are highlighting the lab of Dr. Yi Fan, who is an Associate Professor at the University of Pennsylvania. Find out more about Dr. Fan's lab by [visiting his page](#) in our Lab of the Month listing.

Member News

Welcome to our New Members:

Natalie Haywood, University of Leeds
Juyong B. Kim, Stanford University

Harvard Medical School Seminars in Vascular Biology

Organized by several NAVBO members (Peter Libby, Michael Gimbrone, Masanori Aikawa, Guillermo Garcia-Cardena, and Patricia D'Amore), this seminar series offers weekly talks on Thursdays at 4:30 PM (ET). Here's what's coming up this month:

April 1

Arlene H. Sharpe, MD, PhD
Harvard Medical School and Brigham and Women's Hospital
Multifaceted Functions of the PD-1 Pathway

April 8

Manuel F. Navedo, PhD
University of California, Davis
Singularity: Regulation of Vascular Reactivity by a Single Amino Acid in L-type Ca²⁺ Channels

April 15

Guo-Hua Fong, PhD
University of Connecticut School of Medicine
Communication Between Retinal Astrocytes and Endothelial Cells During Angiogenesis

April 29

Eugene C. Butcher, MD
Stanford University and Palo Alto VA Medical Center
Endothelial Diversity, Angiogenesis and the Origins of HEV: insights from Single Cell Profiling

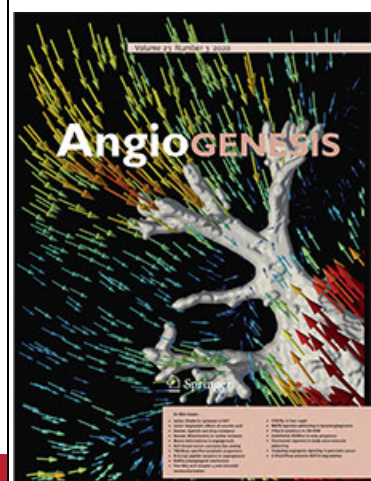
Zoom Info: <https://partners.zoom.us/j/4919086978>



VB20 Guest Societies



Affiliated Journals



Cardiovascular Pathology



Recent Member Publications

National Preclinical Sepsis Platform: developing a framework for accelerating innovation in Canadian sepsis research

Intensive Care Medicine Experimental

Despite decades of preclinical research, no experimentally derived therapies for sepsis have been successfully adopted into routine clinical practice. Factors that contribute to this crisis of translation include poor representation by preclinical models of the complex human condition of sepsis, bias in preclinical studies, as well as limitations of single-laboratory methodology. [Read more](#)

Detection and Profiling of Human Coronavirus Immunoglobulins in Critically Ill Coronavirus Disease 2019 Patients

Critical Care Explorations

Objectives: Coronavirus disease 2019 continues to spread worldwide with high levels of morbidity and mortality. We performed anticoronavirus immunoglobulin G profiling of critically ill coronavirus disease 2019 patients to better define their underlying humoral response. [Read more](#)

If you have a recent paper that you would like to share with NAVBO NewsBEAT subscribers, send the title and link to membership@navbo.org. Please note, only papers authored by current NAVBO members are accepted for inclusion.

Spotlight on Trainees

National Postdoctoral Association aims to enhance the post-doc experience

The [National Postdoctoral Association](#) (NPA), founded in 2002 by a group of forward-looking postdocs, works “to improve the postdoctoral experience by supporting a culture of enhanced professional growth.” The NPA facilitates professional connections at the individual, organizational, and national levels, raising awareness and identifying professional opportunities for post-docs with diverse stakeholders. The organization offers a “PDA Toolkit” to NPA members, which can serve as a guide to the establishment of local postdoc associations at individual institutions. These groups can provide a unified voice to advocate on behalf of all post-doc trainees at their institution and nationally. Moreover, local PDAs provide important community-building opportunities, bridging diverse disciplines.

(originally published March 11)

Summer PRIDE Program



PRIDE Program Mentees

Programs to Increase Diversity Among Individuals Engaged in Health-Related Research (PRIDE)

The PRIDE Summer Institute Program in Cardiovascular Disease Comorbidities, Genetics and Epidemiology to Increase Diversity Among Individuals Engaged in Health-Related Research is now accepting applications. Space is limited for the 2021 mentored summer training programs so apply early!

Eligible applicants are junior-level faculty or scientists with a background that is under-represented in the biomedical or health sciences, and are United States Citizens or Permanent Residents. Research interests should be compatible with those of the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute (NHLBI) in the prevention and treatment of heart, lung, blood, and sleep (HLBS) disorders.

Our All-Expense paid Summer Institute program with effective mentored training opportunities to enhance the research skills and to promote the scientific and career development of trainees with a research interest in Cardiovascular disease Comorbidities, Genetics and Epidemiology.

Trainees will learn effective strategies for preparing, submitting and obtaining external grant funding for research, including extensive tips on best practices.

[For more information on the PRIDE Program click here](#)

Industry News

Return to pre-COVID patterns of life hinges on vaccine acceptance

Research!America blogger Jessica Scott tackles the thorny issue of COVID-19 vaccine hesitancy in her [February 23 post](#), weighing the negative impacts of speedy scientific review and cynical misinformation on public confidence in the vaccines' efficacy and safety. National polling in mid-February indicated that at least 70% of all Americans – the fraction estimated to be needed for herd immunity – intend to receive a COVID-19 vaccine eventually. Still, troublesome gaps remain. Members of Black and Hispanic communities, for example, express reluctance, leery of the medical establishment after generations of mistreatment. Communication is key: scientists must both know the answers to questions of vaccine importance and be able to effectively communicate those answers to the general public.

Call for nominations for the IAS/R3i Jean-Charles Fruchart Prize

The International Atherosclerosis Society and the R3i Foundation announce the [Jean-Charles Fruchart Prize](#) in Nuclear Receptors and Atherosclerosis Research, seeking to encourage basic, clinical and translational research in the role of nuclear receptors in cardiovascular disease prevention and treatment. This prestigious award will be presented during the upcoming XIXth International Symposium on Atherosclerosis in Kyoto, Japan, October 24-27, 2021. The sponsoring organizations invite award nominations, consisting of the candidate's CV and a letter of support, sent to the Nominating Committee (fruchartprize@athero.org) for consideration no later than Tuesday June 15, 2021.

NHLBI Publishes 2021: Advancing Heart, Lung, Blood, and Sleep Research

The NHLBI has released the 2021 edition of its annual [Science Advances report](#), providing an overview of the institute's major programs and partnership activities, as well as highlighting recent advances in research funded by the NHLBI. The information is presented by program area and showcases how NHLBI is putting into practice the objectives identified in its 2016 [Strategic Vision](#). The annual Science Advances brochures aim to inform individuals and organizations that contribute to the pursuit of NHLBI's mission to prevent and treat heart, lung, blood, and sleep disorders.

(originally published March 11)

Call for Papers

Frontiers in Cardiovascular Medicine Special Research Topics



Putting Engineering Back In Vascular Tissue Engineering To Advance Basic Science and Clinical Applications

Topic Editors: Jessica Wagenseil (Washington University in St. Louis) and W. Lee Murfee (University of Florida).

This topic is sponsored by NAVBO. Vascular tissue engineering (VTE) can be characterized as the creation of replacement vessels. Over the past 30 years, approaches have incorporated different combinations of extracellular matrix scaffolds, cells and biological active chemical cues. Challenged by the goal to recapitulate the complexity of big or small vessels, the clinical use of in vitro tissue engineered vessel replacements is still limited. With research more often focusing on reductionist materials science or cell biology characterization of vessel-like constructs, an opportunity has emerged to re-apply engineering approaches to guide the next step in VTE.

Manuscript submission deadline has been extended; for more information, [click here](#).

What do we know about COVID-19 implications for cardiovascular disease?

Topic Editors: Hendrik Tevaearai Stahel, Masanori Aikawa, Shuyang Zhang, and Andrew F. James

The coronavirus epidemic causes major cardiovascular complications. Underlying mechanisms, however, remain incompletely understood. Frontiers in Cardiovascular Medicine invite you to submit your article on this topic. We consider all types of manuscripts: fundamental basic science reports, translational or clinical studies, review articles and methodology papers.

We have already published 17 articles. More submissions are currently under review. Due to the popularity and the emerging nature of this topic, we decided to extend the deadline to December 31, 2021. All articles submitted before this deadline will be published free of charge. We encourage you to take advantage of this opportunity to publish your original study or review article in FCVM (Impact Factor 3.915).

For more information, [click here](#)

For questions, please contact Masanori Aikawa
maikawa@bwh.harvard.edu or the editorial office
cardiovascularmedicine.editorial.office@frontiersin.org

Calendar of Events

April 19 - 20, 2021 [Stanford Drug Discovery Symposium 2021](#)

April 27 - 30, 2021 [Experimental Biology 2021](#)

May 31 - June 5, 2021 [Lymphatic Forum 2021](#)

October 24 - 28, 2021 [Vascular Biology 2021](#)

October 24 - 27, 2021 [ISA 2021](#)

Job Postings

Job Title	Company	Location
Postdoctoral Fellow - Boston Children's Hospital and Harvard Medical School	Boston Children's Hospital	Boston, MA
Postdoctoral Scholar	Case Western Reserve University	Cleveland, OH
Postdoctoral Fellow - Boston Children's Hospital, Harvard Medical School	Boston Children's Hospital	Boston, MA
Research Associate	University of Virginia	Charlottesville, VA



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