Vascular Biology 2026		
Day 1 – Sunday, October 18		
1:30-6:00pm	**Pre-conference Meeting for Trainees** (Chapel) Organizers: Stephen Hammond, MCW and Josephine Tan, Amsterdam UMC Featured Speakers: Kristy Red-Horse, Stanford University; Zhen Bouman Chen, City of Hope; and Brant Isakson, University of Virginia	
7:00-9:30pm	**Opening Remarks** Cynthia St. Hilaire, NAVBO President, University of Pittsburgh **Keynote Lecture by Kristy Red-Horse, Stanford University** *Investigating species-specific coronary artery anatomies using in vivo perturb-seq* **Earl P. Benditt Award Presentation and Lecture** - *Genetics informs new therapies for pulmonary arterial hypertension* Marlene Rabinovitch, Stanford University School of Medicine **Presentation of the Travel Awards**	
9:30-10:30pm	Welcome Reception	
Day 2 – Monday, October 19		
7:30-8:30am	Group Breakfast	
8:30-10:00am	**Regulation of Vascular Development** (Merrill**)** *Hemodynamic regulation of vascular development* Amber Stratman, Washington Univ in St. Louis Short Talk: *Primary cilia protein IFT88 is a key governor of smooth muscle phenotype* Brendan O'Brien, Yale School of Medicine Short Talk: *Endothelial PCBP1 Is Essential for Developmental Angiogenesis and Cardiac Morphogenesis* Shuhan Lyu, University of Southern California *Mural cell recruitment to the developing vasculature: insights from disease genes* Sarah Childs, University of Calgary	**Cell Communication in Atherosclerosis** (Chapel) *Restoring endothelial-immune cell communication to resolve vascular inflammation* Kathryn Howe, University of Toronto Short Talk: *Discovery of a nutrient sensing checkpoint required for continual efferocytosis* Abraham Quaye, Louisiana State University Health Shreveport Short Talk: *Inhibiting Interleukin-6 trans signaling increases murine survival from cardiovascular events* Victoria Milosek, University of Virginia *Resolving inflammation as a strategy to treat atherosclerosis* Gabrielle Fredman, Albany Medical School
10:30am-12:00pm	**Vascular Malformations** (Merrill) *Unveiling brain AVM pathogenesis: Lessons from mouse models* Paul Oh, Barrow Institute Short Talk: *MYC-induced hypertranscription drives pathological*	**Organ crosstalk in cardiometabolic disease** (Chapel) *Chylomicrons as drivers of inflammation through regulatory T cell metabolism of dietary lipids* Alison Kohan, University of Pittsburgh

	vascular remodeling in sporadic arteriovenous malformations Jason Fish, University Health Network - Toronto Short Talk: *Dynamic Regulation of the Retrotransposon LINE-1 During Infantile Hemangioma Progression* Mehrnaz Mehrabipour, Boston Children's Hospital/Harvard Medical School *Cellular and molecular mechanisms driving aberrant vascular lumen formation in a novel model of venous malformation* Elisa Boscolo, Cincinnati Children's	Short Talk: *Defective Lymphatic Drainage and Junctional Disorganization Impair Cardiac Injury Resolution After Myocardial Infarction* Long Nguyen Hoang Do, Temple University Short Talk: *Breast cancer induces cardiac inflammation to predispose the cardiovascular system to damage during chemotherapy* Priya Mistry, University Health Network *Vascular-Immune cell crosstalk in the control of acute and chronic damage responses* Scott Johnstone, Virginia Tech's Fralin Biomedical Research Institute
12:00-1:00pm	Lunch and Learn for Trainees	Lunch for all others
1:00-2:30pm	**MCS President's Symposium: Lymphatics in Disease and Development** *Obesity-Related Lymphedema: Mechanisms and potential therapeutic targets* Jorge A. Castorena, Tulane University School of Medicine *Calcium signals at the heart of lymphatic muscle cell pacemaking* Scott Zawieja, University of Missouri *Lymphatic transport from the intestine* Gwendalyn Randolph, Washington University in St. Louis *NOTCH1 as a regulator of lymphatic button junctions* Joshua Scallan, University of South Florida	
2:30-3:15pm	**Microcirculatory Society's Landis Award Presentation and Lecture -** *Following Where the Science Leads* Brant Isakson, University of Virginia	
3:30-5:00pm	**Emerging Topics in Microcirculation** Short Talk: *Liraglutide Suppresses Inflammatory and Barrier-Disruptive Responses in Human Lung Microvascular Endothelial Cells Through a Potential GLP-1R-Independent Mechanism* David Aslaner, Vanderbilt University Short Talk: *Lymphatic endothelial alpha globin promotes cardiomyocyte hypertrophy during heart failure through local nitric oxide scavenging and T cell retention* Skylar Loeb, University of Virginia Short Talk: *Calcitonin receptor-like receptor (CLR) Signaling Regulates Lymphatic Lipid Metabolism and Intestinal Lipid Transport* Yanna Tian, *University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill* Short Talk: *Piezo1-Mediated Mechanotransduction in Endothelial Dysfunction During Severe Dengue* Lindsay Whalen, University of Illinois Chicago	

	Short Talk: *Understanding pericyte cell states and their roles in pancreatic ductal adenocarcinoma* Christian Palacios-Gomez, University of Virginia Short Talk: *Early-life protein restriction exacerbates metabolic dysfunction and impairs pancreatic vascular responses induced by a hypercaloric diet* Leticia Barssotti, University of Campinas	
5:10-5:45pm	**Nano-Talks** (Merrill)	
6:00-7:00pm	Group Dinner	
7:00-10:00pm	**Poster Sessions** (Fred Farr Forum and Kiln)	
Day 3 – Tuesday, October 20		
7:30-8:30am	Group Breakfast	
8:30-10:00am	**Neurovascular Coupling and Patterning** (Merrill) *Piezo1 integrates hemodynamic forces to tune neurovascular coupling* Osama Harraz, University of Vermont Short Talk: *A mitochondrial program encodes brain vascular reserve* Ivan Fan Xia, Yale University Short Talk: *Choline regulates angiogenesis and promotes remyelination in post stroke repair* Dibyanti Mukherjee, University of California, San Francisco *Understanding the role of endothelial calcium dynamics in cerebral microcirculation* Craig Brown, University of Victoria	**Omics in Inflammatory CVD** (Chapel) *Spatially mapping atherosclerosis: Connecting molecular architecture to clinical understanding* Gregory Payne, University of Alabama, Birmingham Short Talk: *Divergent Immune and Smooth Muscle Programs Define Sex-Specific Remodeling in Ascending Aortic Aneurysm* Elena Repges, Brigham and Women's Hospital Short Talk: *Single-cell transcriptomics reveals endothelial and stromal remodeling linked to chronic venous obstruction following venous stenting* Oscar Moreno, University of Michigan *Precision cardiovascular genomics: Decoding disease risk with stem cell models* Valentina Lo Sardo, University of Wisconsin-Madison
10:30am-12:00pm	**Engineering Strategies for Vascularization and Disease Modeling** (Merrill) *Engineering angiogenic biomaterials for brain repair* Tatiana Segura, Duke University Short Talk: *Blood perfusion drives microvessel maturation in engineered microvascular grafts* Angela Zhou, University Health Network Short Talk: *Circulating nanoplastics induce cardiotoxicity and vascular inflammation in a perfusable engineered human cardiovascular microtissue* Jules Allbritton-King, Harvard Medical School *Engineering the stem cell niche* Quinton Smith, University of California Irvine	
12:00-1:30pm	**Career Development Lunch**: Mock Interviews - Your First Faculty Position (Seascape – Crocker Dining Hall)	Lunch for all others

1:30-3:30pm	**Regeneration and Mechanobiology in Vascular Biology** *(Merrill)* *Flow, KLF2, and endothelial mechanobiology* Guillermo Garcia-Cardeña, Harvard Medical School *Mechanical and cellular heterogeneity in asymmetric aortic valve calcification* Joshua Hutcheson, Florida International University *Endothelial organotypic plasticity in pancreatic islet cell grafts* Sara Nunes Vasconcelos, University of Toronto *Non-canonical functions of telomerase in vascular rejuvenation* John Cooke, Houston Methodist Research Institute	**Pulmonary Microcirculation in Pulmonary Hypertension** (Chapel) *Rgs5 deficiency in pericytes promotes microvascular remodeling in pulmonary hypertension* Ke Yuan, Boston Children's Hospital Short Talk: *Extracellular matrix-related protein Cthrc1 is a potential target in pulmonary hypertension* Eunate Gallardo-Vara, Yale University Short Talk: *Restoring Endothelial TMEM100 Reverses the Pulmonary Arterial Hypertension Phenotype Resulting from TBX4 Deficiency* Mauro Lago Docampo, Stanford University Short Talk: *Targeting the ERG-EDNRB Axis in Lymphatic Endothelial Cells to Attenuate Bleomycin-Induced Pulmonary Fibrosis* Arun Narota, Boston University Short Talk: *ROR2 Signaling Regulates Pericyte Function and Microvascular Stability in Pulmonary Arterial Hypertension* Arpita Roy, Stanford University *Mitochondrial ASIC1a as a key regulator of pulmonary arterial smooth muscle cell apoptosis* Nikki L Jernigan, University of New Mexico School of Medicine
3:45-4:15pm	**Tech Showcase: Live, Long-term Mitochondrial Respiration with Resipher** (Merrill) Silke Grainger, VP Product Application Strategy	
5:00-6:00pm	**Career Development:** Preparing a Pre- or Postdoctoral Fellowship Application: Lessons from Study Sections (Chapel)	
6:00-7:00pm	Early-Stage Investigators Dinner (Seascape)	Group Dinner
7:00-10:00pm	**Poster Sessions** (Fred Farr Forum and Kiln)	
Day 4 – Wednesday, October 21		
7:30-8:30	Group Breakfast	

8:30-10:00am	**Lymphatics: Aging and Function** (Merrill) *G protein-coupled receptors in lymphatic development and physiology* Kathleen Caron, UNC Chapel Hill Short Talk: *Characterization of novel lymphatic capillary mural cells (LCMCs)* Vishakha Vishwakarma, NICHD, NIH Short Talk: *Connexin 37-mediated late G1 state enables lymphatic valve morphogenesis* Madeline Jackson, University of Virginia *The role of lymphatic vessels in mesenteric inflammation* Sathish Srinivasan, Oklahoma Medical Research Foundation	**Metabolism and Epigenetics Intersection in Cardiovascular Disease** (Chapel) *RNA-mediated endothelial stress response in diabetes and complications* Zhen Chen, City of Hope Short Talk: *TGFß negatively regulates CPT1A-mediated fatty acid oxidation to impair cardiac lymphangiogenesis and exacerbate cardiac dysfunction following myocardial ischemia* Esteban Delgado, Temple University Short Talk: *Empagliflozin restores angiogenic gene regulatory pathways in the cardiac microvasculature in diabetes-induced heart failure with preserved ejection fraction* Cori Lau, University Health Network *Epigenetics and inflammation in cardiovascular disease* Katherine Gallagher, University of Michigan
10:30am-12:00pm	**New Trends in Vascular Biology** (Merrill) Short Talk: *Platelets unlock endothelial plasticity toward mesenchymal fates to promote aortic Aneurysm* Yogi Pratama, NYU Langone Health Short Talk: *The splicing factor SF3B1 is essential for safeguarding global splicing integrity and suppressing ferroptosis in endothelial cells to support angiogenesis* Ziqing Liu, Medical College of Wisconsin Short Talk: *Piezo2-Vegfr3 signaling axis regulates lymphangiogenesis in calcium dependent manner* Zuzanna Juskiewicz, University of Virginia Short Talk: *Type 1 Diabetes Abrogates Female Vascular Protection Through Renin-Angiotensin -Aldosterone System-Dependent Oxidative Stress Despite Preserved*	**Musculoskeletal Microcirculation** (Chapel) *Age-related microvascular dysfunction: The skeleton and beyond* Rhonda Prisby, University of Texas at Arlington Short Talk: *The histone modification H3K4me2 and the DNA demethylase TET2 coordinately regulate microvascular SMC recruitment and coverage during hindlimb ischemia-induced angiogenesis* Sanjana Basak, University of Pittsburgh Short Talk: *Impacts of Metabolic Disease and Aging on Synovial Microvasculature in Knee Osteoarthritis: Roles of Synovial Endothelial-to-Mesenchymal Transition* Qinli Guo, Western University *The relationship between microvascular health and neuromuscular function post-stroke* Matthew Durand, Medical College of Wisconsin

	Endothelial Bioenergetics Adam Salon, Augusta University Short Talk: *Engineering Macrophage-Informed Vascularization: From Native Microvessel Biology to Regenerative Applications* Si Tong Huo, University of Toronto Short Talk: *Engineering Lymphatic Vascular Tissues from Human Induced Pluripotent Stem Cells* Donny Hanjaya-Putra, University of Notre Dame	
12:00-1:00pm	Community Building Workshop for International Scholars in the US (Seascape – Crocker Dining Hall)	Group Lunch for all others
1:00-2:30pm	**Mechanisms of Vascular Disease and Resilience** *Smooth muscle pathobiology in vascular disease* Daniel Greif, Yale University *Endothelial cell nuclear mechanotransduction regulates vascular resilience* Victoria Bautch, UNC Chapel Hill *Role of endothelial cell cycle in fate specification* Karen Hirschi, University of Virginia School of Medicine	
2:45-4:30pm	**NAVBO – Award Lectures and Presentations** Presentation of the Florence Sabin Award - Sharon Gerecht, Duke University Presentation of the Stephen Schwartz Award - Peter Libby, Harvard School of Medicine Springer Award Presentation and Lecture - *TGFβ-Mediated Metabolic Regulation of Cardiac Lymphatics After Myocardial Infarction* Xiaolei Liu, Temple University Folkman Award Presentation and Lecture - *From endothelial mechanobiology toward precision nanomedicine for vascular disease* Yun Fang, University of Chicago	
5:00-7:00pm	**Poster Sessions** (Fred Farr Forum and Kiln)	
7:15-9:30pm	Farewell Dinner, Poster Award Presentations and Closing Remarks	
Day 5 – Thursday, October 22		
7:30-8:30am	**Group Breakfast**	