

UNITY IN DISCOVERY

RESEARCH DAY 2025



Wednesday, April 2, 2025

Research Day is an event for basic scientists, clinicians and trainees to share their science and explore the possibilities of interdisciplinary collaboration. Open to researchers and general audiences alike, this annual event highlights the exciting science happening at the College of Medicine – Tucson.

7-7:50 a.m.

Grand Rounds: Department of Surgery

Location: **HSIB Forum**

Session Host: **Louis J. Magnotti, MD, MS**

Trauma System Development: Importance of the Regional Medical Operations Center

Ronald M. Stewart, MD

Dr. Witten B. Russ Chair in Surgery
University of Texas San Antonio

8 – 8:20 a.m.

Clinical Data Blitzes

Session 1 | Surgery

Session Host: **Kenneth W Liechty, MD**

Age-specific metabolite and endothelial changes after injuring older adults

Tanya Anand MD, MPH

Diabetes depletes systemic CD64+ Ly6C+ monocytes to impair wound healing

Maria Gracia Mora Pinos, MD

Sonoran safety net: A firearm-violence prevention program pilot study

Shamele Battan-Wraith, MD

8:20 – 8:40 a.m.

Clinical Data Blitzes

Session 2 | Urology

Session Host: **David T. Tzou, MD**

Developing innovative models to address disparities and improve outcomes for patients with renal cell carcinoma

Steffan T. Nawrocki, PhD

Comparing MOSES 1.0 vs. 2.0 for Holmium Laser Enucleation of the Prostate-Is There Really A Difference?

Ava Delu, MD

Kidney stone composition, microbiota, and endotoxins: An intricate milieu of complex relationships

David T. Tzou, MD

8:40 – 8:55 a.m.

Clinical Data Blitzes

Session 3 | Neurosurgery

Session Host: **Paul S. Larson, MD**

Autologous cell transplantation for Parkinson's Disease

Paul S. Larson, MD

Innovative strategies for overcoming challenges in brain tumor treatment
Kristin Huntoon, PhD, DO

9 – 10 a.m.

Keynote Lectures

Session Host: **Jason A. Wertheim, MD, PhD**



Immune-based detection and treatment of metastatic cancer

Lonnie Shea, PhD

Steven A. Goldstein Collegiate
Professor of Biomedical Engineering,
Chemical Engineering, and Surgery
University of Michigan Medical School



Caring for breast cancer patients from bench to bedside

Jacqueline Jeruss, MD, PhD

Professor, Surgery
University of Michigan Medical School

10 – 10:50 a.m.

Breakout Sessions

Session 1 | Regenerative and Restorative Medicine

Location: HSIB Forum – Small Stage

Session Host: **Geoffrey Gurtner, MD** and **John Elfar, MD**

4-aminopyridine enhances ORA1 and pSTAT6 signaling to reduce inflammation and apoptosis while promoting skin regeneration after a burn injury.

Prem Kumar Govindappa, DVM, PhD

Characterization of mechanoresponsive, pro-inflammatory myeloid cells during fibrosis and regeneration

Kellen Chen, PhD

Electrical Impedance as a Biomarker for Wound Healing

Erika Krall Kness-Knezinskis, MD

Kidney organoids: A novel diagnostic tool for recurrence in patients with focal segmental glomerulosclerosis

Ashwani Gupta, PhD

Session 2 | Brain Health

Location: HSIB 306 – Learning Commons

Session Host: **Todd Vanderah, PhD**

The latest and greatest in traumatic brain injury

Dedrick Jordan, MD, PhD, MBA, MSEQ

Using AI to find biomarkers in pain

Ilknur Telkes, PhD, MS

The latest and greatest MR sequences for the brain

Nan-kuei Chen, PhD, MS

Chronic pain and family dynamics

Jennifer Schultz De La Rosa, PhD

Mitochondria in Mind: Clearing Lipids to Fight Alzheimer's

Fei Yin, PhD

Session 3 | Clinical and Translational Sciences Awards (CTSA) Program

Location: HSIB 567

Session Host: **Sairam Parthasarathy, MD**

Overview and strategic management (Elements A & B)

Sairam Parthasarathy, MD

Training and Outreach (Elements C1 & C2)

Daniel Derksen, MD and **Francisco Moreno, MD**

Pilots and Informatics (Element D)

C. Kent Kwoh, MD and **Vignesh Subbian, PhD**

Element E

Bridget Murphy, DBH

K12

Jason A. Wertheim, MD, PhD

11 – 11:50 a.m.

Breakout Sessions

Session 4 | Cardiovascular Health

Location: HSIB 567

Session Host: **James Liao, MD**

Therapeutic approaches for Titin truncating variants (TTNvs) that cause DCM

Henk Granzier, PhD

Unraveling ancestry-based gene-diet interactions driving health disparities in inflammation, cardiovascular disease, and diabetes

Floyd “Ski” Chilton, PhD

Daily Rhythms in Cardiac Metabolism and the Impact on Diagnosis and Treatment of Heart Disease

Luke Szweda, PhD

Research in the Romanoski Lab

Casey E. Romanoski, PhD

Finding new molecular targets to treat calcium-dependent arrhythmias

Shanna Hamilton, PhD

Role of iron and metabolic processes in cardiovascular disease

Hossein Ardehali, MD, PhD

Session 5 | Medical Student Research, Scholarly Projects, and MD/PhD Trainees

Location: HSIB 306 – Learning Commons

Session Host: **Keith Joiner, MD, MPH**

Sona Wolf, MPH

MD Candidate, Class of 2025, Scholarly Projects

Hannah Rosch Newton

MD Candidate, Class of 2025, Scholarly Projects

Joseph Gunderson

MD Candidate, Class of 2025, Scholarly Projects

Jacob Ref

MD Candidate, Class of 2025, Scholarly Projects

Katie Riordan

MD Candidate, Class of 2025, Scholarly Projects

Natalie Caryl

MD Candidate, Class of 2025, Scholarly Projects

Brandon Lee MS

MD/PhD Candidate

Zak Webber

MD/PhD Candidate

Kayleigh Berthiaume Fox

MD/PhD Candidate

Coco Tirambulo

MD/PhD Candidate

Noon - 1 p.m.

Grand Rounds: Department of Medicine

Location: **HSIB Forum**

Session Host: **Louis J. Magnotti, MD, MS**

Kidney precision medicine

Jonathan Himmelfarb, MD

Professor of Medicine

Co-Director of the Mount Sinai Center

for Kidney Disease Innovation

Carl Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai

1:10 - 2 p.m.

Breakout Sessions

Session 6 | Arizona for Arizona

Location: HSIB Forum – Small Stage

Session Host: **John Galgiani, MD** and **Clara Curiel, MD**

Dual Treat-and-Prevent Strategy Using Oncolytic Viruses for Non-Melanoma Skin Cancer

Clara Curiel, MD

Risk Assessment of Severe Valley Fever

John Galgiani, MD

Strategies to Promote Late Life Resilience by Combatting Inflammation

Janko Ž. Nikolich, MD, PhD

Session 7 | Women in Medicine and Science

Sustaining a Meaningful Research Program: Navigating Challenges with Vision and Purpose

Location: HSIB 567

Session Host: **Hina Arif, MD**

Guest Presenter: **Jacqueline Jeruss, MD, PhD**

During this interactive session, we will share strategies for establishing a research program, sustaining long-term success, and navigating today's increasingly complex research environment. Following the keynote, an open forum discussion will provide an opportunity for faculty to connect, share experiences, and explore practical approaches to overcoming challenges while building impactful and resilient research careers.

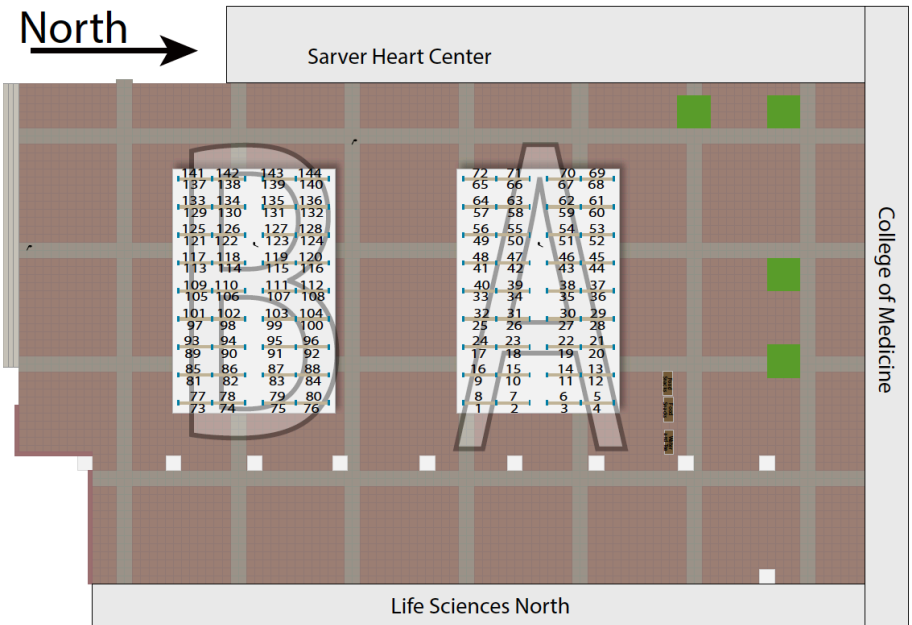
2 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.
Poster Session

Location: **UAHS Plaza (between COM-T, Life Sciences North, and Sarver)**

This poster session encourages trainees and students to showcase their research. There will be over 140 posters under two tents.



Scan the QR code to access the complete listing of poster presenters and their presentations.



**ARIZONA DEPARTMENT
 OF HEALTH SERVICES**

ARIZONA BIOMEDICAL RESEARCH CENTRE

Research Day is co-sponsored by the Arizona Biomedical Research Centre (ABRC). ABRC-funded events strive to deliver high-quality educational resources to support Arizona researchers in becoming leaders in biomedical research fields, successfully competing for external support, and translating research findings to address critical medical needs and improve health outcomes.



THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA
College of Medicine
 Tucson