



Bioengineered Tissue Systems & Models

OCTOBER 14-16, 2026 | VIRTUAL MEETING

Organizers: Mirjana Maletic-Savatic, Baylor College of Medicine
Gordana Vunjak-Novakovic, Columbia University

Co-organizer: Naveed Tavakol, Columbia University

DAY 1 / WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14

Deciphering Human Biology

All times Eastern Time (ET)

10:00-10:05 AM	Opening remarks
10:05-10:25 AM	Mechano-sensing in the Lung Ed Morrissey, PhD Professor University of Pennsylvania
10:25-10:45 AM	Inflammatory temperatures induce genome instability and modulate immune responses in 3D immuno-tumoroids Dennis Discher, PhD Professor University of Pennsylvania
10:45-11:05 AM	Stem Cells, Genomics, and AI for Drug Discovery Joseph Wu, MD, PhD Professor Stanford University
11:05-11:25 AM	A patient-derived hiPSC microtissue model of non-monogenic inherited atrial arrhythmia Kareen Coulombe, PhD Associate Professor Brown University
11:25-11:45 AM	New Tools to Decode and Engineer Matrix Remodeling Claudia Loebl, MD, PhD Assistant Professor University of Pennsylvania
11:45 AM-12:00 PM	TRAINEE TALK Brain organoids to explore human development and disease Irene Faravelli, MD, PhD Assistant Professor & Research Associate Università degli Studi di Milano & Harvard University
12:00-12:10 PM	Break
12:10-12:55 PM	PANEL DISCUSSION New methods and challenges in characterizing biology and disease Moderator: Monika Golda-Cepa, PhD Editor in Chief, Cell Biomaterials Panelists: Milica Radisic, PhD Professor, University of Toronto Sharon Gerecht, PhD Professor, Duke University
12:55-1:00 PM	Day 1 summary



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DAY 2 / THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15

Engineering Complexity

All times Eastern Time (ET)

10:05-10:25 AM	Targeting Neuromuscular Junction Regeneration in the Treatment of Volumetric Muscle Loss Warren Grayson, PhD Professor Johns Hopkins University
10:25-10:45 AM	Granular niches: new frontiers for engineered tissue models Brendan Harley, PhD Professor University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign
10:45-11:05 AM	Achieving scalable organoid fabrication with biomaterials Sarah Heilshorn, PhD Professor Stanford University
11:05-11:25 AM	DLP Printing to Guide Cell Behavior in Tissues and Models Jason Burdick, PhD Professor University of Colorado at Boulder
11:25-11:35 AM	Break
11:35-11:50 AM	TRAINEE TALK Human microphysiological model of retinal matrix stiffening reveals pericyte-mediated mechanisms of vascular dysfunction Emily Warren PhD Candidate Duke University
11:50 AM-12:05 PM	TRAINEE TALK Hyaluronic Acid Mechanotransduction Regulates Pancreatic Stellate Cell Activation Daiyao Zhang PhD Candidate University of Toronto
12:10-12:55 PM	PANEL DISCUSSION Data integration, omics, computational methods in biomedical research Moderator: Rita Strack Chief Editor, Nature Biomedical Engineering Panelists: Sarah Teichmann, PhD Professor, Wellcome Sanger Institute / University of Cambridge Dan Huh, PhD Professor and Co-Founder, University of Pennsylvania / Vivodyne
12:55-1:00 PM	Day 2 summary



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DAY 3 / FRIDAY, OCTOBER 16

Personalizing Translation

All times Eastern Time (ET)

10:05-10:25 AM	Advancing gene therapy and vaccine development by merging organoid and organ-on-chip technologies Peter Loskill, PhD Professor University of Tübingen
10:25-10:45 AM	Using organ chips, single cell proteomics and space flight to understand human disease Clive Svendsen, PhD Professor Cedars Sinai Medical Center
10:45-11:05 AM	Biomedically engineered in vitro model platform for the study of implant-associated infections Dietmar Hutmacher, PhD Professor Queensland University of Technology
11:05-11:25 AM	Immune-stromal networks in tissue homeostasis and disease Jennifer Elisseeff, PhD Professor Johns Hopkins University
11:25-11:35 AM	Break
11:35-11:50 AM	TRAINEE TALK The Metabolic Code: how metabolism shapes cell fate in the developing brain Gerarda Cappuccio, MD, PhD Postdoctoral Research Scientist Baylor College of Medicine
11:50 AM-12:05 PM	TRAINEE TALK Distant Effects of Tissue Injury: How Osteoarthritis Remodels the Tumor Microenvironment Elise Gray-Gaillard, PhD Postdoctoral Research Scientist Johns Hopkins University
12:05-12:50 PM	PANEL DISCUSSION Immunity for Translation Moderator: Valeria Caprettini, PhD Senior Editor, Nature Biomedical Engineering Panelists: Sjoukje van der Stegen, PhD Group Leader, CZI Biohub NY Megan Sykes, MD Professor, Columbia University
12:50-1:00 PM	Day 3 summary and meeting closeout