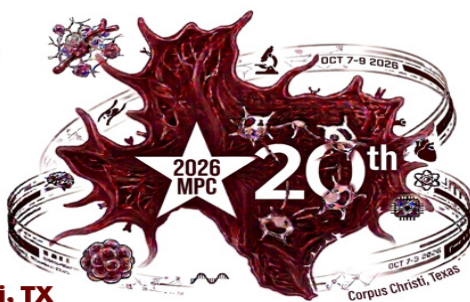


20th MIDWEST PLATELET CONFERENCE

Oct 7-9, 2026, Corpus Christi, TX



Program (subject to change; some titles are tentative)

Wednesday, October 7, 2026

5:00-8:30 PM: Registration

6:30-8:30pm **SCIENTIFIC SESSION 1: NHLBI Research Priorities, the Bio-Engineering Frontier & New Approach Methodologies (NAMs)**

Co-Chairs/Moderators:

25 min/10 min	NHLBI Program Director/Officer (Crystal Hill-Pryor and Leslie Neidert)
15 min/5 min	Wilbur Lam (Emory University)
	TBD
15 min/5 min	TBD
15 min/5 min	TBD
15 min/5 min	Anandi Krishnan (Rutgers University)
	<i>The Versatile Platelet: a Bridge to Translational Medicine</i>
8 min/2 min	Trainee (Abstract Presenter)

8:30-10:30pm **RECEPTION and POSTER SESSION 1**

Thursday, October 8, 2026

6:15- 7:00am "Sunrise Yoga/Run" on the beach for early-rising attendees.

6:30-8:00 Breakfast and Registration

8:00-8:20am **Conference Welcome**

Dean of College of Pharmacy, Vice President/Chief Operating Officer of Health Science Center, Texas A&M University Vice President for Research

8:20-10:00am **SCIENTIFIC SESSION 2: Platelet Signaling, Thrombopoiesis, and Activation**

Co-Chairs/Moderators:

- | | |
|--------------|---|
| 15 min/5min | Sidney Whiteheart (University of Kentucky)
<i>Platelet "Cell Biology" is Surprising: Roles for Secretion, Endocytosis, and Bioenergetics in Hemostasis and Beyond</i> |
| 15 min/5 min | Randal Westrick (Oakland University)
<i>Arl6ip5 Deficiency Protects Against Thrombosis and Results in a Mouse Hyperventilation Phenotype</i> |
| 15 min/5 min | Hervé Falet (Versiti)
<i>Novel Insights into Platelet and Megakaryocyte Integrin $\beta 1$ Regulation by PACSIN2</i> |
| 15 min/5 min | TBD |
| 8 min/2 min | Trainee (Abstract Presenter) |
| 8 min/2 min | Trainee (Abstract Presenter) |

10:00-10:30am **Networking/Coffee Break**

10:30am-12:00pm **SCIENTIFIC SESSION 3: The Platelet-Metabolic Nexus**

Co-Chairs/Moderators:

- | | |
|--------------|---|
| 15 min/5 min | Sanjana Dayal (University of Iowa)
TBD |
| 15 min/5 min | Maria Barrachina (Nationwide Children's Hospital)
<i>Lipid Landscapes of Thrombopoiesis: How Saturated Fat Reshapes Platelet Formation and Function</i> |
| 15 min/5 min | Wei Li (Marshall University)
<i>Teaching an Old Dog New Tricks: Emerging Roles of Na/K Homeostasis and Sex Hormones in Thrombotic Disease</i> |
| 15 min/5 min | Tyler Benson (University of Cincinnati)
<i>Modeling intraluminal thrombus formation in mice to study platelet function in AAA</i> |
| 8 min/2 min | Trainee (Abstract Presenter) |

12:00-12:10pm Lunch/Transition Time

12:10-1:00pm Lunch & Career Development Workshop

Co-Chairs/Moderators:

- 10 min Transitioning to Independence (**Ze Zheng**, Versiti)
- 15 min Federal Government (**Leslie Neidert & Crystal Hill-Pryor**; NHLBI)
- 10 min Industry and Academia Partnerships (**Beth Bouchard**, Prolytix)
- 10 min **Panel Discussion/Questions**

1:00-2:00pm POSTER SESSION 2

2:00-3:30pm SCIENTIFIC SESSION 4: Platelet Architects of Disease I

Co-Chairs/Moderators:

- 15min/5 min **Jaehyung Cho** (Washington University St. Louis)
The Paradox of Hypoxia in Platelet Activation and Arterial Thrombosis
- 15 min/5 min **Shahnaz Qadri** (Texas A&M University)
Environmental Sensing by Platelet Ion Channels: Emerging Roles in Homeostasis and Thrombosis
- 15 min/5 min **Anu Aggarwal** (Cleveland Clinic)
The mechanism of thrombosis in Fibromuscular Dysplasia
- 15 min/5 min **Robert Lee** (University of North Carolina)
Impact of Injury Compression on Hemostatic Plug Formation in Mouse Models of Platelet Dysfunction
- 8 min/2 min **Trainee (Abstract Presenter)**

3:30-3:45pm Networking Break

3:45-5:15pm SCIENTIFIC SESSION 5: Platelet Architects of Disease II

Co-Chairs/Moderators:

- 15 min/5 min **Xiaoping Du** (University of Illinois at Chicago)
New Roles of Platelets and G13-integrin Interaction in Thrombo-inflammatory Diseases

- 15 min/5 min **X. Long Zheng** (University of Kansas)
Novel Therapeutics for TTP
- 15 min/5 min **James Michael** (Thomas Jefferson University)
Emerging Inflammatory Mechanisms that Drive Heparin-induced Thrombocytopenia
- 15 min/5 min **Jasim Ahmed** (Oklahoma Medical Research Foundation)
Role of Platelet TGF-beta1 in Normal and Disease States
- 8 min/2 min **Trainee (Abstract Presenter)**

6:00pm **Transportation to USS Lexington**

6:30-10:30pm **20th Anniversary Banquet & Reception (USS Lexington)**
Celebration of 20th MPC: Remarks by Peter Newman (Versiti)

Friday, October 9, 2026

6:30-8:00am Breakfast

8:00-10:00am **SCIENTIFIC SESSION 6: Novel Antiplatelets and Advanced Technologies**

Co-Chairs/Moderators:

- 15min/5min **RenRen Wen** (Versiti)
Prothrombotic B-cell responses: friend or foe
- 15min/5min **Michael Holinstat** (University of Michigan)
Targeting the Platelet for Prevention and Treatment of Rare Microvascular Thrombotic Diseases
- 15min/5min **Andrew Yee** (Baylor College of Medicine)
Dissecting Ligands of Platelet Receptors
- 15min/5min **TBD**
- 15min/5min **Xu Han** (Case Western Reserve University)
Towards the Structural-Omics of Platelet Membrane Proteins
- 8 min/2 min **Trainee (Abstract Presenter)**
- 8 min/2 min **Trainee (Abstract Presenter)**

10:00-10:30am **Networking Break & 21st Midwest Platelet Conference Presentation of Host Site/Voting**

10:30am-12:00pm **SCIENTIFIC SESSION 7: *Hot Topics (selected from the top scored abstracts submitted)***

Co-Chairs/Moderators:

10min/3min Trainee (Abstract Presenter)

10min/3min Trainee (Abstract Presenter)

10min/3min Trainee (Abstract Presenter)

10min/3min Trainee (Abstract Presenter)

10min/3min Trainee (Abstract Presenter)

10min/3min Trainee (Abstract Presenter)

12:00-12:30pm **Closing Remarks, Boxed Lunch (To Go) & Awards**

Awards Presentation