

2023-2024 Vanderbilt Digestive Disease Research Center (VDDRC) Retreat
Progenitor Cells, Development, Regeneration, and Pre-malignant lesions
Tuesday, April 2, 2024
9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Langford Auditorium

Richard M. Peek, Jr., MD

Mina Cobb Wallace Professor of Medicine and Pathology, Microbiology, & Immunology
Director, Vanderbilt Digestive Diseases Research Center

9:00 – 9:25 am

Global challenges in diagnosis ambiguity and delay in colonic inflammatory bowel disease

Amosy E. M’Koma, MD, MS, PhD

Professor of Surgery, Surgical Sciences, Pathology and Cancer Biology
Meharry Medical College

9:25 – 9:50 am

How the gut samples pathogens: The view from the inside out

Nicholas C. Zachos, PhD

Associate Professor of Surgery and Cell and Developmental Biology

9:50 – 10:15 am

Targeting dysplastic stem cells in gastric carcinogenesis

Eunyoung Choi, PhD

Associate Professor of Surgery and Cell and Developmental Biology

10:15 – 10:25

Break

10:25 – 10:50

Identifying key factors in Enteric Nervous System gene regulatory networks

Michelle Southard Smith, PhD

Professor of Medicine and Cell and Developmental Biology

10:50 – 11:35

Making the digestive system: From animal models to human organoids

Aaron M. Zorn, PhD

William K Schubert Professor of Pediatrics
University of Cincinnati Children’s Hospital

11: 35– 12:50

Lunch and Poster Session

12:50 – 1:15

Chlamydia colonization induces spread of Crohn’s-like inflammation from the terminal ileum to the ascending colon

Paige Spencer, PhD

1:15 – 1:40

Distinct treatment outcomes between MVID patient-modeled mice

Izumi Kaji, PhD

Assistant Professor of Surgery

1:40 – 2:05

Oncogenic GNAS drives a gastric pylorus program in intraductal papillary mucinous neoplasms of the pancreas

Marcus Tan, MBBS, FACS

Associate Professor of Surgery

2:05 – 2:15

Break

2:15 – 3:00

Regional variation in Wnt regulation of gastric stem cells

Linda C. Samuelson, PhD

John A. Williams Collegiate Professor of Gastrointestinal Physiology
University of Michigan