

2023-2024 Vanderbilt Digestive Diseases Research Center (VDDRC) Retreat
Homeostasis, Regeneration, and Pathophysiology Research Group
Tuesday, April 2, 2024
9:00 am – 3:00 pm
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 diagnostic ambiguity and treatment 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

Keynote Speaker – Aaron M. Zorn, PhD

Making the digestive system: From animal models to human organoids

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 student, Ken Lau laboratory

1:15 – 1:40

Distinct treatment outcomes among 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 lesions of the pancreas

Marcus Tan, MBBS, FACS

Associate Professor of Surgery

2:05 – 2:15

Break

2:15 – 3:00

Keynote Speaker – Linda C. Samuelson, PhD

Regional variation in Wnt regulation of gastric stem cells

John A. Williams Collegiate Professor of Gastrointestinal Physiology

University of Michigan