

**Vanderbilt Digestive Diseases Research Center, Diabetes Research and Training Center,
GI SPORE, and Meharry Medical College
Gastrointestinal Disease, Diabetes, and Cancer Research and Career Development Symposium
Light Hall 202
Friday, June 12, 2026**

9:00 – 9:05 am	Introduction Richard M. Peek, Jr., MD Mina Cobb Wallace Professor of Medicine and Pathology, Microbiology, & Immunology; Director, Vanderbilt Digestive Diseases Research Center
9:05 – 9:55 am	TBA Rachel Issaka, MD – Browning lecture Director, Population Health Colorectal Cancer Screening Program Associate Professor of Medicine and Public Health Fred Hutch Cancer Center and U Washington
9:55 – 10:45 am	Kidney- Liver Back talk in three acts: ADPKD, Cirrhosis & APOL1 mediated Kidney disease Chike Nzerue, MD, MBA Chair of Internal Medicine Meharry Medical College
10:45 – 11:00 am	Break
11:00 – 11:30 am	TBA Kathleen Delgiorno, PhD Assistant Professor Department of Cell and Developmental Biology
11:30 – 12:00 pm	TBA Mckenzie Roddy, PhD Assistant Professor Department of Cell and Developmental Biology
12:00 – 12:30 pm	Lunch
12:30 – 1:00 pm	TBA Wenhan Zhu, PhD Assistant Professor Department of Pathology, Microbiology, and Immunology
1:00 – 1:30 pm	Career Development Session Rachel Issaka, MD and Chike Nzerue, MD, MBA
1:30 – 2:00 pm	Graduate and Post-doctoral Training Panel Isabella Sirit, Jeffrey Singer, MD, PhD, Jennifer Pilat, PhD



Please RSVP via https://redcap.link/2026VUMC_Meharry or