



INSTITUTE FOR TRANSLATIONAL MEDICINE

WINTER 2026 EPOR SPEAKER LIST

CLASS DATE	SPEAKER	SUBJECT
6-JAN	Elaine Worcester	Academic Fraud/Research Misconduct
13-JAN	Elaine Worcester	Conflict of Interest
20-JAN	Rochelle Naylor	Responsible Authorship and Reviewing
27-JAN	Meharvan (Sonny) Singh	PI Responsibilities
3-FEB	Doriane Miller	Health Equity & Community Engagement in Research
10-FEB	James Lynch	Institutional Review Board & Informed Consent: Ethics, History and Human Subjects Protection
17-FEB	Milda Saunders	Mentorship and Building Your Research Team
24-FEB	Eric Ginsburg	Intellectual Property; Patents and Tech Transfer
3-MAR	Jessica Felgenhauer	Ethical Treatment of Animals in Research and Sex as a Biological Variable
10-MAR	Elaine Worcester	Responsible Data Management and Reproducibility



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Elaine Worcester, MD

Director of the Essentials of Patient Oriented Research (EPOR) course sponsored by the Institute for Translational Medicine. The course is offered as three 10-week segments (Fall, Winter and Spring) covering topics relevant to clinical research including elements of study design, ethical aspects of translational medicine and the responsible conduct of research, and basics of statistics for human research. Lectures are given by many members of the Biological Science Division; many of them noted translational researchers.

Her research group investigates mechanisms of kidney stone formation, including studies of human physiology, surgical mapping and biopsy of stone patients, and detailed histology of renal papillary tissue from stone formers of differing phenotypes to find the pathways that lead to stone growth in the kidneys, and potential targets for prevention and treatment. These studies involve collaboration between investigators from both clinical and basic science backgrounds, which will be the paradigm for most clinical researchers in future.

Rochelle Naylor, MD

Dr. Rochelle Naylor is an Assistant Professor of Pediatrics with a secondary appointment in Medicine in the Section of Adult and Pediatric Endocrinology, Diabetes, and Metabolism at the University of Chicago. Dr. Naylor's research interests are in genetic and atypical forms of diabetes. She is a co-Investigator of the US National Monogenic Diabetes Registry housed at the University of Chicago. Her research focuses on maturity-onset diabetes of the young (MODY) – addressing delays in accurate genetic diagnosis and precision medicine for the various subtypes. She has demonstrated the cost-effectiveness of genetic testing for MODY and is also working to address inequities in who benefits from diabetes precision medicine. She has explored barriers to participation in diabetes genetics research by racial and ethnic minorities and is working to increase diagnosis and understanding of MODY in these populations. She is participating in the American Diabetes Association Precision Medicine in Diabetes Initiative and is also an investigator of the rare and atypical diabetes network, or RADIANT study, which aims to discover and define rare and atypical forms of diabetes with the hope that this will lead to better diagnoses, improved treatments, and potential prevention of these diseases.

Meharvan Singh, PhD

Dr. Meharvan (Sonny) Singh serves as Vice Provost for Research, Loyola University Chicago; Vice Dean of Research, Stritch School of Medicine; and Professor of Cell and Molecular Physiology Loyola University Chicago. He joined Loyola University Chicago in 2019 as Professor of Cell and Molecular Physiology and Vice Dean of Research in the Stritch School of Medicine. More recently (2020), he has taken on a broader, University-wide role as Vice Provost for Research, where he oversees research administration across Loyola's three campuses. Dr. Singh continues to maintain an active program of research that focuses on his long-standing interest in understanding how hormones, like estrogen, progesterone and testosterone, affect the brain, particularly within the context of "normal" brain aging and such degenerative diseases as Alzheimer's disease and stroke. He has successfully supported his research through numerous grants from both federal (National Institutes of Health (NIH), Department of Defense) and private agencies (e.g., the Alzheimer's Association). His research has led to numerous publications that helped shape our current understanding of how hormones affect the brain and shed light into the biological basis for sex differences in the prevalence and/or risk for diseases like Alzheimer's disease, stroke and more recently, invasive



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brain tumors. In addition to his role as a researcher and educator, he also serves on editorial boards for several journals, continues to participate on grant review panels, and also serves on such national committees as the Group on Research Advancement and Development (GRAND), an affinity group under the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC), where he currently serves as Chair-Elect.

Doriane C. Miller, MD

Dr. Miller is a Professor of Medicine in the Primary Care Section and her research focuses on the intersection of health disparities and race. She has served as the project director for several studies designed to augment care by promoting collaboration among physicians, patients and families. Dr. Miller's work in the area of improving asthma outcomes through school and community interventions was noted by the American Academy of Asthma, Allergy and Immunology with a 2006 Special Recognition Award. Under her leadership, physicians, educators and community members work to improve population health outcomes for residents on the South Side of Chicago through community-engaged research, demonstration and service models. Dr. Miller served as chair of the Addressing Disparities Advisory Panel of the Patient Centered Outcome Research Institute and was also a member of the National Quality Forum Committee: Improving Population Health—The Role of Communities.

James Lynch

James Lynch is a Certified IRB Professional with 5 years of research experience and over 20 years of experience in the IRB field. He is the Associate Director of the BSD IRB with a focus on IRB Policy and Education. He is a current IRB Member on all three IRB Committees and conducts reviews on all submission types. He has provided training to hundreds of faculty, staff, residents, and fellows on the ethical conduct of human subject research.

Milda Saunders, MD, MPH

Milda Saunders is an Assistant Professor in the Section of General Internal Medicine, Faculty in the MacLean Center for Clinical Medical Ethics and Assistant Dean for Diversity and Inclusion at Pritzker School of Medicine. She uses her clinical, research and ethics expertise to serve as the Living Donor Advocate Physician for the Transplant Center, the Research Subject Advocate for the Institute of Translational Medicine and Co-Director for the Responsible Conduct of Research (RCR) course. Her research focus is on reducing disparities and improving quality of care for patients with advanced chronic kidney disease. She is currently funded through the NIDDK in test a randomized trial of a patient education and referral program for hospitalized patients with advanced kidney disease and a computerized CKD patient education program. Dr. Saunders attended Brown University where she studied public policy. She worked as a policy analyst at the Urban Institute and Abt Associates before attending medical school at University of Pennsylvania. After Penn, she obtained her MPH at Johns Hopkins School of Public Health. She then completed her combined internal medicine-pediatrics residency at the University of Chicago.

Eric Ginsburg, PhD

Eric Ginsburg holds an S.B. degree from MIT and a Ph.D. from Caltech, both in Chemistry. His graduate work focused on the synthesis and characterization of soluble electrically conducting polymers. After a postdoc at the IBM Almaden Research Center, he worked in R&D at Eastman Kodak and Abbott Laboratories. He has worked at the University of Chicago since 200, first in UChicagoTech then in the Polsky Center, on the identification, evaluation, protection and commercialization of inventions arising



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from University research. He has managed a large portfolio of technologies from diverse scientific disciplines including various aspects of chemistry, molecular engineering and medical imaging. In addition, Eric is a registered Patent Agent and a CLP (Certified Licensing Professional).

Jessica Felgenhauer, MS, DVM, DACLAM

Dr. Jessica Felgenhauer is a veterinarian with the Animal Resources Center at the University of Chicago who specializes in laboratory animal medicine. She obtained her undergraduate degree at the University of Illinois Champaign-Urbana in Integrative Biology followed by her veterinary degree at Colorado State University. Dr. Felgenhauer completed a residency at the University of Washington in Seattle where she performed research within the Center of Lung Biology and completed a Masters' degree in Comparative Animal Medicine.