

# LIVER DIGEST

A weekly update of PLRC happenings

April 21, 2022



[www.livercenter.pitt.edu](http://www.livercenter.pitt.edu)

*Please acknowledge support from the PLRC (NIH/NIDDK  
**P30DK120531**) in your publications and presentations. ([Click for a  
copy/paste version for manuscript and grant submissions](#))*

Please continue to share your relevant accolades (grants, other news articles) with us, as it relates to PLRC mission, so we can share with all members. Please visit [PLRC website here](#) for up-to-date news, and upcoming seminar and event information. Contact AJ Singh ([singha16@upmc.edu](mailto:singha16@upmc.edu)) if you have specific questions or suggestions.

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**Next PLRC Virtual Seminar**

The next PLRC Seminar will be held on **Tuesday, April 26 at 12:00pm. [Beatriz Sosa-Pineda, PhD](#)**, Professor of Medicine (Nephrology and Hypertension), Feinberg School of Medicine at Northwest University will be presenting a talk, entitled, "Endothelial-epithelial interactions in liver development and liver repair." This seminar will be held online and in-person.

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**The next K-Club junior faculty representatives meeting will be on June 2<sup>nd</sup>**

If you are interested in joining upcoming meetings, please RSVP with Amanda Bytzura ([bytzuraam@upmc.edu](mailto:bytzuraam@upmc.edu))

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**Dr. Alejandro Soto-Gutierrez and Dr. Ira Fox featured in Pittmed Magazine**

**[Dr. Alejandro Soto-Gutierrez](#)** discusses RNA-based therapy for end-stage liver disease. Currently, the only cure available is live donor transplants, but the supply of healthy livers for these transplants does not meet the demand. Dr. Soto lab is collaborating with **[Dr. Ira Fox](#)**, Professor of Surgery, and **[Dr. Alina Ostrowska](#)**, Research Assistant Professor and liver cell processing expert.

**[Click here to read more: Pittmed Magazine Hepato Healing](#)**

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## The Liver Biology Conference: Fundamental Mechanisms and Translational Applications

Announcing the 2022 Liver Biology FASEB Meeting in person! The program, conference and registration information can be found at <https://faseb.org/liverbio22>

- Abstract deadline May 16, 2022
- Early registration deadline May 26, 2022
- Housing deadline June 12, 2022
- Registration closing deadline June 22, 2022

The graphic features a dark red background with a white wireframe of a liver. The FASEB logo, consisting of a stylized globe and the text 'FASEB Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology', is positioned in the upper left. The main title 'The Liver Biology Conference: Fundamental Mechanisms and Translational Applications' is centered in large white font. Below the title, the location and dates 'NEW ORLEANS, LA | JUNE 26-30, 2022' are displayed, followed by the hashtag '#LBCSRC22' at the bottom left.

**FASEB**  
Federation of American Societies  
for Experimental Biology

# The Liver Biology Conference: Fundamental Mechanisms and Translational Applications

NEW ORLEANS, LA | JUNE 26-30, 2022

#LBCSRC22

Spread the news #LBCSRC22

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### Harvard Digestive Diseases Center Spring Symposium

**HDDC Spring Symposium:** Tuesday, June 7, 2022 from 8:30AM - 4:30PM (EDT). This conference will take place at Boston Children's Hospital, Enders Building - Folkman Auditorium. [See the flyer here](#)

**Register for this event**

*\*Attendees not up-to-date on their vaccine series must remain masked and eat 6 ft away from others*

**Virtual**

**Attendance:**

**[https://bostonchildrens.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_LpdW9eoYQOaFMcmRzo6Xlw](https://bostonchildrens.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_LpdW9eoYQOaFMcmRzo6Xlw)**

For additional information, contact: **[aglaia.polyzou@childrens.harvard.edu](mailto:aglaia.polyzou@childrens.harvard.edu)** or

Visit the HDDC Website at:

**<https://hddc.hms.harvard.edu/event/hddcspringsymposium2022>**

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## **Novartis Global Scholars Program**

The University of Pittsburgh has been selected as one of a select group of global universities to join the Novartis Institutes BioMedical Research (NIBR) Global Scholars Program. Through the program, Pitt investigators can submit proposals for **translational research funding of up to \$1 million over three years.**

This new partnership opportunity is open to University of Pittsburgh investigators who are pursuing disruptive ideas, are comfortable collaborating across disciplines and have an entrepreneurial spirit.

In addition to the funding, faculty who participate in the program will:

- Collaborate with Novartis scientists with expertise in drug-hunting and translational research
- Participate in NIBR's virtual drug discovery and development project simulation course used to train/onboard its own scientists.

- Receive a dedicated alliance manager to handle the operational aspects of the collaboration.

Pre-Proposal submissions are being accepted until **Monday, April 25, 2022.**

[Click here to learn more](#)

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### Reverse ECM accumulation in NASH with novel models



Accumulation of ECM is a hallmark of NASH. Interfering with this process may represent a pragmatic approach to stop fibrosis. In this context, we invite you to answer the following question: [Click here if interested](#)

"We invites you to submit proposals with ideas for in vitro assay systems or in vivo models that allow the identification and validation of therapeutic targets to enhance ECM degradation, thereby attenuating liver fibrosis. This can include ideas based on, but not limited to using screening assays like CRISPR/Cas9-based screens or in vivo screens using an in vivo model for ECM turnover. The right answer may come from any scientific discipline

in relation to life sciences. We plan to fund selected proposals with up to 200,000 euros each.

[Learn](#) [more...](#)

A panel of Boehringer Ingelheim scientists will review all incoming answers after the final submission date. Successful ideas will be explored in collaboration with the winning proposals.

**Submissions for collaborations can only be accepted if they arrive no later than June 2, 2022 11:59 pm PST**

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## MSCBMP 2860 - Microscopy

Dear \_\_\_\_\_ students,

**Please see the attached flyer for the Multiparametric Microscopic Imaging Summer Course**

MSCBMP2860, (sponsored by Cell Biology) 3 credits  
**May 12-July 21, 2022**, Tuesdays and Thursdays 10-11:30am  
Course directors: Drs. Donna Stolz and Claudette St Croix

*This is an introduction to optical and electron-based imaging modalities commonly used in biomedical research. Students will learn the science behind light and electron microscopy techniques, as well as tissue and cell processing for each technology. More specific imaging techniques such as live cell and whole animal imaging are also covered as are a number of standard and novel probes for live and fixed-cell imaging. Imaging processing, quantitation, and ethics will also be covered.*

If you have any questions, please contact Shanning Wan ([shw126@pitt.edu](mailto:shw126@pitt.edu)).

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## Post-Doc Position Available - Dr. Donghun Shin Lab

Donghun Shin Lab is currently seeking a qualified candidate for a post-doc position. See attached flyer for more information.

[Shin Lab Postdoc Position Apr2022](#)

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## FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

### Research Grants

PSC Partners Seeking a Cure

To see all NIH Grants sorted by week, please visit: [NIH Guide: 2022](#)

Or click below:

- [April 22](#)
- [April 15](#)

[Click here](#) for all current NIDDK Funding opportunities

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Also indicate which core/service from the PLRC was utilized within your acknowledgment:

- [Clinical Biospecimen Repository and Processing Core \(CBRPC\)](#)
- [Genomics and Systems Biology Core \(GSBC\)](#)



- [Human Synthetic Liver Biology Core \(HSLBC\)](#)
  - [Advanced Cell and Tissue Imaging Core \(ACTIC\)](#)
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