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# Indiana Clinical and Translational Sciences Institute ANNUAL MEETING

## SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

September 11, 2020



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## Brian Druker, MD

Director, Knight Cancer Institute  
JELD-WEN Chair of Leukemia Research  
Investigator, Howard Hughes Medical Institute  
*Oregon Health and Science University*



Dr. Druker began his cancer research career in the 1980s, studying why some formerly normal cells shift into overdrive producing tumors. In 1993, Druker joined Oregon Health and Science University (OHSU) and began testing compounds that could target the abnormality that drives chronic myeloid leukemia, or CML. He identified the compound that ultimately became Gleevec® and demonstrated that it killed leukemia cells without harming normal cells. He then planned and led the drug's clinical trials. During the trials, nearly all patients with CML saw their white blood counts return to normal in a matter of weeks with few or no side effects. Patients in the original trials, some with weeks to months to live, recovered and began leading normal lives.

The trials were so successful that they resulted in the fastest approval by the FDA in its history. Since Gleevec® was approved by the FDA in 2001 to treat CML, it has since been proved effective against multiple forms of cancer, including pediatric CML and gastrointestinal stromal tumor, also known as GIST.

In 2017, the *New England Journal of Medicine* published [long-term results of Gleevec for patients with CML](#). The study followed 1,106 patients with leukemia around the world for more than 10 years and found a survival rate of nearly 90 percent. According to the [National Cancer Institute](#), prior to Gleevec's FDA approval, fewer than one in three CML patients survived five years past diagnosis.

With his scientific and medical achievements, Druker has built the OHSU Knight Cancer Institute into an international leader in delivering personalized cancer medicine. Public support from the National Institutes of Health and the State of Oregon has been joined with generous private donations, including the successful completion of the \$1 billion Knight Cancer Challenge campaign, which was launched after a \$500 million pledge from Nike co-founder Phil Knight and his wife Penny. These investments have enabled Druker to recruit some of the world's top scientists to OHSU to further the areas of precision oncology and the early detection of cancer. In 2017, the OHSU Knight Cancer Institute earned the National Cancer Institute's highest designation, becoming a [Comprehensive Cancer Center](#), and in 2018, the institute opened a [state-of-the-art facility dedicated to cancer research](#).

Druker has been recognized with numerous awards, including the Warren Alpert Prize from Harvard Medical School, the Lasker-DeBakey Award for Clinical Medical Research, the Japan Prize in Healthcare and Medical Technology, the 2018 Tang Prize in Biopharmaceutical Science, and the 2019 Sjöberg Prize, awarded by the Awarded by the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences. He has been elected to the National Academy of Medicine, the National Academy of Sciences and the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

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## Consuelo H. Wilkins, MD, MSCI

Vice President for Health Equity, Vanderbilt University Medical Center  
Associate Dean for Health Equity and Professor of Medicine  
*Vanderbilt University School of Medicine*



Dr. Wilkins -- a geriatrician, clinical investigator and engagement scientist --is Vice President for Health Equity at Vanderbilt University Medical Center, Associate Dean for Health Equity and Professor of Medicine at Vanderbilt University School of Medicine. As a Principal Investigator of the *Vanderbilt Clinical and Translational Science Award*, she oversees programs in community engagement, team science and special populations. Dr. Wilkins is also a Principal Investigator of two other NIH-funded centers, the *Vanderbilt-Miami-Meharry Center of Excellence in Precision Medicine and Population Health*, which focuses on decreasing disparities among African Americans and Latinos using precision medicine; and the *Vanderbilt Recruitment Innovation Center*, a national center dedicated to enhancing recruitment and retention in clinical trials.

Dr. Wilkins has pioneered innovative approaches to engagement and has led comprehensive, multi-level stakeholder engagement efforts at the local and national level. She is currently Director of the Engagement Core of the *All of Us* Research Program, a national precision medicine initiative, which will enroll at least one million participants, and she leads engagement for the STAR Clinical Research Network. As Principal Investigator of a Patient Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI) Methods Award on understanding and improving patient engagement in research, Dr. Wilkins led the development of new tools to advance the science of engagement including the Person-Centeredness of Research Scale and a taxonomy of the impacts of engagement on research. Dr. Wilkins is also a Principal Investigator of a Robert Wood Johnson Foundation award --Engendering Trust in Health Care among African American Men.

Prior to her current roles, she was an Associate Professor in the Department of Medicine, Division of Geriatrics, with secondary appointments in Psychiatry and Surgery (Public Health Sciences) at Washington University School of Medicine. There she served as founding director of the Center for Community Health and Partnerships in the Institute for Public Health and Co-Director of the Center for Community Engaged Research in the CTSA.

Dr. Wilkins earned a Bachelor of Science in microbiology and Doctor of Medicine from Howard University. She completed a residency in Internal Medicine at Duke University Medical Center and a Geriatric Medicine fellowship at Washington University School of Medicine/Barnes-Jewish Hospital. Following her medical training, she earned a Master of Science in Clinical Investigation from Washington University School of Medicine.

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## Heidi Beidinger-Burnett, PhD, MPH

Director, Master of Science in Global Health  
Assistant Director of Community Health and Policy for Center for Civic  
Innovation  
*University of Notre Dame*



Dr. Beidinger is the Director, Master of Science in Global Health Program for the Eck Institute for Global Health and the Assistant Director of Community Health and Policy for the Center for Civic Innovation at the University of Notre Dame. She is also the University of Notre Dame liaison for Community Health Partnerships of the Indiana CTSI. She has a broad background in public health, policy, community-based research and leadership with a focus on lead poisoning prevention, HIV and infant mortality. Recently, she has been focused on the development and validation of a Lead Screening Kit, a low-cost, user-friendly device to screen homes for environmental lead. Dr. Beidinger co-founded the Lead Affinity Group (a local community coalition) and the Notre Dame Lead Innovation Team both of which are focused on lead poisoning prevention and action. Dr. Beidinger's passion and desire to improve the quality of life for our community is the driving force behind her work.

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## Peter J. Embí, MD, MS, FACP, FACMI, FAMIA

President and CEO, Regenstrief Institute, Inc.  
Leonard Betley Professor of Medicine,  
Associate Dean for Informatics & Health Services Research,  
*Indiana University School of Medicine*  
Associate Director, Indiana Clinical and Translational Sciences Institute  
Vice President for Learning Health Systems, IU Health  
Past Chair, Board of Directors, American Medical Informatics Association  
(AMIA)



Dr. Embí is an internationally recognized researcher, educator, and leader in the field of clinical and translational research informatics, with numerous peer-reviewed publications and presentations describing his innovations in the field. Dr. Embí serves as President and CEO of the Regenstrief Institute, and he holds related leadership roles at Indiana University and the IU Health System. He previously served in various leadership positions at The Ohio State University, including Interim Chair of Biomedical Informatics, Informatics Director of the OSU Center for Clinical and Translational Science, and Chief Research Information Officer at the OSU Wexner Medical Center. Prior to that, he was on the faculty of the University of Cincinnati College of Medicine, where he was the founding director of the UC Center for Health Informatics. Among his numerous awards and recognitions, Dr. Embí is a Fellow of the American College of Physicians, a Fellow of the American College of Medical Informatics, and he is Past Chair of the Board of Directors of the American Medical Informatics Association.

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## Jay L. Hess, MD, PhD, MHSA

Dean, Indiana University School of Medicine  
Executive Vice President, University Clinical Affairs

Dr. Hess, executive vice president for university clinical affairs and dean of the Indiana University School of Medicine, joined the school as the 10<sup>th</sup> dean in 2013. Since becoming dean, he has overseen an increase in research funding from the National Institutes of Health of more than 70 percent, led the school through a comprehensive curriculum reform and successful reaccreditation, and strengthened the relationship with IU Health, its primary clinical partner and one of the nation's premier academic medical centers.



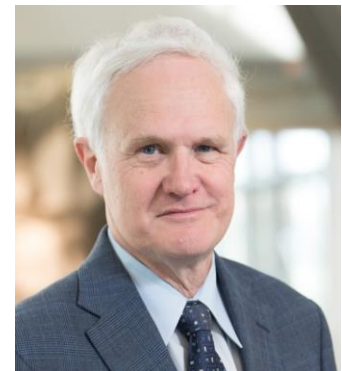
A board-certified hematopathologist and author of more than 100 scientific papers and book chapters, Dr. Hess is considered one of the nation's leaders in the epigenetics of leukemia. Hess is driven to improve care for patients and is guided by a commitment to transforming health in Indiana and around the world. IU School of Medicine's major initiatives under Hess' leadership include the implementation of the IU Precision Health Initiative, a bold plan to develop new therapies and improve outcomes for patients with multiple myeloma, triple negative breast cancer, diabetes, childhood sarcoma and Alzheimer's disease. In addition to serving on the internal advisory board for Indiana CTSI, Hess also serves on the boards of BioCrossroads, IU Health, the Riley Children's Foundation and the Regenstrief Institute.

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## Kurt Kroenke, MD, MACP

Chancellor's Professor of Medicine at Indiana University  
Research Scientist in the Regenstrief Institute

Dr. Kroenke is a past President of the Society of General Internal Medicine from which he received the 2018 Glaser Award for lifetime achievement. He is also a past President of the Association for Clinical Research Training which honored him with its Distinguish Educator Award.



His research focuses on physical and psychological symptoms in medical patients including pain, depression, and anxiety. He has conducted more than a dozen clinical trials funded by the NIH, VA, PCORI, and other sponsors to improve the care of patients with common symptoms. These trials have used collaborative care models as well as telecare interventions. He has also developed the PHQ-9 depression scale, GAD-7 anxiety scale, PEG pain scale, and other brief measures that are widely used in both clinical practice and research. He founded and directed the IU clinical research training program and has directed the Masters in Clinical Research program for the past 20 years. He also began the CTSI education programs which he led from 2007 through 2018 and which have supported and trained several hundred clinical-translational scientists. He has served as primary mentor himself for more than 40 students, fellows, and junior faculty.

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## Sharon Moe, MD

Associate Dean for Clinical and Translational Research  
Co-Director of Clinical and Translational Sciences Institute (CTSI)  
Distinguished Professor  
Stuart A. Kleit Professor of Nephrology  
Professor of Medicine  
Adjunct Professor of Anatomy, Cell Biology & Physiology  
*Indiana University School of Medicine*



Dr. Moe assumed the role of Indiana CTSI co-director in June 2020. As part of her new role, she is directing the earlier stages of research as it advances from the lab to the patient. She is the Director of the Division of Nephrology and Stuart A. Kleit Professor of Medicine for the Indiana University School of Medicine. She has been a faculty member at Indiana University since 1992, and in 2019 was named Distinguished Professor at IU. She has also served as the Associate Dean for Research Support in the IU School of Medicine and the Vice-Chair for Research in the Department of Medicine. Dr. Moe is the principal investigator for several ongoing basic and clinical research studies in the field of Chronic Kidney Disease -Mineral Bone Disorder (CKD-MBD), including studies on vascular calcification, mineral metabolism and bone metabolism in kidney disease. Her research has been funded by the NIH and Veterans Affairs for over 20 years, in addition to funding from foundations and pharmaceutical companies. She has authored over 200 scientific manuscripts, teaching manuscripts and textbook chapters. Dr. Moe served on the National Kidney Foundation's Bone and Mineral metabolism KDOQI clinical practice guidelines in 2003, was co-chair of the international Kidney Disease Improving Global Outcomes Mineral and Bone guidelines released in 2009, and a member of the 2017 update committee. She has served on numerous ad hoc NIH study sections and was recently named as a standing member to the AMSC study section. Key Honors include election to the American Society for Clinical Research in 2005; the National Kidney Foundation in Gareb Eknayan Award for exceptional contributions to key initiatives of the such as the Kidney Disease Outcomes Quality Initiative (KDOQI) in 2009; Councilor to the AHA Kidney Council (2002-2004), International Society of Nephrology (2005-2007), Councilor for the American Society of Nephrology from 2008- 2015; President of the American Society of Nephrology from 2013-2014, and election to the American Association of Physicians (AAP) in 2017.

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## Kinam Park, PhD

Showalter Distinguished Professor of Biomedical Engineering  
Professor of Pharmaceutics  
*Purdue University*



Professor Kinam Park's research focuses on pharmaceutical and biomedical polymers with specific emphasis on the development of drug formulations and drug/device combination products for clinical applications. He has studied various controlled drug delivery systems for more than three decades, including oral formulations, polymer micelles for poorly soluble drugs, drug nanocrystals for parenteral delivery, and microparticles for injectable long-acting depot formulations. His current research deals with the understanding of the mechanisms of microparticle formation based on biodegradable poly(lactide-co-glycolide) (PLGA) polymers. The injectable, long-acting PLGA formulations can be used for the delivery of a variety of drugs, ranging from small molecular drugs to peptides and proteins. Recently, he has developed a new formulation for the two-month delivery of naltrexone, an opioid antagonist, for treatment and prevention of opioid addiction.

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## Milan Radovich, PhD

Associate Professor of Surgery  
Associate Professor of Medical & Molecular Genetics  
Associate Professor of Medicine  
*Indiana University School of Medicine*



Dr. Milan Radovich, PhD is an Associate Professor at the Indiana University School of Medicine and Vice President for Oncology Genomics at Indiana University Health. He is also co-director of the IU Health Precision Genomics Program, a clinical program dedicated to the integration of cutting-edge genomics for the care of metastatic cancer patients.

As an NCI-funded investigator, his research expertise focuses on the use of genomics in translational oncology. In particular, his research concentrates on the use of genomics in clinical studies, genomically-informed drug combinations, circulating biomarkers of cancer detection, and creating novel bioinformatic pipelines for cancer genome analyses. His laboratory has long standing-expertise in the research of triple-negative breast cancer, thymic malignancies, and cancer precision medicine.

As Indiana University Health Vice President for Oncology Genomics and co-director of the IU Health Precision Genomics Program, he co-leads a clinical service line that uses genomics to guide therapy for cancer patients. This program has sequenced over 4000 patients to date. With five clinics across the state of Indiana, the program provides access to cutting-edge genomic-based cancer care for patients.

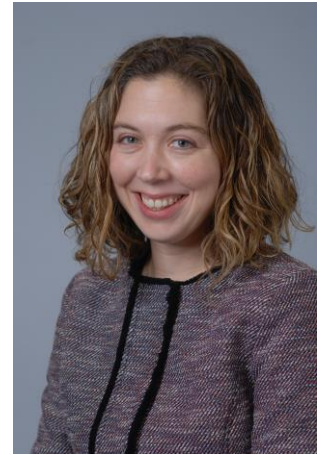
Dr. Radovich is passionate about providing the best care to patients through precision medicine. He actively engages with patient advocacy, philanthropic groups, and mentoring to bring genomics research to patients. He is also actively involved in national precision medicine research as the Oncology Research Information Exchange Network (ORIEN) network scientific committee co-chair, a member of the Big Ten Cancer Research Consortium Basket Trials Working Group, and served in the NCI Cancer Genome Atlas (TCGA). When he is not in the cancer center or in the lab, he enjoys spending time with his family. As a native Chicagoan and Purdue graduate, he also enjoys cheering on the Bears and Boilermakers.



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## Emily K. Sims, MD

Assistant Professor of Pediatrics  
Herman B Wells Center for Pediatric Research  
Pediatric Endocrinology and Diabetology  
Center for Diabetes and Metabolic Diseases  
*Indiana University School of Medicine*



Dr. Sims is a physician scientist specializing in pediatric endocrinology, with a long-term goal of addressing clinically relevant problems in diabetes utilizing molecular discovery. Her research focus revolves around the investigation of molecular mechanisms contributing to  $\beta$  cell dysfunction and the development of diabetes, the identification and verification of circulating biomarkers of  $\beta$  cell dysfunction, and clinical studies identifying and targeting  $\beta$  cell dysfunction in Type 1 Diabetes. She hopes to ultimately utilize knowledge gained for development of biomarkers and  $\beta$  cell-targeted therapeutics that allow for a more tailored approach to treatment of patients with or at-risk for diabetes.

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## Tuan M. Tran, MD, PhD

Assistant Professor of Medicine and Pediatrics  
Division of Infectious Diseases,  
Ryan White for Pediatric Infectious Diseases and Global Health  
*Indiana University School of Medicine*



Dr. Tran studies the host response to malaria in endemic populations. While a graduate student at Emory University, he evaluated immune responses to malaria vaccine candidate antigens in residents of the Brazilian Amazon. After completing a residency in Internal Medicine at the Johns Hopkins Hospital and an Infectious Diseases clinical fellowship at the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, he trained in Dr. Peter Crompton's laboratory, where he studied naturally acquired immunity to falciparum malaria in a cohort study conducted in Mali. He is currently an Assistant Professor of Medicine and Pediatrics at the Indiana University School of Medicine, where he studies both naturally acquired and vaccine-induced immunity to malaria using systems-based approaches. By performing integrative analyses of high-dimensional immunological data generated from well-designed cohort studies, his group aims to identify molecular predictors of malaria outcomes and elucidate the mechanisms governing immune responses that protect the host from infection and/or disease.

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## Sarah Wiehe, MD, MPH

Associate Dean for Community and Translational Research  
Co-Director of Indiana Clinical and Translational Sciences Institute (CTSI)  
Director of Community Health Partnerships, Indiana CTSI  
*Indiana University School of Medicine*  
Associate Professor of Pediatrics  
Adjunct Associate Professor, School of Public Health



Dr. Wiehe assumed the role of Indiana CTSI co-director in June 2020. As part of her new role, she is focusing her attention on the later phases of the translational research spectrum, directing research from the patient to the general population. She is a pediatrician and public health researcher for Children’s Health Services Research at Indiana University School of Medicine, director of Community Health Partnerships with the Indiana Clinical and Translational Sciences Institute, an Affiliated Scientist at the Regenstrief Institute for Health Care, and Adjunct Associate Professor of Geography and Public Health. Her research focuses on health equity issues among children, adolescents, and young adults. She leverages existing data to identify mechanisms and opportunities for intervention in order to improve health among vulnerable populations. She actively partners with patients and community stakeholders to guide research questions, study design, and dissemination of findings. Wiehe has spent six years as director of the [Community Health Partnerships](#) program of the Indiana CTSI, partnering with the Indiana State Department of Health and the Indiana Family and Social Services Administration, to understand how to best engage with and serve the needs of the Indiana public.