



# Frontiers in Cardiovascular Research 2026 Program

**January 1-5, 2026**

**OUTRIGGER Waikiki Beachcomber Hotel**  
**2300 Kalākaua Ave, Honolulu, HI 96815**

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## **DAY 1: THURSDAY, JANUARY 1, 2026**

**1:00-5:00 PM** Registration

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## **DAY 2: FRIDAY, JANUARY 2, 2026**

### **Session 1: Cardiac Development & Vascular Cell Biology**

**15 min talk + 5 min Q&A**

**Location:** O Ke Kai Ballroom

**Moderator:** *Hong Chen and Ziqing Liu*

**8:30-8:50 AM | Guang Li** - University of Pittsburgh

*Study of heart development at single cell level*

**8:50-9:10 AM | Hongchao Guo** - University of Utah

*Elucidating the molecular mechanisms of cardiomyocyte maturation*

**9:10-9:30 AM | Mingtao Zhao** - Nationwide Children's Hospital

*Leveraging patient-specific iPSCs for precision medicine in congenital heart disease*

**9:30-9:50 AM | Break 1**

**9:50-10:10 AM | Joseph Miano** - Augusta University

*Evading Visceral Myopathy to Gain Vascular Vicissitude*

**10:10-10:30 AM | Huabo Su** - Augusta University

*A posttranslational mechanism regulating cardiac maturation*

**10:30-10:50 AM | Yabing Chen** - Oregon Health and Science University

*VSMV resilience and aging*

**10:50-11:10 AM | Break 2**

**11:10-11:30 AM | Xiaochun Long** - Augusta University

*VSMC phenotypic adaptation and resilience*

**11:30-11:50 AM | Jiliang Zhou** - Louisiana State University

*Master regulators in controlling smooth muscle phenotype*

**11:50 AM-12:10 PM | Bo Liu** - University of Wisconsin-Madison

*Histone modification programs during smooth muscle cell phenotypic switch in aortic aneurysm*

**12:10-2:00 PM | Lunch Break**

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## **Session 2: Cardiac Disease Mechanisms & Pathophysiology**

**15 min talk + 5 min Q&A**

**Location:** O Ke Kai Ballroom

**Moderator:** Long Sheng Song and Mingtao Zhao

**2:00-2:20 PM | Lin Chang** - University of Michigan

*Functions of PRDM16 in cardiovascular system*

**2:20-2:40 PM | Hong Chen** - Harvard Medical School

*Molecular Mechanisms Regulating Coronary Heart Disease by Epsins*

**2:40-3:00 PM | Yingfeng Deng** - City of Hope

*Uridine in metabolism and beyond*

**3:00-3:20 PM | Break 1**

**3:20-3:40 PM | Mark Ranek** - Johns Hopkins University

*Proteomic profiling of cardiac amyloidosis*

**3:40-4:00 PM | Jifeng Zhang** - University of Michigan Medical Center

*TREM2 dynamic functions in the development of AAA*

**4:00-4:20 PM | Break 2**

**4:20-4:40 PM | Rongxue Wu** - University of Chicago

*Intersecting Pathways: Hypoxia and Inflammation in Sepsis-Driven Heart Failure*

**4:40-5:00 PM | Jingyan Han** - Boston University

*Microtopography-guided cell orientation in 3D-printed vessel for enhanced vascular functionality*

**6:30-8:00 PM | Dinner**

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## DAY 3: SATURDAY, JANUARY 3, 2026

### Session 3: Protein Regulation & Vascular Disease

15 min talk + 5 min Q&A

Location: O Ke Kai Ballroom

**Moderator:** *Eugene Chen and Xiaochun Long*

**8:30-8:50 AM | Jie Li** - Augusta University

*Ufm1 modification in ER homeostasis*

**8:50-9:10 AM | Xuejun Wang** - University of South Dakota

*The COP9 Signalosome in Neointimal Hyperplasia*

**9:10-9:30 AM | Shiyu Chen** - University of Missouri

*Arterial wall remodeling in vascular diseases*

**9:30-9:50 AM | Break 1**

**9:50-10:10 AM | Yanhong Guo** - University of Michigan

*Hypertriglyceridemia as a Key Contributor to Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm Development and Rupture: Insights from Genetic and Experimental Models*

**10:10-10:30 AM | Huaizhu Wu** - Baylor College of Medicine

*Inflammatory role in atherosclerosis with hypertriglyceridemia*

**10:30-10:50 AM | Ziqing Liu** - Medical College of Wisconsin

*RNA-binding proteins in vascular biology*

**10:50-11:10 AM | Break 2**

**11:10-11:30 AM | Yanbo Fan** - The Ohio State University

*Coiled coil domain containing protein 92 and vascular diseases*

**11:30-11:50 AM | Li Lai** - Houston Methodist

*Metabolic control of cell fate transition during vascular recovery*

**11:50-12:10 PM | Pengchun Yu** - Oklahoma Medical Research Foundation

*Metabolic mechanisms regulating lymphatic vessel formation*

**12:10-2:00 PM | Lunch Break**

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## Session 4: RNA Biology & Regenerative Medicine

15 min talk + 5 min Q&A

Location: O Ke Kai Ballroom

Moderator: *Liya Yin and Lei Yang*

**2:00-2:20 PM | Yiqiang Zhang** - University of Hawaii at Manoa  
*Epigenetics of Cardiomyocyte Cell Cycle Control*

**2:20-2:40 PM | Yao Wei Lu** - University of Southern California  
*Post-transcriptional Regulation in Cardiovascular Development*

**2:40-3:00 PM | Jianxiong Chen** - Mississippi Medical Center  
*Endothelial PHD2 Deficiency Impairs Nitric Oxide Signaling and Cardiomyocyte Mitochondrial  $Ca^{2+}$  Uptake, Leading to Diastolic Dysfunction*

**3:00-3:20 PM | Break 1**

**3:20-3:40 PM | Shengyu Li** - Houston Methodist  
*Deep learning-based modeling of cellular state transitions*

**3:40-4:00 PM | Ting Ting Hong** - The University of Utah  
*T-tubule Microdomain in Heart Failure*

**4:00-4:20 PM | Break 2**

**4:20-4:40 PM | Guizhen Zhao** - University of Houston  
*SWI/SNF Chromatin Remodeling Complex in Cardiovascular Diseases*

**4:40-5:00 PM | Wuqiang Zhu** - Mayo Clinic Arizona  
*Cardiac cell therapy for ischemia heart disease*

**6:30-8:00 PM | Dinner**

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## DAY 4: SUNDAY, JANUARY 4, 2026

### Session 5: Cardiac Remodeling & Repair

15 min talk + 5 min Q&A

Location: O Ke Kai Ballroom

Moderator: *Yabing Chen and Shijie Liu*

**8:30-8:50 AM | Liya Yin** - The University of Arizona  
*The regulation of Coronary Vasculature Architecture in ischemic Heart Disease*

**8:50-9:10 AM | Ling Yang** - University of Iowa  
*The lysosomal function in HFpEF*

**9:10-9:30 AM | Lei Yang** - Indiana University  
*LncRNA-mediated lipid droplet transport system in human heart*

**9:30-9:50 AM | Break 1**

**9:50-10:10 AM | Shijie Liu** - Cincinnati Children's Hospital  
*The Microtubule network is required for YAP-induced sarcomere breakdown*

**10:10-10:30 AM | Na Li** - Baylor College of Medicine  
*Targeting Inflammatory Signaling Pathways in Arrhythmias*

**10:30-10:50 AM | Ann Chiao** - Oklahoma Medical Research Foundation  
*The role of mitochondrial NAD transporter SLC25A51 in cardiac maturation*

**10:50-11:10 AM | Long-Sheng Song** - University of Iowa  
*Multifaceted Functions of Junctophilin-2 in the Heart*

**11:10-11:30 AM | Break 2**

**11:30-11:50 AM | Hongyu Qu** - The University of Arizona  
*VSMCs in aging and hypertension*

**11:50 -12:10 PM | Chi Keung Lam** - University of Delaware  
*Is Hsp90 a friend or a foe in cardioprotection?*

**12:10-12:30 PM | Chun Liu** - Medical College of Wisconsin  
*Decoding Cardiotoxicity with Human iPSCs and CRISPR Screens*

**12:30-2:00 PM | Lunch Break**

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## **Session 6: Metabolism, Aging & Future Technologies**

**15 min talk + 5 min Q&A**

**Location:** O Ke Kai Ballroom

**Moderator:** Zhao Wang and Bo Liu

**2:00-2:20 PM | Yanqiao Zhang** - The University of Arizona  
*The Role of ATF3 in Atherosclerosis*

**2:20-2:40 PM | Chi Fung Lee** - Oklahoma Medical Research Foundation

*Mitochondrial and NAD metabolism in cardiometabolic disease*

**2:40-3:00 PM | Yingjie Chen** - University of Mississippi Medical Center

*Impact of cellular PD1 bioavailability on CD8 T cells' multiple functional capacities and cardiac inflammation*

**3:00-3:20 AM | Break**

**3:20-3:40 PM | Xinrui Wang** - SUNY Upstate Medical University

*Targeting TIP60 for heart repair*

**3:40-4:00 PM | Xiaolei Liu** - Temple University

*Chemokine signaling as a guiding cue regulating lymphatic development*

**4:00-4:20 PM | Zhao Wang** - City of Hope

*Stress response in heart failure*

**4:20-4:40 PM | Kai Wang** - Peking University, School of Basic Medical Sciences

*Injectable arterial organoids alleviate ischemic disease*

**4:40-5:00 PM | Jinxi Wang** - University of Iowa

*Junctophilin-2 in Cardiac Fibroblasts is Key for Fibrotic Repair*

**5:00-5:20 PM | Xi Wang** - Peking University, School of Basic Medical Sciences

*Engineered stem cell-derived islets therapy for Type 1 diabetes*

**6:30-8:00 PM | Dinner**

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## **DAY 5: MONDAY, JANUARY 5, 2026**

### **Session 7: Panel Discussion and Workshop for Career Development**

**Location:** O Ke Kai Ballroom

**9:00-10:00 AM | Panel Discussion:** *Future of Cardiovascular Research*

**Panelists:** Xuejun Wang, Zhao Wang

**10:00-10:30 AM | Break 1**

**10:30-11:30 AM | Workshop:** *Grant Opportunities & Collaboration Planning*

**Panelists:** Eugene Chen, Yanbo Fan

**11:30-2:00 PM | Lunch Break & Collaborative Planning**

**2:00-3:00 PM | Workshop: *How to Publish in High-Impact Journals***

*Panelists: Na Li, Long Sheng Song*

**3:00-3:30 PM | Break 2**

**3:30-4:30 PM | Workshop: *Managing Your Lab and Resources***

*Panelists: Yabing Chen, Ziqing Liu*

**4:30-5:00 PM | Closing Remarks & Farewell**

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**Organizing Committee:** John Shyy, Long-sheng Song, Yiqiang Zhang, Zhiyu Dai, Jingyan Han, Jun Wang, Haobo Li, Ziqing Liu

**If you have any question, please contact:**

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