Frontiers in Cardiovascular Research 2026 Program

January 1-5, 2026

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

DAY 1: THURSDAY, JANUARY 1, 2026

1:00-5:00 PM Registration

DAY 2: FRIDAY, JANUARY 2, 2026

Session 1: Cardiac Development & Vascular Cell Biology

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 | **Joe Miano** - Augusta University
Evading Visceral Myopathy to Gain Vascular Vicissitude

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

Session 2: Cardiac Disease Mechanisms & Pathophysiology

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 | **Zhao Wang** - City of Hope
Stress response in heart failure

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

4:40-5:10 PM | **Jingyan Han - Boston University**

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

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DAY 3: SATURDAY, JANUARY 3, 2026

Session 3: Protein Regulation & Vascular Disease

Moderator: *Eugene Chen and Yanqing Gong*

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
Priming the Protrasome For Proteostasis

9:10-9:30 AM | **Shiyou 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**

Session 4: RNA Biology & Regenerative Medicine

Moderator: *Hua Linda Cai and Lei Yang*

2:00-2:20 PM | **Guoping Li** - Harvard Medical School/MGH
Therapeutic tRNA-derived small RNA: From Kidney to Heart

2:20-2:40 PM | **Hanrui Zhang** - Columbia University
Macrophage biology and functional genomics in cardiometabolic disease

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 | **Yao Wei Lu** - University of Southern California
Post-transcriptional Regulation in Cardiovascular Development

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 | **Wendong Huang** - City of Hope
Targeting bile acid signaling and microbiome to treat metabolic disorders

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

5:00-5:20 PM | **Yiqiang Zhang** - University of Hawaii
Epigenetics of Cardiomyocyte Cell Cycle Control

DAY 4: SUNDAY, JANUARY 4, 2026

Session 5: Cardiac Remodeling & Repair

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 | **Haobo Li** - Massachusetts General Hospital
Post-transcriptional regulation of cardiac response to exercise

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 | **Hua Linda Cai** - UCLA
Novel NO modulating pathways in cardiovascular injury and protection

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**

Session 6: Metabolism, Aging & Future Technologies

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 | **Guizhen Zhao** - University of Houston
SWI/SNF Chromatin Remodeling Complex in Cardiovascular Diseases

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 | **Yanqing Anna Gong** - University of Pennsylvania
Unveiling Tbc1d2b as a Novel Driver of Vascular Tube Formation

3:40-4:00 PM | **Xiaolei Liu** - Temple University
Chemokine signaling as a guiding cue regulating lymphatic development

4:00-4:20 PM | **Yingfeng Deng** - City of Hope
Uridine in metabolism and beyond

4:20-4:40 PM | **Xinghui Sun** - University of Nebraska-Lincoln
From long noncoding RNA to protein modification in cardiometabolic disease

4:40-5:00 PM | **Jinxi Wang** - University of Iowa
Junctophilin-2 in Cardiac Fibroblasts is Key for Fibrotic Repair

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DAY 5: MONDAY, JANUARY 5, 2026

Session 7: Panel Discussion and Workshop for Career Development

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

Panelists: **Xuejun Wang, Ziqing Liu**

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: ***Li Lai, Long Sheng Song***

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

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

Panelists: ***Yabing Chen, Lei Yang***

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