

seventh
annual

RESEARCH RETREAT



Edward Via College of
Osteopathic Medicine

VIRGINIA • CAROLINAS
AUBURN • LOUISIANA

THE WESTIN HILTON HEAD ISLAND RESORT & SPA

DECEMBER 3-5, 2021

www.vcom.edu/research

WELCOME

The Research Department, together with Provost Rawlins and Chairman Rocovich, is pleased to welcome you to the seventh VCOM Research Retreat. This annual event has become a cornerstone for the continuous growth of the VCOM research environment and provides an ideal opportunity for faculty to become better acquainted with the unique research capacities, resources, and opportunities available across the VCOM four-campus system.

Key priorities for the 2021 retreat include building new interdisciplinary networks and enhancing collaborations among scientists and clinicians at the VCOM Auburn, Carolinas, Louisiana and Virginia campus locations, clinical partners, and colleagues at associated institutions of higher education. Following a return to in-person research and academic activities after a hiatus during 2020, our goal is to bring great minds together across VCOM's geographic reach, to inspire innovative new research ventures, and to lay the groundwork that will support and sustain these cross-campus partnerships moving forward.

This year's sessions strike a balance between in-depth topical discussions and practical tips and considerations for conducting research in an ever-evolving context. Two Keynotes bridge the biomedical and clinical research fields in addressing how to take innovations from bench to bedside. On Saturday morning, Dr. Christine Goertz, DC, PhD, will discuss implementation science – what it is, and why it matters. Her talk will explore the ways in which a patient-centered approach to research can improve both quality and uptake of findings and patient services. In the afternoon, Ms. Dede Willis will discuss translational research in terms of trends and shifts in the corporate-funded research landscape, and the opportunities and challenges this presents for researchers, universities, and medical schools to capitalize on developments and commercialize discoveries.

Two panels will provide knowledge resources and discussions designed to strengthen faculty grantsmanship skills in developing collaborative proposals and navigating the NIH resubmission pathway. An educational session is dedicated to exploring the critical juncture for medical research and scholarship emerging from the COVID-19 pandemic, catalyzed by a historic funding boom and wealth of new data. A third panel session will provide concepts and tools to support student mentorship in research, an area that has seen concentrated growth among VCOM's research faculty in 2020-2021 with the launch of VCOM's new third year Research Rotation and growth of the DO with Research Distinction program.

Round-robin style networking activities, MEDx talks, and a research poster session provide opportunities for VCOM's established and early-career researchers and partners to share their recent initiatives, projects, and plans, and find new collaborators across campus locations and associates.

This year, over 150 attendees will be in attendance, making 2021 our largest retreat to date! It is our hope that researchers will find themselves enlightened by the perspectives and experiences shared by their peers as well as energized by new insights into the abundant opportunities, directions and research developments available in the current climate. We are looking forward to learning and working with you during the 2021 Research Retreat.

2021 VCOM Research Retreat Agenda

Friday, December 3rd
Grand Ocean Terrace

6:00 – 7:30pm	<i>Reception / Poster Display</i>	
6:30pm	Opening Remarks: State of Research at VCOM	P. Gunnar Brolinson, DO

Saturday, December 4th
Calibogue & Danner Room for Meeting

7:00 – 8:00am <i>Barnwell Room</i>	<i>Breakfast/Welcome</i>	
8:00 – 9:00am	Morning Keynote: <i>Three Current Trends in Clinical Trial Design: Implementation Science, Patient-Centeredness and Pragmatic Studies</i> *CME Available*	Christine Goertz, DC, PhD Professor of Musculoskeletal Research, Duke Clinical Research Institute
9:00 – 10:00am	<i>NIH Grants: A Look Down the Rabbit Hole</i> *CME Available*	Moderator: Skip Garner, PhD Panelists: Pawel Michalak, PhD Chris Reilly, PhD Pam VandeVord, PhD
10:00 – 10:15am	Break	
10:15 – 11:00am	<i>Anatomy of a Collaborative Proposal</i> *This is not a designated CME Program*	Moderator: Alexis Stoner, PhD Panelists: Randy Aldret, EdD Darren Beck, PhD Ron Januchowski, DO Martin Levine, DO
11:00am – 12:00pm	MEDx Faculty Presentations *This is not a designated CME Program*	Moderator: Jim Mahaney, PhD
12:00 – 1:00pm <i>Barnwell Room</i>	Lunch	
1:00 – 2:00pm	Afternoon Keynote: <i>From Lab to Market, Commercializing Medical Innovations</i> * This is not a designated CME Program*	Dede Willis, MBA, President & CEO Orbit Genomics
2:00 – 2:15pm	Break	
2:15 – 3:45pm <i>Barnwell Room</i>	VCOM Research Player Draft Focus Areas: Clinical Research Community-based Research International Research Medical Education Research OMM/Musculoskeletal Research Precision Medicine Translational Research *This is not a designated CME Program*	Moderator: Skip Garner, PhD Leader: P. Gunnar Brolinson, DO Leader: Alexis Stoner, PhD Leader: Dean Sutphin, PhD Leader: Larissa Collier, PhD Leader: Al Kozar, DO Leader: Dede Willis, MBA Leader: Darren Beck, PhD
3:45 – 4:00pm	<i>Avoiding Predatory Journals</i> *This is not a designated CME Program*	Skip Garner, PhD
4:00 – 6:00pm <i>Barnwell Room</i>	Poster Session *This is not a designated CME Program*	

2021 VCOM Research Retreat Agenda

Sunday, December 5th

Calibogue & Danner Room for Meeting

7:00 – 8:00am <i>Barnwell Room</i>	<i>Breakfast</i>	
8:00 – 9:00am	<i>Beyond the Red Tape: Reimagining the Role of Your Research Office</i> Please take a brief survey prior to the presentation. *This is not a designated CME Program*	Debbie Geiger, CIP P. Gunnar Brolinson, DO
9:00 – 9:45am	<i>The Pandemic: A Once-in-a-Century Research Bonanza</i> *CME Available*	Pawel Michalak, PhD
9:45 – 10:00am	Break	
10:00 – 11:00am	<i>Engaging DO Students in Research</i> *CME Available*	Moderator: Hanna Sahhar, MD Panelists: P. Gunnar Brolinson, DO Skip Garner, PhD Joshua Hollingsworth, PharmD, PhD Lindsay Tjiattas-Saleski, DO
11:00am – 12:00pm	MEDx Faculty Presentations *This is not a designated CME Program*	Moderator: Jim Mahaney, PhD
12:00 – 12:15pm	<i>Where we go from here: Top 5 All Star Ideas</i>	P. Gunnar Brolinson, DO

The Edward Via College of Osteopathic Medicine (VCOM) is accredited by the American Osteopathic Association to provide physician Continuing Medical Education. The 2021 VCOM Research Retreat is jointly sponsored by VCOM campuses in Virginia, South Carolina, Alabama, and Louisiana.



Please help us improve our future programming by leaving feedback, each day, via this [evaluation form](#).

SPEAKERS



Christine Goertz, DC, PhD
Professor of Musculoskeletal Research,
Duke Clinical Research Institute

Christine Goertz, D.C., Ph.D. is a Professor in Musculoskeletal Research at the Duke Clinical Research Institute and Director of System Development and Coordination for Spine Health in the Department of Orthopaedic Surgery at Duke University. She is also the Chief Executive Officer of the Spine Institute for Quality and an Adjunct Professor in the Department of Epidemiology, College of Public Health at the University of Iowa. Formerly she was Vice Chancellor of Research and Health Policy at Palmer College of Chiropractic for eleven years. Dr. Goertz received her Doctor of Chiropractic (D.C.) degree from Northwestern Health Sciences University in 1991 and her Ph.D. in Health Services Research, Policy and Administration from the School of Public Health at the University of Minnesota in 1999. Her 30-year research career has focused on working with multi-disciplinary teams to design and implement clinical and health services research studies designed to increase knowledge regarding the effectiveness and cost of patient-centered, non-pharmacological treatments for spine-related disorders. Dr. Goertz has received nearly \$33M in federal funding as either principal investigator or co-principal investigator, primarily from NIH and the Department of Defense, and co-authored over 100 peer-reviewed papers. Dr. Goertz currently serves as a Member of the Interagency Pain Research Coordinating Committee (IPRCC), the Bone and Joint Initiative Low Back Pain Task Force and is Chairperson of the Board of Governors for the Patient Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI).

SPEAKERS



Dede Willis, MBA
President & CEO, Orbit Genomics

Dede Willis, MBA has over 20 years of leadership experience in life science startups in the US and Europe. She has been responsible for the development and launch of multiple products including therapeutics, diagnostics, medical devices & veterinary products. She has managed major capital projects including cGMP manufacturing facilities, research laboratories and clinical laboratories.

Dede has been a Partner at Ventac Partners, a global life science consulting firm that focuses on company creation, since 2003 and is part of its international board. She is currently President & CEO of Orbit Genomics, Inc., a genomics company cofounded by Ventac Partners and Professor Skip Garner.

Dede has a B.Sc. degree in Chemical Engineering from Clemson University and an MBA from the University of Houston, but her real education comes from a career spent in start-ups. She lives in Boulder, Colorado where in her spare time she enjoys skiing, cycling, and hiking in the Rockies.

MEDx TALKS



Zakaria Abd Elmageed, PhD

VCOM - Louisiana

*Tiny bodies with multiple functions:
The role of exosomes in promoting prostate cancer*



Al Kozar, DO

VCOM - Virginia

*Fascia: The Osteopathic Realm of the Organ you
Never Met*



Annie Kirby, PhD

VCOM - Auburn

Health Homemade



Stephen DiGiuseppe, PhD

VCOM - Louisiana

Ribosome Remodeling: Poxvirus Edition

MEDx TALKS



Bill Pearson, PhD

VCOM - Auburn

Flourishing in Swallowing Science



Blaise Costa, PhD

VCOM - Virginia

Glutamate: A Prey or Predator for the Brain?



Jacob Turnbull, DO

VCOM - Louisiana

See one, do one, teach one. But do no harm.



Steve Enkemann, PhD

VCOM - Carolinas

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