

2025 VCOM Research Retreat Agenda

Friday, November 14 The Hotel Monroe

6:00 – 8:00 pm	Friday Night Reception	
6:30 pm	Welcome to VCOM-Louisiana	Dean Ray Morrison, DO

Saturday, November 15 VCOM-Louisiana

7:00 – 8:30 am Lecture Hall I	Breakfast Overview of Medical Research at VCOM for 2025 <i>0.5 CME*</i>	Gunnar Brolinson, DO
8:30 – 9:30 am Lecture Hall I	Saturday Keynote: Immunogenomic Diversity of Triple-negative Breast Cancer <i>1.0 CME*</i>	Lucio Miele, MD, PhD, Louisiana Cancer Research Center
9:30 – 10:00 am Lecture Hall I	Cancer Screening and Treatment in the Military Health System <i>No CME</i>	Cathaleen Madsen, PhD, Uniform Services University
10:00 – 10:15 am	Break	
10:15 – 11:00 am Lecture Hall I	VCOM Medical Research Innovation Update <i>0.75 CME*</i>	Matthew Gevaert, PhD
11:00 am – 12:00 pm Lecture Hall I	MEDx Talks Clicks, Codes, and Conversations: Rethinking Health Communication in Medicine The MERCI Platform: From Chronic Pain to Human Flourishing The Limits of Sweat: Why Exercise Can't Erase Cancer or Stress <i>1.0 CME*</i>	Facilitator: Ray Morrison, DO Mayra Rodriguez, PhD, MPH William Pearson, PhD Kari Dugger, PhD
12:00 – 1:00 pm	Lunch	
1:00 – 2:30 pm Lecture Hall I	Concurrent Workshops: Utilizing the Power of NVIDIA DGX Computing via AAICE for Research <i>1.50 CME*</i>	Facilitators: Taylor Daniels; Nick Buhl; Fred Rawlins, DO; Gunnar Brolinson, DO
Conference Room 132	Foundations of Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (Getting Started with Educational Research) <i>No CME</i>	Danielle Lusk, PhD
Conference Room 129	DNA-Protein Interactions Involved in Cancer Research <i>No CME</i>	Bidyut Mohanty, PhD; Ramu Anandakrishnan, PhD; Kaushlendra Tripathi, PhD
Lecture Hall II	Research in Residency at Rural Hospitals <i>1.50 CME*</i>	Rebekah Morrow, PhD; Shaista Qureshi, MD
Conference Room 130	Medical Research Innovation/Commercialization Deep Dive <i>1.5 CME*</i>	Matthew Gevaert, PhD
Conference Room 107	Cancer Research: From Drug Detection to Drug Discovery <i>No CME</i>	Zakaria Abd Elmageed, PhD; Khalid E; Sayed, PhD; Yong-Yu Liu, PhD; Lin Kang, PhD

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Saturday, November 15 *VCOM-Louisiana*

2:30 – 2:45 pm	Break	
2:45 – 3:30 pm Lecture Hall I	MEDx Talks New insights into DNA secondary structures associated with cancer, ALS and FTD Heparanase: A Driver of Cancer Stemness and Relapse in Multiple Myeloma, Ovarian, and Breast Cancers <i>0.75 CME*</i>	Facilitator: Ray Morrison, DO Bidyut Mohanty, PhD Kaushlendra Tripathi, PhD
3:30 – 4:00 pm Lecture Hall I	Dashboards to Diagnosis <i>0.5 CME*</i>	Fred Rawlins II, DO
5:00 – 7:00 pm The Hotel Monroe	Research Showcase and Networking Reception	

Sunday, November 16 *VCOM-Louisiana*

7:00 – 8:00 am	Breakfast	
8:00 – 9:00 am Lecture Hall I	Sunday Keynote: Cancer from a Patient's Perspective <i>1.0 CME*</i>	Mike Goforth
9:00 – 9:15 am	Break	
9:15 – 10:00 am Lecture Hall I	MEDx Talks Exploring Louisiana's Lichens: A Natural Treasure for Anticancer Drug Discovery Life after the plague: Exploring health surrounding the time of the Black Death <i>0.75 CME*</i>	Facilitators: Ray Morrison, DO, Pawel Michalak, PhD Hassan Ebrahim, PhD Jenna Dittmar, PhD
10:00 am – 11:30 pm Lecture Hall I	VCOM Cancer Research What are Myeloid-Derived Suppressor Cells and Why are They So Important? From Dysbiosis to Defense: Gut Microbes and the Cancer Landscape Guilty in the Nucleus: Mutant BRAF Fuels Drug Resistance in Melanoma Cells <i>1.50 CME*</i>	Facilitators: Pawel Michalak, PhD, Fred Rawlins II, DO Shannon Murray, PhD Melissa Lipsmeyer, PhD Zakaria Abd Elmageed, PhD
11:30 am Lecture Hall I	Closing remarks	P. Gunnar Brolinson, DO

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Accreditation:

The Edward Via College of Osteopathic Medicine (VCOM) is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME[™]) to provide continuing medical education for physicians.

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Credit Hours:

9.25 credit hours are available.

Disclosure and Conflict of Interest Resolution:

All conflicts of interest of any individual(s) in a position to control the content of this CME activity will be identified and resolved prior to this educational activity being provided. Disclosure about provider and faculty relationships, or the lack thereof, will be provided to learners.

Attestation Information:

For those earning CME credits, please visit the links below to complete your attestation and evaluation of the CME-accredited activities.

CME presenter evaluation form: <https://virginiatech.questionpro.com/t/AVBnOZ7fFf>

AOA form for DO credit: <https://form.jotform.com/253154780804054>

ACCME form for MD, PharmD, and other healthcare professionals: <https://form.jotform.com/253154914921154>

Note: The CME Attestation Form must be completed by December 16, 2025.