CAREER PANELISTS

Tamara Alliston, Ph.D., is a Professor in the UCSF Department of Orthopaedic Surgery where she leads the Laboratory of Skeletal Mechanobiology. With a focus on TGFβ signaling, her laboratory investigates the interaction between physical and biochemical signals in the control of skeletal cell differentiation and the role of these pathways in skeletal development and disease. Supported by the NIH, NSF, and DOD, her group employs approaches from molecular and cell biology, materials science, and engineering to identify mechanisms of skeletal disease in order to advance the development of new therapeutic strategies.

She is Director of the UCSF NIH P30 Skeletal Biology and Biomechanics Core, a standing member of the NIH Skeletal Biology Structure and Regeneration (SBSR) study section, and an Editorial Board member for the Journal of Bone and Mineral Research and Bone. She has successfully organized a number of research conferences, such as the AAOS/ORS Workshop on Joint Crosstalk. She is the Chair of the 2020 Gordon Research Conference on Musculoskeletal Biology and Bioengineering. Dr. Alliston's honors include a Hulda Irene Duggan Arthritis Investigator Award, the ASBMR Harold M. Frost Young Investigator Award, the AIMM-ASBMR John Haddad Young Investigator Award, and the ORS Women’s Leadership Award.

Yves Sabbagh, Ph.D., is Head of Rare Renal and Musculoskeletal Diseases Research at Sanofi. Yves earned a B.Sc. in Biochemistry (McGill University), an M.Sc. in Microbiology/Immunology (Université Laval) and a Ph.D. in Biology (McGill University). He completed a postdoctoral fellowship in Dr. Demay’s lab in the Endocrine Unit, Massachusetts General Hospital, Harvard Medical School, where he investigated the role of vitamin D, FGF23 and phosphate in the regulation of mineral metabolism and growth plate biology. Yves then became an Instructor in Medicine at MGH/Harvard.

Yves joined Genzyme in 2005, working on the intestinal sodium-dependent phosphate cotransporter, NPT2b, as a therapeutic target for phosphate management in chronic kidney disease. He also identified pathways (Wnt and TGF-β) that are involved in renal bone diseases. Since 2011 he led a Lab working on genetic bone diseases. In 2017, Yves became R&D Director, Rare Bone Diseases setting the strategy and managing the efforts in this area.

Yves has authored more than 30 scientific articles, reviews and book chapters. He has given numerous scientific lectures and presentations at academic institutions and international conferences. He serves as a regular reviewer of articles and abstracts. Yves is a member of ASBMR, the Endocrine Society and the XLH Network.
Fei Shih, M.D., Ph.D., is an Executive Medical Director at Clementia Pharmaceuticals, now an Ipsen Company. She is a physician scientist with special interest in inflammation and pediatrics and has worked in the biopharmaceutical industry for the past 11 years. Dr. Shih received her BA in biochemical sciences from Harvard and completed her MD PhD in immunology from the University of Pennsylvania. She received her pediatric residency and fellowship training in pediatric rheumatology at St Louis Children’s Hospital with focused in autoimmune disease, T cell tolerance, and regulatory T cells.

Her pharmaceutical industry experience has spanned discovery to late phase clinical development to registration. She has worked with both small molecules and biologics and has worked in multiple companies ranging from Pfizer to small biotechs like Clementia. She has worked in well established therapeutic areas like rheumatoid arthritis to ultra rare orphan disease with novel clinical endpoints. She is currently leading clinical development efforts in 2 rare disease: fibrodysplasia ossificans progressive and pediatric multiple osteochondromas at Ipsen.

Vaibhav Saini, Ph.D., enables business development and technology development at MilliporeSigma, a business of Merck KGaA. Previously, as Licensing Director for Life Sciences at the University of Connecticut, he spearheaded licensing of small-molecule inhibitors, immuno-oncology agents, nanomaterials, and plants.

As a postdoctoral fellow and Instructor at MGH, HMS, he researched hormonal regulation of osteoporosis, alopecia, and hepatic steatosis. He participated in the Johns Hopkins University Carey Business School INNoVATE program. He was also an intern at Partners HealthCare Innovation. Recently, his debut novel, *Innocence Lives in an Eyrie*, has been published out of New York. He has been presenting book talks across the US and India.

Jessica Sagers, Ph.D., Head of Engagement at RA Capital Management directs a concerted effort to analyze, design, and shape internal and external narratives. She works with RA’s newcos to develop optimal pitch decks and public messaging, develops educational materials for the firm’s internal and external business courses, authors articles, and presents at conferences on concepts such as the biotechnology social contract that she and colleagues have written on. She holds a BA in Linguistics from Brigham Young University and a PhD in auditory neuroscience from the Division of Medical Sciences at Harvard University. Her graduate research investigated novel small molecule approaches to treating vestibular schwannoma and neurofibromatosis type 2.
Miao-Chih Tsai, Ph.D., is a Senior Editor of Cell, Cell Press. Miao completed her undergraduate studies in Taiwan and read for her Ph.D. in developmental biology with Dr. Julie Ahringer at the Gurdon Institute of the University of Cambridge. She then moved to sunny California to work with Dr. Howard Chang as a postdoctoral fellow at Stanford University to characterize the function of long noncoding RNAs. She is interested in all aspects of biology, especially new technological innovations and their applications. She is also interested in learning about the people behind the science and strives to help authors develop their stories as fully as possible.

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

Michael Econs, M.D., Glenn W. Irwin, Jr. Professor of Endocrinology and Metabolism and Medical & Molecular Genetics Division Chief, Endocrinology and Metabolism, Indiana University School of Medicine. Biography pending

Deborah Veis, MD, Ph.D., is a Professor of Medicine, Pathology & Immunology, Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis. Dr. Veis received her undergraduate degree in Molecular Biology from Princeton University, completed the MD/PhD program at Washington University, and was a postdoctoral fellow in the laboratory of Steven Teitelbaum. She is board certified in Anatomic Pathology with expertise in bone and breast diseases; and joined the Division of Bone and Mineral Diseases in the Washington University Department of Medicine in 2003. She has served in the leadership of the American Society for Bone and Mineral Research and the American Society for Clinical Investigation. She currently serves as the Director of the Histology and Histomorphometry Core within the Musculoskeletal Research Center and the Educational Coordinator for its T32 training program. Dr. Veis’ research is mainly focused on pathological osteolysis in the context of inflammation, infection, and metastasis. She also studies the role of mitochondria in bone cell biology. Dr. Veis has extensive collaborations with clinicians on studies related to bone disease and breast cancer.
PILOT AND FEASIBILITY STUDIES SPEAKERS

**Michael B. Albro, Ph.D.**, currently serves as Assistant Professor of Mechanical Engineering at Boston University with affiliations in the Department of Biomedical Engineering and Division of Material Science and Engineering. Prior to joining BU, he served as a Marie Curie International Fellow in the Stevens Group at Imperial College London. He received his Ph.D. under Prof. Gerard Ateshian at Columbia University. As PI of the Growth Factor Mechanobiology Lab, his research focuses on the extracellular regulation of growth factors in the synovial joint with an emphasis on understanding how mechanical forces and chemical reactions influence their activation, transport, and activity in connective tissues. His work aims to develop insights into: 1) the native growth factor regulatory mechanisms that drive tissue development and maintenance, 2) the breakdown of these mechanisms during degenerative joint disorders, and 3) the development of novel therapeutic approaches. Recently, he was awarded several NSF project grants, a Boston University Dean’s Catalyst Award, and an MGH Center for Skeletal Research Pilot Grant to investigate growth factor mechanobiology in the synovial joint.

**Eva Liu, M.D.**, is an Assistant Professor of Medicine, Department of Medicine, Brigham and Women’s Hospital and Harvard Medical School, and an endocrinologist at the Brigham and Women’s Hospital. She attended NYU School of Medicine and completed internal medicine residency at Yale-New Haven Hospital and endocrinology fellowship at Brigham and Women’s Hospital. She completed her post-doctoral training with Dr. Marie Demay in the Endocrine Unit at MGH. Dr. Liu’s laboratory is focused on investigating the pathophysiology of complications underlying hypophosphatemic rickets. She interested in the hormonal and molecular regulation of these complications.