Wednesday, March 11

Time	Agenda Item/Topic	Speaker/Presenter
12:00 pm	**Registration Opens** *Boxed lunches available in Longleaf Pre-function Area*	
General Session I **Moderator: W. Robert Taylor, MD, PhD, Contact PI, Georgia CTSA** **Longleaf Ballroom ABCD**		
1:00 pm	**Welcome & Overview of Conference**	
1:15 pm	**Featured Talk:** Collective Innovation for Maternal Health Access in West Alabama	**Holly Horan, PhD** Assistant Professor Anthropology University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa
1:45 pm	**Featured Talk:** Understanding Depression Recovery with Deep Brain Stimulation Using Explainable AI	**Christopher Rozell, PhD** Julian T. Hightower Chaired Professor Electrical & Computer Engineering Executive Director, Institute for Neuroscience, Neurotechnology & Society Georgia Institute of Technology
2:15 pm	Chronic Diabetes Induces Endothelial Stress and Proteotranscriptomic Remodeling in the Diabetic Lung	**Mohamed S. Selim, BPharm** PhD Scholar Department of Pharmacy University of Georgia
2:30 pm	**Keynote:** NCATS Updates: Maximizing the Success of Translational Research	**Joni L. Rutter, PhD** Director National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences National Institutes of Health
3:15 – 3:30 pm	Break	

General Session II **Moderator: Elizabeth Ofili, MD, MPH, PI, Georgia CTSA** **Longleaf Ballroom ABCD**		
3:30 pm	Are Families Discharged from the Pediatric Emergency Department Aware of Quick Response (QR) Codes?	**Sara Cortes, MD** Assistant Professor Department of Pediatrics University of Miami

3:45 pm	A Bioinspired Upper Body Assistive Exoskeleton for Supporting Stroke Patients with Daily Activities	**Connor Talley, BS** PhD Student College of Engineering and Engineering Technology Kennesaw State University
4:00 pm	Development and Initial Results of an Intervention to Reduce Conflicts in Faculty-Graduate Student Mentoring Relationships in the Biomedical Sciences	**Trevor Tuma, PhD** Post Doctoral Research Associate Department of Biochemistry & Molecular Biology University of Georgia
4:15 pm	**Featured Talk:** Noise-Induced Hearing Loss as a Driver of Alzheimer's Disease Pathogenesis	**Suhrud M Rajguru, PhD** Professor Biomedical Engineering and Otolaryngology Assistant Vice Provost, Research Workforce Development Director, University of Miami CTSI Workforce Development University of Miami
4:45- 5:15 pm	Break	
5:15- 6:15 PM	**Poster Viewing & Judging I** *Longleaf E*	
6:00 – 6:30 pm	**Networking Reception** *Longleaf and Loblolly Pre-Functions Areas*	
6:30 – 8:00 pm	**Dinner Buffet** *Loblolly Ballroom and Cypress Conference Room A & B*	
7:30 – 8:30 pm	**Trainee Career Development: Effective Communication in Mentoring Relationships** *Sourwood Room 4+5* **Erin Dolan, PhD** Professor Georgia Athletic Association Professor of Innovative Science Education Josiah Meigs Distinguished Teaching Professor Department of Biochemistry & Molecular Biology University of Georgia	

Thursday, March 12

Time	Agenda Item/Topic	Speaker/Presenter
7:30 – 8:30 am	**Breakfast and Networking** *Longleaf Pre-function Area*	
8:30 – 10:00 am	**Concurrent Breakout Sessions** *See below for specific information.*	

Concurrent Session I: Rural Health **Moderator: Joni Nelson, PhD, MUSC** **Longleaf Ballroom AB**		
8:30 am	**Featured Talk:** Expanding Clinical Research into the Rural Community	**Patrick A. Flume, MD** Powers-Huggins Endowed Chair for Cystic Fibrosis Department of Medicine Co-PI for the South Carolina Clinical & Translational Research Institute Medical University of South Carolina
9:00 am	From Training to Impact: Multilevel Interventions to Strengthen the Rural Health Workforce	**Somilez A. Francis, MS** Grants Program Manager Office of Physician Assistant Studies Morehouse School of Medicine
9:15 am	How Does Place of Residence Affect Stroke Risk Factors and Outcomes? A Single Site Retrospective Analysis	**James Gaither** Medical Student Medical College of Georgia University of Georgia
9:30 am	School-Based Oral Health Institute for the Carolinas: An Accidental Practice-Based Research Network	**Amy Martin, DrPH, MSPH** Senior Associate Dean Professor & Chair, Department of Biomedical & Community Health Sciences James B. Edwards College of Dental Medicine Medical University of South Carolina
9:45 am	Community Perspectives on Facilitators and Barriers to Healthy Lifestyle: Insights from the Fight for Life Study in Rural Georgia	**Asia Rivers, MPH, MCHES** Program Director Prevention Research Center Morehouse School of Medicine

Concurrent Session II: Nutrition and Lifestyle **Moderator: Jessica Alvarez, PhD, RD, Emory** **Longleaf Ballroom CD**		
8:30 am	**Featured Talk:** The Institute for Connecting Nutrition and Health (ICON-Health) - Opportunities for Impact in the Current Nutrition Landscape	**Patrick Stover, PhD** Professor Biomedical Sciences Director, Institute for Connecting Nutrition and Health Florida State University
9:00 am	Developmental Effects of Semaglutide in an Adolescent Rodent Model of Diet-induced Obesity	**Austin Mills, BA** Graduate Student Department of Nutritional Sciences University of Georgia

9:15 am	Nutrition Education Camp Intervention Reduces Dietary Variation and Improves Metabolic Control in a Large Cohort of Females with PKU	**Jessica Strosahl, PhD, RDN, LDN** Postdoctoral Research Fellow and Genetic Metabolic Dietitian Department of Human Genetics Emory University
9:30 am	Evaluating Program Alignment and Implementation Feasibility of Childhood Obesity Treatment Lifestyle Interventions with Cooperative Extension	**Megan Appelbaum, BS** PhD Candidate and Dietetic Intern College of Family and Consumer Sciences, Department of Nutritional Science University of Georgia
9:45 am	Dietary Impacts on Cardiometabolic and Cognitive Risks for Dementia in Older Adults	**Julia L. Sheffler, PhD, ABPP** Assistant Professor Center for Translational Behavioral Science Florida State University College of Medicine

Concurrent Session III: Cancer **Moderator: Adam Marcus, PhD, Emory** **Cypress Conference Room A & B**		
8:30 am	**Featured Talk:** Omics-guided Prediction meets Experimental Therapeutics in Preclinical Cancer Drug Development	**Amit Kumar Mitra, PhD** Associate Professor Harrison College of Pharmacy Auburn University
9:00 am	Patients with Recurrent Head and Neck Cancer Have Increased Levels of Circulating CD57+ T Cells	**Chulwoo Kim** Medical Student Department of Otolaryngology Emory University
9:15 am	Crocin II Attenuates MPA-Driven Progesterone Receptor Signaling in T47D Breast Cancer Cells	**Priyanka Kundu** Medical Student (OMS-II) Alabama College of Osteopathic Medicine **Raheem Memon** Medical Student (OMS-II) Alabama College of Osteopathic Medicine
9:30 am	Variability of Outpatient Antimicrobial Prescribing Across Solid Tumor Cancer Types	**Lauren Dempsey, MSPH** PhD Student Department of Clinical and Administrative Pharmacy University of Georgia
9:45 am	Localized Radiation Primes the Tumor Microenvironment to Enhance CAR T Cell Efficacy in Combination with Immune Checkpoint Inhibition	**Dejah Blake, MS** PhD Candidate Cancer Biology PhD Graduate Program Emory University

10:00 – 10:15 am	Break
10:15 – 11:15 am	**Poster Viewing & Judging II** Longleaf E
11:30 – 12:30 pm	**Networking Lunch** *Longleaf Pre-function Area*

12:30 – 2:00 pm	**Concurrent Breakout Sessions** *See below for specific information.*

Concurrent Session IV: Community Engagement and Participation **Moderator: Sylvie Naar, PhD, PI, UF CTSI** **Longleaf Ballroom AB**		
12:30 pm	**Featured Talk:** Georgia Health Landscape	**Allisen Penn, EdD** Associate Dean for Extension and Outreach College of Family and Consumer Sciences University of Georgia **Alison C. Berg, PhD, RDN, LD** Associate Professor and Extension Nutrition and Health Specialist Department of Nutritional Sciences College of Family and Consumer Sciences University of Georgia **Dee Warmath, PhD** Associate Professor Department of Financial Planning, Housing, and Consumer Economics University of Georgia **Courtney Brown, PhD, RDN, LD** Community Health Engagement Coordinator Biomedical and Translational Sciences Institute, UGA Extension University of Georgia
1:00 pm	Asymmetric Telepresence for Clinical Communication: Enhancing Privacy and Presence in Remote Care	**Sungchul Jung, PhD** Assistant Professor Game Design and Development Department of Software Engineering and Game Development College of Computing and Software Engineering Kennesaw State University
1:15 pm	From Punishment to Partnership: Community-Engaged Systems Approaches to Policy De-Implementation	**Lauren Caton, PhD** Post Doctoral Student Department of Health Policy and Management Rollins School of Public Health Emory University
1:30 pm	Implementing Community Resiliency Model (CRM®) Training to Promote Mental Well-Being in Youth at Risk for Violence	**Ingrid Hopkins Duva, PhD, MN, RN** Clinical Assistant Professor Nell Hodgson Woodruff School of Nursing Emory University
1:45 pm	Zooming Into Wellness: Remote Hatha Yoga Improves Balance, Reaction Time, and Emotional Health	**Kristina A. Neely, PhD** Associate Professor School of Kinesiology Auburn University

Concurrent Session V : Artificial Intelligence **Moderator: Suhrud M Rajguru, PhD, UM** **Longleaf Ballroom CD**		
12:30 pm	**Featured Talk:** From Prototype to Practice: Bridging the Medical AI Implementation Gap	**Judy Wawira Gichoya, MD, MS, FSIIM** Associate Professor – Interventional Radiology & Informatics Department of Radiology & Imaging Sciences Emory University
1:00 pm	Uncovering Neurodevelopmental Impact of Prenatal Cannabis Exposure via Cognition-Guided Structure–Function Coupling	**Dong Hye Ye, PhD** Assistant Professor Computer Sciences Georgia State University
1:15 pm	Fine-Tuned Large Language Model for Oculoplastics Referral Triage: Accuracy, Generalizability, and Comparison with Clinical Staff	**Jocelyn Lee, BA** Research Assistant Department of Ophthalmology Emory University School of Medicine
1:30 pm	Impact of Automated Feature Engineering on the Accuracy and Reliability of Machine Learning Prediction of Heart Failure Readmissions	**Mustapha Oloko-Oba, PhD** Post Doctoral Fellow Morehouse School of Medicine
1:45 pm	Machine Learning Models for Quantifying Lateral Flow Assay Using Smartphone Images	**Asahi Tomitaka, PhD** Assistant Professor Department of Computer Science Kennesaw State University

Concurrent Session VI : Cardiovascular Health **Moderator: Jennifer S. Pollock, PhD, UAB** **Cypress Conference Room A & B**		
12:30 pm	**Featured Talk:** The Heart of the Matter: Promoting Optimal Cardiovascular Health	**Laurie Abbott, PhD, RN, CNE, DipACLM, PHNA-BC, FAAN** Associate Professor College of Nursing Florida State University
1:00 pm	From Biopsy to Bench: Engineering Human Lymphatic Tissues for Precision Medicine in Pediatric Vascular Anomalies	**Yarelis Gonzalez-Vargas, PhD** Postdoctoral Fellow CTSA TL1 Woodruff School of Mechanical Engineering Georgia Institute of Technology
1:15 pm	Poldip2 Deficiency Protects Against Lung Injury Following *Pseudomonas Aeruginosa* Infection	**Xiaowen Cheng, PhD** Post Doctoral Fellow Department of Medicine Emory University
1:30 pm	Exploring Factors Affecting Near-Infrared Spectroscopy (NIRS) Perfusion Metrics in Peripheral Arterial Disease: A Focus on Skin Tone and Calibration	**Afnan Abu Sarar, BS** Medical Student Department of Internal Medicine Augusta University/University of Georgia Medical Partnership
1:45 pm	Prognostic Value of the Homeostatic Model Assessment for Cardiovascular Events in Coronary Artery Disease: Insights from the Emory Biobank	**Shaimaa Sakr, MD** Research fellow Department of Cardiology Emory University School of Medicine

1:45 – 2:00 pm	**Break**

2:00 – 3:00 pm	**Poster Viewing & Judging III** **Longleaf E**

3:00 – 4:00 pm	**Special Interest Sessions** *See below for specific information.*

Special Interest Session I: Pivoting Your Research
Longleaf Ballroom AB

Patricia Probert, PhD, LMHC
Dean of Students
Associate Professor, Community Dentistry and Behavioral Science
College of Dentistry
University of Florida

Sierra Carter, PhD
Associate Professor
Associate Director, Center for Family Research
Director, Health Equity, Agency, Racism, & Trauma Lab
Department of Psychology
University of Georgia

Sylvie Naar, PhD, LP
Distinguished and Endowed Professor
Department of Behavioral and Social Sciences
Founding Director, Center for Translational Behavioral Science
MPI, UF Clinical and Translational Science Institute
Florida State University

Special Interest Session II: Working with the Cooperative Extension
Longleaf Ballroom CD

Rachel Snoddy
County Extension Director
Chambers County
Alabama Cooperative Extension System

Alison C. Berg, PhD, RDN, LD
Associate Professor and Extension Nutrition and Health Specialist
Department of Nutritional Sciences
College of Family and Consumer Sciences
University of Georgia

Karla P. Shelnutt, PhD, RD
Professor and Associate Dean for Extension Engagement
Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences
University of Florida

Special Interest Session III: Communicating Your Impact
Cypress Conference Room A & B

Amy Stehlik
Associate Director, Communications
Georgia Clinical & Translational Science Alliance
Emory University

Jennifer S. Pollock, PhD Endowed Professor of Nephrology Section of Cardio-Renal Physiology and Medicine Department of Medicine Division of Nephrology University of Alabama at Birmingham **Jennifer Moses, PhD** Associate Director of Communications, Recruitment Specialist Clinical and Translational Science Institute University of Florida

4:00 - 5:30 pm	**Networking time** Did you know your overnight stay includes complimentary admissions to the Gardens? From golfing, biking, hiking, to relaxing at the spa, Callaway has something for everyone! Check out what's happening at Gardens to plan your trip*. **Excursions, rentals, etc. not covered by CTSA Sponsors*

5:30 – 6:30 pm	**Poster Viewing & Judging IV** **Longleaf E**
5:30 – 6:30 pm	**Tools and Technology Showcase** Bayberry Room ABCD **Georgia Health Landscape** Dee Warmath, PhD Associate Professor Department of Financial Planning, Housing, and Consumer Economics University of Georgia **PLOT Initiative** Razvan Cristian Voicu (Chris), PhD Assistant Professor of Robotics and Mechatronics Engineering Department of Mechatronics Engineering Faculty Research Fellow, Prototype Living of Tomorrow (PLOT) Lead Kennesaw State University **SPARCRequest** Leila Forney, DNP SPARC Operational Team Lead Associate Director, Office of Clinical Research Prospective Reimbursement Analysis Medical University of South Carolina **Immersive Technologies to Translate Critical Scientific Information: Experiencing Risks and Learning Mitigation in VR** Sophie Kim PhD Student CACHE Center University of Georgia Nayoung Song PhD Student CACHE Center University of Georgia

	Annate Bitherapeutics Eric DeJesus, PhD Adjunct Professor Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology University of Georgia **Fabla: Turn "How Was Your Day?" Into High-Resolution Evidence to Support Your Study Outcomes** Presented by the Georgia CTSA AppHatchery team. **Trial Connection: Don't Lose Eligible Patients at the Point of Care** Presented by the Georgia CTSA AppHatchery team. **Vocalis Care: Communicate with Every Patient Effortlessly, Using Your Voice, Across Any Language** Presented by the Georgia CTSA AppHatchery team. **Just-in-Time Clinical Tools** Presented by the Georgia CTSA AppHatchery team.

6:30 pm	**Networking Banquet and Awards Ceremony** *Loblolly Ballroom*

Friday, March 13

Time	Agenda Item/Topic	Speaker/Presenter
General Session III **Moderator: Bradley G. Phillips, PharmD, BCPS, FCCP, PI, Georgia CTSA** **Longleaf Ballroom ABCD**		
7:30 - 8:30 am	**Breakfast and Networking** *Longleaf Pre-function Area*	
8:30 am	**Featured Talk:** mRNA Therapeutics for Cancer	**Duane A. Mitchell, MD, PhD** Phyllis Kottler Friedman Professor Lillian S. Wells Department of Neurosurgery Director, UF Clinical and Translational Science Institute Co-Director, Preston A. Wells, Jr. Center for Brain Tumor Therapy University of Florida
9:00 am	**Featured Talk:** Use of Community Real World Data to Inform Patient Care	**Francisco J. Leyva, MD, PhD, ScM** Program Director, Initiatives & Consortium-Wide Activities Section Clinical and Translational Science Awards Program Branch Division of Clinical Innovation National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences
9:30 am	**Featured Talk:** We Need Data to Make Data…Building an Evidence Base for Research Recruitment	**Neal Dickert, MD, PhD** Thomas R. Williams Professor of Medicine Emory University School of Medicine, Co-Director, Emory Health Services Research Center Emory University Rollins School of Public Health, Department of Epidemiology Emory Center for Ethics
10:00 am	**Break**	

General Session IV **Moderator: Andrés Garcia, PhD, FBSE, PI, Georgia CTSA** **Longleaf Ballroom ABCD**		
10:15 am	**Featured Talk:** Human Organs and Organoids on Chips	**Ashutosh Agarwal, PhD** Associate Professor Department of Biomedical Engineering University of Miami Director of Engineering and Applied Physics Desai Sethi Urology Institute
10:45 am	**Panel:** Alternatives to Animal Models for Biomedical Research	**Zane Zeier, PhD** Associate Professor Department of Psychiatry & Behavioral Sciences University of Miami, Miller School of Medicine

		Chrystian Junqueira Alves, PhD Assistant Professor of Neurology Department of Pediatrics Emory University School of Medicine Emory Children's Center **Duane A. Mitchell, MD, PhD** Phyllis Kottler Friedman Professor Lillian S. Wells Department of Neurosurgery Director, UF Clinical and Translational Science Institute Co-Director, Preston A. Wells, Jr. Center for Brain Tumor Therapy University of Florida **Jake Y. Chen, PhD, FACMI, FAIMBE, FAMIA** Founding Director, Systems Pharmacology AI Research Center (SPARC) Triton Endowed Professor of Biomedical Informatics and Data Science Director, NIH Common Fund Data Ecosystems (CFDE) Integration and Coordination Center The University of Alabama at Birmingham, Heersink School of Medicine
11:45 am	**Closing**	

Subject to change 03/02/2026

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