

Elastin, Elastic Fibers & Microfibrils

Gordon Research Conference

Elastic Tissues and Regulation of Growth Factor Signaling in Development, Homeostasis and Disease

Dates

July 30 - August 4, 2017

Location

University of New England
Biddeford, ME

Organizers

Chair:

Clair Baldock

Vice Chair:

Daniel B. Rifkin

Application Deadline

Applications for this meeting must be submitted by **July 2, 2017**. Please apply early, as some meetings become oversubscribed (full) before this deadline. If the meeting is oversubscribed, it will be stated here. *Note:* Applications for oversubscribed meetings will only be considered by the Conference Chair if more seats become available due to cancellations.

Meeting Description

Elastin, fibrillin microfibrils and an array of associated proteins form elastic fibers which are critical for the formation of the skin, vasculature, lungs, bones, tendons, eyes and other tissues. Additionally, these microfibrils and associated proteins provide extracellular regulation of growth factors such as TGF β and BMPs. These signaling pathways are perturbed in many genetic diseases associated with mutations of these proteins. The "Elastin, Elastic Fibers and Microfibrils" Gordon Research Conference (GRC) is the premiere meeting that brings together scientists from different backgrounds to discuss all aspects of research on elastic fiber molecules and the roles that these systems exert in vertebrate development, tissue homeostasis and human disease. This conference is unique in the depth of its coverage of elastic tissue biology, spanning molecular properties of elastin, fibrillin and other proteins essential for the assembly and function of elastic fibers, matrix regulation of cell signaling, enabling technologies for elastic fiber analysis, the genetics and pathobiology of elastic fiber associated molecules in inherited and acquired disorders, tissue regeneration and translational medicine, as well as biomedical engineering. The Conference is preceded by a 2-day Gordon Research Seminar (GRS) organized by and featuring talks from graduate students and postdoctoral fellows. All students and postdocs are strongly encouraged to attend both the GRS and GRC. There will be a number of opportunities for short talks at the GRS and GRC selected from submitted abstracts, providing a unique opportunity to present work to leaders in the field. The collegial atmosphere of this Conference, with programmed discussion sessions as well as opportunities for informal gatherings in the afternoons and evenings, provides an avenue for scientists from different disciplines to brainstorm and promotes cross-disciplinary collaborations.

Related Meeting



This GRC will be held in conjunction with the "Elastin, Elastic Fibers & Microfibrils" Gordon Research Seminar (GRS). Those interested in attending both meetings must submit an application for the GRS in addition to an application for the GRC. Refer to the [associated GRS program page](#) for more

information.

Contributors



Preliminary Program

The topics and speakers for the conference sessions are displayed below (*italics* denote discussion leaders). The Conference Chair is currently developing their detailed program, which will include the complete meeting schedule, as well as the talk titles for all speakers. The detailed program will be available by **March 30, 2017**. Please check back for updates.

- **Biology of Tissue Elasticity**
(*Brigida Bochicchio* / Markus Buehler / Giselle Yeo)
- **Extracellular Modulation of Cell Signaling**
(*Daniel Rifkin* / Elizabeth McNally / Enid Neptune / Gerhard Sengle)
- **Enabling Technologies for Elastic Fiber Research**
(*Michael Sherratt* / Laurent Debelle / Alan Godwin)
- **Microfibrillar Proteins and Metabolic Function**
(*Lynn Sakai* / Atul Chopra / Tomonobu Ezure)
- **Elastic Fiber Assembly and Composition**
(*Hiromi Yanagisawa* / Michael Sherratt)
- **Elastic Tissue Regeneration and Translational Approaches**
(*Anthony Weiss* / Ashutosh Chilkoti / Yadong Wang)
- **Functional Modifiers of Elastic Fibers**
(*Suneel Apte* / Laurent Mueller / Laurence Denholm)
- **Fibrillinopathies and Elastin-Related Diseases**
(*Beth Kozel* / Francesco Ramirez / Sanjay Sinha / Lior Zilberberg)
- **Lung and Vasculature Development, Homeostasis and Disease**
(*Enid Neptune* / Farrah Kheradmand / Elena Gallo MacFarlane / Jessica Wagenseil)