

28th TRCCC Annual Meeting Detailed Agenda
February 25-27, 2026
Forging Ahead in the Era of Immunotherapy

Wednesday February 25, 2026

11:00am – 7:00pm Registration Hours
(Booth/Hall)

Annual Meeting Commences

2:00-2:10pm (Exhibit Hall)	Welcome Remarks – Jonathan Bramson, Alex Huang
2:10-2:40pm (Exhibit Hall)	Case CCC Director’s Remark: Gary Schwartz, MD (Case CCC) Introduced by: Jos Melenhorst
2:40-4:00pm (Exhibit Hall)	Plenary Session I: Immuno-Oncology Mediated Toxicity & TLS Chair:
2:40-3:10	Speaker 1: Nirali Shah, MD (POB/NCI/NIH) Title: <i>Bedside-to-Bench: The role of bedside clinician in investigating novel CAR T-cell toxicities</i> Introduction by:
3:10-3:35	Speaker 2: Tullia Bruno, PhD (UPMC) Title: <i>Harnessing B cells and tertiary lymphoid structures for improved anti-tumor immunity</i> Introduction by:
3:35-4:00	Speaker 3: Andy Gunderson, PhD (OSU) Title: <i>The function of tertiary lymphoid structures in cancer</i> Introduction by:

4:00-4:20pm Break and hotel check in

4:20pm-6pm Breakout Oral Presentation Sessions 1-6
(Sunburst / Snowflakes / Wintergreen / Seasons 2-3 / Seasons 4-5 / Fox Den)

6:00-8:00pm Welcome Reception
(Exhibit Hall)

6:30-8:30pm Poster Session I – Poster #1-84 (Odd # 6:30-7:30; Even # 7:30-8:30)
(Exhibit Annex)

- Scavenger Hunt -

7-8pm Board of Directors Meeting
(Hemlock?)

Thursday February 26, 2026

8am-7pm Registration Hours
(Booth/Hall)

8am-9:40am Breakout Oral Presentation Sessions 7-11
(Sunburst / Snowflakes / Wintergreen / Seasons 2-3 / Seasons 4-5 / Fox Den)

9:40am-10am Break
(Exhibit Hall)

10am-11:15am **Plenary Session II: Tumor Microenvironment & Microbiome**
(Exhibit Hall)
Chair:

10:00-10:25 Speaker: **Marlies Meisel, PhD (UPMC)**
Title: *Lifestyle as an adjuvant: Mechanisms that enhance cancer treatment*
Introduction by:

10:25-10:50 Speaker: **Natalie Silver, MD (Case CCC)**
Title: *Intratumoral bacteria as drivers of tumor immunosuppression and immunotherapy resistance*
Introduction by:

10:50-11:15 Speaker: **Jiahe Li, PhD (UMich)**
Title: *Engineering and harnessing microbes to solve complex problems in biology and medicine*
Introduction by:

11:20am-12:30pm Lunch with the Advocates (Heather Gibson / sponsorship?)
(Ballroom)

12:40pm-2:40pm Emerging Science Working Group (ESWG) (*confirmed)

(Seasons 3-4) **ESWG A: Antigenic Targets** (Melenhorst; Shah / Host:)

Nik Sgourakis*	<i>From cold to hot: Reprogramming MHC-I Antigen presentation to create synthetic Immune responses against pediatric cancers</i>	Penn
Rachel Abbotts*	<i>Viral mimicry: Maximizing immunotherapy responses in NSCLC</i>	WVU
Leonid Cherkasky*	<i>Armoring CAR T cells for efficiency in solid tumors</i>	Roswell
Mohammad Dezfulian*	<i>Charting the uncharted: A comprehensive atlas of T cell antigen recognition in cancer</i>	Penn
Mark Yarchoan*	<i>Targeted immunotherapy for an "undruggable" cancer driver</i>	JHU

(Sunburst) **ESWG B: Cell Fate & Function in TME** (Bruno / Mace)

Michael Wilson*	<i>KMT2 proteins as regulators of</i>	Karmanos
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Hong Han*	<i>Immunogenicity in endometrial cancer</i>	McMaster
Rebecca Obeng*	<i>Decoding complexity to achieve Precision: multilayer cell fate control in cancer</i>	Case CCC
Hether Gibson*	<i>Stem-like CD8 T cells in TLSs</i>	Karmanos
Nyall London*	<i>TBA</i>	JHU
	<i>Rare sinonasal malignancies: the tumor immune microenvironment, animal models, and translational advances</i>	
<i>(Snowflakes)</i> <u>ESWG C: Microbiome & Metabolites (Meisel /)</u>		
Molly Kledzik*	<i>The role of the microbiome in advance stage colon cancer</i>	WVU
Abby Overacre*	<i>A delicate balance: microbes driving Immunotherapy and immune related adverse events</i>	Pitt
Donnele Daley*	<i>The influence of gut dysbiosis on pancreatic inflammation and oncogenesis</i>	UMich
Blake Wilde*	<i>Metabolic states as drivers of tumor initiation and plasticity</i>	Roswell
Brian Altman	<i>BMAL1 and circadian rhythms support robust immune signaling in lung cancer</i>	Rochester
<i>(Wintergreen)</i> <u>ESWG D: Nucleotides, Small Molecules & Immune Response (S. Huang /)</u>		
Eunhee Yi*	<i>Genomic plasticity of cancer cells in the Tumor microenvironment</i>	MSU
Irina Elcheva*	<i>Oncofetal RNA-binding proteins of IGF2BP family function at the regulatory intersection of cell cycle and immune signaling</i>	Penn State
Isaac Harris*	<i>Understanding the roles of antioxidants in health and disease</i>	Rochester
Ileana Soto Mauldin*	<i>A novel immunotherapy to enhance T-cell infiltration in triple-negative breast cancer and melanoma</i>	UVA
Jennier Jacob*	<i>Utilizing outbred mice to identify oncogene Regulatory genes driving tumor onset and Treatment response</i>	MSU

2:40pm-3:40pm	Special Topic Workshops
<i>(Exhibit Hall)</i>	1) Primer on Cell Therapy – from Concept to First-in-Human [Christopher Choi (Roswell); Jos Melenhorst (Case CCC)]
<i>(Ballroom)</i>	2) Lay Abstract Workshop with Advocate [Heather Gibson (Karmanos); Kristin Anderson (UVA); Maria Castro (UMich)]

3:40pm-4:20pm Break
(Exhibit Hall)

4:20pm-6:00pm Breakout Oral Presentation Sessions 12-16
(Sunburst / Snowflakes / Wintergreen / Seasons 2-3 / Seasons 4-5 / Fox Den)

6:00pm-8:00pm Dinner Buffet
(Exhibit Hall)

6:30pm-8:30pm Poster Session II – Poster 85-191 (odd # 6:30-7:30; even # 7:30-8:30)
(Exhibit Annex)

- Scavenger Hunt –

8:00pm-10:00pm Organizers' Dinner

Friday February 27, 2026

8:00am-12pm Registration Hours
(Booth/Hall)

7:00am-8:00am Organizers-Sponsors Breakfast
(Slopeside Dining Room)

8:00am-8:30am **Meet the Editors – Journal of ImmunoTherapy of Cancer (JITC)**
(Exhibit Hall)
Speakers: Michael Lotze, Editor-In-Chief
Kristin Anderson, Social Media Editor
Title: *How to write a great research paper, and get it accepted by a good journal*
Introduced by: Kristin Anderson

8:30am-10:00am Trainee Spotlight - **SITC sponsorship** (Chair: Rebecca Obeng)
(Exhibit Hall)

8:35-8:50	Anthony Sloan	CaseCCC
	Title: <i>Platelets regulate glioblastoma growth and immunity via sex-dependent PAR4-Erb signaling</i>	
8:50-9:05	Dipyaman Patra	UPMC
	Title: <i>Lifestyle induced susceptibility to immune-related adverse events (LISA)</i>	
9:05-9:20	Sung Hee Choi	CaseCCC
	Title: <i>TGF-β regulates oncogene expressoin and the immune microenvironment in Osteosarcoma</i>	
9:20-9:30	Tomomi Sanomachi	Penn
	Title: <i>CLDN18.2-targeted CAR T with potent antitumor activity in GI and other solid tumors</i>	
9:30-9:40	Beatriz Oliveira	CaseCCC
	Title: <i>Preclinical assessment of gene tragets associated with improved CAR T-cell efficacy</i>	

9:40am-10:05am **Sponsor / Exhibitor Presentations** (Chair: Dan Powell)
(Exhibit Hall)

9:40-9:55	Speaker 1: G-Rex Representative
	Title: <i>Leading CGT from Good to Great through Quality by Design</i>
9:55-10:05	Speaker 2: Sobi Representative

Title:

10:05am-10:35am Break
(Exhibit Hall)

10:35am-11:55am **Plenary Session III: Optimizing Cellular Therapies for Cancer**
(Exhibit Hall) Chair: Kristin Anderson

10:35-11:05 Speaker 1: **Jos Melenhorst, PhD (Case CCC)**
Title: *Engineering from the Source: T cell differentiation and polarization as gatekeepers of CAR T outcomes*
Introduction by:

11:05-11:30 Speaker 2: **Stan Huang, PhD (OSU)**
Title: *Cancer hijacks mitochondrial function in macrophages to power immune escape*
Introduction by:

11:30-11:55 Speaker 3: **Qiwei Wang, PhD (UVA)**
Title: *Targeting tumor-TAM interactions to advance immuno-oncology in triple-negative breast cancer*
Introduction by:

12:00pm – 1:20pm Luncheon
(Ballroom) 2027 TRCCC Annual Meeting – McMaster
Awards / Prizes Announcements

1:20pm-1:30pm Closing Ceremony
(Ballroom) Pawel Kalinski, MD, PhD U Pitt
President, TRCCC 2026-2027

See you in 2027!
