Vasculata 2019

Presented by
North American Vascular Biology Organization (NAVBO)
&
The Medical College of Wisconsin
INTRODUCTION

Since 2004, Vasculata summer course have been hosted annually by academic institutions in various parts of the USA. Vasculata is a North American Vascular Biology Organization (NAVBO)-sponsored event that unanimously chose Medical College of Wisconsin (MCW) in Milwaukee, WI, as the host of the 2019 Vasculata conference. This three-and-one-half-day educational conference introduces the basics of vascular biology (heart, lung, blood and sleep) and its role in disease, thus providing attendees with a unique learning experience in a discipline not comprehensively covered in textbooks or even by courses in most universities.

The meeting at MCW will showcase the local academic environment, especially vascular biology and hematology-minded researchers to the scientific community. Southeastern Wisconsin-based institutions such as The Children’s Hospital of Wisconsin (CHW), Blood Research Institute (BRI) and Centers (MCW Cardiovascular Center (CVC), Clinical Translational and Science Institute (CTSI) will jointly host this meeting on the MCW campus. MCW is a one-of-its-kind academic medical center with a rich history of cardiovascular and blood research. Emphasis at the MCW Vasculata 2019 conference is on short seminars covering a defined curriculum, with increased focus on applying knowledge gained from basic vascular biology mechanisms to diseases associated with the vasculature. Seminars are followed by hands-on workshops on technologies emerging in the field and skills associated with career enhancement. This year, NAVBO in collaboration with MCW will introduce a new “mentoring-engagement plan,” at Vasculata 2019. This long-term mentoring plan for participants is designed to engage trainees and maintain mentoring relationships long after the conference has concluded. The goal of this program is to increase trainee success and retention rates in heart, lung, blood and sleep research. The conference at MCW is supported by CHW, MCW, CVC, CTSI, NAVBO, corporate sponsors and a generous R13 grant from NHLBI, NIH.

We welcome all of you to Southeastern Wisconsin and encourage you to engage with vascular biology researchers, and to make an impact on the next generation of vascular biologists. Enjoy your time in our vibrant city!

On behalf of MCW Vasculata Organizing Committee Team
Ramani Ramchandran, PhD (Lead)
Veronica Flood, MD
Daisy Sahoo, PhD
Michael Widlansky, MD
Angelia Holtz (Conference Coordinator)
WIRELESS INTERNET ACCESS
Complimentary WiFi is available. Guests of MCW accessing mcwWiFi should use the following credentials:
- Username: wifiguest
- Password: healthy

CONFERENCE APP
Download the event app in your app store.
Search: NAVBO Events

Bublr Bikes
MCW- Milwaukee campus has a Bublr Bike station and kiosk for those who want to use the bike share program to grab some exercise, commute or more efficiently get to their bus stop. The Bublr Bike rack is located just north of the Public Safety office. Bublr Bikes can be checked out with a credit card, the Bublr Bike app, or with a Bublr Bike key fob. They can be checked out at any Bublr Bike station around town and returned to any Bublr Bike station around town.

Meet Our Sponsors

The project was supported by the National Institutes of Health, Award Number 1R13HL147501. The content is solely the responsibility of the author(s) and does not necessarily represent the official views of the NIH.
MEET THE TEAM

Ramani Ramchandran, PhD
Professor, Department of Pediatrics and Clinical Translational Science Institute
Patrick J. and Margaret G. McMahon Chair of Obstetrics and Gynecology
Vice Chair for Research Obstetrics and Gynecology
Medical College of Wisconsin

Lead Vasculata Organizing Committee Member - Dr. Ramani Ramchandran received his BS and MS degrees from the University of Mumbai, India, Ph.D. degree at Augusta University, USA, and was a post-doctoral fellow at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, Harvard Medical School. Currently, Dr. Ramchandran is the Patrick J. and Margaret G. McMahon Endowed Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology (OBGYN), Vice Chair for Research in OBGYN and Professor in the Department of Pediatrics at the Medical College of Wisconsin (MCW). He is also the Director of the Developmental Vascular Biology Program and Zebrafish Drug Screening Core at the Children’s Hospital of Wisconsin and MCW. He is the recipient of the National Cancer Institute Scholar Award in 2001. He received the 2013 Distinguished Alumnus Award from Augusta University. He serves on national and international panels for grant review, most notably the National Institutes of Health (NIH) where he served as a charter member of the Vascular Cell and Molecular Biology Study section for six years. His research program investigates fundamental questions related to blood vessel patterning, and utilizes human cell culture, zebrafish, and mouse model systems. His laboratory is known for innovative discoveries in the vascular biology including the identification of long non-coding RNA. He continues to explore these questions and is funded by NIH and grants from other agencies. He has published over 70 papers in leading biomedical journals and has more than 20 years of experience in biomedical research. He is considered an expert in vascular biology and diseases affected by deregulated vessels. Dr. Ramchandran collaborates extensively with labs within and outside of the USA. He manages an active program at MCW comprised of post-doctoral fellows, technicians, medical students, graduate students, faculty and staff, and is actively involved with training the next generation of scientists.
**MEET THE TEAM**

**Veronica H. Flood, MD**
Associate Professor of Pediatric Hematology
Associate Investigator, Blood Research Institute
Medical College of Wisconsin

**Vasculata Organizing Committee Member** - Dr. Veronica Flood is a pediatric hematologist and researcher at the Medical College of Wisconsin. She is the Associate Director for the Comprehensive Center for Bleeding Disorders in Milwaukee, where she sees patients with Von Willebrand disease (VWD) and other bleeding and clotting disorders. She also sees children admitted to the hematology service. Dr. Flood is a member of the VWD subcommittee of International Society on Thrombosis and Haemostasis (ISTH) and the Scientific and Standardization Committee (SSC). She is the Vice Chair of the Mentored Research Award Committee for the Hemostasis and Thrombosis Research Society. Dr. Flood’s research interests include the diagnosis of VWD and the interaction of von Willebrand factor (VWF) with platelets and vascular collagens. Through the Zimmerman Program for the Molecular and Clinical Biology of VWD she has worked on assays of VWF function and the genetics of VWF, particularly sequence variants that affect VWF functional assay results. She has received a grant from the National Heart Lung and Blood Institute to investigate VWF interactions with type IV collagen and the impact of these interactions on hemostasis.
MEET THE TEAM

**Daisy Sahoo, PhD**
Professor, Medicine (Endocrinology)
Secondary Faculty in Biochemistry and Pharmacology and Toxicology
Vice Chair for Research, Division of Endocrinology and Molecular Medicine
Medical College of Wisconsin

**Vasculata Organizing Committee Member** - Dr. Sahoo is Professor and Vice Chair for Research in the Department of Medicine (Division of Endocrinology and Molecular Medicine) and holds secondary appointments in the Departments of Biochemistry and Pharmacology/Toxicology. She is an active member of MCW’s Cardiovascular Research Center. Dr. Sahoo has been interested in lipoprotein metabolism and atherosclerosis since obtaining her PhD in Biochemistry from the University of Alberta in Canada and pursuing post-doctoral studies at Stony Brook University in NY. Since becoming a faculty member at MCW in 2007, Dr. Sahoo has been continuously funded by the NIH to study HDL-cholesterol transport and HDL receptor/ligand interactions. More recently, she has expanded her research interests outside of cardiovascular disease to study the role of scavenger receptors in diabetes and obesity. Dr. Sahoo is actively engaged in the MCW community. She teaches and trains both graduate and medical students, and takes pride in her role as mentor to numerous students and junior faculty. On a national level, Dr. Sahoo serves as a reviewer for study sections of the American Heart Association (AHA) and is currently a standing member of the parent committee for Program Project Grants at the NIH. She is involved with numerous leadership activities including Arteriosclerosis, Thrombosis and Vascular Biology (ATVB) Council of the AHA, served as Chair of the Women’s Leadership Committee and currently serving as Vice Chair of the Irvine Page Award Committee. Dr. Sahoo’s scientific contributions to the field of vascular biology were recognized in 2017 with a “Vascular Biology Special Recognition Award” by the ATVB Council.
Vasculata Organizing Committee Member - Dr. Michael Widlansky is a Professor of Medicine and Pharmacology in the Division of Cardiovascular Medicine at the Medical College of Wisconsin. He received his undergraduate degree in chemistry from Stanford University and earned his MD with distinction from the University of Michigan. He completed his training in Internal Medicine at Brigham and Women’s Hospital in Boston. He completed clinical and research fellowships in Cardiovascular Medicine at Boston University. Dr. Widlansky joined the faculty of the Medical College of Wisconsin in 2007, becoming the cardiovascular division’s director for research in 2010 and the director of MCW’s Cardiovascular Diseases Fellowship training program in 2014. He was named Associate Chief of Academic Affairs for MCW’s Division of Cardiovascular Medicine in 2015. Dr. Widlansky’s clinical foci are general inpatient cardiovascular medicine and echocardiography. His research has been continuously funded by the NIH since 2009. His program focuses on the mechanisms of vascular dysfunction in patients with diabetes mellitus and coronary artery disease. Together with his collaborators at MCW, Dr. Widlansky was the first to demonstrate that a probiotic intervention could improve vascular endothelial function in humans with coronary artery disease. In addition, his collaborative work was the first to describe a critical role for microRNA 29 in regulating vascular endothelial function in both healthy humans and humans with cardiometabolic disease as well as to demonstrate a central role for mitochondrial function and mitochondrial dynamics proteins in regulating vascular endothelial function in humans with type 2 diabetes.
Curt D. Sigmund, PhD
James J. Smith & Catherine Welsch Smith Chair of Physiology
Chair, Department of Physiology
Associate Director, Cardiovascular Center
Medical College of Wisconsin

Dr. Sigmund received his undergraduate education at the State University of New York in Buffalo, NY, and his PhD (1987) in Molecular and Cellular Biology from the same institution. He was originally trained as a classical bacterial geneticist but recognized how new tools designed to manipulate the mammalian genome would provide a mechanism to link genetics and physiology. He sought postdoctoral training in this area under the mentorship of Kenneth W. Gross at Roswell Park Cancer Institute and performed molecular and physiological studies examining some of the first transgenic mice with genetic alterations in the renin-angiotensin system. In order to capitalize on the power of genetics and physiology, he accepted a faculty position in the Cardiovascular Research Center at the University of Iowa in 1991. Dr. Sigmund rose through the ranks and previously served as the Roy J. Carver Chair of Hypertension Research, Chair of the Department of Pharmacology, and founding Director of the UIHC Center for Hypertension Research in the Roy J. and Lucille A. Carver College of Medicine at the University of Iowa in Iowa City, IA. In January 2019, Dr. Sigmund moved to be the James J. Smith & Catherine Welsch Smith Chair of Physiology, Chair of the Department of Physiology, and Associate Director of the Cardiovascular Center at the Medical College of Wisconsin. Dr. Sigmund was an Associate Editor of the journals AJP: Endocrinology and Metabolism, Physiological Genomics and Hypertension, and was the Editor-in-Chief of the American Journal of Physiology - Regulatory, Integrative and Comparative Physiology. He was an elected councillor of the American Physiological Society and served as a regular member of the NHLBI Program Project Grant Review Committee, and chaired the committee in 2013. He is currently the Chair of the Publications Committee of the American Physiological Society. Dr. Sigmund has been recognized with research awards from the American Federation for Medical Research and American Society of Hypertension. From the American Physiological Society, he received the Henry Pickering Bowditch Award Lecture in 2000, the Ernest H. Starling Distinguished Lecturer in 2011, the Distinguished Lecturer in Physiological Genomics in 2016, and the Carl J. Wiggers Award from the Cardiovascular Section in 2018. He received the Regents Award for Faculty Excellence, Board of Regents, State of Iowa in 2013, and the Leadership in Research Award from Vice-President for Research and Economic Development at the University of Iowa in 2017. He was the recipient of the inaugural Vancouver 2010 Lectureship from Hypertension Canada in 2015. From the Council on Hypertension of the American Heart Association he received the Arthur C. Corcoran Memorial Lecture Award in 2007, and the Excellence Award in Hypertension Research (sponsored by Novartis) in 2009.
KEY NOTE SPEAKER

Luisa Iruela-Arispe, PhD
Distinguished Professor of Molecular, Cell and Developmental Biology
Director, Molecular Biology Institute
Chair, Molecular Biology
University of California

Originally from Spain, Dr. Luisa Iruela-Arispe received her PhD degree from the University in Sao Paulo in Brazil and performed post-doctoral training at the University of Washington in Seattle. As an independent investigator she was first Assistant Professor at the Department of Pathology, Harvard Medical School and subsequently relocated to UCLA, her present academic home. At UCLA, she is currently Distinguished Professor of Molecular Cell and Developmental Biology, Director of the Molecular Biology Institute and Chair of its Interdepartmental Graduate Program. For the last two decades her research has focused in elucidating the mechanisms and signaling pathways that regulate the growth and homeostasis of blood vessels. Her efforts contributed to the literature of extracellular matrix proteins as regulators of angiogenesis, broadened knowledge on VEGF and Notch signaling, and evaluated the relevance of endothelial-hematopoietic cell interactions, including the first lineage tracing demonstration that hematopoietic progenitors emerge from the endothelium (hemogenic endothelium). In a series of manuscripts, she also showed that specific extracellular matrix proteins could have overriding effects in tumor progression despite the presence of strong oncogenes driving mammary tumors and went on to identify discrete domains responsible for the anti-angiogenic effects. The reasoning that the “anti-angiogenic domains” located in thrombospondin might also be present in other proteins, led to the cloning and characterization of the founding members of the ADAMTS family, a group of metalloenzymes that now encompasses 19 proteases involved in proteolysis and processing of extracellular matrix proteins. In addition, through endothelial and smooth muscle cell inactivation of Jag1, her laboratory clarified the vascular roots for the cardiac (endothelial – related) and liver (smooth muscle cell – related) pathologies in Alagille syndrome. This work highlighted the essential role of heterotypic vascular-parenchymal interactions in liver architecture. Dr. Iruela-Arispe has organized several Gordon Conferences, Keystone meetings, Workshops, and was the organizer of the International Vascular Biology meeting in 2010. She was also President of NAVBO and member of committees in AHA, AACR and ASMB. Dr. Iruela-Arispe is an active participant in peer-review being a member of several editorial boards and grant reviews. More recently, she became a member of the NHLBI Council and the NCI intramural review board. Her current research focuses on endothelial regeneration, vascular dementia, and vascular malformations. She teaches Cell Biology every year to juniors and seniors at UCLA and mentorship of young scientists is her top passion.
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<th>Time</th>
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<tr>
<td>7:00-7:50 am</td>
<td>Registration &amp; Breakfast (provided) (Alumni Center)</td>
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| 7:50 am      | Introduction to Vasculata (Kerrigan Auditorium)                                            | Ramani Ramchandran, PhD  
Medical College of Wisconsin |
| 7:55 am      | Welcome remarks (Kerrigan Auditorium)                                                      | Joseph Kerschner, MD  
Medical College of Wisconsin  
Ivor Benjamin, MD  
Medical College of Wisconsin |
| 8:05 am      | Role of the RhoBTB1/Cullin-3 in Vascular Smooth Muscle (Kerrigan Auditorium)               | Curt Sigmund, PhD  
Medical College of Wisconsin |
| LUNG SESSION | (Kerrigan Auditorium)                                                                      |                                                        |
| 9:05 am      | Developmental and inflammatory disorders of pulmonary circulation in children and adults  | Girija Ganesh Konduri, MD  
Discussant leader  
Medical College of Wisconsin  
Elizabeth Jacobs, MD  
Discussant leader  
Medical College of Wisconsin |
| 9:35 am      | Pulmonary arteriovenous malformations in congenital heart disease: a translational research perspective | Andrew Spearman, MD  
Medical College of Wisconsin |
| 10:05-10:25 am | Coffee Break- Sponsored By ibidi - cells in focus                                          |                                                        |
| 10:25 am     | Vascular regression by irradiation: Role of the Notch Pathway                              | Meetha Medhora, PhD  
Medical College of Wisconsin |
| 11:00 am     | Akt-mediated phosphorylation of the C-terminus domain of Hsp70 regulates the alternate binding of OLA1 and CHIP to control the mitochondrial import of SOD2 | Adeleye James Afolayan, MD  
Medical College of Wisconsin |
| 11:25 am     | Mechanosensitive mechanism of angiogenesis and lung regeneration                           | Akiko Mammoto MD, PhD  
Medical College of Wisconsin |
| 12:00-1:00 pm | Lunch (provided) (Alumni Center)                                                           |                                                        |
| 1:10-3:00 pm | WORKSHOP SESSION A                                                                         |                                                        |
| 3:00-5:00 pm | POSTER SESSION A                                                                           |                                                        |
**AGENDA**  
**Tuesday, July 16, 2019**

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| 7:50 am         | Welcome remarks (Kerrigan Auditorium)                                 | Reza Shaker, MD  
Clinical & Translational Science Institute of Southeast Wisconsin |
| 8:00 am         | Take another little piece of my heart; starting with Lub-Dub          | Joy Lincoln, PhD  
Discussant leader  
Medical College of Wisconsin |
| 8:30 am         | Exploiting natural variation to understand mechanisms of heart regeneration | Michaela Patterson, PhD  
Medical College of Wisconsin |
| 8:55 am         | DMD-cardiac exosomes contribute to the pathogenesis of DMD cardiomyopathy | Jennifer Strande, MD, PhD  
Medical College of Wisconsin |
| 9:20 am         | Endothelial Heterogeneity in Vascular Injury and Regeneration         | Jalees Rehman, MD  
University of Illinois at Chicago |
| 9:45 am         | Mitochondria and neointima formation                                  | Isabella Grumbach, MD, PhD  
University of Iowa Health Care |
| 10:15-10:35 am  | Coffee Break - Sponsered By ibidi - cells in focus                   |                                                                                               |
| 10:35 am        | Hypertensive Cerebrovascular Disease and Dementia Development: A Role for Mineralocorticoid Receptor Signaling | Anne Dorrance, PhD  
Discussant leader  
Michigan State University |
| 11:05 am        | An isogenic model of the blood-brain barrier from human pluripotent stem cells | Sean P. Palecek, PhD  
University of Wisconsin Madison |
| 11:30 am        | Basal cell spreading precedes and enhances rosette formation in human pluripotent stem cell-derived neural progenitor cells | Ken Taniguchi, PhD  
Medical College of Wisconsin |
| 12:00-1:00 pm   | Lunch (provided) (Alumni Center)                                      |                                                                                               |
| 1:10-3:00 pm    | WORKSHOP SESSION B                                                   |                                                                                               |
| 3:00-5:00 pm    | POSTER SESSION B                                                     |                                                                                               |
# AGENDA
Wednesday, July 17, 2019

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<td>7:50 am</td>
<td>Welcome remarks (Kerrigan Auditorium)</td>
<td>Gilbert C. White, MD Medical College of Wisconsin</td>
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<td><strong>RENAL SESSION</strong> (Kerrigan Auditorium)</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:00 am</td>
<td>Role of mTOR signaling in experimental salt-induced hypertension and kidney injury</td>
<td>Allen Cowley, PhD Discussant leader Medical College of Wisconsin</td>
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<td>8:30 am</td>
<td>Consequences of impaired autoregulation of renal blood flow</td>
<td>Alison Kriegl, PhD Medical College of Wisconsin</td>
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<td>8:55 am</td>
<td>Two-photon imaging of intracellular Ca2+ handling in smooth muscle cells of freshly isolated arteries</td>
<td>Alexander Staruschenko, PhD Medical College of Wisconsin</td>
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<td>9:20 am</td>
<td>Role of p66Shc in Regulation of Microvascular Reactivity of Renal Blood Vessels</td>
<td>Andrey Sorokin, PhD Medical College of Wisconsin</td>
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<td>9:50-10:10 am</td>
<td>Coffee Break: <strong>Sponsored By ibidi - cells in focus</strong></td>
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<td><strong>BLOOD SESSION</strong> (Kerrigan Auditorium)</td>
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<td>10:10 am</td>
<td>Endothelial dysfunction: Mechanistic underpinnings and contributions to cardiovascular disease</td>
<td>Debra Newman, PhD Discussant leader Medical College of Wisconsin</td>
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<td>10:40 am</td>
<td>Anti-Cancer therapy induced microvascular dysfunction – role of mitochondrial DNA damage</td>
<td>Andreas Beyer, PhD Medical College of Wisconsin</td>
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<td>11:05 am</td>
<td>Endothelial homeostasis control by small GTPase Rap1</td>
<td>Magdalena Chrzanowska-Wodnicka, PhD Medical College of Wisconsin</td>
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<td>11:30 am</td>
<td>Mechanical and molecular mechanisms of aortic remodeling in response to coarctation severity</td>
<td>John LaDisa, PhD Marquette University and Medical College of Wisconsin</td>
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<td>12:00-1:00 pm</td>
<td>Lunch (provided) (Alumni Center)</td>
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<td><strong>1:30-5:00 pm Boat Tour of Downtown Milwaukee and the shoreline of Lake Michigan</strong></td>
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<td>The cost of the tour including transportation to and from the boat tour is provided</td>
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<td><em>details on next page</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>5:30-7:30 pm</td>
<td><strong>Reception Dinner</strong> (HUB 1st Floor)</td>
<td>Veronica Flood, MD Michael Widlansky, MD Medical College of Wisconsin</td>
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AGENDA
Thursday, July 18, 2019

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<tr>
<td>7:00-7:55 am</td>
<td>Breakfast (provided)</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:00 am</td>
<td>On the path of Vascular Regeneration (Kerrigan Auditorium)</td>
<td>Luisa Iruela-Arispe, PhD University of California, Los Angeles</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:00-9:20 am</td>
<td>Break</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:30-11:00 am</td>
<td>Talks selected from abstracts (Kerrigan Auditorium)</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:00 am</td>
<td>Concluding remarks (Kerrigan Auditorium)</td>
<td>Daisy Sahoo, PhD Medical College of Wisconsin</td>
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Boat Tour of Downtown Milwaukee and the shoreline of Lake Michigan
Wednesday, July 17, 2019 1:30-5:00 pm

A private cruise will travel through downtown area via the Milwaukee River and into Lake Michigan. The vessel will remain inside of the breakwater along the shoreline of Lake Michigan, providing the best views of the cityscape.

Some key highlights and architectural treasures that will be seen along the way include the Historic Third Ward, the Marcus Center for the Performing Arts, City Hall, The Allen Bradley clock tower, the Milwaukee Art Museum, Discovery World at Pier Wisconsin, Henry Maier Festival Grounds (Summerfest) as well as the development and revitalization along the riverfront.
WELCOME REMARKS

**Joseph E. Kerschner, MD**
Dean of the School of Medicine
Provost and Executive Vice President
Medical College of Wisconsin

**Ivor J. Benjamin, MD, FAHA, FACC**
Director, Cardiovascular Center
Professor of Medicine, Physiology
Pharmacology & Toxicology
Cell Biology and Surgery
Medical College of Wisconsin

**Robert H. Lane, MD**
Associate Dean for Research, Medical College of Wisconsin and Children's Hospital of Wisconsin
Associate Director, Epigenomics, Genomic Sciences and Precision Medicine Center
Professor and Chair, Pediatrics
Pediatrician in Chief, The Barri L. and David J. Drury Chair in Pediatrics,
Children's Hospital of Wisconsin

**Reza Shaker, MD**
Joseph E. Geenen Professor and Chief,
Division of Gastroenterology and Hepatology
Director, Digestive Disease Center
Associate Provost, Clinical and Translational Research
Senior Associate Dean and Director
Clinical and Translational Science Institute
Medical College of Wisconsin

**Gilbert C. White, II, MD**
Executive Vice President for Research, Versiti
Professor
Department of Medicine, Biochemistry
Pharmacology & Toxicology
Medical College of Wisconsin