

AGENDA



G-Rex[®] Grant Tour

Supporting the Emily Whitehead Foundation

PHILADELPHIA

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THURSDAY

FEBRUARY 19, 2026

THE FRANKLIN INSTITUTE

Organized by



AFTERNOON SESSION (11:00AM – 5:35PM)

11:00AM – 12:00PM – Lunch | Networking | Believe Bundle Creation

12:05 – 12:05PM – Opening Remarks

12:05 – 1:00 PM – Business Roundtable

- Mr. Ignacio Núñez, BioExcellence (moderator)
- Mr. George Eastwood, Emily Whitehead Foundation
- Dr. James Bowen, Penn Center for Innovation
- Ms. Anne Brooks, Iovance Biopharmaceuticals

1:00 – 1:15 PM – Break & Refreshments

1:15 – 3:15 PM – Innovations in ex vivo cell & gene therapy manufacturing

- **1:15 – 1:45 PM** – Dr. Boro Dropulić, Caring Cross
- **1:45 – 2:15 PM** – Dr. Saba Ghassemi, University of Pennsylvania
- **2:15 – 2:45 PM** – Mr. Raymond Luke, Verismo Therapeutics
- **2:45 – 3:15 PM** – Panel

○ *Chaired by Dr. Michael Lotze*

3:15 – 3:30 PM – Break & Refreshments

3:30 – 5:30 PM – Hope for patients with solid tumors

- **3:30 – 4:00 PM** – Dr. Smita Chandran, Memorial Sloan Kettering
- **4:00 – 4:30 PM** – Dr. Patrick Hanley, Children's National
- **4:30 – 5:00 PM** – Dr. Ekaterina Doubrovina, Rutgers University
- **5:00 – 5:30 PM** – Panel

○ *Chaired by Dr. Michael Lotze*

5:30 – 5:35 PM – Closing Remarks

6:00 – 9:00 PM – Dinner Reception



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EVENING SESSION (6:00 – 9:00PM)

6:00 – 7:00 PM – Dinner & Drinks | Networking | Poster Session

- Poster session info coming soon!

7:00 – 7:45PM – Patient Advocate Testimonials

- Mr. George Eastwood, Emily Whitehead Foundation
- Mr. Tom Whitehead, Emily Whitehead Foundation
- Mrs. Betsy & Mr. Beau Larrabee, Mother-Son Advocate Duo

7:45 – 9:00PM – Last Call | Networking