

Vit-Buckle Society Presents

# VBS in WONDERLAND

14th Annual Meeting



April 9-11, 2026

Fontainebleau • Las Vegas, NV

In support of improving patient care, this activity has been planned and implemented by Cine-Med and Medical Conference Planners Inc. Cine-Med is jointly accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME), the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE), and the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC), to provide continuing education for the healthcare team.



#### PHYSICIANS

Cine-Med designates this live activity for a maximum of **11.5 AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)**<sup>™</sup>. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

#### OTHER HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONALS

All other healthcare professionals will receive a Certificate of Participation. For information on the applicability and acceptance of Certificates of Participation for activities designated for **AMA PRA Category 1 Credits**<sup>™</sup>, consult your professional licensing board.

VIT-BUCKLE SOCIETY PRESENTS

# VBS in WONDERLAND

2026



# VBS in WONDERLAND

## FALL DOWN THE RABBITHOLE OF VITREORETINAL INNOVATIONS AND EDUCATION

The VBS Board of Trustees and Executive Committee wish to thank you for your participation in our 14th Annual Meeting at the Fontainebleau Las Vegas in Las Vegas, Nevada.

If you are a returning VBS attendee, welcome back! If you are a first timer, we hope you enjoy your first VBS annual meeting and look forward to you being part of the VBS family. We are combining a dynamic, energetic program full of discussions with unparalleled social events. We want to recognize the 18-year history of VBS and the focus of the society on young retina specialists. The mission of the Vit-Buckle Society is "to provide an open forum for innovative vitreoretinal surgeons to share best practices, foster the development and use of novel surgical technologies and strategies for retinal diseases, and provide mentorship of emerging vitreoretinal surgeons."

We are committed to this mission and as we look to the future we are excited for the many initiatives that have been led by the next generation of VBS leadership.

I want to especially thank the VBS annual meeting program committee, all of our committee members, and our corporate partners. In partnership with each other and all of you, they have worked tirelessly to organize an incredible academic and social program. We hope this meeting will give you ample opportunities to strengthen prior partnerships and establish new collaborations and friendships. This is all made possible by the support of our corporate partners who have responded, in many cases consistently for years, with incredible support of our mission.

This year, we are proud to honor Emily Y. Chew, MD, Virgilio Morales-Canton, MD, and Adrienne W. Scott, MD as our annual Award recipients.

As you participate in the meeting, please express your thoughts, ask questions, and share your surgical experiences. We want to hear from you. We deliberately organize this meeting to be interactive. Everyone is a participant. Everyone is a speaker. Collaborators from industry are also a key part of our meeting.

Remember to dress as your favorite Wonderland After Dark character for the Queen of Hearts Soiree at LIV Las Vegas on Friday! And grab your best whimsical tea-time attire for The Mad Hatter's Tea Party and Award Ceremony on Saturday at the Waterbleau Terrace!

Beyond the meeting, we invite you to explore the educational offerings by VBS, which includes webinars held throughout the year for vitreoretinal fellows and Vit-Buckle Academy (VBA). Looking to the future, I want to recognize Dr. Yoshihiro Yonekawa (President-Elect), Dr. Mrinali Gupta, and Dr. Royce Chen, who will be leading VBS in the coming years.

Respectfully,

Aleksandra V. Rachitskaya, MD  
President, VBS



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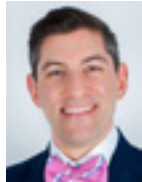
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# VIT-BUCKLE SOCIETY LEADERSHIP

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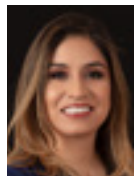
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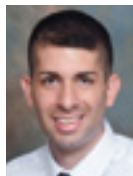
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# LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

## 2025

Friday, April 10, 2026

11:40 AM - 12:10 PM



*"I knew who I was this morning, but I've changed a few times since then."*

**Emily Y. Chew, MD**

Emily Y. Chew, MD is the chief of the Clinical Trials Branch and the director of the Division of Epidemiology and Clinical Applications at the National Eye Institute (NEI), National Institutes of Health (NIH). She received her medical degree and her ophthalmology training at the U. of Toronto, School of Medicine. She completed her fellowship in medical retina at the Wilmer Eye Institute, the Johns Hopkins Medical Institutes and the U. of Nijmegen, the Netherlands.

Dr. Chew has conducted clinical trials and epidemiologic studies in retinovascular diseases such as age-related macular degeneration (AMD), diabetic retinopathy, the leading causes of blindness. She led large, randomized trials including the Age-Related Eye Disease Study (AREDS), AREDS2, and the Actions to Control Cardiovascular Risk in Diabetes (ACCORD) Eye Study. She has conducted clinical trials in rare retinal diseases such as the international Macular Telangiectasia Project (Mac Tel Type 2 Project) and the recent study of belzutifan for von Hippel Lindau disease. She also collaborates with colleagues, the computer scientists at the National Library of Medicine (NLM/NIH), utilizing of artificial intelligence/deep learning on the detection and progression AMD and other ocular diseases.

She previously served on the editorial board of Investigative Ophthalmology and Vision and had served as the editor of the Transactions of the American Ophthalmological Society (2011-2018). Dr. Chew is currently a member of the editorial boards of Ophthalmology, Ophthalmology Retina, and Retina journals. She also serves as the inaugural editor-in-chief for Ophthalmology Science. Dr. Chew has been recognized for her scientific accomplishments and mentoring efforts by numerous professional organizations.

## 2026

Saturday, April 11, 2026

12:20 - 12:50 PM



*"A dream is not reality, but who's to say which is which?"*

**Virgilio Morales-Canton, MD**

Virgilio Morales-Canton, MD is a graduate of La Salle School of Medicine in Mexico City. After finishing his medical training, he completed his residency in Ophthalmology at the Hospital. Dr. Luis Sanchez Bulnes of the Asociación para Evitar la Ceguera en Mexico (APEC) in Mexico City.

Previously, he did his fellowship in medical and surgical retina at the same institution for two years. Later, he continued his training in Retina at the Schepens Eye Research Institute and at the Retina Associates under the supervision of Charles Schepens, MD, for one year.

After completing his training, Dr. Morales-Canton joined the Retina and Vitreous department at APEC, where he became Chief of the Retina Department after 12 years of being staff. To date, he is the former Chief of the department. Academically, he is a former president of the Mexican Association of Retina and the Panamerican Society of Retina and Vitreous. Also, he was part of the Board of the ASRS. He has authored and co-authored more than 74 academic papers in peer-reviewed ophthalmological journals and has presented papers at many national and international ophthalmological meetings including keynote lectures. He has been part of the organizing board of different Retina Meetings such as Floretina, International Masters of Retina, Vail Vitrectomy, and Telluride Retina Film Festival.

Dr. Morales-Canton has been awarded by the ASRS and the AAO for his academic achievements and has participated in more than 11 live surgery meetings in several countries. Last month he was appointed as Medical Subdirector of the Asociación para Evitar la Ceguera en Mexico.

## LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD HONOREES

**2013** Stanley Chang, MD

**2014** William S. Tasman, MD

**2015** Carmen A. Puliafito, MD, MBA

**2016** Steve Charles, MD

**2017** Maria H. Berrocal, MD

**2018** Mark S. Humayun, MD, PhD

**2019** Carl D. Regillo, MD

**2020** Hugo Quiroz-Mercado, MD

**2022** Caroline R. Baumal, MD

**2023** Allen C. Ho, MD

**2024** Tarek S. Hassan, MD

# MENTORSHIP AWARD

Friday, April 10, 2026 | 2:25 - 2:45 PM



“Who in the world am I? Ah, that’s the great puzzle.”

## Adrienne W. Scott, MD, FASRS

Adrienne W. Scott, MD, FASRS, is an associate professor of ophthalmology at the Wilmer Eye Institute at the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine. She completed her ophthalmology residency and vitreoretinal surgery fellowship training at the Duke University Eye Center. At Wilmer, Dr. Scott maintains an active clinical and surgical retina practice and is the Chief of the Wilmer Bel Air clinic.

disparities in eye care. She leads the Wilmer Eye Institute Diversity Committee and is the immediate past Wilmer Retina Fellowship training program director. Dr. Scott serves on the Executive Board of the American Society of Retina Specialists as the Fellowship Director Section Chair, and is a member of the Retina Society, Macula Society, and the Association for Research in Vision in Ophthalmology.

Dr. Scott’s clinical research focuses on vitreoretinal diseases, with an emphasis on sickle cell retinopathy and its relationship to systemic sickle cell disease, retinal imaging, and health

## MENTORSHIP AWARD HONOREES

**2013** Allan E. Kreiger, MD

**2014** Harry W. Flynn, Jr., MD

**2015** Evangelos Gragoudas, MD

**2016** Timothy G. Murray, MD, MBA

**2017** Dean Elliott, MD

**2018** Jay S. Duker, MD

**2019** Donald J. D’Amico, MD

**2020** George A. Williams, MD

**2022** Julia A. Haller, MD

**2023** Lisa C. Olmos de Koo, MD, MBA

**2024** Lejla Vajzovic, MD

**2025** Audina M. Berrocal, MD



# THURSDAY APRIL 9, 2026 (non-CME)<sup>^</sup>

8:00 AM – 9:00 PM

## Registration

8:30 AM – 12:00 PM

## Fellows and FOSTering Careers for Upcoming Stars (FOCUS) Program (non-CME)<sup>^</sup>

Sponsored by Astellas, Genentech, Inc., & Regeneron Pharmaceuticals, Inc.

Capri 6-7

8:30 – 9:00 AM

### Breakfast

9:00 – 9:05 AM

### Introduction

Royce W.S. Chen, MD  
Mrinali P. Gupta, MD  
Grant Justin, MD  
Alexis K. Warren, MD  
Basil K. Williams Jr., MD

9:05 – 9:10 AM

### Apellis Pharmaceuticals

Cedric Francois, MD, PhD

9:10 – 9:25 AM

### Genentech, Inc.

Manuel Amador, MD

9:25 – 10:10 AM

### Retina and Beyond: Leading and Winning at Work, in Professional Societies, at Business, and at Home

**Moderator:** Alexis K. Warren, MD  
**Panelists:** Frank L. Brodie, MD, MBA  
R.V. Paul Chan, MD, MSc, MBA  
Camille Palma, MD  
Christina Y. Weng, MD, MBA

10:10 – 10:20 AM

### Break

10:20 – 11:05 AM

### Finance Free-For-All

**Introduction:** Basil K. Williams Jr., MD  
**Table Leaders:** Nika Bagheri, MD  
Frank L. Brodie, MD, MBA  
Nikisha Kothari, MD  
Geeta A. Lalwani, MD  
Jayanth R. Sridhar, MD  
Christina Weng, MD, MBA

11:05 – 11:50 AM

### Advocacy 101

**Moderator:** Mrinali P. Gupta, MD  
**Panelists:** Sean T. Berkowitz, MD, MBA  
Brian K. Do, MD, FASRS  
Grant Justin, MD  
Lauren C. Kiryakoza, MD  
Aleksandra V. Rachitskaya, MD

11:50 AM – 12:00 PM

### Astellas

Karen Marchetti

9:00 AM – 5:00 PM

## Wet Lab

Apellis Pharmaceuticals

Capri Promenade

12:00 – 1:00 PM

## Lunch Table Discussions

1:00 – 1:10 PM

## FOCUS Participants Relocate

## Fellows Program

Fellows, Residents, and Fellows Program Sponsors Only

Capri 6-7

1:10 – 1:15 PM

### Introduction & Ice Breaker

1:15 – 2:00 PM

### Early Career Challenges

**Moderator:** Mrinali P. Gupta, MD  
**Panelists:** Phoebe L. Mellen, MD; Nikisha Kothari, MD; Rebecca R. Soares, MD, MPH; Jayanth R. Sridhar, MD

2:00 – 3:00 PM

### Billing Jeopardy

**Introduction:** Grant Justin, MD  
**Moderators:** Margaret M. Runner, MD & Marisa Tieger, MD

## FOCUS Program

Residents and Medical Students by invitation-only, and FOCUS Program Sponsors Only

Capri 2-3

1:10 – 1:35 PM

### Ice Breaker

**Facilitator:** Hong-Uyen Hua, MD

1:35 – 2:20 PM

### Retina in the Community

**Moderator:** Alexis K. Warren, MD  
**Speakers:** Luma Al-Attar, MD & Kristen Nwanyanwu, MD, MBA, MHS

2:20 – 2:30 PM

### Regeneron Pharmaceuticals, Inc.

Omar Alam, MD

## Fellows Program (Continued)

Fellows, Residents, and Fellows Program  
Sponsors Only

Capri 6-7

3:00 – 3:10 PM

### Regeneron Pharmaceuticals, Inc.

Galina Rabkin, OD

3:10 – 4:15 PM

### Things I am Most Excited for in Retina in the Next 10 Years

**Moderators:** Royce W.S. Chen, MD & Grant Justin, MD

**Gene Therapy** – Aliaa Abdelhakim, MD, PhD

**More Drugs in Uveitis and Retina** – Tedi Begaj, MD

**Suprachoroidal Drug Delivery and Surgery** – Steven Yeh, MD

**Artificial Intelligence** – Eliot Dow, MD, PhD

**Big Data** – Durga S. Borkar, MD, MMCI

4:15 – 4:30 PM

### Closing Remarks & Survey

4:30 PM

### Adjourn

## FOCUS Program (Continued)

Residents and Medical Students by invitation-only,  
and FOCUS Program Sponsors Only

Capri 2-3

2:30 – 3:30 PM

### Reflections from Our Graduates

**Moderator:** Jessica D. Randolph, MD

**Panelists:** Arnulfo Garza, MD; Luis A. Martinez-Velazquez, MD;

Anh H. Nguyen, MD, MS; David K. Peprah, MD

3:30 – 4:25 PM

### Junior and Senior Faculty Networking

**Introduction:** Jordan D. Deaner, MD

**Speakers:** Audina M. Berrocal, MD; R.V. Paul Chan, MD, MSc, MBA;

Christine I. Clavell, MD; Joseph M. Coney, MD, FACS, FASRS;

Vivienne S. Hau, MD, PhD; Adrienne W. Scott, MD, FASRS

4:25 – 4:30 PM

### Closing Remarks and Group Photo

4:30 PM

### Adjourn

3:00 – 6:10 PM

### VBS Silver

### Difficult Relationships in Retina: Lessons Learned (non-CME)<sup>^</sup>

The Silver Program is for vitreoretinal surgeons to discuss challenges and opportunities of late-career stage, such as transitioning to alternative career pathways, steps for physicians over age 50, and pearls of scientific wisdom to maintain best practices.

Open to all attendees.

Sponsored by Astellas, Genentech, Inc., & Regeneron Pharmaceuticals, Inc.

Capri 4-5

3:00 – 3:10 PM

### Mingle

3:10 – 3:20 PM

### Introduction

Thomas A. Albin, MD

3:20 – 3:30 PM

### We Will All Be Patients

R. Ross Lakhanpal, MD, FACS, FASRS

3:30 – 4:00 PM

### Gender and Career in Retina

Audina M. Berrocal, MD

Mrinali P. Gupta, MD

Brittini A. Scruggs, MD, PhD

4:00 – 4:10 PM

### Genentech, Inc.

DeAnna Kovach, PharmD

4:10 – 4:25 PM

### VBS Silver Corporate Recognition

### Introduction of Erin Henry, PhD

Thomas A. Albin, MD

4:25 – 4:45 PM

### Intermission

4:45 – 5:05 PM

### Challenging Relationships as Chair

R.V. Paul Chan, MD, MSc, MBA

5:05 – 5:15 PM

### Lessons Learned

### Managing a Practice

Robert L. Avery, MD

5:15 – 5:20 PM

### Regeneron Pharmaceuticals, Inc.

Christopher Buening

5:20 – 5:40 PM

### Lessons Learned in Academics,

### Private Practice, and Private

### Equity

Antonio Capone Jr., MD

5:40 – 5:50 PM

### Keynote Speaker Award

### Presentation Peter E. Liggett, MD

Basil K. Williams Jr., MD

5:50 – 6:10 PM

### VBS Silver Keynote Speaker

Peter E. Liggett, MD

6:10 PM

### Adjourn

Thomas A. Albin, MD

6:30 – 9:00 PM

### Satellite Symposium: Fellows' Foray – Surgical Video Challenge

Open to all attendees.

CME accreditation provided by Evolve Medical Education LLC (for this event only)

Azure 6, 9-10

9:00 – 10:00 PM

### Welcome Reception

Sponsored by EyePoint, Inc.

Capri 2-3

# FRIDAY APRIL 10, 2026

6:30 – 7:15 AM

Rise and Shine Yoga

Capri 10-11

7:00 AM – 4:30 PM

Registration & Exhibits

7:00 AM – 4:30 PM

Wet Lab (non-CME)<sup>^</sup>

## Alcon

Unity® VCS & Valeda™ PBM

Capri 1

## Apellis Pharmaceuticals

Azure 2

## Genentech, Inc.

The Virtual Reality Simulator Experience of the Susvimo® / Port Delivery System (PDS)

Azure 2

## Neurotech Pharmaceuticals, Inc.

Azure 1

7:00 AM – 4:30 PM

Scientific Poster Viewing (non-CME)<sup>^</sup>

Azure 3-4

7:00 – 8:00 AM

Breakfast

7:15 – 8:00 AM

Medical Student Meet & Greet

Exhibit Hall

8:00 – 8:15 AM

Opening Remarks

Jordan D. Deaner, MD; Avni P. Finn, MD, MBA; Aleksandra V. Rachitskaya, MD; Jayanth R. Sridhar, MD; Basil K. Williams Jr., MD; Yoshihiro Yonekawa, MD

8:15 – 8:45 AM

### Session 1:

**Surgical Case Presentations: “We’re all mad here.”**

Moderators: Caroline R. Baumal, MD & Vivienne S. Hau, MD, PhD

8:15 AM

Introduction

8:21 AM

**Stage 5 ROP: Dig Deeper**

Ahmed Mansour, MD, PhD

8:27 AM

**Retinal Vacuum**

Merina Thomas, MD

8:33 AM

**Perseverance Turns Struggles Into Triumph**

Rajiv Ghandi, DNB, FVRS

8:39 AM

**Retinal Xtreme**

Ekta Rishi, MD, FRCS

8:45 – 9:55 AM

### Session 2:

**General Surgery “Curiouser and curiouser!”**

Moderators: Matthew A. Cunningham, MD & Jennifer I. Lim, MD

8:45 AM

Introduction

8:48 AM

**We’re All Mad Here: Managing the Challenging Diabetic Vitrectomy**

Dimitra Skondra, MD, PhD, FASRS

8:55 AM

**Management of Iatrogenic Globe Perforations**

Marisa Tieger, MD

9:02 AM

**Maximizing Diagnostic Vitrectomy in the Wonderland of Uveitis**

Steven Yeh, MD

9:09 AM

**Surgery for Retinal Hemangioblastoma Related Complications**

Şengül Özdek, MD, FEBO, FASRS

9:16 AM

**DRCR Surgical Protocols and How to Get Involved**

Andrew J. Barkmeier, MD

9:23 AM

**Tips and Tricks on Complex Macular Holes**

Mohsin H. Ali, MD

9:30 AM

**Approach and Management of Adult ROP Detachments**

Prethy Rao, MD, MPH

9:37 AM

**Gene Therapy Surgery and Complications of Gene Therapy Surgery**

Ninel Gregori, MD

9:44 AM

**Prevention of Early PVR with Pneumatic Pre-PPV**

Flavio Rezende, MD, PhD

9:51 AM

**Take On Me: A Case for Port Delivery + PPV**

Christopher G. Fuller, MD

9:55 – 10:30 AM

**Break and Poster Judging Session (non-CME)<sup>^</sup>**

**Lead Judges:** Kyle D. Kovacs, MD; Prethy Rao, MD, MPH; Matt R. Starr, MD

**Judging Panel:** Barton L. Blackorby, MD; Maura Di Nicola, MD; Rehan M. Hussain, MD; Ajay E. Kuriyan, MD; Danny A. Mammo, MD; Phoebe L. Mellen, MD; Margaret M. Runner, MD; Jesse D. Sengillo, MD; Joshua H. Uhr, MD

Azure 3-4

**10:30 – 11:00 AM**

**Session 3:**

**Teaching Surgery – A Balancing Act “But that’s just the trouble with me. I give myself very good advice, but I very seldom follow it.”**

Moderator: Jordan D. Deaner, MD

Panelists: Margaret A. Greven, MD; Michelle Liang, MD; Brian Toy, MD

**11:00 – 11:40 AM**

**Session 4:**

**Lightning Rounds “The oysters were curious too, weren’t they?”**

Moderators: Lisa J. Faia, MD & Sharon Fekrat, MD, FASRS

- 11:00 AM Christine I. Clavell, MD
- 11:05 AM Phoebe L. Mellen, MD
- 11:10 AM Tedi Begaj, MD
- 11:15 AM Asad F. Durrani, MD
- 11:20 AM Margaret M. Runner, MD
- 11:25 AM Nita Valikodath, MD, MS
- 11:30 AM Ramsudha Narala, MD
- 11:35 AM Jesse D. Sengillo, MD

**11:40 AM – 12:10 PM**

**Session 5:**

**2025 Lifetime Achievement Awardee “I knew who I was this morning, but I’ve changed a few times since then.”**

**Emily Y. Chew, MD**

Interviewed by R.V. Paul Chan, MD, MSc, MBA

**12:10 – 1:25 PM**

**Lunch**

**1:25 – 2:25 PM**

**Session 6:**

**Medical Retina Debates “Of shoes and ships – and sealing wax – of cabbages and kings”**

Moderators: Manjot K. Gill, MD & Paul Sternberg, MD

**Debate #1: Peer Review Should be..**

- 1:25 PM **Compensated** Katherine E. Talcott, MD
- 1:30 PM **Voluntary** Durga S. Borkar, MD, MMCI
- 1:35 PM **Discussion**

**Debate #2: How To Manage Non-Infectious Uveitis**

- 1:40 PM **Systemic IMT** Parisa Emami, MD, MPH
- 1:45 PM **Local Corticosteroids** Ashleigh L. Levison, MD
- 1:50 PM **Discussion**

**Debate #3: Laser vs. Anti-VEGF for Mid Zone II ROP**

- 1:55 PM **Laser** Emmanuel Y. Chang, MD, PhD
- 2:00 PM **Anti-VEGF** Hong-Uyen Hua, MD
- 2:05 PM **Discussion**

**Debate #4: Photobiomodulation for Dry AMD...**

- 2:10 PM **Works** Allen C. Ho, MD
- 2:15 PM **Doesn’t Work** Nicolas A. Yannuzzi, MD
- 2:20 PM **Discussion**

**2:25 – 2:45 PM**

**Session 7:**

**Mentorship Awardee “Who in the world am I? Ah, that’s the great puzzle.”**

**2:25 PM**

**Introduction**

Sharon Fekrat, MD, FASRS

**2:30 PM**

**Mentorship Awardee Lecture**

Adrienne W. Scott, MD, FASRS

**2:45 – 3:15 PM**

**Session 8:**

**Wellness Panel “I’m late, I’m late! For a very important date! No time to say ‘hello, goodbye,’ I’m late, I’m late, I’m late!”**

Moderator: Nicholas Farber, MD

Panelists: Royce W.S. Chen, MD; Brian K. Do, MD; Kristen Nwanyanwu, MD, MBA, MHS; Malini V. Pasricha, MD

**3:15 – 3:30 PM**

**Wrap Up**

Avni P. Finn, MD, MBA

**3:30 – 4:30 PM**

**Community Building Breakout (non-CME)<sup>^</sup>**

Part of the VBS Wellness Initiative

Sponsored by Astellas, Genentech, Inc., & Regeneron Pharmaceuticals, Inc.

[Exhibit Hall](#)

**7:00 – 10:00 PM**

**The Queen of Hearts Soiree**

Dress as your favorite character for Wonderland after Dark at LIV Las Vegas: Where the curious come to feast and dance. “The rule is, jam tomorrow and jam yesterday—but never jam today.”



# SATURDAY APRIL 11, 2026

7:00 AM – 5:00 PM

## Registration

7:00 – 9:00 AM

## Breakfast

7:15 – 8:45 AM

### BREAK-fast Program (non-CME)<sup>^</sup>

Program for vitreoretinal surgeons to go in-depth discussing industry-physician interactions, research collaborations, becoming a key opinion leader, and the partnership between industry and physicians to improve patient care.

Open to all attendees

**Participating Companies:** Apellis Pharmaceuticals, Genentech, Inc., & Ocular Therapeutix

**Moderator:** Jayanth R. Sridhar, MD

**Physician KOL Panelists:** Avni P. Finn, MD, MBA & R. Ross Lakhanpal, MD, FACS, FASRS

**Industry Partner Panelists:** David Acheson; Peter K. Kaiser, MD; DeAnna Kovach, PharmD

Capri 2-3

8:00 AM – 2:10 PM

## Exhibits

8:00 AM – 2:10 PM

### Wet Lab (non-CME)<sup>^</sup>

#### Alcon

Unity® VCS & Valeda™ PBM

Capri 1

#### Apellis Pharmaceuticals

Azure 2

#### Genentech, Inc.

The Virtual Reality Simulator Experience of the Susvimo® / Port Delivery System (PDS)

Azure 2

#### Neurotech Pharmaceuticals, Inc.

Azure 1

8:00 AM – 5:00 PM

### Scientific Poster Viewing (non-CME)<sup>^</sup>

Azure 3-4

9:00 – 9:10 AM

## Opening Remarks

Jordan D. Deaner, MD

9:10 – 10:05 AM

### Session 9:

**Surgical Cases & Scientific Papers “Sometimes I’ve believed as many as six impossible things before breakfast.”**

**Moderators:** Dean Elliott, MD & Gabriela LopezCarasa, MD

9:10 AM

### Von Hippel-Lindau Disease: Capillary Hemangioma-associated Retinal Detachment

Lucas Zago, MD

9:16 AM

### What a Mass! Exoresection for Giant Choroidal Melanoma

YuBai Chou, MD, PhD

9:22 AM

### Into the Rabbit Hole...

Aristomenis Thanos, MD

9:28 AM

### Retinal Redemption: Turning Chaos into Closure

Bruna Gil Ferreira, MD

9:34 AM

### Surgical Management for Complex Retinal Detachment with Proliferative Vitreoretinopathy and Macular Hole using Relaxing Retinectomy and Autologous Retinal Transplantation

Tarek Alasil, MD

9:40 AM

### Macula Hole Management Without Tamponade

Audrey Juan, MD

9:44 AM

### First-in-Human Outcomes of a Sutureless, Scleral-fixated, Prosthetic Capsular Bag

Frank L. Brodie, MD, MBA

9:48 AM

### Predictors of Anatomic and Functional Success with Amniotic Membrane Grafting for Complex Macular Holes

Scott D. Walter, MD, MSc, FASRS

9:52 AM

### Outcomes of Eyes with Concurrent Suprachoroidal Hemorrhage and Retinal Detachment: A Multicenter Study

Tianyu Liu, MD

9:56 AM

### Discussion of Scientific Papers

10:05 – 10:49 AM

### Session 10:

**International Surgical Retina “When I get home I shall write a book about this place.”**

**Moderators:** Thomas A. Albin, MD & Yewlin E. Chee, MD

10:05 AM

### Introduction

10:07 AM

### High Myopia Vitrectomy, Adventures and Misadventures

Andrew S.H. Tsai, MD

10:13 AM

**Complex but Still Doable**

Mariam A. Al-Feky, MD

10:19 AM

**Suprachoroidal Viscobuckle for Retinal Dialysis Detachment**

Shohista Saidkasimova, FRCOphth

10:25 AM

**Surgical Management of a Total Retinal Detachment**

Danilo Iannetta, MD, PhD

10:31 AM

**“Go On Till the End—and (Don’t) Stop”: Exploring the Limits of Redetachment Surgery**

Apoorva Ayachit, MS, FVRS, FICO

10:37 AM

**Challenging PVR: Can Adjuvant Mitomycin C Make a Difference?**

Sibel Demirel, MD

10:43 AM

**What Knot to Do**

Adrian Fung, MBBS, MMed

10:49 – 11:25 AM

**Break and Poster Judging Session (non-CME)^**

**Lead Judges:** Kyle D. Kovacs, MD; Prethy Rao, MD, MPH; Matt R. Starr, MD

**Judging Panel:** Barton L. Blackorby, MD; Maura Di Nicola, MD; Rehan M. Hussain, MD; Ajay E. Kuriyan, MD; Danny A. Mammo, MD; Phoebe L. Mellen, MD; Margaret M. Runner, MD; Jesse D. Sengillo, MD; Joshua H. Uhr, MD

Azure 3–4

11:25 – 11:55 AM

**Session 11:**

**Business of Retina: Hot Topics in Retina and Advocacy “If everybody minded their own business, the world would go around a great deal faster than it does.”**

**Moderator:** Esther L. Kim, MD

**Panelists:** Hadi Kaakour, MD, MS; Lisa Olmos de Koo, MD, MBA; Camille Palma, MD ; Basil K. Williams Jr., MD

11:55 AM – 12:20 PM

**Session 12:**

**Medical Retina Rapid Fire “Nothing’s impossible!”**

**Moderator:** Christina Y. Weng, MD, MBA

**Panelists:** David Eichenbaum, MD; Jesse J. Jung, MD; Arthi G. Venkat, MD

12:20 – 12:50 PM

**Session 13:**

**2026 Lifetime Achievement Awardee “A dream is not reality, but who’s to say which is which?”**

**Virgilio Morales-Canton, MD**

Interviewed by Jorge A. Fortun, MD

12:50 – 2:10 PM

**Lunch**

1:15 – 2:00 PM

**Lunchtime Breakout Symposia (non-CME)^**

**Astellas**

**Why Early Intervention in Geographic Atrophy (GA) is Critical: Recognizing and Managing Those Most at Risk for Rapid Vision Loss**

Lisa J. Faia, MD & Deepak Sambhara, MD

Capri 2-3

**Genentech, Inc.**

**Evolving Equitable Care: Taking Focused Action to Improve Outcomes for Underserved Patients**

Jorge A. Fortun, MD

Capri 4-5

**Ocular Therapeutix**

**Redefining the Management of Neovascular AMD**

Jeffrey S. Heier, MD

Peter K. Kaiser, MD

Andrew A. Moshfeghi, MD

Capri 6-7

2:10 – 3:10 PM

**Session 14:**

**Surgical Retina Debates “I have an excellent idea! Let’s change the subject.”**

**Moderators:** Shilpa Desai, MD & Ella Leung, MD

**Debate #1: How to Manage Endophthalmitis**

2:10 PM **Tap and Inject** Samir N. Patel, MD

2:15 PM **Immediate Vitrectomy** Maria H. Berrocal, MD

2:20 PM **Discussion**

**Debate #2: Who can Perform Pediatric Surgery?**

2:25 PM **Pediatric VR Surgery Should Be Funneled to Specialty Centers** Nimesh A. Patel, MD

2:30 PM **All VR Surgeons Should Be Able to Do Some Pediatric Surgery** Safa Rahmani, MD

2:35 PM **Discussion**

**Debate #3: How to Manage RD?**

2:40 PM **PPV Alone** R. Ross Lakhnopal, MD, FACS, FASRS

2:45 PM **SB/PPV** Talia R. Kaden, MD

2:50 PM **Discussion**

**Debate #4: How to Manage RD?**

2:55 PM **The Sooner, the Better** Ferhina S. Ali, MD

3:00 PM **There is No Urgency** Akshay S. Thomas, MD, MS

3:05 PM **Discussion**

3:10 – 4:40 PM

**Session 15:**

**Complications “If you drink much from a bottle marked ‘poison’ it is certain to disagree with you sooner or later.”**

**Moderators:** Gerardo Garcia-Aguirre, MD & Jessica D. Randolph, MD

**Panelists:** Sruthi Arepalli, MD; Tamer H. Mahmoud, MD, PhD; Daraius Shroff, MS, FRCS

**Soft Tip Shenanigans**

Sean Adrean, MD

**Macular Surgery Gone Mad – Managing an Iatrogenic Break with a Massive Choroidal Bleed**

Arjun Desai, MD

**High Velocity Concrete Nail Injury**

Jason Fan, MD, PhD

**Alice in Blunderland**

Kenneth Fan, MD, MBA

**Double Disaster Averted: Managing Consecutive Instrument Breakage in Vitrectomy**

Joaquin I. Romano, MD

**Pars Plana Approach for Intraoperative Suprachoroidal Hemorrhage in a Monocular Eye With Phacomorphic Glaucoma**

Lucas V. Soares, MD

**Persistent Fetal Vasculature Complicated by Rhegmatogenous Retinal Detachment**

Ethan K. Sobol, MD

**Down the Rabbit Hole**

Matt R. Starr, MD

**Through the Macular Hole and Beyond: The Tale of an Escaped PFCL Bubble**

Marcelo C. Ventura Filho, MD

4:40 – 5:00 PM

**Closing Remarks**

Aleksandra V. Rachitskaya, MD & Yoshihiro Yonekawa, MD

5:00 PM

**Adjourn**

7:00 PM – 10:00 PM

**The Mad Hatter’s Tea Party and Award Ceremony**

Join us for supper at the Waterbleau Terrace with your best whimsical tea-time attire, replete with playful hats, fascinators, or crowns worthy of Wonderland Royalty. Sip, spin, and spiral into madness. “It’s always tea time!”



^Not part of the educational activity. Non-CME. Located in an alternate meeting space.

**The Vit-Buckle Society would like to thank the following industry partners:**

**DIAMOND**

Alcon  
Apellis Pharmaceuticals  
Genentech, Inc.

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4DMT  
AbbVie  
Adverum Biotechnologies  
Astellas  
EyePoint, Inc.  
Ocular Therapeutix  
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