

Translational Physiology Interest Group Newsletter

Christos S. Katsanos, PhD, FAPS

Chair, APS Translational Physiology Interest Group



Summer 2025

Translational Physiology Interest Group

Supporting translational research within the APS community

Dear TPIG members,

Thank you for the opportunity to serve as the newly elected Chair of the Translational Physiology Interest Group (TPIG). I view this role as an opportunity to further advance our Interest Group's mission and to contribute meaningfully to the broader goals of the American Physiological Society. I would like to begin by expressing my sincere appreciation to Julie Freed, MD, PhD for her outstanding leadership over the past three years. Under her guidance, TPIG has grown into an active and highly engaged group within APS, and I am grateful for the strong foundation she has established.

Over the next three years, my goals are to strengthen communication among translational physiologists, build stronger collaborations with other Interest Groups, Sections and Committees, enhance diversity within our membership and further expand TPIG's influence within APS and the wider field of physiology. As the largest of APS' eight interest groups, with nearly 1,500 members, TPIG reflects a strong and growing interest in translational physiology. I encourage you to invite other APS members to affiliate with us and help shape this essential part of the future of physiology. Translating basic discoveries into health outcomes has always been a core aim of our discipline, and in today's environment, demonstrating the real-world relevance of physiology in advancing health and scientific knowledge is more critical than ever. Our TPIG is uniquely positioned to do just that, but we need your input and engagement to succeed.

Looking ahead, it is not too early to start planning for the 2026 American Physiology Summit, scheduled for April 23–26 in Minneapolis. The APS Scientific Program Committee is already working to shape what promises to be another exciting and transformative meeting at the cutting edge of physiological discovery and education.

I want to emphasize that one of our Steering Committee's primary goals is to give voice to our members. With the recent modernization of APS's governance structure, our group has now a formal voice through participation in the APS

Goodnight
Baltimore...

*Next stop
Minneapolis*

It's Never Too Late to
Start Planning to Attend
the 2026 APS Summit
This April in
Minneapolis!



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Advisory Council. This enables us to shape TPIG-specific initiatives, coordinate activities with other APS sections and groups, and provide input on matters of strategic importance to the Society. We want to hear from you, your ideas, your concerns, and your aspirations for TPIG. Please don't hesitate to email me directly (christos.katsanos@asu.edu) with your suggestions, and if you are interested in serving on the TPIG Steering Committee, I invite you to reach out, too.

Christos S. Katsanos, PhD, FAPS
Chair, APS Translational Physiology Interest Group

Celebrating Rapid Fire Excellence in Translational Physiology: TPIG Abstract Highlights & Gutterman Award Winners

At the 2025 American Physiology Summit, the Translational Physiology Interest Group (TPIG) hosted one of the most anticipated sessions of the event — **“Top Scoring Abstracts of the Translational Physiology Interest Group and Gutterman Award Presentations”** — held on April 26 from 12:15 to 1:00 PM.

This high-energy “rapid fire” session showcased exceptional research from trainees to accomplished faculty across a range of innovative translational physiology topics. Chaired by Associate Professor, **Dr. Viswanathan Rajagopalan** (New York Institute of Technology) and co-chaired by pre-doctoral researcher, **Rachel Limpert** (Medical College of Wisconsin), the session featured seven outstanding speakers from across the country. Their cutting-edge work covered varied topics, including age-related adaptations, 3D Printing and LEGO Robotics, sickle cell disease, 3D modeling of cardiometabolic conditions, neonatal cerebral perfusion, Polycystic Kidney Disease, ocular diseases, and more.

We extend **our heartfelt congratulations to two outstanding investigators recognized for their exemplary contributions:**

- 🌟 **Shatha Salameh** (George Washington University) presented her compelling work titled *“Investigating age-dependent adaptations in right atrial tissue using human and animal models.”*
- 🌟 **Vineetha Garimella** (University of South Florida) presented *“Metabolic Insights into Cystic Fluid Composition and Pathogenesis in Polycystic Kidney Disease,”*



These two exceptional abstracts were honored as the **2025 Gutterman Award Winners**, and their presentations reflected the depth, rigor, and translational relevance that the TPIG strives to promote.

We also thank all other talented presenters - Joseph Roche MD, Adrien Robin PhD, Somaya Ibrahim, Sergei Nekhai PhD, and Qihong Wang MD, MS - for their insightful contributions, each adding a unique perspective to the evolving landscape of translational physiology.

The TPIG remains committed to spotlighting and supporting outstanding emerging research, and this session exemplified that mission. Once again, congratulations to everyone for their outstanding work and helping grow physiology at translational levels!

DAVID D. GUTTERMAN AWARDS IN TRANSLATIONAL SCIENCE

These awards are made possible by a generous donation from David Gutterman, MD, Distinguished Professor of Cardiovascular Medicine and Senior Associate Director Emeritus of the Cardiovascular Center at the Medical College of Wisconsin. Dr. Gutterman has dedicated his career to advancing our understanding of human microvascular function in both health and disease through innovative translational approaches.

Thanks to this support, our Interest Group has been able to offer awards to trainees participating in the American Physiological Summit. Award recipients are asked to describe the impact of their work, with particular emphasis on how their projects contribute to the understanding or treatment of human disease. If you are a trainee planning on submitting an abstract to the 2026 Summit, be sure to consider the TPIG topic category during the submission process.

Trainee Corner: "A Letter to Trainees"

Dear Fellow Trainees,

We are excited for the upcoming year and pleased to welcome our new TPIG Trainee Representative, Stephen Hammond! Stephen is a postdoctoral researcher in the fields of vascular biology and cardio-oncology who brings a commitment to translational science and trainee engagement; we are excited for the initiatives he will contribute!

As always, our goal is to support and advocate for trainees at all levels, as students, postdocs and early-career members. If you're an APS member already affiliated with TPIG, be sure to check out trainee-specific resources and updates via the APS 'My Hubs' portal: <https://www.physiology.org/account/my-aps>. Anyone can access these additional Career Gateway resources on the [APS Success in Science](#) webpage, or at [NIH NCATS](#) for translational science-specific updates.

There are many opportunities to get involved with TPIG, especially during the **Summit**, where we'll host trainee-focused poster sessions and networking events. Keep an eye out for announcements throughout the year, and as we get closer to April!

As developing scientists in translational research, we recognize the growing emphasis on bridging basic discoveries with clinically relevant outcomes. From exploring advanced models to contributing directly to therapeutic innovation and integration, trainees play a crucial role in shaping the future of human health. We feel it is our mission to carry this torch and continue turning science into health solutions.

Wishing you all a productive year ahead,

Best,
Maya & Stephen,
TPIG Trainee Representatives

If you have any ideas for trainee related events, please contact Maya at Learmonth.Maya@mayo.edu.

Are you interested in helping guide TPIG?

We're excited to announce that applications are now open for the TPIG Steering Committee! This is a fantastic opportunity for dedicated individuals to play a pivotal role in guiding our initiatives and shaping the future of our group. Current open positions are Communications Chair, and Representatives for Cardiovascular, Renal, Endocrine & Metabolism, Teaching, Water & Electrolyte, Gastrointestinal & Liver, and Respiration Sections. If you are passionate about our mission and eager to contribute your skills and ideas, we encourage you to apply by submitting your CV and an Interest Statement to Christos S. Katsanos (see contact info below). Join us in driving progress and making a meaningful impact in Translational Physiology. Submit your application today and become part of a dynamic team committed to excellence and innovation.

If you are interested in serving as a TPIG representative, please contact Christos S. Katsanos. christos.katsanos@asu.edu

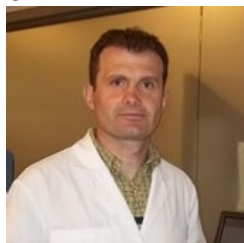
AMERICAN PHYSIOLOGY SUMMIT APRIL 23-26, 2026

The 2026 American Physiology Summit in Minneapolis is shaping up to be an exciting and transformative event for everyone in the field of physiology. Picture yourself amidst a vibrant community of researchers, educators, and healthcare professionals, all buzzing with ideas and enthusiasm. You'll be at the forefront of groundbreaking discoveries, with the chance to dive into the latest advancements in physiological research and see firsthand how they're revolutionizing medicine and health.

Engaging workshops and lively discussions will spark new collaborations and friendships, while the charm and culture of Minneapolis offer a perfect setting for both professional and personal growth. It's not just a conference—it's a gathering of passionate minds ready to make a difference.

TPIG Steering Committee Members

Chair



Christos Katsanos, PhD
Arizona State University

Vice Chair



Viswanathan Rajagopalan, PhD
New York Institute of Technology

Scientific Program Committee Representative



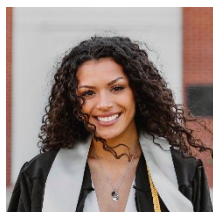
Amanda J. LeBlanc, PhD
University of Louisville School of Medicine

Communications Representative



Kristine DeLeon-Pennell, PhD
Medical University of South Carolina

Trainee Representative-Student



Maya Learmonth
Mayo Clinic-Florida

Trainee Representative-Fellow



Stephen Hammond, PhD
Medical College of Wisconsin

Environmental & Exercise Representative



Jacob Caldwell, PhD
University of Wisconsin-LaCrosse

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