













CONFIRMED INVITED SPEAKERS: PHARMACOGENETICS AND PRECISION MEDICINE CONFERENCE, CAPE TOWN, SOUTH AFRICA (7-9 APRIL 2016; IDM, UCT)


NAME	BIO SKETCH
<p>Sir Munir Pirmohamed munirp@liv.ac.uk</p> 	<p>KEYNOTE PLENARY SPEAKER</p> <p>Professor Sir Munir Pirmohamed is currently David Weatherall Chair in Medicine at the University of Liverpool, and a Consultant Physician at the Royal Liverpool University Hospital. He is also the Associate Executive Pro Vice Chancellor for Clinical Research for the Faculty of Health and Life Sciences. He also holds the only NHS Chair of Pharmacogenetics in the UK, and is Director of the M.R.C. Centre for Drug Safety Sciences, and Director of the Wolfson Centre for Personalised Medicine. He was awarded a Knights Bachelor in the Queen's Birthday Honours list in 2015. He is also an inaugural NIHR Senior Investigator, and Fellow of the Academy of Medical Sciences in the UK. He is also a Commissioner on Human Medicines. His research focuses on personalised medicine in order to optimise drug efficacy and minimise toxicity, move discoveries from the lab to the clinic, and from clinic to application. He has authored over 380 peer-reviewed publications, and has a H-index of 78.</p> <p>Professor Sir Pirmohamed hold the following qualifications: M.B., Ch.B. (Hons), University of Liverpool; M.R.C.P. (U.K.) from the Royal College of Physicians; Ph.D. 1993 from the University of Liverpool; FRCP (Edin) from the Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh; FRCP from the Royal College of Physicians of London; FBPharmacolS 2004, Fellow of the British Pharmacological Society; FMedSci 2013, Fellow of the Academy of Medical Sciences. Professor Sir Munir Pirmohamed has supervised to graduation 34 x PhD Students, 5 x MD students, 2 x MPhil students. He is still currently supervising 13 PhD and 2 MD students. He is a successful recipient of 7 x MRC, 2 x Wellcome Trust, 38 x Other grants with the current award being the Department of Health Chair in Pharmacogenetics grant totalling £3.3 million.</p>
<p>Collen Masimirembwa Collen.masimirembwa@yahoo.com ;</p> 	<p>Chair Scientific Advisory & Program Committee and Speaker</p> <p>Collen Masimirembwa is the founding President and Chief Scientific Officer of the African Institute of Biomedical Science and Technology (AiBST: www.aibst.com), headquartered in Zimbabwe. Collen is a biochemical pharmacologist trained at the University of Zimbabwe and the Karolinska Institute in Sweden. After a postdoctoral fellowship at Uppsala University (Sweden) he joined AstraZeneca in Sweden where he worked as a Principal Scientist in DMPK and Bioanalytical Chemistry for 10 years. He has made important innovative contributions in drug metabolism and pharmacokinetics (PK) & pharmacogenetics (PGX) research and has published over 80 original research papers in peer-reviewed journals. In 2002 he founded AiBST with the vision to provide life transforming healthcare solutions for Africa.</p> <p>His work focuses on PK and PGX in drug discovery and development. He has discovered genetic variants of drug metabolizing enzymes which are unique to African populations and could have clinical implications in the safe use of medicines in these populations. His recent work on the PGX of efavirenz has shown that people of African origin might need a lower dose of this drug due to their reduced metabolic capacity. To scale up the conduct of genomics research in Africa, he has established a Biobank of African populations and cohorts of patients on different treatment and treatment responses. Collen contributes to international research capacity and capability building through membership of local and international organizations such as IUPHAR and is a Fellow of the Zimbabwe Academy of Sciences and the African Academy of Sciences. He is an Honorary Professor at the University of Cape Town and at the University of KwaZulu Natal in South Africa.</p>

<p>Michèle Ramsay Michèle.ramsay@wits.ac.za</p> 	<p>Scientific Advisory & Program Committee and Speaker Director of the Sydney Brenner Institute for Molecular Bioscience (SBIMB) and Professor in the Division of Human Genetics, University of the Witwatersrand (Wits), Johannesburg. Her research interests include African population genetic and epigenetic diversity and their role in diseases exacerbated by adverse lifestyle choices, including obesity, cardiometabolic diseases. She collaborates on genetic research into eye diseases and autoimmune diseases in African populations and studies epigenetic changes in a mouse model for fetal alcohol spectrum disorders (FASD). She is PI of an NIH funded Collaborative Centre under the H3Africa Consortium for “<i>Genomic and environmental risk factors for cardiometabolic diseases in Africans</i>”, holds a South African Research Chair on Genomics and Bioinformatics of African populations and is President of the African Society of Human Genetics.</p>
<p>Professor Nicola Mulder</p> 	<p>Scientific Advisory & Program Committee and Speaker Professor Nicola Mulder is the Head of Computational Biology Division, Department of Integrative Biomedical Sciences, IDM, University of Cape Town Professor Mulder heads the Computational Biology Division (CBIO) in the Department of Integrative Biomedical Sciences at the University of Cape Town (UCT) (http://www.cbio.uct.ac.za). She has a PhD in Medical Microbiology, and spent over 8 years at the European Bioinformatics Institute (EBI) in Cambridge, moving into the area of bioinformatics. At the EBI she was a Team Leader, responsible for development of InterPro and the Gene Ontology Annotation Project. At UCT, Prof Mulder works in the area of bioinformatics of infectious diseases, including pathogen and host genomics and biological networks, African population genetics, human variation and disease association studies. Her group also provides bioinformatics support and training for postgraduate students and local researchers. She plays a leading role in bioinformatics education in South Africa and the rest of Africa, and heads the GOBLET Learning, Education and Training Committee. Prof Mulder is PI of H3ABioNet, a Pan-African Bioinformatics network for H3Africa, which aims to build bioinformatics capacity for genomics research on the continent and develop the infrastructure for managing large-scale genomics data from H3Africa projects.</p>
<p>Andrea Gaedigk agaedigk@cmh.edu</p> 	<p>Invited Speaker Professor Gaedigk received her MSc and PhD degrees in Biology from the University of Stuttgart, Germany. She then trained as a postdoctoral fellow at the Hospital for Sick Children in the Department of Clinical Pharmacology in Toronto, Canada after which she moved to Kansas City, MO, USA, where she accepted a position as Associate Director in the NICHD Pediatric Pharmacology Research Unit Lab at the Children’s Mercy Hospital. Since 2000 Professor Gaedigk directs the Pharmacogenetics Core Laboratory in the Division of Clinical Pharmacology and Therapeutic Innovation. She rose through the ranks to Associate Professor and now Professor. She also holds an adjunct faculty position at the Department of Clinical Laboratory Sciences, University of Kansas Medical Center. Professor Gaedigk has published over 120 peer-reviewed articles in national and international journals and reviewed over 250 manuscripts for 62 journals. She is a member of the editorial boards of many journals including Clinical Pharmacology & Therapeutics, Pharmacogenomics and the European Journal of Clinical Pharmacology. She is an active member of the American Society for Experimental Pharmacology and Therapeutics (ASPET), the International Society for the Study of Xenobiotics (ISSX) and the American Society of Human Genetics.</p> <p>Professor Gaedigk has a long-standing interest in pharmacogenes, i.e. genes involved in the metabolism, disposition and response of clinically used drug. She has extensively worked with cytochrome P450s and characterized their genetic variation in many diverse adult and pediatric populations in clinical and basic research settings. She is a leading expert in the pharmacogenetics of CYP2D6 and the implementation of genotype data into clinical practice. As a member of the Clinical Pharmacogenetics Implementation Consortium (CPIC) she is a key contributor to CYP2D6 gene/drug pair dosing guidelines.</p>
<p>Jonathan Blackburn</p>	<p>Invited Speaker</p>

<p>Jonathan.blackburn@uct.ac.za</p> 	<p>Jonathan holds both Bachelors and Doctoral degrees in Chemistry from the University of Oxford. He postdoc'd in the Laboratory of Molecular Biology in Cambridge from 1992-1995 and was then an independent academic in the Biochemistry Department, Cambridge University from 1995-2003. Today he holds a DST/NRF Research Chair in Applied Proteomics & Chemical Biology at the University of Cape Town. He is the Head of the Division of Chemical & Systems Biology and is Deputy Director of the IDM. He is also a Member of the Council of the Human Proteome Organisation, as well as a Member of the National Health Research Committee of the Department of Health. Jonathan has founded two proteomics-based organisations – a venture capital-backed UK biotech company, Sense Proteomic, and a Department of Science & Technology-funded not-for-profit core technology facility, the Centre for Proteomic & Genomic Research (South Africa). He has published ca. 70 papers, 6 book chapters and holds 25 granted patents in the field of chemical biology.</p>
	<p>Scientific Advisory & Program Committee and Speaker Prof Ambroise Wonkam is professor of medical geneticist, in the Division of Human Genetics, Faculty of Health Sciences, and University of Cape Town, South Africa.</p> <p>After a MD training from the Faculty of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences, University of Yaoundé I (Cameroon), Dr Wonkam completed a thesis in Cell Biology in the department of Morphology, University of Geneva (Switzerland) and a PhD in Human Genetics (University of Cape Town, South Africa). He was awarded the 2003 Denber-Pinard Prize for the best thesis from the Faculty of Medicine, University of Geneva.</p> <p>Other salient aspects of Dr Wonkam's background include his education as a medical geneticist at a highly reputable genetics department in Geneva (Switzerland). He subsequently practiced medical genetics in both European and African contexts. Dr Wonkam interests are reflected in more than 80 peer-reviewed publications, which are in laboratory, clinical educational and ethical aspects of medical genetics. His research focuses on disease of Africans: 1) Psychosocial Burden and Genomics modifiers of Sickle Cell Disease; 2) Genetics of hearing loss among Africans and 3) Monogenic conditions that affect the people of African descent. Prof Wonkam recently won the very competitive Clinical Genetics Society International Award for 2014, from the British Society of Genetic Medicine. Prof Wonkam is secretary of the African Society of Human Genetics, Board member of the International Federation of Human Genetics Societies and council member of Human Genome Organization. His is also member of the steering committee of H3Africa consortium, leading specifically the SCD project.</p>
<p>Gary Kantor GaryK@discovery.co.za,</p> 	<p>Invited Speaker Current Activities: Senior Clinical Consultant, Discovery Health (2007-); Anaesthesiologist in Private Practice (2006-) Honorary Lecturer, Dept of Anaesthesiology, University of Cape Town (2012 -) Assistant Professor, University Hospitals Case Medical Center, Cleveland, OH, USA Founder, SurgiPrep (http://www.surgiprep.com) Education & Qualifications: University of Cape Town: MBChB (1984); University of Toronto: Residency in Anesthesiology (1994); Cleveland Clinic Foundation: Anesthesiology & Critical Care; FRCP (C); Diplomate of the American Board of Anesthesiologists; Certification, American Board of Quality Assurance and Utilisation Review Physicians (1997); IHI Improvement Advisor (2012)</p>
<p>Guilherme Suarez-Kurtz Kurtz@inca.gov.br;</p>	<p>Invited Speaker Guilherme Suarez-Kurtz is the Head of Pharmacology at the Brazilian National Cancer Institute and the Coordinator of the Brazilian National Pharmacogenetics Network (Refargen). A pioneer of pharmacogenetic studies in the Brazilian population, his research explores the impact of genetic admixture on the conceptual development and the praxis of pharmacogenomics. He is a Member of the Brazilian Academy of Sciences, Senior Investigator of the Brazilian National Research Council and Professor of Clinical and Basic Pharmacology at Universidade do Brasil, in Rio de Janeiro, from which he received his M.D.</p>

	<p>and Ph.D. degrees. Prof. Suarez-Kurtz did postgraduate work at Faculté de Médecine de Paris, Columbia University New York and University College London. He is the editor of <i>Pharmacogenomics in Admixed Populations</i>, published by Landes Bioscience, a collection of essays on various aspects of pharmacogenomics from peoples of four continents. He holds the Chair of the Pharmacogenetics and Pharmacogenomics Section of IUPHAR (2014-18), and is a Member of the Editorial Boards of <i>Pharmacogenomics</i>, <i>British Journal of Clinical Pharmacology</i> and <i>Frontiers in Pharmacogenetics</i>.</p>
<p>Eleni Aklillu Eleni.aklillu@ki.se</p> 	<p>Invited Speaker</p> <p>Is Professor of Pharmacogenomics, at Department of Physiology and Pharmacology, Section of Pharmacogenetics, Karolinska Institutet Stockholm, Sweden. Has a doctorate of Philosophy (PhD) in Molecular genetics: from Karolinska Institutet. Professor Eleni Aklillu obtained Master of Science (MSc.) degree in Biochemistry from Medical college, Addis Ababa University, Ethiopia through Karolinska Institutet Research Training (KIRT) programme; a Bachelor degree in Pharmacy (B.Pharm) from School of Pharmacy, Addis Ababa University, Ethiopia. She has supervised at least 11 PhDs, and 5 Postdocs to graduation and currently supervise 7 PhD students.</p> <p>Professor Aklillu is initiator and principal investigator of five major multinational clinical research projects involving > 4000 HIV, tuberculosis and malaria patient cohort in Africa. Her research is focused on investigating the pharmacogenetics, pharmacokinetics, pharmacodynamics aspects of HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria treatments as well as biomarker discovery and validation for drug induced liver injury using state of the art biomarker discovery technology (Genomics, metabolomics and proteomics) as well as antimicrobial resistance and Hospital acquired infection. She has received several major external research grants as a principal investigator from external funding agencies including the European and Developing Countries Clinical Trials Partnership (EDCTP), the Swedish research council, Swedish civil contingency agency, Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA) and AstraZeneca. She has made a substantial contribution to knowledge of the pharmacokinetics drug interaction between anti-TB and ARV and antimalarial drugs for dose optimization and has published more than 85 peer-reviewed original scientific articles and has been cited at least 3060 times, commanding an h-index ranging 26 to 30 (Scopus and Google Scholar).</p>
<p>Keymanthri Moodley bioethics@sun.ac.za</p> 	<p>Invited Speaker</p> <p>Keymanthri Moodley is a Professor in the Department of Medicine and Director of the Centre for Medical Ethics and Law, Faculty of Health Sciences, Stellenbosch University. She is a specialist family physician and was principal investigator on clinical trials for over a decade. Internationally, she has participated in the SAGE working group of the World Health Organisation (WHO). She has served on 2 NIH DSMBs. Since 2011, she has co-hosted an NIH Fogarty program to develop capacity in Health Research Ethics in Africa. In 2013 Keymanthri was awarded a second NIH grant on HIV Cure research and a third NIH grant on genomics and biobanking in 2015. She was rated by the National Research Foundation (NRF) as an established researcher in 2014 and was appointed to the International AIDS Society (IAS) HIV Cure International Scientific Working Group and the SAGE Group on Ebola Vaccines by the WHO. The Centre was recently designated as a Collaborating Centre in Bioethics by the WHO, one of seven in the world and the first on the African continent. Keymanthri has completed an executive MBA at the University of Cape Town. She is a member of the Academy of Sciences of South Africa (ASSAF).</p>

<p>Freddy Mnyongani Mnyonfd@unisa.ac.za</p> 	<p>ASSAf Speaker</p> <p>I am a practising attorney. I hold a Bachelor of Sacred Theology from St. Joseph’s Theological Institute (Kwazulu-Natal). I also hold LLB and LLM degrees from the University of the Witwatersrand. I am currently reading towards my LLD at the University of South Africa (UNISA). I am a Senior Lecturer in the department of Jurisprudence at UNISA. In the last eight years, my research interest has been mainly on issues related to Professional Ethics, International human rights law, public international law and philosophy. I have delivered conference papers both locally and internationally. Some of my research has been published in peer reviewed journals.</p>
<p>Megan Campbell mm.campbell@uct.ac.za</p> 	<p>ASSAf Speaker</p> <p>Dr Megan Campbell is a counselling psychologist and postdoctoral research fellow working on the Genomics of Schizophrenia in South African Xhosa People (SAX) study. She represents the study on the H3Africa ethics and community engagement working group calls, and lead ethics related research on the study including work around informed consent in a vulnerable population, and community engagement strategies that build relationships with community stakeholders.</p>
<p>Jantina de Vries jantina.devries@uct.ac.za</p> 	<p>ASSAf Speaker</p> <p>Jantina originally trained in sociology and transitioned to bioethics soon after graduation. She joined the Department of Medicine of the University of Cape Town in 2013 as a Senior Researcher in Bioethics. Her expertise is in the area of ethical issues in genomics research in Africa. Jantina is the Chair of the H3Africa Working Group on Ethics and a member of the Regulatory and Ethics Working Group of the Global Alliance for Genomics and Health.</p> <p>Jantina obtained her DPhil at the University of Oxford (2011), and MSc degrees in sociology at Wageningen University (2003) and the European University Institute (2004). She was a Postdoctoral Fellow at the Human Genetics Department at UCT (2011-2013). She previously worked with MalariaGEN. Her PhD explored questions around ethnic stigmatisation in population genomic research in Africa. Jantina has published widely on ethical issues in genomics research.</p>
<p>Robert J Wilkinson robert.wilkinson@uct.ac.za</p> 	<p>Invited Speaker</p> <p>Robert J Wilkinson is a Wellcome Trust Senior Fellow held as Professor in Infectious Diseases at Imperial College London (http://www.imperial.ac.uk/people/r.j.wilkinson); and a group leader at the Francis Crick Institute London (https://www.crick.ac.uk/research/a-z-researchers/researchers-v-y/robert-j-wilkinson/). Both positions are partially seconded to the University of Cape Town where Wilkinson is an Honorary Professor (http://www.idm.uct.ac.za/wilkinson/). Wilkinson’s research is on understanding and intervening in tuberculosis (TB) and HIV-1 associated TB, a field in which he has been active for 23 years.</p>
<p>Ian Ross ian.ross@uct.ac.za</p>	<p>Associate Professor Ian Ross obtained his primary medical degree at the University of Stellenbosch in 1992 and specialised in Internal Medicine 2000 with the Fellow of the College of Physicians (South Africa) and super-specialised in Endocrinology in 2002. He received his PhD entitled: The aetiopathogenesis, cardiovascular and metabolic complications and pharmacogenomics of Addison’s disease in South Africa. He received his</p>

	<p>FRCP from London and is a full-time consultant in the Division of Endocrinology in the Department of Medicine at the University of Cape Town, attached to Groote Schuur hospital. He has active research groups involving Addison's disease and thyroid cancer and is currently supervising four PhD and one Master's students. He holds a number of research grants. He publishes actively and is a presenter at multiple international endocrine meetings.</p>
<p>Prof. Vural Özdemir, MD, PhD, DABCP</p> 	<p>Scientific Advisory & Program Committee and Speaker</p> <p>Professor Vural Özdemir is Professor of Communication Sciences, with interest in the ways in which science, new technologies and innovations emerge in the current era of large scale new biology and global precision medicine. His work involves understanding both social and technical factors that enact on the knowledge trajectory from laboratory to innovation-in-society. He draws extensively from the history and social studies of science, large scale biology and consortia science. The findings inform the fields of innovation ethics; science policy; innovation strategy, governance and foresight; technology ethics; and advocacy for responsible innovation and health services in resource-limited regions, be they in developing or developed world.</p> <p>Prof. Özdemir serves as Editor-in-Chief in New York, for OMICS: A Journal of Integrative Biology that covers all omics fields, systems science technologies, novel diagnostics and their societal impacts, in the tradition of systems thinking and integrative biology. http://www.liebertpub.com/omi. He is passionate about situating science and innovation in their social and political contexts, human rights, publication ethics as well as Science, Technology and Medicine (STM) Publishing, and creating ethical and global forums where cutting edge science, technology and responsible innovation can be communicated with rigorous peer-review. He is a graduate of Hacettepe University, Faculty of Medicine English curriculum in Turkey (M.D. 1990, with first standing by GPA 3.72/4.00) and University of Toronto (clinical pharmacology, M.Sc., 1994; Ph.D., 1998). He completed a 4-year Ontario Mental Health Foundation (OMHF)-funded postdoctoral fellowship in personalized medicine with Professor Werner Kalow, who was a founder of the field of pharmacogenetics. He was accredited by the American Board of Clinical Pharmacology in 2003 (DABCP). Vural is a full Professor, Communications (Science, Technology & Responsible Innovation); Advisor to President, International Technology and Innovation Policy at Gaziantep University; Visiting Professor and Advocate for Global Health and Responsible Innovation, Amrita University School of Biotechnology, Kerala, India; - Co-Founder, Board of Directors for DELSA Global, Open Innovation Knowledge Platform, Seattle.</p>