19th Annual FlowTex Conference

FlowTex 2026

February 23rd-25th, 2026

Full Program

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FlowTex 2026
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Full Program

Monday

9:00am – 9:15am	**Opening Remarks**
9:15am – 10:45am	**Unmixing and Controls**
10:45am – 11:00am	**Coffee Break**
11:00am – 12:30pm	**Dealing with Autofluorescence**
12:30pm – 1:30pm	**Lunch**
1:30pm – 3:00pm	**Publication Quality Data and Beyond**
3:00pm – 3:30pm	**Coffee Break**
3:30pm – 4:30pm	**Keynote Speaker**

Tuesday

9:00am – 10:30am	**Clinical Flow Cytometry Session**
10:30am – 11:00am	**Coffee Break**
11:00am – 12:00pm	**Clinical Flow Cytometry Session**
12:00pm – 1:00pm	**Lunch**
1:00pm – 2:15pm	**Research to Clinical and Collaborations**
2:15pm – 2:45pm	**Coffee Break**
2:45pm – 3:30pm	**Research to Clinical and Collaborations**
3:30pm – 3:45pm	**Technology Talk 1**
3:45pm – 4:45pm	**Networking Session**
4:45pm – 5:45pm	**Business Meeting** *(Open to All)*

Wednesday

9:00am – 9:15am	**Technology Talk 2**
9:15am – 10:00am	**Basics of Imaging Cytometry**
10:00am – 10:30am	**Coffee Break**
10:30am – 12:15pm	**Basics of Imaging Cytometry**
12:15pm – 1:15pm	**Lunch**
1:15pm – 2:00pm	**Emerging Scientist**
2:00pm – 2:45pm	**Imaging Cytometry in Research**
2:45pm – 3:00pm	**Coffee Break**
3:00pm – 4:30pm	**Imaging Cytometry in Research**
4:30pm – 5:00pm	**Closing Remarks and Raffle**

19th Annual FlowTex Conference

FlowTex 2026

February 23rd-25th, 2026

Full Program

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19th Annual FlowTex Conference
FlowTex 2026
February 23rd-25th, 2026
Full Program

Monday February 23rd, 2026

Registration
8:00am-9:00am

Breakfast: Kolaches and whole fruit with coffee/tea
8:00am-9:00am

Meredith Weglarz: Opening Remarks
9:00am-9:15am

19th Annual FlowTex Conference
FlowTex 2026
February 23rd-25th, 2026
Full Program

Unmixing and Controls
9:15am-10:45am

Matilda Moström: 'Success every time: Best Practices in Single-stained controls'
9:15am-10:00am

Dr. Matilda Moström, Assistant Director of the Flow Cytometry Core at the Tulane National Biomedical Research Center. She earned her PhD in Biomedical Sciences from Tulane University in 2022, with a focus on immunology at the maternal-fetal interface and viral infections during pregnancy. Her work uses flow cytometry to study immune responses in non-human primate models, particularly in cytomegalovirus infection. Dr. Moström is passionate about biosafety, high-parameter cytometry, and maximizing data quality and reproducibility in infectious disease research. The TNBRC Flow Cytometry Core was recently recognized by the ISAC SRL Recognition Program for 2025 to 2028.

Ana Longhini: 'Spectral Unmixing in the Real World: How to Evaluate Unmixing and Recognize Common Issues'
10:00am-10:45am

Ana Longhini is the Global Scientific Affairs Senior Manager at Sony Biotechnology, with over 20 years of experience in flow cytometry across research, core facilities, and industry. Trained as an immunologist, she earned her PhD at the University of Campinas in Brazil, where she also managed the Flow Cytometry Laboratory at the Hematology Center.

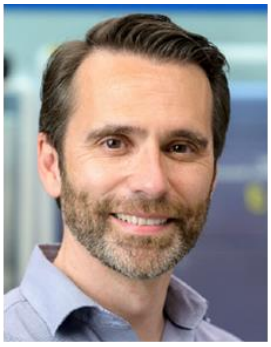
Ana began her career as a Field Application Specialist, building a strong foundation in user training and cross-disciplinary applications. She later held leadership roles in academic and clinical research environments, including supporting high-parameter flow cytometry for clinical trials at MD Anderson Cancer Center and serving as Scientific Manager of Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center's Flow Cytometry Core, where she collaborated closely with researchers on advanced, high-dimensional workflows. Her work focuses on spectral and high-parameter flow cytometry, panel design, data quality, and education. Ana is a member of the MetroFlow Steering Committee and leads educational initiatives across the cytometry community.

Kindly note that no recording of this talk will be made.

Coffee Break: 10:45am-11:00am

19th Annual FlowTex Conference
FlowTex 2026
February 23rd-25th, 2026
Full Program

Dealing with Autofluorescence
11:00am-12:30pm



Rui Gardener: 'TBD'
11:00am-11:45am

Dr. Rui Gardner is the Director of the Flow Cytometry Core Facility at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center in New York City. He holds a PhD in Biomedical Sciences from the University of Porto in Portugal, with his research conducted at the University of Michigan and the University of Southern California. He subsequently completed postdoctoral training in theoretical immunology at the Instituto Gulbenkian de Ciência in Portugal, where he later served as Manager of the Flow Cytometry Core Facility.

Dr. Gardner is an internationally recognized expert in flow cytometry, with a particular focus on high-parameter spectral cytometry, instrumentation development, and experimental design for translational research. With almost two decades of experience advancing cytometry technologies and core facility operations, Dr. Gardner has helped shape best practices in the field. Dr. Gardner is widely recognized for his contributions to the cytometry community, both as a speaker and educator, and for driving innovation in the application of single-cell technologies to immunology and cancer research.

Laura Ferrer: 'Autofluorescence: Hidden Ally or Silent Saboteur?'
11:45am-12:30pm

She a Scientific Solutions Manager at R&D department at BD. Before taking on this role, she was the Hugh Green Cytometry Centre High Dimensional Cytometry Specialist, and in 2020, she became the Flow cytometry Flow Core Manager. She has been involved in many different clinical and fundamental research projects, she has published several protocols and papers about the use of spectral flow cytometry, and she has delivered numerous workshops about panel design, panel optimization, autofluorescence and high-dimensional data analysis. She is an ISAC SRL Emerging leader, and she is very passionate about science education and training.

Lunch and Vendor Show Sponsored by SONY
12:30pm-1:30pm

19th Annual FlowTex Conference
FlowTex 2026
February 23rd-25th, 2026
Full Program

Publication Quality Data and Beyond
1:30pm-3:00pm

Marissa Fahlberg: 'The Builder and the Thinker: Workflow, Design, and the Search for Clarity in Flow Cytometry'
1:30pm-2:15pm

Marissa Fahlberg is a flow cytometrist, immunologist, and entrepreneur with over 15 years of hands-on experience designing, analyzing, and troubleshooting flow cytometry experiments. She is passionate about helping scientists generate higher-quality, more interpretable data through thoughtful panel design, modern data analysis approaches, and practical innovation. Marissa is the founder of Spotted Tech, where she develops new tools and technologies to make flow cytometry more accessible and reliable, particularly for researchers and communities in underserved regions.

Geoff Kraker: 'CytoBytes Live! Simple Explanations for Complex Analysis Topics'
2:15pm-3:00pm

Geoff started his flow career with several years in the full-service core at Northwestern and then spent the next 12 years working with high parameter analysis tools as an application scientist at various software and instrument vendors and is now a Senior Application Scientist at OMIQ. He's a persistent advocate for data quality and is passionate about educating people in the field on approachable strategies for high-dimensional cytometry analysis.

Coffee Break: 3:00pm-3:30pm

19th Annual FlowTex Conference
FlowTex 2026
February 23rd-25th, 2026
Full Program

KEYNOTE -- Peter Hotez: 'Vaccines in a time of Global Boiling Megacities and Antiscience'

3:30pm-4:30pm

Prof. Peter Hotez MD PhD DSc (hon) FAAP FASTMH is Professor of Pediatrics and Molecular Virology and Microbiology at Baylor College of Medicine where he is also Co-Director of the Texas Children's Hospital Center for Vaccine Development, and Dean of the National School of Tropical Medicine. He is also University Professor of Biology at Baylor University, Senior Fellow in Disease and Humanity at the James A Baker III Institute for Public Policy. Dr. Hotez is a vaccine scientist, biochemist, and pediatrician who has led or co-led the development of vaccines for parasitic infections-hookworm, schistosomiasis, Chagas disease-currently in clinical trials, and several coronavirus vaccines, including two low-cost COVID vaccines for global health so far administered to 100 million children and adults in India and Indonesia. He is also an ardent vaccine advocate and science explainer who combats antiscience and antisemitism in America, and globally.

Prof. Hotez has authored 6 single-authored books with Johns Hopkins University Press, including Vaccines Did Not Cause Rachel's Autism, Preventing the Next Pandemic, and The Deadly Rise of Anti-science ,and in 2025 will co-author Science Under Siege(Public Affairs)with the climate scientist, Michael Mann. Dr. Hotez obtained his B.A. (phi beta kappa) from Yale University, M.D. from Weill Cornell Medical College, and Ph.D. from Rockefeller University. He obtained his pediatric residency and fellowship training from Massachusetts General Hospital and Yale School of Medicine.

Prof. Hotez is the author of more than 700 scientific papers, and he is an elected member of the National Academy of Medicine and American Academy of Arts and Sciences and has received numerous awards. They include the Scientific Freedom and Responsibility Award from AAAS, the Scientific Achievement Award from the AMA, the David E Rogers Award from the AAMC, the Science and Society Award from Sigma Xi, the Porter Prize in public health from the University of Pittsburgh, Winslow Medal from Yale School of Public Health, Mendel Medal in science and religion from Villanova University, Milton Popkin Award from the ADL Southwest, LBJ Moral Courage Award from the Holocaust Museum Houston, Walker Prize from the Boston Science Museum, and Smith Medal in Public Health from the NY Academy of Medicine. He was named TIME MagazineHealth100 in 2024 and one of 25 Global Leaders for U.S. News and World Report in 2025.

He has three honorary Doctor of Science degrees. Prof. Hotez served as US Science Envoy for the Middle East and North Africa in 2015-16, and he appears frequently on national media to explain biomedicine and pandemics.

19th Annual FlowTex Conference
FlowTex 2026
February 23rd-25th, 2026
Full Program

Tuesday February 24th, 2026

Registration
8:00am-9:00am

Breakfast: Bagels n smear, whole fruit and coffee/tea
8:00am-9:00am

Clinical Flow Cytometry Session
9:00am-12:00pm

Standardization in Clinical SpectralFlow Cytometry
Clinical Session Sponsors for TexFlo: Sony, BD, Cytek, & BioLegend

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Marsha Hartman: Opening Remarks
9:00am-9:15am

19th Annual FlowTex Conference
FlowTex 2026
February 23rd-25th, 2026
Full Program

Paul Mead: 'From Design to Detection: Clinical Spectral Flow Updates from St Jude's'

9:15am-10:15am

Dr. Mead is a Principal Scientist and Director of the Translational Immunopathology Laboratory in the Department of Pathology at St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. His laboratory develops new flow cytometry assays for the Clinical Immunopathology Laboratory and supports St. Jude–led clinical trials. He is a licensed Medical Laboratory Supervisor and serves as Technical Director of the Clinical Flow Cytometry Laboratory.

Dr. Mead earned his undergraduate and graduate degrees in Biochemistry from Massey University (New Zealand) and completed postdoctoral training at Harvard Medical School/Children's Hospital Boston. As an NIH-funded investigator at St. Jude, his early research focused on hematopoietic development during embryogenesis. For more than a decade, his work has centered on immunophenotyping and minimal residual disease detection in pediatric hematologic malignancies, with recent efforts focused on high-parameter spectral flow cytometry for clinical diagnosis and treatment monitoring of pediatric leukemias.

Stacie Woolard: 'From Design to Detection: Clinical Spectral Flow Updates from St Jude's'

9:15am-10:15am

Dr. Stacie Woolard is a highly experienced flow cytometry expert with over 18 years in flow cytometry where she has worked in the Flow Cytometry and Cell Sorting Shared Resource, including serving as the Assistant Director/Scientific for over five years. In this leadership role, she oversaw complex projects, managed staff, and ensured operational excellence. Currently, Dr. Woolard is a Clinical Scientist in the Clinical Pathology Department's Immunophenotyping Laboratory, where she applies her expertise to performing, evaluating, and reporting flow cytometry test results. She plays a vital role in maintaining quality control, troubleshooting instrumentation, developing standard operating procedures, and contributing to scientific publications and presentations. Her primary focus is facilitating the validation and implementation of full-spectrum flow cytometry in a clinical setting to improve Minimal/Measurable Residual Disease (MRD) detection in acute lymphoblastic leukemia (ALL). Dr. Woolard ensures compliance with cGMP, GLP, and regulatory guidelines from CAP, FACT, and the FDA, upholding the highest standards in clinical diagnostics.

19th Annual FlowTex Conference
FlowTex 2026
February 23rd-25th, 2026
Full Program

Jessica Hughes: 't-SNE aided analysis of BLL MRD: A case study'
10:15am-10:30am

Jessica Hughes, MS is an ASCP-certified Medical Laboratory Scientist and Specialist in Cytometry with 20 years of clinical flow cytometry experience. She's about developing teams that are devoted to quality patient care and leading them to the cutting edge of science and technology. She's currently serving as a Staff Scientist in the Hematopathology Department at City of Hope National Medical Center in Duarte, CA.

Coffee Break: 10:30am-11:00am

Joesph Lownik: 'Machine-learning–based automation of analysis and compensation/unmixing as a quality control for clinical spectral flow cytometry analysis'
11:00am-11:30am

Joseph is a Physician-Scientist and Hematopathologist with research interests in the spatial biology, specifically on the dynamics of the influence of tumor biology on the spatial organization and metabolism of the tumor microenvironment. Clinically, Joseph specializes in flow cytometry analysis and method development, with interests in Spectral flow cytometry and the implementation of machine learning and artificial intelligence in the clinical flow cytometry field. He has multiple patents related to these topics.

19th Annual FlowTex Conference
FlowTex 2026
February 23rd-25th, 2026
Full Program

Panel Discussion—Standardization of Spectral Cytometry in Clinical Lab (Jean Oak-*Stanford,* Paul Mead-*St Jude*, Stacie Woolard-*St Jude*, Jessica Hughes-*City of Hope*, Franklin Fuda-*UT Southwestern*, Joseph Lownik-*Cedar Sinai*, Patricia Davis-*ARUP,* Jeffrey Jacobsen-*ARUP*)**: 11:30am-12:00pm**

Jean Oak: 'Panel Discussion—Standardization of Spectral Cytometry in Clinical Lab'
11:30am-12:00pm

Dr. Oak received her MD and PhD from University of California, Irvine, and completed her anatomic pathology and clinical pathology residency, hematopathology fellowship, and transfusion medicine fellowship at Stanford University. Her research and clinical interests include clinical assay development for tumor immunophenotyping, lymphocyte subset monitoring, and immunotherapy target antigen assessment in a variety of hematologic and immunologic disorders. As director of a clinical flow cytometry laboratory, she oversees the design, validation, and implementation of various immunophenotyping assays in addition to ensuring quality assurance and regulatory compliance for CLIA certification.

Franklin Fuda: 'Panel Discussion—Standardization of Spectral Cytometry in Clinical Lab'
11:30am-12:30pm

Franklin Fuda, DO is a Professor in the Department of Pathology and a practicing hematopathologist at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center (UTSW) in Dallas, Texas. He serves as Medical Director of the Flow Cytometry Laboratory and is a recognized expert in the diagnostic application of flow cytometry for hematologic malignancies. His clinical and academic interests focus on the use of multiparameter flow cytometry for the diagnosis, classification, and monitoring of leukemias and lymphomas, including minimal residual disease assessment. He is actively involved in clinical assay development, laboratory quality improvement, and accreditation efforts.

19th Annual FlowTex Conference
FlowTex 2026
February 23rd-25th, 2026
Full Program

Patrica Davis: 'Panel Discussion—Standardization of Spectral Cytometry in Clinical Lab'
11:30am-12:00pm

Patricia Davis is an R&D Scientist specializing in hematologic flow cytometry at ARUP Laboratories, where she conducts research and development to advance clinical laboratory technologies and improve diagnostic outcomes. With a strong background in hematology and a commitment to scientific innovation, Patricia brings technical expertise and analytical insight to complex laboratory challenges- especially as applied to spectral cytometry. She has validated a 19-color MM MRD assay, developed and optimized a 37-color triage assay for all sample types, and is currently optimizing 28-color BLBL MRD and 31-color AML MRD assays. She is based in the Salt Lake City metropolitan area and actively engaged with the scientific community.

Jeffrey Jacobsen: 'Panel Discussion—Standardization of Spectral Cytometry in Clinical Lab'
11:30am-12:00pm

Jeffrey Jacobsen, MD is a medical director at ARUP Laboratories and an associate professor within the University of Utah Department of Pathology where he serves as Program Director for the Hematopathology Fellowship. Dr. Jacobsen completed a combined anatomic and clinical pathology residency and hematopathology fellowship at the University of Utah. Subsequently, Dr. Jacobsen's career focus has been pediatric hematopathology, and he has served as the director of flow cytometry laboratories at St. Jude Children's Research Hospital and Phoenix Children's Hospital. Dr. Jacobsen returned to ARUP Laboratories in 2021 where he has worked alongside Dr. David Ng and Patricia Davis in development of spectral flow cytometry assays.

Lunch and Vendor Show Sponsored by
12:00pm-1:00pm

19th Annual FlowTex Conference
FlowTex 2026
February 23rd-25th, 2026
Full Program

Research to Clinical and Collaborations
1:00pm-3:30pm

Menno van Zelm: 'Allergy diagnosis and treatment monitoring with fluorescent recombinant allergen tetramers'
1:00pm-1:45pm

Menno van Zelm obtained his PhD studies from the Erasmus University (2002-2007). He held postdoc positions at the University of California San Diego (USA) and the Erasmus MC (the Netherlands), prior to becoming group leader at the Erasmus MC (2010). Since 2015, he heads the Allergy and Clinical Immunology laboratory from Monash University and the Alfred Hospital, where he founded the JMF Research and Diagnostic Center for Immunodeficiency Diseases in Melbourne, and was Deputy Head of Department (2017-2023). He was recruited to Erasmus MC in 2023 to head the Humoral Immune Memory laboratory. He is currently responsible for the careers of 14 people with research lines into Allergy, Primary Immunodeficiency and Vaccination Responses.

Dr. van Zelm has received continuous research grant support in the Netherlands and Australia. In 2010, he received the Heineken Young Scientists Award from the Royal Netherlands Academy of Sciences (KNAW). Menno van Zelm has published >190 papers in international peer-reviewed journals and is named inventor on multiple patent applications.

Lucas Black: 'Gender Disparities in Clinical Flow Cytometry Research Collaboration Networks: A Longitudinal Network Analysis (1974– 2024)'
1:45pm-2:15pm

Lucas Black has worked in academia and biotech for the past 20 years, with over a decade specialising in flow cytometry. He leads a team in the In Vitro Pharmacology department at UCB and runs a small flow cytometry consulting practice. Outside of work, he has always enjoyed exploring large datasets and began collaborating on gender representation in flow cytometry after a chance conversation on LinkedIn.

This talk will be given virtually.

Coffee Break: 2:15pm-2:45pm

19th Annual FlowTex Conference
FlowTex 2026
February 23rd-25th, 2026
Full Program

Pinaki Banerjee: 'Imaging-Flow Cytometry with special emphasis to Natural Killer Cell immune synapse'
2:45pm-3:30pm

Dr. Banerjee is an immunologist and Assistant Professor at the University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center with more than 25 years of experience in cancer immunology and therapeutic development. As Director of Research for the Cell Therapy Platform, they lead scientific strategy, benchmarking, and infrastructure development for advancing cellular therapy programs. Their work has contributed to over 70 peer-reviewed publications, multiple patents, and successful partnerships with academic and industry collaborators. With over a decade of leadership in scientific administration, Dr. Banerjee has overseen multidisciplinary teams, complex research operations, and multimillion-dollar laboratory initiatives. They have supported numerous clinical trials through experimental design, data integration, and cross-departmental coordination. Prior to joining MD Anderson, Dr. Banerjee established the Center for Human Immunobiology at Texas Children's Hospital and led major research facility design efforts in both academic and industry settings. They also serve as a subject matter expert and consultant to international scientific groups.

Technology Talk 1
3:30pm-3:45pm

Justin De La Cruz: 'Multi-Site Standardization of Flow Cytometry Quality Controls Using Cell Mimics: Enabling Seamless Technology Transfer for Geographically Distributed Cell Therapy Manufacturing'
3:30pm-3:45pm

Justin De La Cruz is a Senior Scientist in Scientific Affairs at Cellares, where he leverages his expertise in cell and gene therapy analytics to advance automated QC release testing for cell therapy manufacturing. He focuses on connecting scientific innovation with commercial strategy to deliver scalable solutions for cell therapy developers. Before joining Cellares in 2024, Justin worked as a Scientific Solutions Consultant at Benchling, supporting scientists in digitalizing data management. His analytics career includes roles at Sangamo Therapeutics, Adverum Biotechnologies, BioMarin, and Ultragenyx, specializing in analytical method development and QC testing for AAV-mediated gene therapy programs. Justin earned his PhD in Microbiology, Immunology, and Molecular Genetics from UCLA and completed postdoctoral training in Infectious Diseases at Stanford University. Outside of work, he enjoys grilling and being a girl dad.

19th Annual FlowTex Conference
FlowTex 2026
February 23rd-25th, 2026
Full Program

Networking Session: Connect Across the Spectrum of Flow Cytometry

3:45pm-4:45pm

Meet fellow researchers to discuss clinical, translational, and basic research applications of flow cytometry, exchange ideas, and explore career and job opportunities. Enjoy drinks and snacks in a relaxed, collaborative environment.

Business Meeting: **Open to All**
4:45pm-5:45pm

19th Annual FlowTex Conference
FlowTex 2026
February 23rd-25th, 2026
Full Program

Wednesday February 25th, 2026

Registration
8:00am-9:00am

Breakfast: Kolaches and whole fruit with coffee/tea
8:00am-9:00am

Technology Talk 2
9:00am-9:15am

Robert Thacker: 'Application of Cell Painting Techniques Using an Imaging Flow Cytometer'
9:00am-9:15am

Dr. Robert Thacker is an imaging specialist for Cytek Biosciences, working specifically with the Amnis imaging flow cytometry systems. Rob has an undergraduate degree in microbiology (BS, Brigham Young University 2004) and investigated the role of fibrinogen in immune cell activation, cancer metastasis, and the enhancement of vaccine formulations for his graduate work (PhD, University of Cincinnati, 2008). Rob's post-doctoral research (Cincinnati Children's Hospital, 2008-2012) studied the mechanisms behind the presentation of both viral and cell-associated antigens within different dendritic cell subsets. The Amnis ImageStream was used to show differential uptake, internalization and trafficking of apoptotic tumor cells between the dendritic cell subsets, work that guided which subset should be targeted to achieve a stronger anti-tumor immune response. It was this work that led Rob to become an Amnis applications scientist in 2012, a position that evolved in 2014 to his current role as imaging specialist, now supporting all the US and Canada. When Rob isn't on the road, he enjoys hiking, bird watching and family time with his wife and children in Cincinnati, Ohio.

19th Annual FlowTex Conference
FlowTex 2026
February 23rd-25th, 2026
Full Program

Basics of Imaging Cytometry
9:15am-12:15pm

David Novo: 'Rethinking Spectral Unmixing'
9:15am-10:00am

Dr. Novo began his career in flow cytometry in the lab of Dr. Howard Shapiro, studying the effects of antibiotics on bacteria using flow. He obtained his PhD in Biophysics from UCLA. For 20 years Dr. Novo was the president of De Novo Software, a company specializing in creating data analysis solutions for Flow and Image Cytometry. FCS Express is currently used by thousands of researchers and clinicians around the world. In addition, Dr. Novo has published several papers on advanced data analysis techniques. Currently, Dr. Novo is pursuing his own research interests, teaching and collaborating with colleagues around the world.

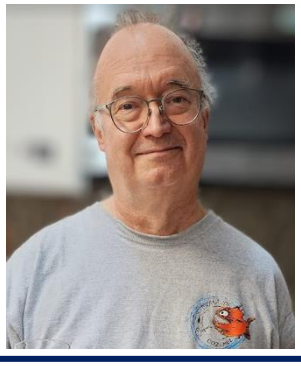
Kindly note that no recording of this talk will be made.

Coffee Break: 10:00am-10:30am

Aaron Middlebrook: 'Fourth Wave Flow Cytometry: combining the power of spectral and imaging'
10:30am-11:15am

Aaron is the BDB resident applications expert for BD CellView™ Image Technology and a long-time flow cytometry user. He has spear-headed all data generation efforts to evaluate and market BD CellView™ Image Technology. Aaron is also well versed in high parameter flow cytometry with over 25 years of experience designing and running panels using both traditional and spectral flow cytometry. Prior to his work on application development for BD CellView™, Aaron spent several years working in reagent R&D and where he successfully established a tumor dissociation workflow for flow cytometry. Aaron's graduate work at the University of Arizona and his postdoctoral fellowship at the Gladstone Institute of Virology and Immunology at the University of California San Francisco (UCSF) was focused on T cell development and function within the context of autoimmunity and HIV.

19th Annual FlowTex Conference
FlowTex 2026
February 23rd-25th, 2026
Full Program



David Haviland: 'An Overview of Research and Reproducibility'
11:15am-11:35am

David Haviland, PhD has worked in flow cytometry for nearly four decades, beginning with EPICS V systems during his graduate training in the mid-1980s. His doctoral research focused on T-cell biology, including the molecule now known as CD44. He completed postdoctoral training at Washington University in St. Louis, where he studied complement biology and inflammation and reported that some chemoattractant receptors are expressed on cells incapable of chemotaxis, while also supervising EPICS Elite and XL instruments.

Dr. Haviland later joined the University of Texas–Houston Institute of Molecular Medicine, overseeing multiple cytometers before transitioning fully into core management. Since 2011, he has served as Director of the Flow Cytometry Core at Houston Methodist Research Institute, which he built from the ground up. A longtime ISAC member, he served on the ISAC Council from 2014–2018 and continues to focus on education, data analysis, and best practices in cytometry.

Travis Moore: 'Every Pixel Counts: Ensuring Rigor Across the Microscopy Workflow'
11:35am-11:55am

Travis I. Moore, Ph.D. is an Assistant Professor at McGovern Medical School at UTHealth Houston and Director of the Center for Advanced Microscopy, a Nikon Center of Excellence. His research examines the biophysics of cell adhesion and migration, with a particular focus on how mechanical forces regulate immune cell function in diseases such as idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis, peripheral artery disease, and autoimmune disease. Dr. Moore completed postdoctoral training at Harvard Medical School in the laboratory of Dr. Timothy Springer and at Seoul National University, where he developed expertise in cell adhesion, migration, tissue engineering, and microfluidics. He also trained at the HHMI Janelia Research Campus and the Marine Biological Laboratory in Woods Hole, specializing in super-resolution microscopy. His interdisciplinary approach spans molecular biology, protein engineering, biophysics, and immunology, driving innovations that connect basic science with therapeutic development. In addition to research, Dr. Moore is deeply committed to education and mentorship, actively fostering diversity of thought within the biomedical research community.

Panel Discussion: Rigor and Reproducibility: 11:55am-12:15pm

19th Annual FlowTex Conference
FlowTex 2026
February 23rd-25th, 2026
Full Program

Lunch and Vendor Show Sponsored by
12:15pm-1:15pm

SLINGSHOT BIOSCIENCES

Emerging Scientists
1:15pm-2:00pm

Jingyi (Serena) Wang: 'A Biodegradable Nanofluidic Platform for Sustained Multidrug Cancer Immunotherapy'
1:15pm-1:30pm

Jingyi (Serena) Wang, MD, PhD, is a postdoctoral researcher at Houston Methodist Research Institute in the Nanomedicine Department, where she focuses on intratumoral immunotherapy and immune profiling in solid tumor models. Her research integrates biodegradable drug-delivery devices with combination immunomodulatory strategies, including innate immune agonists and immune checkpoint modulation. Her current work leverages flow cytometry and related immune profiling techniques to investigate mechanisms of immune activation, suppression, and memory in cancer immunotherapy.

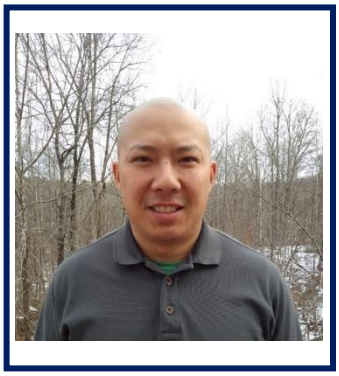
Andrew (AJ) Walters: 'GFP and BFP and iRFP (and mCherry), oh my! Using multi-color flow cytometry to characterize MSCs engineered with multi-gene cassettes for cell therapy.'
1:30pm-1:45pm

AJ Walters is a bioengineer working at the nexus of synthetic biology, cell engineering, immunology, and cell therapy. His current research focuses on ways to make cell therapies more effective and accessible for deployment in regenerative medicine to address both systemic and neuroinflammation. He recently completed a PhD in Bioengineering, jointly advised by Dr. Caleb Bashor at Rice University and Dr. Scott Olson at UTHealth Houston McGovern Medical School. He is now a Postdoctoral Research Fellow at UTHealth, working to bring the therapies he designed during his PhD to the clinic.

19th Annual FlowTex Conference
FlowTex 2026
February 23rd-25th, 2026
Full Program

Francis Boquet III: 'Effects of Collagenase Type on Immune Cell Recovery and Flow Cytometric Phenotyping of Non-Human Primate Lung Tissue.'
1:45pm-2:00pm
Francis A. Boquet III is a medical research specialist in the Kaur Lab within the Division of Immunology at the Tulane National Biomedical Research Center. He holds a Bachelor of Science degree from Nicholls State University and studies congenital cytomegalovirus (cCMV) infection and placental transmission in non-human primate models. His work integrates immune phenotyping and multiparameter flow cytometry to examine host–pathogen interactions at the maternal–fetal interface, including evaluation of tissue processing strategies that influence immune cell recovery and surface marker detection. Outside the lab, he enjoys roasting his own coffee to fuel late nights in the flow cytometry core.

Imaging Cytometry in Research
2:00pm-4:30pm



Claude Chew: 'Imaging Flow Cytometry – A Tale of Two Instruments'
2:00pm-2:45pm
Claude has a degree in Biomedical Science from the University of Melbourne, Australia. He was introduced to flow cytometry in his first job in 2007 as a lab tech and has not looked back. Claude has worked in both academia and industry and joined the BCM Cytometry and Cell Sorting core in 2022 as a flow cytometry coordinator. He is responsible for providing technical oversight of the core, instrument troubleshooting and data analysis. He has collaborated on a variety of spectral and imaging flow cytometry projects. Recently, he has begun exploring the utility of machine learning in cell classification for imaging flow cytometry data.

Coffee Break: 2:45pm-3:00pm

19th Annual FlowTex Conference
FlowTex 2026
February 23rd-25th, 2026
Full Program

Nicholas Battaglia: 'Imaging Cytometry: Visualizing New Frontiers in Flow Cytometry'
3:00pm-3:45pm
Nicholas Battaglia received his PhD in immunology from the University of Rochester, where he studied how radiotherapy schedules and co-therapies shape the radiotherapy-induced anti-tumor immune response. He then joined Champions Oncology as preclinical scientific team lead, focusing on development and analysis of flow cytometry assays in a contract research setting. He is currently a senior scientist at AstraZeneca's Flow Cytometry Center of Excellence in Gaithersburg, Maryland.

Kindly note that no recording of this talk will be made.

Thomas Ashhurst: 'Comprehensive analysis of high-dimensional spatial cytometry data'
3:45pm-4:30pm
Thomas Ashhurst PhD is a Senior Cytometry Scientist with the Sydney Cytometry Core Research Facility and an Honorary Research Fellow in infectious disease and immunology at the University of Sydney. In these roles he specialises in the use of cutting edge high-dimensional cytometry, single- cell, and spatial multiomics technologies for interrogating cellular systems. His work involves the development of new computational and experimental methods to better understand immune development and pathology across the human lifespan and holds a long-standing interest in the pathogenesis of severe respiratory and neuroinvasive infectious diseases.

This talk will be given virtually.

Joel Sederstrom: Closing Remarks & Raffle
4:30pm-5:00pm