

Palazzo dei Normanni - Sala Piersanti Mattarella  
Piazza del Parlamento, Palermo - Italy

Thursday **October 11<sup>th</sup>** 2018

8.30 AM ○ **REGISTRATION**

9.00 AM **WELCOME TO PALERMO**

**Gianfranco Miccichè** - President, Sicilian Regional Assembly  
**Patrizia Monterosso** - Director General, Fondazione Federico II

9.30 AM **OPENING REMARKS AND Ri.MED OVERVIEW**

**Paolo Aquilanti** - President, Fondazione Ri.MED  
**Bruno Gridelli** - Vice President, Fondazione Ri.MED

10.00 AM **KEYNOTE SPEECH**

**Angus Thomson, Ph.D., D.Sc.**  
Director of Transplant Immunology, Thomas E. Starzl  
Transplantation Institute, University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine

10.40 AM **COFFEE BREAK**

11.10 AM **TALKS BY Ri.MED SCIENTISTS - I SESSION**

○ **Bioengineering at Ri.MED**

**Gaetano Burriesci, Ph.D.** - Group Leader in Computational  
Bioengineering

○ **Cardiac Tissue Engineering Program at RiMED:  
Overview and Opportunities for Collaboration**

**Antonio D'Amore, Ph.D.** - Research Assistant Professor, Department  
of Surgery and Bioengineering, University of Pittsburgh - Ri.MED  
Principal Investigator

○ **Computational Modeling and miRNA profiling for the Clinical  
Risk Stratification of Dilated Ascending Thoracic Aorta**

**Salvatore Pasta, Ph.D.** - Principal Investigator in Computational  
Bioengineering

○ **Loads, Structure and Signaling for Cartilage Regeneration**

**Riccardo Gottardi, Ph.D.** - Research Assistant Professor, Department  
of Orthopaedic Surgery, University of Pittsburgh - Ri.MED Principal  
Investigator

○ **Function of Globins in Heart Regeneration and Development**

**Paola Corti, Ph.D.** - Research Assistant Professor, Department of  
Medicine, Division of Cardiology, University of Pittsburgh - Ri.MED  
Principal Investigator

○ **Bioengineering a Kidney in Secondary Lymphoid Organs**

**Maria Giovanna Francipane, Ph.D.** - Research Assistant Professor,  
Department of Pathology, University of Pittsburgh - Ri.MED Principal  
Investigator

12.40 PM **LUNCH**

1.40 PM **TALKS BY Ri.MED SCIENTISTS - II SESSION**

○ **Molecular Mechanisms of Protein-Misfolding Diseases**

**Caterina Alfano, Ph.D.** - Group Leader in Structural Biology

○ **Ri.MED Computational Platform for Drug Design: Chemoinformatics  
and Molecular Modeling Approaches to Drug Discovery**

**Ugo Perricone, Ph.D.** - Senior Scientist in Computer Aided Drug Design

○ **Bioinformatics research at Ri.MED. Focus on microRNA  
interactions network**

**Claudia Coronello, Ph.D.** - Senior Scientist in Computational Biology

○ **The inflammasomes in cigarette smoke-induced chronic lung  
inflammation**

**Chiara Cipollina, Ph.D.** - Principal Investigator in Anti-inflammatory Drugs  
Discovery

○ **Esterification of electrophilic 10-nitro-oleic acid in systemic  
triglycerides limits michael addition and confers more favorable  
pharmacokinetics**

**Marco Fazzari, Ph.D.** - Research Assistant Professor, Department of  
Pharmacology and Chemical Biology, University of Pittsburgh - Ri.MED  
Principal Investigator

○ **Nox2/mitochondria interplay in Parkinson's disease**

**Roberto Di Maio, Ph.D.** - Research Assistant Professor, Pittsburgh Institute  
for Neurodegenerative Disease - Ri.MED Principal Investigator

3:10 PM **COFFEE BREAK**

3:40 PM **TALKS BY Ri.MED SCIENTISTS - III SESSION**

○ **Mesenchymal stromal cell-derived secretome as a cell-free  
therapeutic option for Regenerative Medicine**

**Cinzia Chinnici, Ph.D.** - Senior Scientist in Regenerative Medicine

○ **Cell Therapy: Human Amniotic Membrane-Derived Mesenchymal  
(hAMSCs) and Epithelial Stem cells (hAECs) for Regenerative Medicine**

**Mariangela Pampalone** - Specialist in Cellular Biology

○ **Crosstalk on M(E)D-R Crossroads: the Sicilian Klebs experience**

**Bruno Douradinha, Ph.D.** - Principal Investigator in Vaccine Development

○ **Development of an advanced therapy medicinal product to treat viral  
infection in transplanted patients**

**Monica Miele, Ph.D.** - GMP Production Manager

○ **The importance of being perfused**

**Ester Badami, Ph.D.** - Senior Scientist in Immunology

○ **Tissue-infiltrating macrophages modulate intestinal barrier function  
through sialylation of Mucin 1 in IBD and colitis-associated cancer**

**Sandra Cascio, Ph.D.** - Research Assistant Professor, Department of  
Immunology, University of Pittsburgh - Ri.MED Principal Investigator

5:10 PM **CLOSING REMARKS**

○ **Dario A. A. Vignali, Ph.D.** - Scientific Director, Fondazione Ri.MED

The Frank Dixon Chair in Cancer Immunology,  
Vice Chair and Professor of Immunology, Department of Immunology,  
University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine, and  
Co-Leader, Cancer Immunology Program,  
Co-Director, Tumor Microenvironment Center, UPMC Hillman Cancer Center.