WexMedTalks are engaging presentations of medical discoveries made by physicians and scientists of The Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center.

**SCHEDULE**

6 p.m. **REGISTRATION**

6:30 p.m. **PROGRAM**

**OPENING REMARKS**

**Michael V. Drake, MD**
President, The Ohio State University

**K. Craig Kent, MD**
Dean, The Ohio State University
College of Medicine
Vice President of Health Sciences
Leslie H. and Abigail S. Wexner
Dean’s Chair in Medicine

**WEXMEDTALKS**

**Moderated by: Peter Mohler, PhD**
Vice Dean for Research, The Ohio State University College of Medicine
William D. and Jacquelyn L. Wells Chair at the Dorothy M. Davis Heart and Lung Research Institute

**Rosa Lapalombella, PhD**
Associate Professor of Internal Medicine
Associate Director for Basic Research, Division of Hematology
Director, Pelotonia Fellowship Program

7:30 p.m. **RECEPTION**

Discovery areas featuring the program speakers and their groundbreaking research taking place at OSU Wexner Medical Center.

Nahush Mokadam, MD
Professor and Director
Division of Cardiac Surgery
G.S. Kakos, MD, and T.E. Williams Jr., MD, PhD
Endowed Professor in Cardiac Surgery
Associate Director, Surgical Services, Heart and Vascular Center

Eugene Oltz, PhD
Professor of Medicine
Samuel Saslaw Professor of Infectious Diseases
Department of Microbial Infection and Immunity

Jim Smith
President and CEO, The Ohio State University Alumni Association
Senior Vice President of Alumni Relations

**CLOSING REMARKS**
Rosa Lapalombella, PhD  
Rosa Lapalombella is a member of the Leukemia Research Program at The Ohio State University Comprehensive Cancer Center – Arthur G. James Cancer Hospital and Richard J. Solove Research Institute, where she focuses her research on epigenetic alterations of cancer cells and the development of experimental therapeutics for hematologic disease. Dr. Lapalombella’s work has contributed to the translation of five therapeutic agents into clinical trials for chronic lymphocytic leukemia. Dr. Lapalombella has been the recipient of the Department of Defense Career Development Award for young faculty, the American Cancer Society Research Scholar Award and the Excellence in Research Award from Ohio State. Her experience includes more than 10 grant-funded research initiatives.

Nahush Mokadam, MD  
Nahush Mokadam is an international leader in heart failure who specializes in heart transplants and ventricular assist devices. He came to Ohio State from the University of Washington Medical Center (UW), where he was the LeRoss Endowed Professor in Cardiovascular Surgery, surgical director of Heart Transplant and Mechanical Circulatory Support, and program director for the Cardiothoracic Residency. Dr. Mokadam’s clinical, technical and research expertise makes him a true triple threat in cardiac surgery. He earned his medical degree at the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine and completed his general surgery residency and a research fellowship at Washington University in St. Louis/Barnes-Jewish Hospital.

Eugene Oltz, PhD  
Eugene Oltz received his degrees in chemistry from Cornell (BA) and Columbia (PhD) universities. His postdoctoral research in molecular immunology was performed at Harvard University with Professor Frederick Alt, a National Academy of Sciences member. Dr. Oltz was on the faculties of Vanderbilt and Washington universities before he moved to Ohio State. He has served the immunology community in numerous capacities, including as chair of an NIH study section and, last year, he became editor-in-chief for The Journal of Immunology. His research focuses on genetic and epigenetic pathways controlling the development of human immune cells in both healthy and diseased states.