

**Eighth Annual  
Cardiovascular Research Institute (CVRI) Symposium  
Thursday April 8, 2021**

**11:30 PM- 12:30 PM      Welcome**

**Awards Ceremony**

**12:30 PM- 1:45 PM      Lectures**

Session Chair

*David J. Durgan, PhD*  
Assistant Professor  
Anesthesiology  
Baylor College of Medicine

**Use of a Small Molecular Integrin Activator, 7HP349, as a Systemically Administered Vaccine Adjuvant in Controlling Chagas Cardiomyopathy**

**Nisha Garg, PhD**

Professor  
Departments of Microbiology & Immunology and Pathology  
Franklin Fellow of the US Department of State - US Agency for International Development  
University of Texas Medical Branch

**Peter Vanderslice, PhD**

Director Molecular Cardiology Research Laboratory (MCRL) Biology  
Molecular Cardiology Research  
Texas Heart Institute

**The Past, Present, and Future of the Total Artificial Heart**

**William Cohn, MD**

Vice President  
Johnson & Johnson Medical Devices Companies (JJMDC)  
Executive Director  
Johnson & Johnson Center for Device Innovation  
Texas Medical Center  
Professor, Department of Surgery  
Baylor College of Medicine

**Using RNAseq to Solve Undiagnosed Inherited CVD**

**David R. Murdock, MD, FACMG**

Assistant Professor

Molecular and Human Genetics  
Assistant Director - Clinical Lab  
Human Genome Sequencing Center  
Baylor College of Medicine

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Special Hot Topic Session: SARS-COV-2 AND THE HEART

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**1:45 PM- 3:45 PM**

**Lectures**

Session Chair

*Biykem Bozkurt, MD, PhD, FHFSA, FACC, FAHA, FACP*  
The Mary and Gordon Cain Chair in Cardiology and Professor of Medicine  
Associate Provost of Faculty Affairs  
Senior Associate Dean of Faculty Development  
Director, Winters Center for Heart Failure Research  
Associate Director, Cardiovascular Research Institute  
Vice-Chair of Medicine  
Baylor College of Medicine  
Medicine Chief, DeBakey VA Medical Center

**Peter Hotez, MD, PhD**

Dean  
National School of Tropical Medicine  
Professor, Pediatrics, Molecular Virology and Microbiology  
Endowed Chair in Tropical Pediatrics  
Texas Children's Hospital  
Co-Director  
Texas Children's Hospital Center for Vaccine Development

**Leslie Cooper, Jr, MD**

Chair, Cardiovascular Medicine  
Mayo Clinic Enterprise  
Chair, Cardiovascular Medicine  
Mayo Clinic, Florida

**Douglas L. Mann, MD**

Lewin Chair and Professor of Medicine  
Professor, Cell Biology and Physiology  
John T. Milliken Department of Internal Medicine  
Washington University School of Medicine

**Sara Kristen Sexon Tejtel, MD, PhD MPH**

Assistant Professor, Pediatrics  
Division of Pediatric Cardiology  
Texas Children's Hospital / Baylor College of Medicine

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Meet the Faculty Breakout Room

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**4:00 PM**

**Closing Remarks**