# Speakers Bureau Contact List

**Speaker contacts are organized by North Carolina regions.**
**To email a speaker, click on the name below.**

## Eastern North Carolina

| SPEAKER | WHERE THEY WORK | TOPICS |
|---|---|---|
| Vittoria Capria | *East Carolina University* | **Animal Research, Laboratory Animal Medicine, Veterinary Medicine** |
| Christopher Wolfe | *East Carolina University* | **Forensic Anthropology, Biological Anthropology, Human Skeleton, Growth and Development, Science + Statistics, Archaeology / Bioarcheology** |

## Piedmont Triad

| SPEAKER | WHERE THEY WORK | TOPICS |
|---|---|---|
| Cliff Zeyl | *Wake Forest University* | **Snakes - behavior and ecology** |
| Amanda Dilliard | *Wake Forest University School of Medicine* | **Vet Techs in research, Regulations, Animal welfare, Species in research (animal models), Career options in biomedical research, Training programs, Animal rights vs. Animal welfare** |
| Katie Hollerman | *Wake Forest University School of Medicine* | **"Neuroscience basics" (how do neurons work? How does the brain use electricity?), "How addiction, drugs, and alcohol change the brain," "Mood disorders (anxiety, depression, PTSD)", "What is Dopamine?," "Neuropsychiatric disorders (Alzheimer, Schizophrenia, etc.)"** |

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| | | **Could do an "Ask a Neuroscientist" type discussion where students send in questions about the brain ahead of time and I can talk with them about what they're particularly interested in.** |
| **Cailyn Kirkaldy** | *Wake Forest University School of Medicine* | **Cell biology, Molecular biology, Cell culture techniques, Advanced instrumentation (microscopy/ multi-omics), Spatial biology, Experimental design, Nonhuman primate work, Cancer biology (lung and colon specifically), Cell signaling, Human biospecimen ethics, Pathology, Histology, Lung and GI physiology, College prep** |
| **Melissa Stair** | *Atrium Health* | **Care of animal models in scientific research** |
| **Hanna Jordan** | *Wake Forest University School of Medicine* | **Biomedical Research, Veterinary Medicine, Animal Care, Marine Biology, Environmental Science, Water Quality Lab Work** |
| **Morika Williams** | *UNC – Chapel Hill* | **Animals Models in Research, Veterinary Careers in Biomedical Research, Laboratory Animal Medicine** |
| **Maddi Bibby** | *Wake Forest Institute of Regenerative Medicine* | **How to find a career in research and science, Being a woman in STEM, How to find research opportunities, How to prepare for a career in research prior to college etc., What it is like being a graduate student** |
| **Tracy Criswell** | *Wake Forest Institute of Regenerative Medicine* | **Most topics with a biology focus** |
| **Ashmitha Suresh Kumar** | *Wake Forest Institute of Regenerative Medicine* | **Careers in scientific research, life as a scientist, my personal journey, my doctoral research** |
| **Samayeta Sarkar Tuli** | *Wake Forest School of Medicine* | **Regenerative Medicine, Toxicological Exposure Studies, Vapor exposure studies** |
| **Cindy Zimmerman** | *Wake Forest Institute of Regenerative Medicine* | **Histology and its role in healthcare and research** |
| **Bita Nickkholgh** | *Wake Forest Institute of Regenerative Medicine* | **Cell therapy, Cancer biology, FDA oversight, Drug response, Human Physiology, Cell-cell interaction, Making cells or Bioengineered organs in the lab for clinical trial** |

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| Caleb Heathershaw | *Wake Forest Institute of Regenerative Medicine* | **Stem Cells, Organoids, Regenerative Medicine, The Heart and Cardiovascular Science** |
| Josh Maxwell | *Wake Forest Institute of Regenerative Medicine* | **Regenerative medicine, Cardiac research (I LIVE NEAR CHARLOTTE)** |
| Annmarie Bedsaul | *Wake Forest Institute of Regenerative Medicine* | **Tissue engineering, Regenerative medicine, Biotechnology, Biomedical engineering** |
| Arianna Smith | *Davidson College* | **Academic research, Studying biology in college, Immunology, Reproductive biology** |
| Bailey Brennen | *Wake Forest Institute of Regenerative Medicine* | **Immunology, Biomaterials, Organ on a chip technology** |
| Brian Spurlock | *UNC – Chapel Hill* | **Mitochondria, Regenerative medicine, Heart development and disease, Microscopy** |
| Dona Kanavy | *UNC – Chapel Hill* | **Genetics, molecular biology, clinical laboratory science** |
| Lakshya Gangwar | *Wake Forest Institute of Regenerative Medicine* | **Engineering (Biomedical and Mechanical), Cryobiology (Tissue & Organ Cryopreservation), Life at Extreme Cold** |

## Triangle

| SPEAKER | WHERE THEY WORK | TOPICS |
|---|---|---|
| Bridget Pickle | *Inotiv* | **Animal welfare, Animal care, Animal models, Careers in preclinical research** |
| Trinity Moore | *UNC- Chapel Hill* | **Viruses that cause cancer, Women's Health Research, STI Research, Designing Experiments, Histology, Cell and tissue work** |
| Grant Fischer | *UNC – Chapel Hill School of Medicine* | **Careers in Medicine; Cancer Research; Pathology as a subspecialty in medicine** |

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| Nora Gardner | *UNC – Chapel Hill* | **Pathology, Veterinary Medicine, Laboratory Veterinary Medicine, AI Integration, Research** |
| Caroline McKinney-Aguirre | *North Carolina State University* | **Intestinal anatomy/physiology; Intestinal stem cells** |
| Nneka Geogre | *UNC – Chapel Hill* | **Veterinarians in Research or Hemophilia or Clinical Laboratory Science** |
| Yuchan Yuan | *UNC – Chapel Hill* | **Biosensors, biomarker measurement, pharmacokinetic** |
| Morika Williams | *UNC – Chapel Hill* | **Animals Models in Research, Veterinary Careers in Biomedical Research, Laboratory Animal Medicine** |
| Eric Harris | *Retired Researcher (Pharma and Academia)* | **The Brain; Visual Illusions; How drugs act; What (if anything) is consciousness.** |
| Susan Taylor | *UNC – Chapel Hill* | **Medical Laboratory Science, Clinical Microbiology & Infectious Disease** |
| Erica Sparkenbaugh | *UNC – Chapel Hill* | **Blood diseases, blood clotting, science careers that are not medical** |
| Karen Wang | *UNC – Chapel Hill* | **How I learned about research / got into biosciences research, what completing a biosciences PhD is like, What working in a biosciences research lab is like** |
| Brian Spurlock | *UNC – Chapel Hill* | **Mitochondria, Regenerative medicine, Heart development and disease, Microscopy** |
| Dona Kanavy | *UNC – Chapel Hill* | **Genetics, molecular biology, clinical laboratory science** |
| William Wilkison | *Vogenx, Inc.* | **Drug Development, Metabolic Diseases** |
| Donna Webb | *NIEHS* | **Veterinary Medicine, Lab Animal Medicine, Animals in Research** |
| Ariel Vitenzon | *MuriPhys* | **Neuroscience, drug development, building biotech, preclinical development** |

## Western North Carolina

| SPEAKER | WHERE THEY WORK | TOPICS |
|---|---|---|
| Cailyn Kirkaldy | *Wake Forest University School of Medicine* | **Cell biology, Molecular biology, Cell culture techniques, Advanced instrumentation (microscopy/ multi-omics), Spatial biology, Experimental design, Nonhuman primate work, Cancer biology (lung and colon specifically), Cell signaling, Human biospecimen ethics, Pathology, Histology, Lung and GI physiology, College prep** |