

The Norman Fleischer NYC Regional Diabetes Symposium

May 8, 2026

8:15 AM – 8:55 AM | Breakfast & Check-in

8:55 AM – 9:00 AM | Welcome Remarks

Morning Session

Chair: **Lale Ozcan, MD** (Columbia)

9:00 AM – 10:00 AM | Session 1A: Faculty Talks

- **Alus (Fnu) Xiaoli, PhD** (Einstein) — *The Role of Cyclin C (CCNC)-Mediator Complex in Hepatocytes*
- **Timothy Kenny, PhD** (MSSM) — *Understanding Organismal Metabolism Through the Lens of Nutrient Transport*
- **Jesse Platt, MD, PhD** (WCM) — *Proteolethargy is a Pathogenic Mechanism in Chronic Disease*

10:00 AM – 10:30 AM | Session 1B: Lightning Talks

- **Sarah Cardoso, MS** (Columbia) — *Mapping Insulin Receptor Signaling Using De Novo Designed Agonists*
 - **Jijo Wilson, PhD** (WCM) — *Circadian Glucocorticoid Rhythms Coordinate Insulin Secretion, Clearance, and Sensitivity to Maintain Glucose Homeostasis*
 - **Kimberly Izarraras, BS** (Rutgers) — *Kisspeptin Mitigates Hepatic De Novo Lipogenesis in Metabolic Dysfunction-Associated Steatotic Liver Disease*
 - **Stanislovas Jankauskas, PhD** (CCNY) — *Beta-Cell Resilience and Mitochondrial Quality Control During Age-Related Onset of Type 2 Diabetes*
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10:30 AM – 11:00 AM | Coffee Break

Mid-Day Session

Chair: **Claudia Doege, MD** (Columbia)

11:00 AM – 12:00 PM | Session 2A: Faculty Talks

- **Ezequiel Dantas, PhD** (NYU) — *The Effects of Refined Carbohydrates on Systemic Immunity*
- **Kushal Dey, PhD** (MSKCC) — *Linking the Genetic and Stress-Induced Perturbation Landscape of Pancreatic Islets to Type 2 Diabetes Genetics*
- **Daorong Feng, PhD** (Einstein) — *Adipocyte-Derived Extracellular Vesicle Secretion, in vivo and in vitro*

12:00 PM – 12:30 PM | Session 2B: Lightning Talks

- **Niki Brisnovali, MS** (MSSM) — *MMAB Inhibition Activates a Mitochondrial Stress-GDF15 Axis That Protects Against Cardiometabolic Disease*
- **Tamires Duarte Afonso Serdan, PhD** (NYU) — *Axon guidance signaling in adipose tissue development and function*
- **Serena Zhang, BA** (Einstein) — *Glucose Homeostasis and the Risk of Pre-Heart Failure in a U.S. Hispanic/Latino Population*
- **Veronica Uribe-Echevarria, PhD** (NYU) — *Wnt9a Prevents Fatty and Fibrotic Infiltration in Diabetic Mice by Reducing the Proportion of Infiltrated Macrophages*

12:30 PM – 2:00 PM | Lunch, Posters & Networking

2:00 PM – 3:00 PM | Keynote Lecture

The Norman Fleischer legacy: **Meredith Hawkins, MD** (Einstein)

Introduction of the Keynote Speaker: **Rebecca Haeusler, PhD** (Columbia)

Robert Eckel, MD (UC Denver)

The Evolving Translational Science of Lipoprotein Lipase in Metabolic, Cardiovascular, and Neurodegenerative Diseases

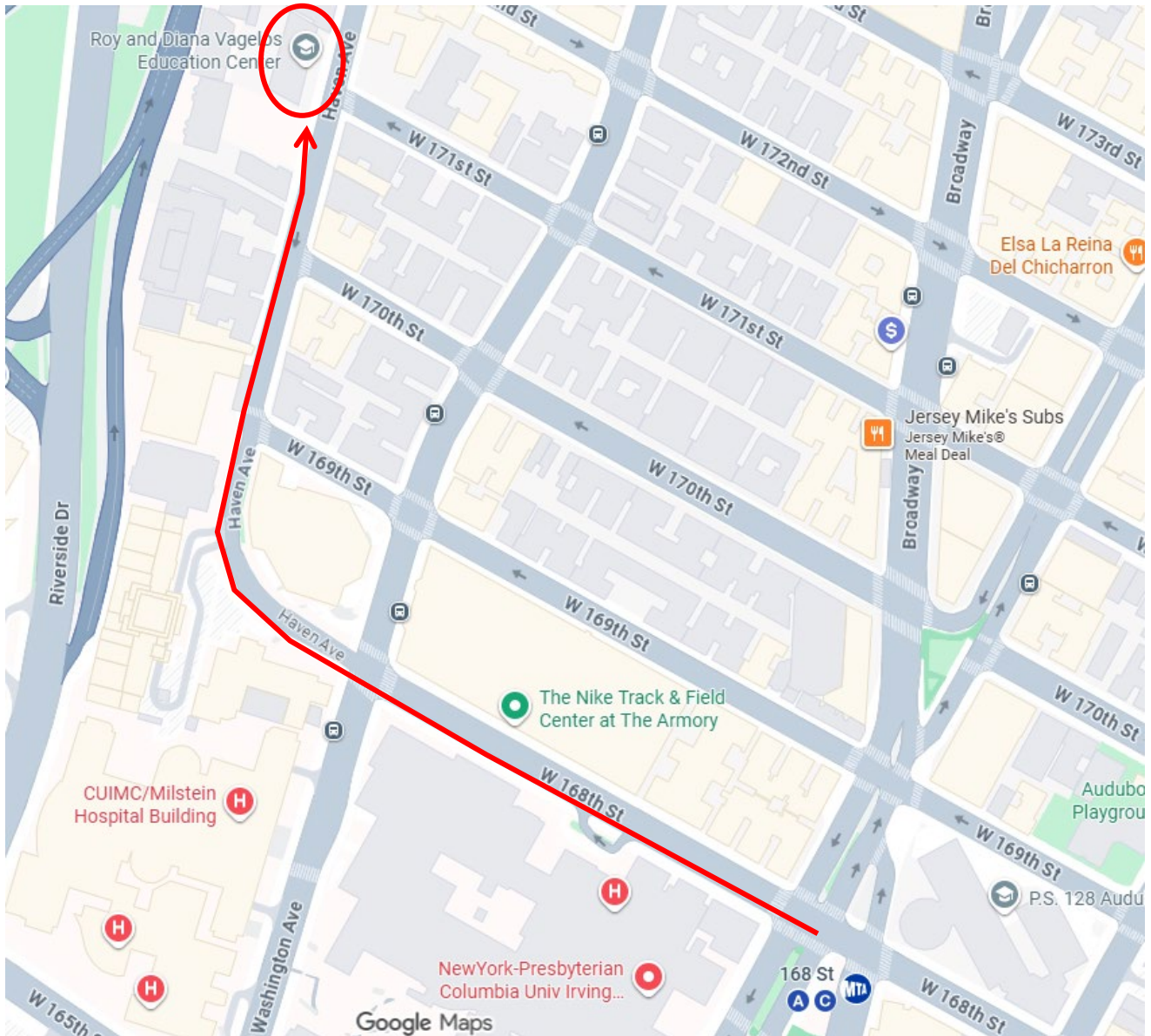
Afternoon Session

Chair: **Amy Rumora, PhD** (Columbia)

3:00 PM – 4:00 PM | Session 3: Faculty Talks

- **Kenichi Sakamoto, PhD** (Rutgers) — *The Role of the Sympathetic Nervous System and Adipose Tissue Lipolysis in Estrogen Deficiency–Induced Insulin Resistance*
- **Joshua Cook, MD PhD** (Columbia) — *Insulin and Its Discontents: Decoding Human Hyperinsulinemia*
- **Michael Garshick, MD** (NYU) — *Strategies to Mitigate Endothelial Damage in Diabetes*

Here are the directions to the Vagelos Education Center at 104 Haven Ave, New York, NY 10032, from the 168 St subway station (A, C, 1).



If you do not have a CUIMC ID, please give your name at the security desk and let them know you are coming for the Fleischer meeting. Then, take the elevators to the 4th floor.