

Science for Women's Health Innovation Symposium

Friday, January 30, 2026
Agenda

8:30 AM

Registration and Coffee

9:05 AM

Opening Remarks

Shih-Fu Chang • Dean of Columbia Engineering • Columbia University
Christine Hendon • Assoc. Prof. of Electrical Engineering • Columbia University
Kristin Myers • Prof. of Mechanical Engineering • Columbia University

9:20 AM

Keynote 1

Silvia Blemker • Prof. of Biomedical Engineering • University of Virginia

9:50 AM

Session 1: Gynecologic Health

Moderator • **Christine Hendon** • Assoc. Prof. of Electrical Engineering • Columbia University

Arnold Advincula • Chief of Gynecologic Surgery • Columbia University Medical Center
Samii Kennedy Benson • Asst. Professor of Family and Consumer Sciences • Southern University and A&M College
Noémie Elhadad • Chair and Assoc. Prof. of Biomedical Informatics • Columbia University
June Hou • Assoc. Prof. of Obstetrics and Gynecology • Columbia University Medical Center
Alexandra Rutz • Asst. Prof. of Biomedical Engineering • Washington University in St. Louis

10:40 AM

Break

11:10 AM

Session 2: Preterm/Pregnancy Health

Moderator • **Kristin Myers** • Prof. of Mechanical Engineering • Columbia University

Janet Catov • Prof. of Obstetrics, Gynecology and Reproductive Sciences • University of Pittsburgh
Karen Clark • Asst. Prof. of Nursing • Southern University and A&M College
Michael House • Prof. of Obstetrics and Gynecology, President • Tufts University School of Medicine, Cx Therapeutics
Tal Korem • Asst. Prof. of Systems Biology and Reproductive Sciences • Columbia University Medical Center
Christine O'Brien • Asst. Prof. of Biomedical Engineering • Washington University in St. Louis

12:05 PM

Lunch

12:35 PM

Keynote 2

Steven Levine • Sen. Dir. of Virtual Human Modeling • Dassault Systèmes

1:05 PM

Session 3: Pelvic Floor Health

Moderator • **Steven Abramowitch** • Prof. of Bioengineering • University of Pittsburgh

Helai Hesham • Obstetrician and Gynecologist • Columbia University Medical Center
Katrina Knight • Asst. Prof. of Bioengineering • University of Pittsburgh
Tracy MacNeal • President and CEO • Materna Medical
Derek Sham • Founder and CEO • Cosm Medical

Science for Women's Health Innovation Symposium

1:55 pm

Keynote 3

Sandra Brown • Dean of the College of Nursing and Allied Health • Southern University and A&M College

2:25 pm

Break

2:55 PM

Session 4: Commercialization and Regulatory Path

Moderator • **Philip Bayly** • Prof. of Bioengineering • Washington University in St. Louis

Summer Jasinski • Senior Research Scientist, Women's Health • WHOOP

Danika Kelly • CEO • My Normative

Steven Levine • Senior Director of Virtual Human Modeling • Dassault Systèmes

Tracy MacNeal • President and CEO • Materna Medical

Sam Sia • Prof. of Biomedical Engineering • Columbia University

Ridhi Tariyal • CEO • NextGen Jane

3:40 PM

Session 5: Education and Workforce

Moderator • **Nastassia Jones** • Prof. of Science and Mathematics Education • Southern University and A&M College

Zehra Ansari • Senior Project Manager of Life Sciences and Healthcare • NYCEDC

Ioannis (John) Kymissis • Prof. of Electrical Engineering • Columbia University

Monica Malowney • Vice President for Life Sciences and Healthcare Initiative • NYCEDC

Sara Roccabianca • Assoc. Prof. of Mechanical Engineering and Materials Science • Columbia University

Harry West • Prof. of Professional Practice in Industrial Engineering and Operations Research • Columbia

4:25 PM

Closing Remarks

Christine Hendon • Assoc. Prof. of Electrical Engineering • Columbia University

Kristin Myers • Prof. of Mechanical Engineering • Columbia University

4:40 PM

Reception and Poster Session

6:00 PM

Adjourn