

IMPORTANT NOTE: Fellows are eligible for a complimentary Trainee membership for the duration of their accredited fellowship program. Click <https://www.htrs.org/HTRS/Membership/join> for more details.

Please share this newsletter with your colleagues and friends, and visit www.HTRS.org for up-to-the-minute news, announcements, and opportunities! Questions? Email htrs@versiti.org.



Fellows Network Newsletter

Spring 2021

The HTRS Fellows Network is pleased to present our Spring 2021 Newsletter! In this issue, you will find:

- [Registration links](#) for the HTRS 2021 Scientific Symposium and Pre-conferences, including the HTRS/Genentech Virtual Networking Events on March 9th and 15th
- Upcoming Fellows Network Career Development Webinar, ConECCTOR Meeting, and Mentor Match Program Opportunity on March 30, 2021
- The new HTRS Mentor Match Program
- Announcements, funding opportunities, and upcoming meetings
- Spotlight on HTRS Fellows Network Member: Gloria Gerber, MD
- Spotlight on HTRS Junior Faculty Member: Sol Schulman MD, PhD
- Connection to CLOT+ to highlight recent high-impact studies



Follow us: [@HTRSfellows](https://twitter.com/HTRSfellows)

HTRS 2021: Scientific Symposium

[REGISTER TODAY!](#)

HTRS 2021 Scientific Symposium: March 10-12, 2021

HTRS 2021 offers a dynamic mix of live sessions, speaker Q&A, oral and poster presentations, roundtable discussions, CME credits, opportunities for networking, and more!

For full details, **[CLICK HERE](#)**

To register, **[CLICK HERE](#)**

- HTRS Members: Before you register, visit our website's Members Only page to retrieve the MEMBER CODE (the Member Code is different than the Discount Code) to apply your membership discount to your registration fee
- Register for pre-conference events at the same time you register for HTRS 2021, including the HTRS/Genentech Networking Events (details below)
- Don't miss Pre-conference Events such as the **[HTRS Research Colloquium](#)** (3/8), FWGBD Colloquium on Uterine Hemostasis (3/9) and HTRS Multi-Disciplinary Pre-Conference Workshop (3/10)

HTRS 2021 is a comprehensive scientific meeting dedicated to continuing medical education and the advancement of clinical, translational, and basic science research related to non-malignant blood disorders in both pediatric and adult medicine.

We look forward to exploring hot topics in hemostasis and thrombosis, including COVID-19 and its impact on our field. Dynamic, lively scientific exchange in this collegial atmosphere can and will continue as we adapt to this “new normal.”

Announcements

HTRS and Genentech Present:

“Best of HTRS 2021”

Virtual Networking Events

Sponsored by



Event #1: Tuesday, March 9, 2021

“Best of HTRS 2021 - Oral Presentations”

Event #2: Monday, March 15, 2021

“Best of HTRS 2021 - Poster Presentations”

Events begin at:

8:00 PM ET / 7:00 PM CT / 6:00 PM MT / 5:00 PM PT

RSVP to one or both events: [CLICK HERE](#)

- **Bring your own beverage;** network with colleagues in an informal setting
- **Award-winning HTRS 2021 abstract authors** will moderate discussion tables at both events
- **Connect with professional colleagues at ALL career levels!** Seasoned physician-scientists and investigators are encouraged to attend to meet our early-stage investigators and trainees

- **Door prizes** will be awarded at the end of the evening; you must be registered for the event and present to be eligible to win!

***Please Note:** Attendance is restricted to academic medical professionals only. Industry attendance is restricted to representatives from Genentech.*

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Virtual Fellows Network Career Development Webinar and ConECCTOR Meeting: March 30, 2021

~ [RSVP TODAY](#) ~

Please join our back-to-back virtual HTRS Fellows Network Career Development Webinar and ConECCTOR Meeting, combined on March 30th:

- **4:30 PM ET** (1 hour) - Fellows Network Webinar: "Negotiating Your First Job" with panelists **Sven Olson, MD**, Assistant Professor of Medicine, Oregon Health and Science University; **Glaivy Batsuli, MD**, Assistant Professor, Emory School of Medicine/Aflac Cancer and Blood Disorders Center; **Ang Li, MD, MS**, Assistant Professor, Baylor College of Medicine; and **Emily Ayers, MD**, Assistant Professor, University of Virginia Health
- **5:30 PM ET** (30 minutes) - When you join our Mentor Match program (details below) and connect *with a mentor/mentee to make it official*, you have the chance to reserve a virtual breakout table during this half hour. For more details, [CLICK HERE](#)
- **6:00 PM ET** (1.5 hours) - Faculty TBD

Special thanks to Spark Therapeutics, Inc., 2020/2021 Sponsor of the HTRS ConECCTOR Network

Fellows and ConECCTOR members are invited to attend all events!

To RSVP, [CLICK HERE](#)

LAUNCHING:

The HTRS Mentor Match Program!

We have formed a new partnership between the HTRS Fellows and ConECCTOR (junior faculty) Networks for the purposes of mentoring: the new **Mentor Match Program**. You now have an excellent opportunity to mentor and/or be mentored at an important time in your career development.

Thanks to 30-plus HTRS members who already have answered the call, we are up and running – and would like to invite both mentors and mentees to review the following lists and reach out to establish a connection:

- For the most current list of potential *mentors, mentees, their specialties*, and preferences for mentorship, [CLICK HERE](#)
- If you don't see your name and would like to take part, email jziegler@versiti.org with your name, institution, specialty, preference for mentoring, and your email address, and we will add you (these lists will be updated regularly on our website)

Three types of mentorship opportunities

On the lists of mentors and mentees (link above), please review and identify someone with your similar mentorship availability/needs/specialty:

- **LIMITED INTERACTION:** email contact with ConECCTOR members for brief questions
- **ONGOING MENTORSHIP:** Specific details TBD by mentor/mentee (1 hour/month suggested, setting goals/milestones throughout the year)
- **ONE-TIME INTERACTION:** "Speed-mentoring event" at a future conference (in-person/virtual)

Before reaching out, please take into account the kind of mentorship you're both seeking. Once you have established a mutually agreed-upon partnership/mentorship, email jziegler@versiti.org to let us know.

Still want to take part but didn't sign up yet?

Please add your info to the following Google forms and email jziegler@versiti.org when you do:

- To be a mentor, [CLICK HERE](#)
- To be a mentee, [CLICK HERE](#)

Once you have established a connection and made it official by emailing jziegler@versiti.org to confirm, go ahead and RSVP to the opportunity to "meet" your mentor/mentee on March 30th, as detailed above.

To RSVP to all three March 30th events, [CLICK HERE](#)

With questions, email jziegler@versiti.org

2021 HTRS Student Research Award Program

~ Application Deadline: March 12, 2021 ~

HTRS is now accepting applications for the 2021 HTRS Student Research Awards (SRAs), an 8-10 week program aimed at introducing medical, PhD, MD/PhD, and PharmD to the field of hemostasis and thrombosis by supporting the students' work on targeted research projects focused on hemostasis and thrombosis. Proposed projects may be lab-based, clinical, or epidemiologic.

The experience includes collaboration with a research mentor, a \$5,000 stipend, and a \$2,000 travel allowance to present at a 2021 national, scientific meeting. The sponsoring lab/organization receives a \$1,000 stipend.

See [Request for Applications](#)

- To apply, please visit: <https://htrs.smapply.org>
- **Deadline for 2021 applications: March 12, 2021**

Questions about this program may be directed to Teresa Holzen, PhD, Manager, Grants and Membership in the HTRS Office at htrs@versiti.org or tholzen@versiti.org.

Expert review and assistance with your research grant application...before you submit!

HTRS Virtual Grant Review Workshop

Tuesday, May 18, 2021

[PLEASE APPLY TODAY!](#)

The HTRS ConECCTOR Network invites you to participate in the next Grant Review Workshop to be held virtually on May 18th from 10:00 AM – 11:30 AM ET. This is an unparalleled opportunity!

Accepted applications* will be discussed in a small-group virtual meeting with the following HTRS-member faculty members:

- **Margaret Ragni, MD, MPH**, *Director, Hemophilia Center of Western PA/ Professor of Medicine and Clinical Translational Science, University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine*
- **Courtney Thornburg, MD**, *Professor, Medical Director, Division of Pediatric Hematology/Oncology, Rady Children's Hospital, University of San Diego*

For the required application form, please **[CLICK HERE](#)** or email **iziegler@versiti.org** to request that the application form be sent to you.

HTRS Fellow Spotlight

Gloria Gerber, MD

Clinical Hematology Fellow
Johns Hopkins University



1. Which mentors and experiences (research, training, and/or professional) inspired you to enter the field of non-malignant hematology?

During my second year of residency at New York Presbyterian/Weill Cornell Medical Center, I took an elective in benign hematology. From the beginning, I experienced the complexity of caring for patients with thrombotic disorders when treating a postpartum patient with preeclampsia and new strokes, who was found to have antiphospholipid syndrome. I loved the combination of diagnostic and treatment challenges and how there was not always a prescribed path. I thought it was amazing how you could meet a patient then within minutes look at their blood smear and many of your clinical questions or differentials were either validated or refuted. I was lucky during the elective to work with Dr. Maria DeSancho. Her enthusiasm for the field was contagious and I very much respected her clinical reasoning. I was fortunate that when I expressed interest in the field, she involved me in her research. Following these experiences, I became interested in an academic career in hemostasis and thrombosis.

2. What do you love about non-malignant hematology?

My current mentor always says to know hematology you must know coagulation, immunology and hematopoiesis. I like how in hematology you need to know certain fundamentals but then can reason through many complex diagnostic problems. There isn't usually a straightforward or algorithmic approach to caring for our patients. I like to be able to interface with many other specialties within internal medicine but also surgery, OBGYN and neurology. I think hematology is incredibly translatable between the bedside and the laboratory and the biology of many questions that come up caring for patients is still yet to be completely understood.

3. How have you navigated the process of finding the right mentor to guide your early career as a trainee?

I have been lucky as a hematology fellow at Johns Hopkins to have many supportive mentors and both formal and informal mentorship opportunities. I think surrounding yourself with a team of mentors has been invaluable to me. For example, having mentors at various levels of their own careers can provide you with a full range of advice from more nitty-gritty details and immediate considerations to big picture, long-term goals. Given my interest in translational research in hemostasis and thrombosis, identifying mentors from multiple divisions has also proven incredibly important, and I have a group of mentors from both hematology and pathology.

4. What have been the biggest challenges you faced as a fellow and the things you're most proud of?

I think building a fund of knowledge in a systematic way can be challenging and overwhelming at first transitioning to hematology fellowship. I am most proud that I decided to pursue translational research as a second year fellow. I did not have significant laboratory experience and taking the opportunity in the lab has helped me to better understand not only my career interests but also hemostasis and thrombosis much better.

5. What is one piece of advice you can give fellows to help them become successful hematologists?

I have a couple here...the first thing that came to mind is never miss an opportunity for blood smear review! I think we already touched on the importance of building a network of mentors and for me this group has been truly invaluable. Try to write a fellow-level grant during fellowship. Getting

feedback from my mentors on this process, will definitely serve me in the future and helped me to better understand the process. Lastly, develop a group of peers who are also interested in benign hematology either within your fellowship or through meetings and things like the HTRS fellows network and trainee workshops.

6. If you were not a physician, what profession would you choose, and why?

I would be a botanist or florist. I love plants, flowers and gardening.

HTRS Junior Faculty Spotlight

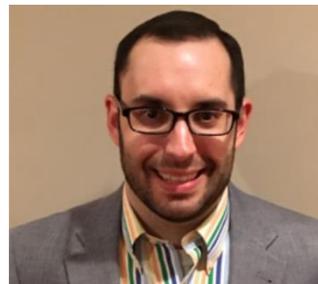
Sol Schulman, MD, PhD

Physician-Scientist

Division of Hemostasis and Thrombosis

Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center

Harvard Medical School



1. Which mentors and experiences (research, training, and/or professional) inspired you to enter the field of non-malignant hematology?

I started MD-PhD training expecting to pursue research in infectious disease, but was uninspired by my first research rotations. I ultimately chose a scientific approach and mentor that I loved, Dr. Tom Rapoport, rather than a specific question. My research was extremely basic and I learned a ton, but kept asking myself how I was going to link my research on bacterial membrane proteins to the human patient. The answer was suddenly clear when a collaborator made the observation that certain classes of bacteria use a

homologue of the vitamin K epoxide reductase (VKOR) to form disulfide bonds in newly synthesized proteins. Together with Weikai Li, then a post doc in Tom's lab, we were able to determine the first structure of a VKOR family member and reconstitute vitamin K dependent disulfide bond formation in vitro.

As the work matured, we sought feedback from Drs. Bruce and Barbara Furie, pioneers of vitamin K biology who coincidentally were situated across the street at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center. I reorganized my thesis committee to realign with my new focus and appointed Bruce, who provided expertise on vitamin K, but more importantly became the career mentor of a physician-scientist I had been seeking. I had the opportunity to present at ISTH in 2009, where I witnessed that non-malignant hematology was a rewarding and exciting clinical outlet synergistic with my research interests. Bruce strongly encouraged me to pursue hematology. I began to accompany Bruce [when](#) possible to clinic, where I was struck by how many interesting patients with apparent bleeding disorders lacked a molecular diagnosis. I wrote an IRB protocol to perform next generation sequencing on these individuals and was fortunate to receive a small award from ASH to support this effort. When I sought to develop skills in genomics, Bruce introduced me to Willem Ouwehand in Cambridge (UK), which was the start of an educational and productive collaboration. Thus, after many years of uncertainty with regards to how (or if?) my disparate clinical and research training might ever intersect, the accidental foray into vitamin K in Tom's lab and interactions with Bruce left me firmly settled on a career in non-malignant hematology by the time I graduated medical school.

During my second year of residency at New York Presbyterian/Weill Cornell Medical Center, I took an elective in benign hematology. From the beginning, I experienced the complexity of caring for patients with thrombotic disorders when treating a postpartum patient with preeclampsia and new strokes, who was found to have antiphospholipid syndrome.

Bruce remains a phenomenal mentor, and Dr. Robert Flaumenhaft has [also](#) emerged as a very important scientific and career mentor. Dr. Ken Bauer has been and remains my primary clinical mentor, and I continue to benefit from ongoing support from Dr. Reed Drews, Dr. Jeff Zwicker, and an all-star team of junior faculty colleagues.

2. What was the biggest challenge(s) you faced as a fellow, and as a junior faculty member? How did you overcome?

A major challenge I encountered as a fellow and continue to perceive as junior faculty relates to self-assessment of one's own progress/productivity. Clinical training is very linear – X months of this, Y months of this, and then you graduate fellowship and sit for a board exam. By contrast, research is unpredictable and often progresses in a non-linear way. When one of your peers is publishing 6 papers a year as a fellow, there is a lot of pressure to keep pace. Be clear about your own objectives and be true to your self, research varies greatly by scientific approach/discipline, even within non-malignant hematology. I learned to (mostly) silence the noise several years ago and have been much happier for it. This helps me to maintain focus on my long-term research objectives and avoid the ever-present temptation to do the next interesting experiment each time a new paper comes out. We can regroup in 5 years to see whether this was in fact good advice or not...

3. What is one piece of advice you can provide fellows to help them become successful hematologists and researchers?

Good mentorship is invaluable – someone who will put your own interests before her or his own, advocate for you, and help you to protect your research effort from expansive clinical responsibilities. You also need a lot of mentors. I find that much of the best advice comes from individuals 3-5 years ahead of where you are, people who have successfully navigated the minefields in front of you and recently enough to recall what they look like. You often learn very different and complementary things than from the full professor types who navigated a different set of obstacles decades ago.

4. What does your typical work week consist of?

I see patients one morning each week in our hemophilia and thrombosis clinical center. The rest of my time is devoted to research - thinking, reading, writing, meeting with and learning in my lab. I always hope that I will find time to do experiments at the bench, though this has become increasingly rare. I also co-direct the hematology course for first year medical students participating in the joint Harvard-MIT Division of Health, Sciences, and Technology track, which is an absolute pleasure because it gives me the opportunity to inspire the next generation of physician-scientists to pursue a career in hematology!

5. If you were not a physician, what profession would you choose, and why?

I would be a backcountry ranger in the national park system. I am a passionate hiker and often wish I could spend more time outside and less time at the computer. I would still be immersed in nature, only at the macroscopic rather than the microscopic level.

Recent High-Impact Articles from CLOT+

We are excited to continue our new collaboration with [CLOT+](#) to provide curated, high-yield hemostasis and thrombosis articles via this newsletter.

For more information and to access the links below, click [HERE](#) to register for free at CLOT+.

[American Society of Hematology 2021 guidelines on the use of anticoagulation for thromboprophylaxis in patients with COVID-19.](#)

Blood Adv. 2021 Feb 9;5(3):872-888. doi:

10.1182/bloodadvances.2020003763. (*Evidence-based guideline*)

[Ventilation/perfusion SPECT for the diagnosis of pulmonary embolism: A systematic review.](#)

J Thromb Haemost. 2020 Nov;18(11):2910-2920. doi: 10.1111/jth.15038. Epub 2020 Aug 31. (*Systematic review*)

[Incidence of Venous Thromboembolism in a Racially Diverse Population of Oklahoma County, Oklahoma.](#)

Thromb Haemost. 2021 Jan 10. doi: 10.1055/s-0040-1722189. (*Original study*)

[Using oral anticoagulants among chronic kidney disease patients to](#)

prevent recurrent venous thromboembolism: A systematic review and meta-analysis.

Thromb Res. 2021 Feb;198:103-114. doi: 10.1016/j.thromres.2020.11.036.
Epub 2020 Dec 2. (*Systematic review*)

Ultra-early tranexamic acid after subarachnoid haemorrhage (ULTRA): a randomised controlled trial.

Lancet. 2021 Jan 9;397(10269):112-118. doi: 10.1016/S0140-6736(20)32518-6. Epub 2020 Dec 23. (*Original study*)

Hemostasis and Thrombosis Research Society

Fellows Network Newsletter

2020/2021 Fellows Network Council Members:

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Anna Parks, MD, University of California, San Francisco, Chair-Elect

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Hana Lim, MD, MS, Weill Cornell Medicine

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