



Prostate Cancer Foundation
Empowering Women in Science

2026

PROSTATE CANCER FOUNDATION

EMPOWERING WOMEN IN SCIENCE FORUM

11th Annual · Held in conjunction with the 33rd Annual PCF Scientific Retreat

Friday, October 2, 2026

Omni La Costa Resort · Carlsbad, California

Curing Together™

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2026

Empowering Women in Science Forum

Omni La Costa Resort · Carlsbad, California

This is a half-day networking event held in conjunction with the PCF Annual Scientific Retreat. All Retreat attendees are highly encouraged to attend and contribute to our shared mission of empowering women in science. Together we will build a supportive network to ensure a strong pipeline of women prostate cancer researchers and clinicians and grow the number of women in STEM leadership positions across all sectors, promote allyship, team build through discussion and social events, overcome barriers, and identify opportunities for further training, mentoring and synergy of women in cancer research and medicine.

AT A GLANCE

Sessions · Poinsettia 2 & 3 · All times U.S. PDT

6:30 AM	Registration Poinsettia Foyer
7:00 AM - 7:45 AM	Breakfast, Coffee and Networking Poinsettia 1
8:00 AM - 8:05 AM	Welcome, Introductions and Vision
8:05 AM - 8:55 AM	Session 1: Keynote Kristen Hege, MD
8:55 AM - 10:05 AM	Session 2: Panel Discussion: How AI is Impacting Equity & the Pipeline of Researchers
10:05 AM - 11:20 AM	Session 3: Panel Discussion: Leadership Styles: What Works and How to Become a Better Leader (Your Way!)
11:20 AM - 11:30 AM	Session 4: Introduction to Students
11:30 AM - 11:35 AM	Session 5: Closing Remarks
11:35 AM - 11:45 AM	Group Picture
11:45 AM - 12:30 PM	Lunch & Networking Orchid Terrace

LOCATIONS: LA COSTA COASTAL EVENTS CENTER

Poinsettia Foyer

Registration

Poinsettia 1

Breakfast, Coffee and Networking

Poinsettia 2 & 3

Forum Sessions

Orchid Terrace

Lunch & Networking

6:30 AM	Registration	Poinsettia Foyer
7:00 AM - 7:45 AM	Breakfast, Coffee and Networking	Poinsettia 1
7:45 AM	Move to Session	Poinsettia 2 & 3
8:00 AM - 8:05 AM	Welcome, Introductions and Vision Andrea Miyahira, PhD · Prostate Cancer Foundation Nour Shobaki, PhD, PharmD · University of Pennsylvania	

SESSION 1 · KEYNOTE

8:05 AM - 8:35 AM

Leadership and Life Lessons from the Pacific Crest Trail**Kristen Hege, MD**

Introduced by Nour Shobaki, PhD, PharmD | University of Pennsylvania

8:35 AM - 8:55 AM Questions**SPEAKER BIOGRAPHY**

Kristen M. Hege, MD, is a seasoned executive and clinician-scientist in biopharma and academia. As former Senior Vice President at Celgene and Bristol Myers Squibb, she spearheaded the development of Abecma, a first-in-class CAR T-cell therapy. Dr. Hege serves on multiple biotech boards and spent nearly 30 years as a Clinical Professor of Medicine at UCSF. A passionate advocate for women in science and medicine, she actively combines leadership development for early career women with her love for wilderness backpacking.

SESSION 2

8:55 AM - 10:05 AM

Panel: How AI is Impacting Equity & the Pipeline of Researchers

Moderator: Sarah Amend, PhD | Johns Hopkins University

Panelists: LaKendria Brown, PhD (Morehouse School of Medicine) · Cornelia Ding, MD, PhD (University of California, San Francisco) · Elisabeth Heath, MD (Mayo Clinic) · Stacy Loeb, MD, PhD (New York University) · Louise Kostos, MBBS (Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre)

SESSION 3

10:05 AM - 11:20 AM

Panel: Leadership Styles: What Works and How to Become a Better Leader (Your Way!)

Moderator: Fatima Karzai, MD | Bethesda, MD

Panelists: Charlotte Bevan, PhD (Imperial College London) · Hala Borno, MD (University of California, San Francisco; Trial Library) · Emily Grist, MBBS, PhD (University College London) · Padmanee Sharma, MD, PhD (MD Anderson Cancer Center)

11:20 AM - 11:30 AM**Session 4: Introduction to Students**

Kathryn O'Connor · MedTech Academy, San Diego
Skye Cooke-Piñon · MedTech Academy, San Diego
Andrea Miyahira, PhD · Prostate Cancer Foundation
MedTech Academy Students

11:30 AM - 11:35 AM**Session 5: Closing Remarks**

Andrea Miyahira, PhD · Prostate Cancer Foundation
Nada Lallous, PhD · Vancouver Prostate Centre

11:35 AM - 11:45 AM Group Picture**11:45 AM - 12:30 PM Lunch & Networking**

Orchid Terrace

12:30 PM · Meeting Adjourned**The 33rd Annual PCF Scientific Retreat begins promptly at 1:00 PM in the Costa Del Sol Ballroom**

Organizing Committee

MEMBERS

Sarah Amend, PhD

Claire Fletcher, PhD

Christina Jamieson, PhD

Salma Kaochar, PhD

Fatima Karzai, MD

Nada Lallous, PhD

Andrea Miyahira, PhD

Ayesha Shafi, PhD

Nour Shobaki, PhD, PharmD

Amina Zoubeydi, PhD

Johns Hopkins University

Imperial College London

University of California, San Diego

Baylor College of Medicine

Bethesda, MD

Vancouver Prostate Centre

Prostate Cancer Foundation

Center for Prostate Disease Research (CPDR); USU Walter Reed Surgery

University of Pennsylvania

Vancouver Prostate Centre

