



Prostate Cancer Foundation
Gender Equity Networking Initiative

2026

PROSTATE CANCER FOUNDATION

GENDER EQUITY NETWORKING INITIATIVE 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

Gender Equity Networking Initiative Forum

Omni La Costa Resort · Carlsbad, California

This is a half-day networking event held in conjunction with the PCF Annual Scientific Retreat, open to all interested individuals of any gender, career level, and discipline, attending the PCF Scientific Retreat. The goals of this event are to build a supportive network of PCF women and allies with the shared goal of achieving gender equity in science and medicine, promote allyship, team build through discussion and social events, ensure a strong pipeline of women prostate cancer researchers and clinicians, and identify opportunities for further training, mentoring and synergy of a stellar network of women prostate cancer researchers and clinicians.

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

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 · University of Pennsylvania	
SESSION 1 · KEYNOTE Leadership and Life Lessons from the Pacific Crest Trail Kristen Hege, MD Introduced by Nour Shobaki, PhD University of Pennsylvania 8:35 AM - 8:55 AM Questions		8:05 AM - 8:55 AM
 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 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)		8:55 AM - 10:05 AM
SESSION 3 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) · Mary Feng, MD (University of California, San Francisco) · Emily Grist, MBBS, PhD (University College London) · Padmanee Sharma, MD, PhD (MD Anderson Cancer Center)		10:05 AM - 11:20 AM
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

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

