



**Midwest Regional Chapter**  
**OF THE SOCIETY OF TOXICOLOGY**

# **2025 Fall Meeting**

**October 10, 2025**



**Schreiber Center, Loyola University Chicago**  
**16 E Pearson St., Chicago, IL 60611**



**LOYOLA**  
**UNIVERSITY CHICAGO**

# Keynote Speakers



Dr. Ronnie Yeager, PhD, DABT, is currently a Research Fellow in Emerging Therapeutic Platforms at AbbVie and a board-certified toxicologist with over 15 years of drug development experience with small and large molecule programs across multiple therapeutic areas.

He is the lead for the matrixed Development Sciences ADC platform team of 10+ cross-functional members, to develop and execute the research strategy in alignment with discovery partners.

Ronnie has supported compound advancement to first-in-human trials and regulatory filings/interactions (US and ex-US), including breakthrough therapy/accelerated approval pathways, through mid-late-stage clinical development.

He is also the Preclinical Safety lead for Emrelis™ (telisotuzumab-vedotin), AbbVie's first FDA approval of an internally developed ADC solid tumor asset (lung cancer).

**Ronnie Yeager, PhD, DABT**  
**Abbvie, Inc.**

## **Implementing Rodent Models for ADC Payload Characterization to Support Discovery Screening and Inform on Preclinical Species Relevance for Translation of Safety Profiles**

While ADCs have been positioned as a powerful approach for more targeted delivery of potent toxic agents (payloads) to tumors, opportunities exist to improve the technology through a fundamental understanding of their current limitations and liabilities. Complexities arise from the interplay of the four key components (target antigen, mAb, linker, and payload).

ADC technology has advanced, yet fundamental platform-level questions and challenges persist, such as characterizing toxicities driven by ADC vs. free payload.

In this talk, we will review case examples of implementing rodent models for ADC payload characterization to support discovery screening and inform on preclinical species relevance for translation of safety profiles. This will focus around 3 primary areas of interest:

1. Recapitulating clinically relevant ADC toxicity in an acute rodent IV infusion model for payloads to increase efficiency/reduce costs within discovery for payload screening.
2. Utilizing infusion models to better understand potential species-specific sensitivities to toxicities.
3. Merit for infusion model to inform on anticipated ADC payload PK exposures respective of SOC/comparator drugs to aid in understanding potential risk:benefit for an ADC approach.



**Gavin Dehnert, PhD**  
**Sea Grant, University of Wisconsin-Madison**

## **Contaminants in the Water: A connection between the environment and wildlife health.**

# Sponsors

We gratefully acknowledge the generous support of our corporate sponsors.



**abbvie**



8:00 – 9:00	Continental Breakfast	SCHR 908
9:00 – 9:15	Welcome and Sponsor Acknowledgements Simon Kaja, PhD - MRC SOT President-Elect Dr. John P. and Therese E. Mulcahy Endowed Professor of Ophthalmology Loyola University Chicago, Stritch School of Medicine	SCHR 201
9:15 – 9:45	Presentations Selected from Abstracts	SCHR 201
9:45 – 10:00	Ocular Toxicity Associated with Particulate Matter Exposure Emily Krupa, BS, PVCert, Loyola University Chicago	SCHR 201
10:00 – 10:45	<b>KEYNOTE 1: ENVIRONMENTAL TOXICOLOGY</b> Contaminants in the Water: A connection between the environment and wildlife health. Gavin Dehnert, PhD, University of Wisconsin- Madison	SCHR 201
10:45 – 11:15	Coffee Break & Networking	SCHR 908
11:15 – 11:35	Does PFAS influence the gene expression response to viral and bacterial challenges in bald eagles ( <i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i> )? Emily Ruhs, PhD, Field Museum of Natural History University of Chicago	SCHR 201
11:35 – 12:00	Toxicity prediction in mice after intraocular gene therapy using machine learning Ying Hsu, PhD, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences, University of Iowa	SCHR 201
12:00 – 1:30	Lunch and Career Tables <i>Join a career table for lunch, meet professionals from diverse fields, and gain insights to help chart your path.</i>	SCHR 908
1:30 – 2:30	<b>KEYNOTE 2: PHARMACEUTICAL TOXICOLOGY</b> Implementing Rodent Models for ADC Payload Characterization to Support Discovery Screening and Inform on Preclinical Species Relevance for Translation of Safety Profiles Ronnie Yeager, PhD, DABT, Abbvie, Inc.	SCHR 201
2:30 – 2:45	Novel Pharmaceutical Strategy Targeting ADC-Associated Corneal Toxicity Bhuvanachandra Pasupuleti, PharmD, MS, Selagine, Inc.	SCHR 201
2:45 – 3:15	Coffee Break & Networking	SCHR 908
3:15 – 3:30	Disproportionality Analysis of PI3K Inhibitor Associated Stomatitis Djamilla Simoens, BS, MEd, PVCert, Loyola University Chicago	SCHR 201
3:30 – 3:45	Pharmacovigilance Analysis of Trastuzumab and Trastuzumab ADCs Nicholas Romero, BS, Loyola University Chicago	SCHR 201
3:45 – 4:00	Farewell	SCHR 201

# How to get here

## Meeting Location

Loyola University Chicago  
Schreiber Center  
16 E Pearson St.  
Chicago, IL 60611

## Parking

There are numerous public parking garages nearby. A convenient option is the garage at One Superior Place (720 N State St.).

You can reserve a discounted parking space at this garage through apps like SpotHero or via the Loyola University Chicago [parking website](#) using their discount code.

