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A Quick Case for Research



The National Science Board of the NSF has released a new two-page document that makes a clear, compelling case for the value of federally funded basic science research. It emphasizes that U.S. competitiveness and security depend on bold, curiosity-driven research that fuels the “*next, next big things*” in critical technologies, as well as investments in growing the domestic STEM workforce by supporting the next generation of scientists, engineers, and technicians. This concise, data-rich resource is ideal for helping policymakers and the public understand why sustained funding for science, including orthopaedic research, is essential. *Winning the Race for the Future* is a policy companion to the report *Discovery: R&D Activity and Research Publications*.

[Read the Companion](#)

The [Advocacy Tip of the Week](#) is produced by Ryan Tomlinson, PhD and Sade Williams Clayton, PhD of the ORS Public Outreach Committee. This regular feature will provide you with quick and simple actions you can take to advocate for and

[REGISTRATION IS OPEN
FOR THE PSRS
SYMPOSIUM](#)

[ARTICLE SUBMISSIONS
FOR JOR SPECIAL ISSUE](#)

[ORS SWEATERS
AVAILABLE](#)

[FIND YOUR NEXT
OPPORTUNITY AT THE
ORS CAREER CENTER](#)

[FIND OR POST EVENTS
ON THE ORTHOPAEDIC
EVENTS CALENDAR](#)

promote scientific research. If you have a tip you would like to contribute, please email ryan.tomlinson@jefferson.edu. [Please let us know if there is anything that you are doing](#) to advocate for science.

Join Us Wednesday for a Webinar on Biostatistics



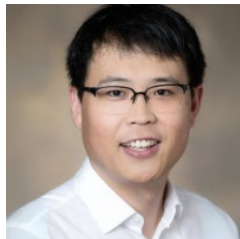
Biostatistics Webinar on Novel Methods in Musculoskeletal Research

This Wednesday, October 29, 2025

12:00 PM - 1:30 PM Central

Rigorous application of biostatistics in reliable clinical research ensures that conclusions drawn are valid, reproducible, and useful for improving care in orthopaedics. Xiaoxiao Sun, PhD, Associate Professor, University of Arizona, and Joel Gagnier, MSc, PhD, Associate Professor, Western University Canada will present on applied biostatistics in orthopaedic studies. They will lead a discussion on propensity score analyses in clinical research and statistical and machine learning approaches for modeling longitudinal multimodal data. Webinars are free for ORS Members.

Speakers:



Xiaoxiao Sun, PhD

Associate Professor

Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics

Mel and Enid Zuckerman College of Public Health

The University of Arizona



Joel Gagnier, MSc, PhD

Associate Professor

Department of Surgery

Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics

Schulich Medicine & Dentistry

Western University Canada

Organized by:



Sonja Pavlesen, MD, MS

Assistant Professor of Orthopaedics and Epidemiology

Department of Orthopaedics

Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences

University at Buffalo



Elizabeth Yanik, PhD, ScM

Assistant Professor

Department of Orthopedic Surgery

School of Medicine and School of Public Health

Washington University in St. Louis

Organized by:

The ORS Strategies in Clinical Research Section

[Register](#)

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Also Coming Soon:

Beyond the Bench: Translating Skeletal Muscle Research with Large Animal Models

Wednesday, November 5, 2025

12:00 PM - 1:00 PM Central

This webinar will discuss the complexities and challenges associated with using various animal models for skeletal muscle research. Leading experts in the field will provide best practices for designing translational studies, leveraging the strengths of different models,

developing new tools and techniques for large animal research, and addressing the limitations that arise when bridging the gap between small and large animal research.

Organized by:

The ORS Preclinical Models Research Section and the ORS Skeletal Muscle Research Section

[Register](#)

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Animal Models of Aging 101: Insights, Limits, and Future Directions

November 12, 2025

12:00 PM - 1:00 PM Central

This webinar will address the challenges of using aging animal models in musculoskeletal research, with the goal of building greater consensus and clarity in the field. We will provide perspectives on knee and spine osteoarthritis, review key literature, discuss how variability in age selection complicates cross-study comparisons, and showcase recent work on senescence and intervertebral disc degeneration. Attendees will learn about the challenges and opportunities that can guide more consistent and impactful study design in preclinical animal models of musculoskeletal research.

Organized by:

The ORS Preclinical Models Research Section

[Register](#)

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Power of Patient Stories in MSK Research Development:

Aligning Innovation with Real-World Needs

Wednesday, November 19, 2025

12:00 PM - 1:00 PM Central

This webinar aims to highlight the vital role of patient advocacy in shaping musculoskeletal research and innovation and will showcase how patient narratives - especially from those living with chronic or complex MSK conditions - can identify overlooked clinical needs, inspire new research directions, and guide more human-centered solutions. Through case studies and a collaborative framework, speakers will demonstrate practical methods for embedding patient perspectives into translational research, clinical trial design, and technology development. We encourage MSK researchers, orthopaedic clinicians, tech transfer professionals, medical device entrepreneurs, patient engagement specialists, and regulatory or funding agency representatives seeking to align innovation with real-world needs to register.

Organized by:

The ORS Innovation Committee

[Register](#)

Nominations for Section Leadership are Due This Wednesday



INTERNATIONAL  SECTION
FRACTURE REPAIR

MENISCUS SECTION

ORTHOPAEDIC **IMPLANTS**

PRECLINICAL **MODELS**

Skeletal *Muscle* Section

Spine } Section

STRATEGIES IN
 CLINICAL RESEARCH

TENDON **SECTION**

Member nominations for Section Leadership are due this Wednesday. ORS Sections have various leadership positions available. This is a great opportunity for Members to get involved and assist in achieving their Section's initiatives. If you are a Section Member and you are interested in nominating yourself or a colleague for a role, please click the button below to fill out the form. If you have more than one nomination, please fill out a form for each. [CLICK HERE](#) for position descriptions. Positions are open to ORS Section Members in good standing.

Positions Available* Include:

- Chair-Elect
- Communications Chair
- Membership Chair
- Secretary
- Treasurer
- Education Chair
- Member-at-Large
- JOR Spine Liaison

**Please note that not all positions are available for all Sections. See the nomination form for details.*

Nominations are due this Wednesday, October 29, 11:59 PM Central.

[Submit Your Nomination](#)

This form is for the nomination of Section Leaders by Section Members. If you are interested in joining a Section, please [CLICK HERE](#).

**The Call for Late-Breaking Abstracts is Open for the
ORS 2026 Annual Meeting**



The call for late-breaking abstracts is open for the ORS 2026 Annual Meeting. The Annual Meeting will take place March 27-31 in Charlotte, NC, and will bring together attendees of all career levels and disciplines to connect and explore the latest innovations in orthopaedics. The theme for the meeting ties in with the enthusiastic racing community in Charlotte - "Driving Research to Fuel Discovery." Don't miss your opportunity to help us shape the content of our organization's most important event. Submit your late-breaking abstract today. **Submissions are due November 10.**

[Submit Your Late-Breaking Abstract](#)

The call for proposals is open for the ***Industry Innovations in MSK Health Session*** which will take place at the ORS 2026 Annual Meeting. Following its successful launch at the 2025 Annual Meeting, this lunch-and-learn educational session will highlight specific technical advancements introduced to the market within the past two years by the orthopaedic industry. We are currently accepting proposals from all industry participants. (This is a separate call for proposals, which will be received and reviewed separately from our general Annual Meeting call for abstracts.) Each accepted proposal will be allocated 10 minutes to present during the session. **Submissions are due November 17.**

[Submit Your Proposal for Industry Innovations](#)

Award Opportunities



The following awards are now open for submissions. Keep an eye on this space in future issues of *ORS Connect*, as we will be updating the opportunities regularly. Please note that all submissions are due at 11:59 PM Central on each listed due date.

The ORS Meniscus Section proudly presents the inaugural [ORS Meniscus Momentum Award](#) to honor a mid-career investigator who has demonstrated impactful research contributions to the meniscus field, as well as excellence in collaboration, mentorship, innovation, and service to the ORS Meniscus Section. **Submissions are due November 10.**

[The ORS Implant Section Travel Scholarship](#) provides up to \$2,000 in support for student attendance at the ORS 2026 Annual Meeting. This award is intended to help offset travel costs for students presenting research relevant to orthopaedic implants. **Submissions are due November 19.**

[ON Foundation/ORS Education Grants](#) provide \$500 to highly motivated and talented early career investigators to attend the ORS 2026 Annual Meeting, March 27-31, in Charlotte, NC. **Submissions are due November 28.**

[The Dr. Peter Roughley Award](#), from the ORS Spine Research Section, provides \$2,000 to support travel for a mentor and trainee team researching spine, disc, and cartilage biology. The award is named in honor of the late Peter Roughley, PhD for his contributions to proteoglycan research and its role in disc and cartilage structure and function. **Submissions are due December 15.**

[The ON Foundation/ORS Orthoregeneration Award](#) provides \$1,000 to a young investigator based on outstanding tissue regeneration research that has been accepted for presentation at the ORS 2026 Annual Meeting. **Submissions are due January 10.**

[The ORS International Section of Fracture Repair \(ISFR\) Lifetime Achievement Award](#)

honors a cutting-edge researcher and/or clinician scientist in the areas of fracture repair, bone regeneration, bone biology, or trauma. **Submissions are due January 12.**

[The ORS International Section of Fracture Repair \(ISFR\) Interdisciplinary Academic Exchange Grant](#)

provides \$5,000 for an ORS ISFR member to visit a research lab to collaborate and exchange knowledge in fracture repair and/or bone regeneration research. **Submissions are due January 12.**

[Read About All Awards](#)

A Successful Young Investigator Initiative



The ORS Young Investigator Initiative (YII) recently took place in Rosemont, IL. This program provided young musculoskeletal researchers with expert guidance on constructing well-founded research proposals and securing funding, and offered one-on-one mentoring sessions. This year's event found 29 participants working with 11 faculty members to explore the best methods for developing strong proposals. Attendee Kaitlin McCreery, PhD of University of Vermont stated, "I have been intimidated to apply for the big grants with my biggest ideas. I feel like I have the confidence and insider knowledge now to give it a shot. Being among ORS researchers and clinician-scientists was also refreshing and a great opportunity." Thanks to all who attended. 2026 YII dates will be announced soon, please keep an eye on *ORS Connect* for more information.

Registration is Open for the PSRS Symposium

Philadelphia Spine Research Society (PSRS) Symposium

Friday, November 7, 2025 | University of Delaware, Newark, DE



The 2025 Philadelphia Spine Research Society (PSRS) Symposium will be held on Friday, November 7, 2025, at the University of Delaware, FinTech Innovation Hub in Newark, DE. This year marks the 20th anniversary of the Philadelphia Spine Research Society's founding. The program will include keynote talks from clinicians, research leaders, scientists, and students. The meeting will cover all areas of spine research, from basic to clinical, and encompass the broad areas of development, pathophysiology, aging, pain, diagnostics, and therapeutics. Registration for the event is open now.

[Register](#)

Article Submissions for JOR Special Issue



The *Journal of Orthopaedic Research (JOR)* has an open call for a special issue:

Tendon from Mechanism to Therapy – Emerging Technologies and Therapeutic Outcomes

This special issue will build on the ORS Tendon Conference 2024 Mechanism to Therapy – Emerging Technologies and Therapeutic Outcomes hosted by Mayo Clinic on May 30-June 1, 2024. The issue will contain perspectives, reviews, and original research papers that developed around the Tendon Conference and recent Tendon Section areas of interest. This issue will serve as a valuable resource for researchers, trainees, and investigators new to tendon research, while also fostering collaborations between experts in the field. The guest editors for this issue will be Anne Gingery, PhD (Mayo Clinic) and Karin Grävare Silbernagel, PT, ATC, PhD, FAPTA (University of Delaware). **The deadline for submissions is December 31, 2025.**

You can submit your article for the special issue via the link below. Be sure to answer “yes” to the question, “Is this submission for a special issue?” Then select "Tendon from Mechanism to Therapy" from the drop-down menu.

[Submit Your Article](#)

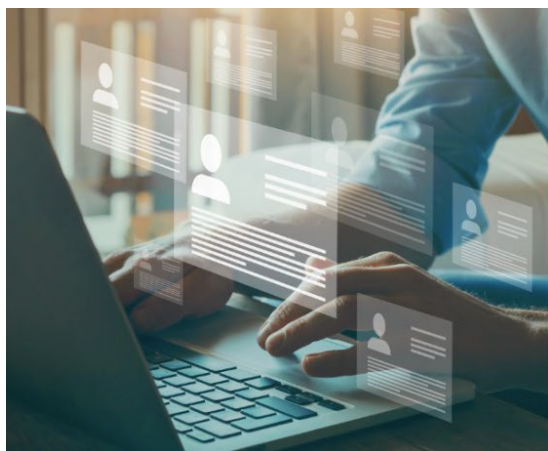
ORS Sweaters Available



This beautiful, blue, cozy 1/4 zip ORS sweater is now available. Perfect for cool evenings, the sweater is also a great way to share your support for the organization and your enthusiasm for musculoskeletal research. You can order your own sweater now via the link below.

[Order Today](#)

Find Your Next Opportunity at the ORS Career Center



ORS Career Center

Search All Locations 
[Advanced Search](#)

Check out the ORS Career Center to post jobs, post a resume, create a profile, find jobs, apply, or sign up for job alerts. The Career Center offers: Career Coaching, Resume Writing, Reference Testing, and a Career Learning Center. Check out this important resource today.

[Visit the ORS Career Center](#)

Find or Post Events
on the Orthopaedic Events Calendar



The Orthopaedic Events Calendar on the ORS website lists events that are of potential interest to those in the orthopaedic community. ORS Members are welcome to submit applicable events at no charge through the Submit Event button at the top of the calendar on the site. This is an excellent opportunity to spread the word about your orthopaedic-related events, ensuring they reach a wider and engaged audience.

[Find or Post Events](#)

Mark Your Calendar!

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November 5, 2025
12:00 PM - 1:00 PM Central

[The 2025 Philadelphia Spine Research Society \(PSRS\) Symposium](#)

November 7, 2025
Newark, DE

[Late-Breaking Abstracts Due for the Annual Meeting](#)

November 10, 2025

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November 19, 2025
12:00 PM - 1:00 PM Central

[Submissions Due for JOR Special Issue: Tendon from Mechanism to Therapy – Emerging Technologies and Therapeutic Outcomes](#)

December 31, 2025

[ORS 2026 Annual Meeting](#)

March 27 - 31, 2026
Charlotte, NC

[Dates, Events, and People in Orthopaedic History](#)

We would like to continue to note important people, dates, and accomplishments in the history of orthopaedics in *ORS Connect*. If you have something or someone that should be recognized, particularly around days, weeks, or months of a specific dedication, please [click here](#) to submit your information.



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