

MUSCLE



MEMO

Quarterly Newsletter

Skeletal Muscle LinkedIn

Message from the Chair

It's a pleasure to share our inaugural **ORS Skeletal Muscle Quarterly Newsletter** and to highlight the exceptional work taking place across our Muscle Research community. We are excited to join the Research Sections at ORS as the newest **Skeletal Muscle Section**. We appreciate everyone's continued support for our section and building on this momentum to highlight the interdisciplinary nature of orthopaedic research. In this inaugural year, we are poised to grow in size, scientific impact, and collaborative research.

As we approach the upcoming [ORS 2026 Annual Meeting](#), I encourage each of you to stay engaged and foster connections with colleagues across disciplines. Our field thrives when we bring together diverse perspectives with basic science, clinical research, and engineering approaches to solve difficult challenges in musculoskeletal health. Muscle research, in particular, benefits from cross-disciplinary collaborations, demonstrating the interwoven nature of our field with bone, tendon, and nerves. I am grateful for everyone's continued dedication and look forward to a productive and inspiring year.

Michael J. McClure, PhD
Section Chair

Associate Professor
Department of Biomedical Engineering
Department of Orthopaedic Surgery Institute for Engineering and
Medicine Virginia Commonwealth University



Meet Our Other Section Officers



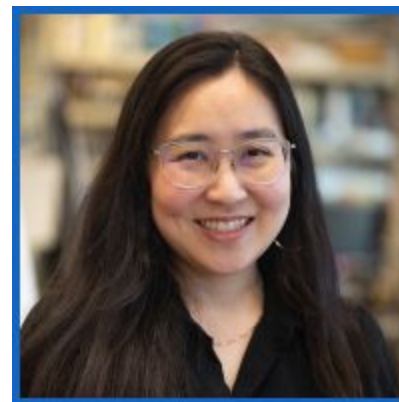
Hongshuai Li, MD, PhD
Chair Elect

Associate Professor
Orthopedics and Rehabilitation
University of Iowa



Koyal Garg, PhD
Treasurer

Associate Professor of
Biomedical Engineering
Saint Louis University



Karina Nakayama, PhD
Secretary

Dept of Biomedical Engineering
Oregon Health & Science
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Sarah Greising, PhD
Membership Chair

Associate Professor
School of Kinesiology
University of Minnesota



Woojin Han, PhD
Research Education Chair

Associate Professor
Orthopaedics
Icahn School of Medicine at
Mount Sinai



Francesco Pegreffi, PhD
Member-at-Large

Dept of Medicine & Surgery
University Kore of Enna (UKE)

Skeletal Muscle at the ORS 2026 Annual Meeting



Research Interest Group

On Sunday, March 29, 2026 from 5:30 - 6:30 PM EST, we are excited to present a Research Interest Group (RIG) titled *"Breakthrough Biomaterials for Functional Skeletal Muscle Regeneration Following Trauma."* Severe skeletal muscle injuries, such as volumetric muscle loss, present a complex clinical challenge requiring comprehensive and multifaceted approaches to healing.

Organized by the ORS Skeletal Muscle Section Leadership Committee, this year's RIG examines recent advances in biomaterial therapies targeting multiple dimensions of these injuries. Leading scientists **George Christ, PhD, Warren Grayson, PhD, and Kaitlyn Sadtler, PhD** highlight their important advances and future directions utilizing biomaterials for functional recovery, neuromuscular regeneration, and regulation of autoimmunity following trauma.

[Attend Skeletal Muscle RIG](#)

Networking Event



Join us on Saturday, March 28, 2026, from 7:30 - 9.00 PM EST at [Fin and Fino](#) for our first section networking event. A short five minute walk from the Charlotte Convention Center, we are thrilled to kick off our inaugural year as a Section with some amazing food, beverages, and collaboration. Let's celebrate the journey and look ahead to outstanding future research.

Webinar Recap

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

PRESENTED BY
LearnORS

SPEAKERS

ORGANIZERS

Sarah Greising, PhD Christopher Fry, PhD Dongsheng Duan, PhD Annette McCoy, PhD Koyal Garg, PhD Alex Reiter, PhD

On November 5, 2025, Skeletal Muscle, in collaboration with the Preclinical Models Section, hosted the *"Beyond the Bench: Translating Skeletal Muscle Research with Large Animal Models."* This session was organized by **Koyal Garg, PhD**, alongside her colleagues **Alex Reiter, PhD**, and **Annette McCoy, DVM, MS, PhD, DACVS**.

A distinguished panel of experts - including **Sarah Greising, PhD, Christopher Fry, PhD, Dongsheng Duan, PhD, and Annette McCoy, DVM, MS, PhD, DACVS** - highlighted the best practices for leveraging porcine, canine, and equine models in skeletal muscle research. Discussions spanned key translational challenges, from volumetric muscle loss and ACL injury recovery to Duchenne muscular dystrophy and the biomechanics of growth and exercise. The session was a resounding success, earning high post-event survey ratings and enthusiastic feedback from attendees.

[Watch the Recording](#)



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