

**UCSD/UCLA**  
**Diabetes Research Center**

**2026 Retreat**

*Wednesday, April 29, 2026*

*9AM – 5PM*

**Sanford Consortium for Regenerative Medicine  
La Jolla**

*Keynote speaker*

Joseph Bass, MD, PhD

Northwestern University



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## OPENING ADDRESS

**9:00 AM**      **Welcome and Introduction - DRC Director Dr. Alan Saltiel**

**9:10 AM**      **Andrea Hevener, PhD**  
*UCLA*  
“Metabolic Resilience - Lessons from MoTrPAC”

## 2026 PILOT AND FEASIBILITY AWARDEE TALKS

**10:10 AM**      **Graham McVicker, PhD**  
*Salk Institute*  
“Interrogating regulatory function of T1D risk variants with massively parallel reporter assays and single-cell QTLs”

**10:30 AM**      **Claudio Villanueva, PhD**  
*UCLA*  
“Translational Control of Adipose Tissue Plasticity in Metabolic Stress”

**10:50 AM**      **Coffee Break**

**11:00 AM**      **Panel Discussion**  
“Strategies for survival in academic medicine in 2026”  
Moderator: Alan Saltiel  
Panelists: Andrea Hevener (UCLA), Peter Tontonoz (UCLA), Joseph Bass (Northwestern) and John Carrethers (UCSD)

**12:00 PM**      **Lunch**

**1:30 PM**      **Hosung Bae, PhD**  
*UC Irvine*  
“Unveiling Organ Crosstalk in Diabetes via Circulating Metabolite Exchange at the Whole-Body Level”

**1:50 PM**      **Enchen Zhou, PhD**  
*UCSD*  
“Intestinal liver X receptor a/b knockout alleviates diet-induced obesity and hepatic steatosis”

## KEYNOTE ADDRESS

**2:30 PM**      **Introduction: DRC Co-director Peter Tontonoz, MD, PhD**

**Joseph Bass, MD, PhD**

*Charles F. Kettering Professor of Medicine*

*Chief of the Division of Endocrinology, Metabolism and Molecular Medicine*

*Department of Medicine of Feinberg School of Medicine  
Northwestern University*

“Circadian Bioenergetics and RNA Therapeutics”

**3:30 PM**      **Poster Session and Reception**