

Save the Date Experience

To commemorate the 25th anniversary of the Dorothy M. Davis Heart & Lung Research Institute (DHLRI), Ohio State delivered a deeply personalized, multi-touch stewardship experience honoring the Davis Foundation’s transformational \$10M founding gift. Recognizing the Foundation’s long-standing partnership and preference for meaningful engagement over traditional recognition, the strategy centered on experience, symbolism, and customization



Invitation

The formal event invitation was designed as a trifold, with red text enhanced through foiling to elevate the overall presentation. Vessel imagery was rendered with a raised, three-dimensional texture, allowing invitees to both see and physically feel aspects of the experience before the event. Invitees selected from three laboratory explorations as part of the RSVP process, with responses sent directly to our team to enable a high-touch, personalized engagement.



Join us in celebrating 25 years of pioneering research, innovation and collaboration in heart and lung science — help us look ahead to a future filled with discovery and transformative breakthroughs.

**October 15, 2025
6 p.m.**

Dorothy M. Davis
Heart and Lung Research Institute

473 W. 12th Ave.
Columbus, OH 43210

*Business attire
Complimentary valet parking*

RSVP
By September 30
to Ashley Russell at
russell.1732@osu.edu

To opt out of receiving future fundraising communications, please email your name and mailing address to annualgiving@osumc.edu or call 866-291-9990.

LAB EXPLORATIONS

Personalized Drug Discovery for Cardiometabolic Disease

Session Lead: Wandí Zhu, PhD

Heart disease doesn't affect everyone the same way — and Dr. Wandí Zhu's lab is uncovering why. Her team is leading a patient-informed approach to drug discovery, using real-world health data, genetics and deep profiling of human blood cells to identify hidden subtypes of cardiometabolic disease. Their focus? Preventing life-threatening heart complications like blood clots, inflammation and arrhythmias before they start.

By combining cutting-edge tools like blood “vessel-on-a-chip” systems and zebrafish models, Dr. Zhu's lab is validating new therapeutic targets that could lead to more personalized, effective treatments. This session offers a rare look into how your support is helping to transform heart care — from one-size-fits-all solutions to precision therapies tailored to each patient's biology.

Cellular Clues: Unlocking Lung Aging and Disease

Session Leads: Ana Mora, MD, and Mauricio Rojas, MD

Drs. Ana Mora and Mauricio Rojas are leading groundbreaking research at The Ohio State University to uncover how aging impacts the lungs and immune system — critical players in diseases like pulmonary fibrosis. Their work focuses on understanding aging at the cellular level, where changes in genes, proteins and organelles can drive disease. By studying

human tissues and using advanced molecular tools, their lab is identifying new therapeutic targets that could lead to innovative treatments. Fueled by a shared passion for discovery, their team is not only advancing science but also training the next generation of researchers through programs supported by the National Institutes of Health. Their ultimate goal: to help people live longer, healthier lives by tackling the root causes of age-related lung disease.

Healing Through Innovation: Transforming Lives with Medical Technology

Session Leads: Mahmood Khan, PhD, and Bryan Tillman, MD

From restoring damaged hearts to revolutionizing vascular surgery, this session showcases bold ideas and cutting-edge technology that are transforming patient care.

Dr. Mahmood Khan's lab is pioneering regenerative therapies using stem cells, exosomes and nanofiber cardiac patches to heal the heart after injury. His team is also identifying biomarkers that could reshape how we diagnose and treat cardiovascular disease.

Joining him is Dr. Bryan Tillman, a vascular surgeon whose invention — a retrievable rescue stent — is changing how surgeons operate on major arteries. Designed to avoid complications caused by traditional clamps, this stent allows blood flow to continue during surgery and can be removed just as easily as it's inserted. It's now being explored for use in organ donation, battlefield trauma and targeted drug delivery.



THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

Confirmation Touchpoint

All attendees received a confirmation package featuring a heart or lung pin, selected to reflect either their laboratory exploration or personal affinity. Each pin was presented in a black box tied with a branded ribbon and couriered to attendees’ residences prior to the event. Guests wore their pins during the event and have since continued to wear them on other occasions, extending the experience well beyond the evening itself.



We are excited to have you join us at the DHLRI’s 25th anniversary celebration. Thank you for being part of our journey.

Please accept and wear this lapel pin as a mark of your support and pride on 25 years of groundbreaking heart and lung research.

**DHLRI 25th
Anniversary Celebration**
October 15, 2025
6-8 p.m.

Dorothy M. Davis Heart and Lung
Research Institute
473 W. 12th Ave.
Columbus, OH 43210



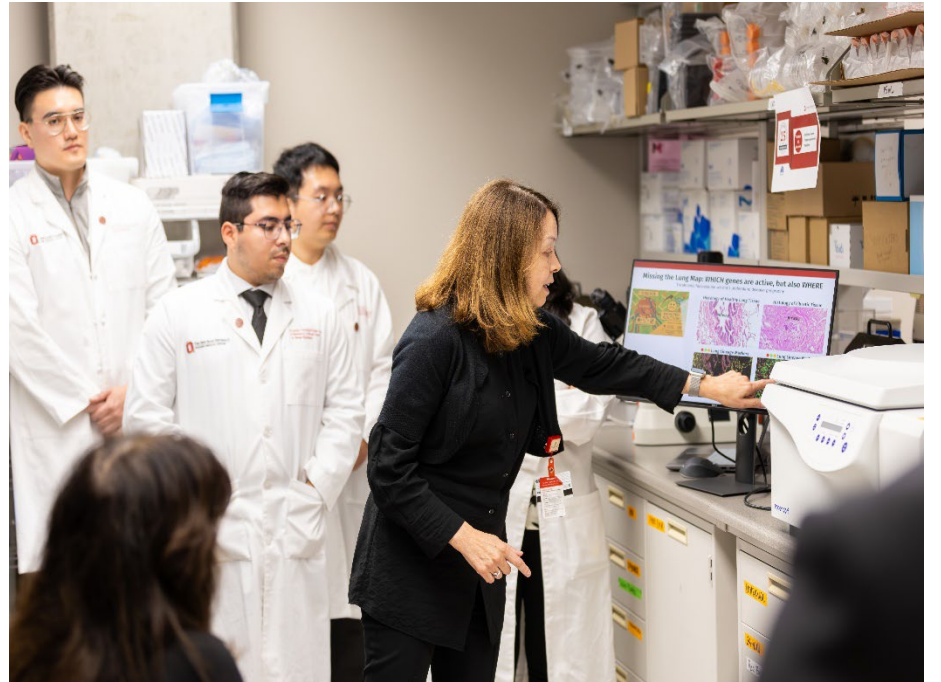
Welcome Experience

Upon arrival, guests were greeted by Ohio State's mascot, Brutus Buckeye, dressed in a custom white lab coat an unexpected and playful welcome that immediately set the tone. Inside, a curated medical artifact exhibit, featuring historic devices on loan from the campus medical heritage museum, showcased the evolution of medicine and placed today's breakthroughs in historical context. Beverage napkins also have fun facts about the institute that highlighted milestone moments over the last 25 years.



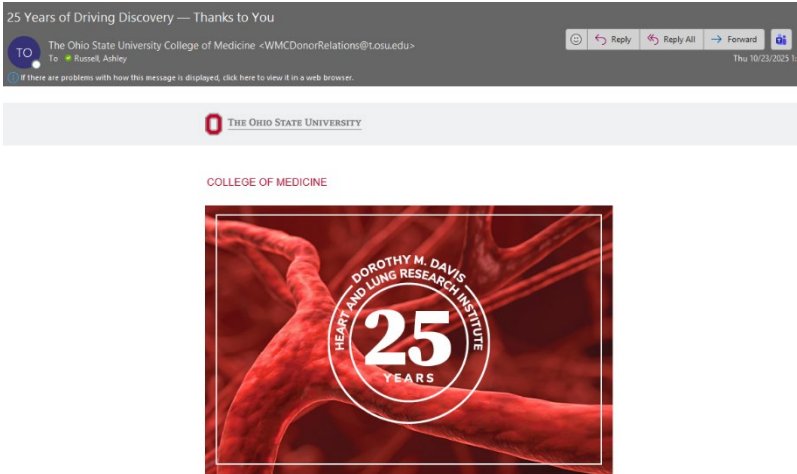
Lab Explorations

Each attendee had the opportunity following the formal program to visit with a select researcher and their team to experience hands on the work being done thanks in part to philanthropic support. In addition, a principal gift donor family expressed interest in bringing their children, we created a parallel, age-appropriate lab experience. The children wore lab attire conducted hands-on experiments with researchers and received personalized mini white coats and a note from the institute's director sharing they maybe future researchers in the family.



Continuing the impact

Post-event engagement extended the tiered experience. Founding donors received a personalized message from the Institute Director with an exclusive preview of the impact report that deployed the following day. Key donors received individualized follow-up from the Hospital CEO, Institute Director, and other senior leaders ensuring continuity, personalization, and meaningful stewardship.



Ashley,

This year marks the 25th anniversary of The Dorothy M. Davis Heart and Lung Research Institute — a milestone made possible by your generosity. Whether your support came early or more recently in our journey, you are part of a remarkable community that has fueled breakthroughs, advanced treatments and helped save lives.

That kind of impact is worth celebrating, which is why we have prepared a special **25-year impact report** to highlight the difference you have made. Please take a moment to read it and to reflect on our partnership — by standing with us and believing in the power of science you are helping shape a future where heart, vascular and lung diseases are not just treated, but also prevented and cured.

Thank you for helping us drive discoveries.

See your impact

Thomas Hund, PhD
Director, Dorothy M. Davis Heart and Lung Research Institute
Professor of Biomedical Engineering
William D. and Jacquelyn L. Wells Chair at the Dorothy M. Davis Heart and Lung Research Institute



The Dorothy M. Davis Heart & Lung Research Institute (DHLRI) opened 25 years ago. From the start, we were one of the largest and most comprehensive institutes in the country devoted to cardiovascular, pulmonary, renal and metabolic disease. Thanks to you, our growth has been exponential. On this quarter-century anniversary, as we celebrate the DHLRI's impact we also celebrate yours. **Because you made it all possible.**

This report includes a few highlights of the people, work and places you have supported, and how they have contributed to improving patient lives.



Research Breakthroughs, improving outcomes

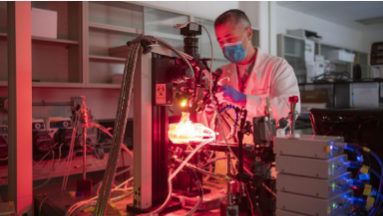
Research saves lives. It provides the foundation for understanding diseases and developing diagnostics and treatments that improve patient outcomes. It enhances personalized interventions and care as well as public health. These are a few examples of the breakthroughs you have helped advance in the last 25 years.



Regenerating damaged heart muscle to prevent congestive failure
Mahmood Khan, MPharm, PhD, and team have developed a biodegradable nanofiber "patch" seeded with stem cells that beat like healthy heart cells. When applied to the heart after heart attack, the patch enhances the retention and survival of



Decoding electrical signals for better therapeutic targeting
Not everyone with the same disease should be treated the same. Wandu Zhu, PhD, and team study how electrical signals at the cellular level influence health and disease, including thrombosis and cardiac arrhythmias. They use human samples and zebrafish models to understand how electrical



Pinpointing problem areas in the heart to personalize treatment
Vadim Fedorov, PhD, and team have perfected an imaging technique that reveals an unprecedented level of detail of the heart — 40,000 recordings vs 200 with current clinical imaging. John Hummel, MD, has used this 3D imaging to target ablations to treat AFib, nearly doubling the national average