

## **Research Day 2026 Breakout Sessions**

### **1. Research with ROI – Navigating Entrepreneurship in Academia**

#### **Description:**

Beyond publication, entrepreneurship offers a powerful avenue for faculty to amplify the impact of their medical and scientific discoveries. This breakout session provides a candid look at the entrepreneurial process through the lens of recent faculty case studies, highlighting common pitfalls and best practices. Attendees will also learn about state-level funding and resources designed to help academic innovators bring their products to market.

#### **Presenter:**

Jeffrey A. Jamison, Ph.D., Innovation Partnerships

#### **Time & Location:**

12:00–1:00 PM, Classroom 112

### **2. AI Outbreak – The Prompt Lab Challenge**

#### **Description:**

Curious how generative AI can support medical education—responsibly? Join the AI Governance Team for an interactive drop-in challenge during Research Day. Participants will design creative, medical education–relevant AI prompts and see their results tested live. Prompts will be scored on creativity, effectiveness, relevance, and prompt technique.

This session will showcase practical AI applications, reinforce WMed guidance, and provide space for discussion about the future of AI in medical education.

#### **Presenters:**

Mike Fusko, Chief Information Officer & Senior Director, Information Technology  
Sarah Katherine Gerger (She/Her/Hers), IT Project Manager, Information Technology

#### **Time & Location:**

12:00–1:00 PM, Classroom 110

### **3. Surgical Sciences Department – Preparing for Residency Applications**

#### **Description:**

This workshop provides an overview of the requirements for applying to surgical residency programs, including General Surgery, OB/GYN, and Orthopedic Surgery, with a focus on helping medical students prepare competitive applications. Topics include key components such as academic performance, research, letters of recommendation, clinical experiences, and mentorship.

The session will also cover the interview process for surgical subspecialties, offering guidance on what to expect and how to prepare effectively for each stage.

Presenter:

Gitonga Munene, MD, Chair of Surgical Sciences  
PJ Schenarts, MD, Associate Dean for Faculty Affairs

Time & Location:

12:00–1:00 PM, TBL Hall 1