43rd ANNUAL SCIENTIFIC SESSION of the ROMANIAN SOCIETY FOR CELL BIOLOGY,

SEPTEMBER 16-18, 2026, CLUJ-NAPOCA

CONFERENCE PROGRAM

DAY 1 • WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2026

CREIC – Regional Excellence Center for Creative Industries, Tiberiu Popoviciu Str. No. 2–4, Cluj-Napoca

8:30-9:00	REGISTRATION (Floor 3)
	FLOOR 3, ROOM 3
09:00–9:40 Opening Ceremony	Prof. dr. Daniel DAVID, Rector, "Babeș-Bolyai" University
	Acad. Maya SIMIONESCU, President of the Romanian Society for Cell Biology
	Prof. dr. Manuela BANCIU, Dean, Faculty of Medical and Health Sciences
09:40–9:50	COFFEE BREAK
9:50–10:30	★ INVITED SPEAKER | Raymond Schiffelers, UMC Utrecht, NL – Delivery of nucleic acids for immune therapy of cancer
10:30–10:35	Q&A
10:35–11:05	★ INVITED SPEAKER | **Loredana Săveanu**, Bichat Medical School, FR, New factors involved in the activation of immunoglobulin G receptors
11:05–11:10	Q&A
11:10–11:30	◆ Sponsor Session – Alexandra Livescu, PhD - Sales Director Life Sciences, Veterinary Diagnostics and Food Satefy - Dialab Solutions - An Overview of Droplet Digital PCR – Benefits, Advances, Applications
	Special session: Nanomedicine & Cellular Reprogramming in Cancer and Cardiovascular Disease, Chairman: Acad. Maya Simionescu
11:30–11:45	Laura Pătraș, Nanomedicine group, Faculty of Biology and Geology, UBB Cluj-Napoca, RO, Decoding extracellular vesicle biology in cancer: from tumor progression to immune reprogramming and EV-based therapeutics
11:45–12:05	Manuela Călin, ICBP "N. Simionescu", Bucharest, RO, Targeted Nanoparticle Delivery of RNA Therapeutics in Aortic Valve Disease
12:05–12:20	Alina Sesărman, Nanomedicine group, Faculty of Medical and Health Sciences, UBB Cluj-Napoca, RO, Adaptive reprogramming following doxorubicin-induced growth arrest in melanoma spheroids
12:20–12:50	★ INVITED SPEAKER | **Adrian Apetri**, Johnson & Johnson, NL, Untang(o)ling Alzheimer's Disease – Anti-Tau antibody discovery and optimization
12:50–12:55	Q&A
12:55–13:15	◆ Sponsor Session – Adrain Crețu, ELTA 90 MR - The clinical importance of WES and WGS testing in identifying genetic diseases, using Illumina sequencing technology
13:15–14:30	LUNCH BREAK , FLOOR 4, ROOM 3+4
14:30–14:45	◆ Sponsor Session – Accela s.r.o. – Irina –Valentina Cojocaru, Cytek Spectral technology, full spectrum flow cytometry and sorting, FLOOR 3, ROOM 3
14:45–15:00	◆ Sponsor Session – Bio Zyme, FLOOR 3, ROOM 3

⇄ 15:00–16:30 PARALLEL SESSIONS

▣ ROOM 3 FLOOR 3 • DRUG TARGETING AND CELL THERAPIES,
Session Chairs: Manuela Călin, Anca Gafencu

1. Gabriela Tanko et al., Institute of Cellular Biology and Pathology 'Nicolae Simionescu' of the Romanian Academy, An integrated FIJI–R workflow for quantifying differences in actin organization across experimental conditions (online) link: https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81368840000?pwd=8ONvagt1qbQ2UE0pwA8VrZhD6yQe1B.1

2. Adrian Bogdan Tigu et al., Department of Personalized Medicine and Rare Diseases, MEDFUTURE Institute for Biomedical Research, "Iuliu Haţieganu" University of Medicine and Pharmacy, Cluj-Napoca, Romania, Proteasome inhibitors and modulators Enhance CAR-T and Zilovertamab Efficacy against ROR1 in Mantle Cell Lymphoma

3. Ximena Maria Muresan et al., Department of Personalized Medicine and Rare Diseases, MEDFUTURE Institute for Biomedical Research, "Iuliu Haţieganu" University of Medicine and Pharmacy, Cluj-Napoca, Romania, Differential response of invasive lobular and ductal breast carcinomas to tamoxifen

4. Giorgiana-Gabriela Negrea et al., Nanomedicine group, Faculty of Biology and Geology, Babes-Bolyai University, Republicii street 400015, Cluj-Napoca, Romania, Simvastatin reprograms lipid metabolism in B16.F10 melanoma cells to favor an early resistant phenotype

5. Valentin Rauca et al., Nanomedicine group, Faculty of Biology and Geology, Babeș-Bolyai University, Cluj-Napoca, Romania, Immunomodulation of melanoma by combined PD-L1 blockade and curcumin-loaded extracellular vesicles

▣ ROOM 2, FLOOR 4 • EMERGING TOPICS IN MICROBIOLOGY RESEARCH & International Day of the Microorganisms
Session Chairs: Iasmina Moza, Mădălina Ghetu

1. Diana-Georgiana Chirpac et al., Department of Botany and Microbiology, University of Bucharest, Splaiul Independenței 91-95, Applied Mycology and Biology Investigations Research Center, Moza Foundation, Cetatea Histria no. 1, Bucharest, Romania, Microbial diversity in cow's milk and cheese produced using animal and plant rennet

2. Mihai-Alexandru Ioana et al, Department of Botany and Microbiology, University of Bucharest, Splaiul Independenței 91-95, Applied Mycology and Biology Investigations Research Center, Moza Foundation, Cetatea Histria no. 1, Bucharest, Romania, Airborne microbiota in Bucharest subway transportation systems

3. Sabina Ioana Petrescu, Department of Botany and Microbiology, University of Bucharest, Splaiul Independenței 91-95, Applied Mycology and Biology Investigations Research Center, Moza Foundation, Cetatea Histria no. 1, Bucharest, Romania, Cultivable microbiota of Dâmbovița – an urban river in Bucharest

4. Alexandra-Ionela Fintoiu et al., Department of Botany and Microbiology, University of Bucharest, Splaiul Independenței 91-95, Bucharest, Romania, Hands That Learn: Skin Microbiota in Schools and Its Implications for Public Health

5. Alexia Maria Stan et al., Department of Botany and Microbiology, Faculty of Biology, University of Bucharest, Splaiul Independenței 91-95, zip 050095, District 5, Bucharest, Romania, Characterization of cutaneous microbiota associated with companion animals

16:30–17:00	Multiple myeloma updates, Ioana Rus, Oncology Institute ,,Ion Chiricuță" Cluj-Napoca, Romania (FLOOR 3, ROOM 3)
17:00-18:00	COFFEE BREAK & POSTER SESSION*(no. 1-11) (FLOOR 4, ROOM 3+4)
18:00–20:00	✦ WELCOME COCKTAIL (FLOOR 4, ROOM 3+4)

DAY 2 • THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2026

CREIC – Regional Excellence Center for Creative Industries, Tiberiu Popoviciu Str. No. 2–4, Cluj-Napoca

ROOM 3, FLOOR 3	
09:00–10:00	General Assembly (RSCB Members)
10:00–10:25	COFFEE BREAK
10:25–11:05	★ INVITED SPEAKER | Michael Ladomery, UWE Bristol, UK, The RNA Revolution: From Niche Science to Mainstream Medicine
11:05–11:10	Q&A
11:10–11:40	★ INVITED SPEAKER | Gabriel Ichim, Beyond shape and energy: leading-edge mitochondrial asymmetry and calcium-ROS signaling drive cancer cell invasion
11:40–11:45	Q&A
11:45–11:55	◆ Sponsor Session – Wellistic
11:55–12:25	★ INVITED SPEAKER | Denisa-Gabriela Hathazi – Selective neuronal vulnerability in iPSC models of mitochondrial disease
12:25–12:30	Q&A
12:30–12:45	◆ Sponsor Session – Carl Zeiss – Cicerone Tudor, Two Scales, One Model: Volumetric Light-Field Overview Meets Targeted High-Resolution Imaging
12:45–14:00	LUNCH BREAK (FLOOR 4, ROOM 3+4)
14:00–14:10	◆ Sponsor Session – Decorias Expert Laboratory Supplier, Alina Roșu, Soluții avansate pentru cercetare biomedicală și dezvoltarea terapiilor inovatoare
14:10–14:25	◆ Sponsor Session –Biomedica Medizinprodukte Romania SRL, Stephan McGoldrick, Spatial Biology Workflow from morphology to functional analysis

⇄ 14:25–16:05 PARALLEL SESSIONS

▣ ROOM 2, FLOOR 4 • MOLECULAR BIOLOGY AND BIOCHEMISTRY

Session Chairs: Loredan Niculescu, Vlad-Al. Toma

1. Ana Maria Văcaru et al., Institute of Cellular Biology and Pathology 'Nicolae Simionescu' of the Romanian Academy, β-cells Dysfunction Associates with Activation of a Stressed UPR

2. Aloyma Veliz Perez et al., Molecular Biology Development Neuroscience, Transilvania University of Brasov, Romania, Investigation of RGC survival and axonal regeneration in optic nerve crush model using ret neurotrophic receptor KO mice

3. Gisselle Fernandez et al., Molecular Biology Development Neuroscience, Transilvania University of Brasov, Romania, Clinical scoring and histopathological changes associated with EAE progression in RGC32-genetically modified mice

4. Diana Roman-Pepine et al., Anatomy and Embryology, Department, Morpho-functional Sciences, Faculty of Medicine, „Iuliu Haţieganu" University of Medicine and Pharmacy, Cluj-Napoca, Romania, Abdominal Aortic Ligation as a Model of Chronic Heart Failure in Rats: Functional, Biochemical, and Ultrastructural Effects of IL-6 Receptor Blockade with Tocilizumab

5. Stefan Mihai Dragan et al., Nanomedicine group, Doctoral School in Integrative Biology, Faculty of Biology and Geology, "Babes-Bolyai" University, Cluj-Napoca, Romania, Extracellular vesicles derived from activated dendritic cells loaded with curcumin and their role in modulating CD8+ T lymphocyte activity

6. Madalina Nistor et al., "Iuliu Haţieganu" University of Medicine and Pharmacy, Department of Personalized Medicine and Rare Diseases MEDFUTURE - Institute of Biomedical Research, Cluj-Napoca, Romania, Serum proteomic profiling reveals a fibroblast-activation signature in IgG4-related disease

7. Darius Daniel Rus et al., Nanomedicine group, Doctoral School in Integrative Biology, Faculty of Biology and Geology, "Babes-Bolyai" University, Cluj-Napoca, Romania, Structural insights in small hemoproteins glycation

▣ ROOM 3, FLOOR 3 • PH.D. STUDENTS SESSION

Session Chairs: Bogdan Ţigu, Elena Butoi

1. Laura-Maria Daian et al., Institute of Cellular Biology and Pathology "N. Simionescu", Bucharest, Romania, Adaptive Unfolded Protein Response Enhances Pancreatic β-cell Function Following Increased Insulin Demand

2. Roxana Maria Decea et al., Department of Physiology, "Iuliu Haţieganu" University of Medicine and Pharmacy, Clinicilor 1, 400006 Cluj-Napoca, Romania, Rutin-phytoreduced gold nanoparticles improve hepatic redox balance and downmodulate TGF-β signaling in experimental liver fibrosis

3. Mădălina Moldovan et al., Department of Anatomy and Embryology, Iuliu Hatieganu University of Medicine and Pharmacy, Cluj-Napoca, Romania, Neuroprotective effects of allopurinol in menopausal repeated mild traumatic brain injury despite systemic oxidative stress

4. Catalina-Elena Constantin et al., Department of Microbiology and Immunology, Faculty of Biology, University of Bucharest, 030018 Bucharest, Romania, Green-synthesized ZnO nanoparticles as effective antimicrobial agents against planktonic and biofilm Escherichia coli cells for food industry applications

5. Maria Iasmina Moza, Department of Botany and Microbiology, Faculty of Biology, Applied Mycology and Biology Investigations Research Center, Moza Foundation, University of Bucharest, Romania, A multi-criteria approach to wood biodeterioration

6. Denisa Doboş et al., Department of Molecular Biology and Biotechnology, Faculty of Biology and Geology, „Babes-Bolyai" University, Department of Genetics, Genomics and Experimental Pathology, The Oncology Institute "Prof. Dr. Ion Chiricuta", Cluj-Napoca, Romania, Rethinking platinum therapy: NSAID-conjugates in triple negative breast cancer

7. Ilie Ovidiu Pavel et al., Doctoral School in Integrative Biology, Faculty of Biology and Geology, Babes-Bolyai University, 44 Republicii street 400015, Cluj-Napoca, Romania, Stromal Fibroblasts Reprogram Melanoma Transcriptional Networks to Confer Adaptive Chemoresistance in a 3D Tumor Microenvironment Model

8. Claudia Moldoveanu et al., Doctoral School in Integrative Biology, Faculty of Biology and Geology, "Babes-Bolyai" University, Institute of Biological Research, Cluj-Napoca, Romania, Effects of acetyl-L-carnitine on vascular metabolism and remodeling in experimental type 1 diabetes

9. Andrei-Nicolae Jolobai et al., Department of Surgery-Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery, "Iuliu Haţieganu" University of Medicine and Pharmacy, Cluj-Napoca, Romania, Evaluating the therapeutic potential of adjuvant methylene blue-photodynamic therapy on Achilles tendon healing in Wistar rats

10. Alexandra-Maria Nuţu et al., Doctoral School in Integrative Biology, Faculty of Biology and Geology, "Babes-Bolyai" University, Institute of Biological Research, Cluj-Napoca, Romania, Type 1 diabetes and neurodegeneration

16:05–17:20	**COFFEE BREAK & POSTER SESSION* (no. 12-21) (FLOOR 4, ROOM 3+4)**
19:00	**✦ CLOSING CEREMONY, AWARDS & GALA DINNER – Clujana Festa, Tăbăcarilor Str. No. 15C**

*POSTER SESSION – ABSTRACT TITLES

1. Vatamanu Sergiu Marian, Institute of Cellular Biology and Pathology "Nicolae Simionescu", Bucharest, Romania, Production and characterization of a vascular decellularized extracellular matrix with potential use as bioink

2. Paul-Ştefan Panaitescu et al., Department of Microbiology, "Iuliu Hatieganu" University of Medicine and Pharmacy, 400349 Cluj-Napoca, Romania, The impact of atherosclerotic-dose TMAO on brain redox imbalances, inflammation, neurodegeneration and motor function in MPTP Parkinson's disease model

3. Elena Mirela Lamba et al., Translational Research Laboratory of Cellular Stress and Adaptation, Institute of Cellular Biology and Pathology "Nicolae Simionescu", Bucharest, Romania, Modulation of metabolic-immune axis delays diabetes onset in NOD mice

4. Jessica I. C. Hărătău et al., Lipidomics Laboratory, Institute of Cellular Biology and Pathology "Nicolae Simionescu" of the Romanian Academy, 8, B.P. Haşdeu Street, 050568 Bucharest, Romania, CRISPR/DCAS9 long-term activation of APOA1 and PON1 in human hepatocytes: transcriptomic profile and endothelial cell crosstalk

5. Teodora Barbălată et al., Lipidomics Department, Institute of Cellular Biology and Pathology "Nicolae Simionescu" of the Romanian Academy, 050568 Bucharest, Romania, Plasma non-coding RNAs as promising markers for the evolution of atherosclerotic disease

6. Ana Maria Rosca et al., Institute of Cellular Biology and Pathology "Nicolae Simionescu", Bucharest, Romania, Evaluation of scaffolds based on perch collagen–hydroxyapatite for synthetic bone substitutes

7. Daniela-Madalina Gheţu et al., Institute of Cellular Biology and Pathology "Nicolae Simionescu" of the Romanian Academy, Bucharest, Romania, Dual-function biomimetic bone fillers with antimicrobial activity: physicochemical and biological characterization

8. Andrei Mircea Văcaru et al., Translational Research Laboratory of Cellular Stress and Adaptation, Institute of Cellular Biology and Pathology "Nicolae Simionescu", Bucharest, Romania, Atelocollagen matrices crosslinked with natural compounds to improve pancreatic islet survival after transplantation

9. Luminiţa – Felicia Dudu et al., Institute of Cellular Biology and Pathology "Nicolae Simionescu", Bucharest, Romania, Alarmin S100A8/A9 drives transcriptional alterations in bone marrow-derived leukocytes in experimental autoimmune myocarditis

10. Radu Ioniţă, Institute of Cellular Biology and Pathology "Nicolae Simionescu" of the Romanian Academy, Loss of apolipoprotein A2 remodels lipid metabolism in ApoE-deficient mice

11. Mădălin Ghinea, Institute of Cellular Biology and Pathology "Nicolae Simionescu" of the Romanian Academy, Metabolomic Signatures of Apolipoprotein E2 Alone or in Combination with Apolipoprotein E3 or Apolipoprotein E4 in ApoE Knockout Mice

12. Răzvan – Mihai Fueriu et al., Institute of Cellular Biology and Pathology "Nicolae Simionescu", Bucharest, Romania, Alarmin S100A8/A9 triggers transcriptomic changes associated with inflammatory response in the infarcted myocardium

13. Olar Iulia Alexia et al., Faculty of Medical and Health Sciences, Babeş-Bolyai University, Clinicilor Str. No. 9, 400009, Cluj-Napoca, România, Research and meta-analysis on systemic inflammatory status in type 2 diabetes

14. Mădălina-Iuliana Oprea et al., Department of Molecular Biology and Biotechnology, Babeş-Bolyai University, Clinicilor Str. No. 5-7, 400006, Cluj-Napoca, România, Evaluation of oxidative stress biomarkers associated with type 2 diabetes mellitus: a review of current meta-analytical evidence

15. Noemi Karsai, University of Agricultural Sciences and Veterinary Medicine of Cluj-Napoca, Cluj-Napoca, Romania, Flavonoid co-pigmentation as a confounding factor in spectrophotometric anthocyanin estimation of purple and red vegetables

16. Marius Gabriel Multescu et al., Gene Regulation and Molecular Therapies Laboratory, Institute of Cellular Biology and Pathology, "Nicolae

Simionescu" of the Romanian Academy, 050568 Bucharest, Romania, LDLR deficiency selectively enhances mitochondrial complex ii activity in white adipose tissue in a murine model
17. Irina-Tania Ghițoc, Department of Botany and Microbiology, Faculty of Biology, University of Bucharest, Splaiul Independenței 91-95, zip 050095, District 5, Bucharest, Romania, Assessment of the antimicrobial efficacy of an in-house ozonation device
18. Mihai Alin Publik et al., "C.I. Parhon" National Institute of Endocrinology, Bucharest, BRAF- and NRAS-mutant papillary thyroid carcinomas exhibit differential emt activation driven by divergent miRNA regulatory programs
19. Sabina Gabriela Oprișan, Department of Botany and Microbiology, Faculty of Biology, University of Bucharest, Splaiul Independenței 91-95, zip 050095 and Applied Mycology and Biology Investigations Research Center, Moza Foundation, Cetatea Histria no. 1, District 6, Bucharest, Romania, In vitro response of dermatomycosis-associated fungi to selected essential oils
20. Ioana-Despina Ciobanu et al., "Iuliu Hațieganu" University of Medicine and Pharmacy, Department Pharmaceutical Technology and Biopharmacy, Development of zein-lipid hybrid nanoparticles for sorafenib delivery in hepatocellular carcinoma
21. Ovidiu Sîrbu et al, "Victor Babes" University of Medicine and Pharmacy from Timisoara, Biochemistry Department, Arm-specific quantification bias confounds miR-130a 3p/5p ratios.
22. Ștefan-Marian Ionescu et al., Institute of Cellular Biology and Pathology "Nicolae Simionescu", Bucharest, Romania, Investigating the contribution of small extracellular vesicles released by neutrophils undergoing netosis to the cardiac fibroblast-to-myofibroblast transition in cardiac fibrosis

Poster evaluation: The evaluation should consider scientific quality, originality, methodological rigor, clarity of results and conclusions, visual presentation, communication skills, and the overall scientific impact of the work.
Evaluation Committee: Ximena Mureșan, Laura Pătraș, Mihai-Alexandru Ioana

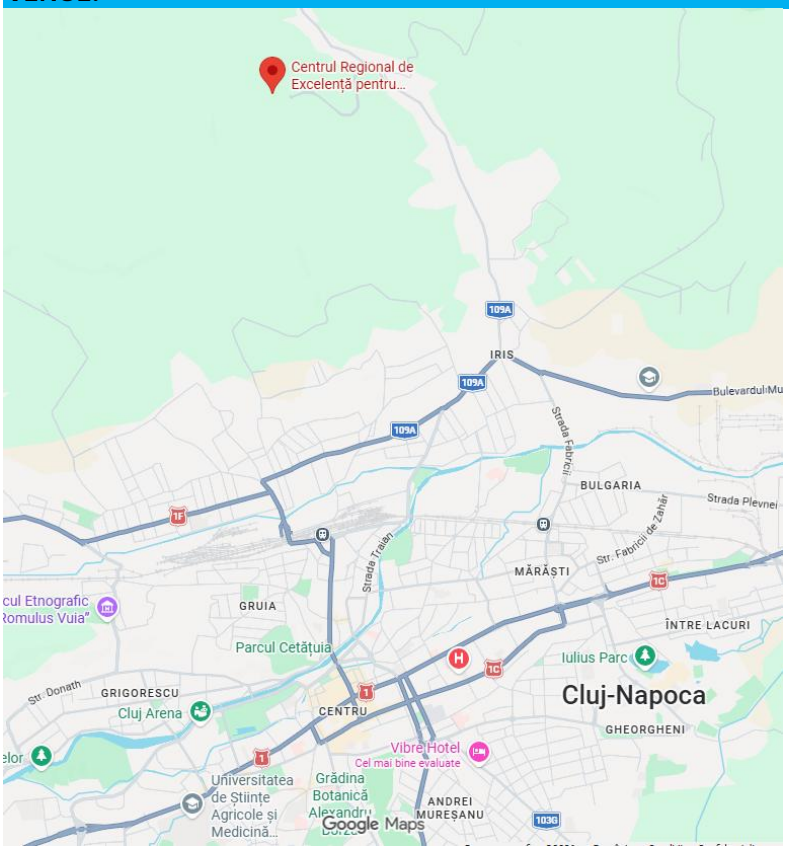
DAY 3 • FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2026

SOCIAL PROGRAM – conference trip & networking day to Rimetea, Alba County (travel, lunch and photo session included).

Meeting point: *Horia Demian Sports Hall*, Splaiul Independenței Street No. 6
Departure time: 18.09.2026, 10 a.m.

Cluj-Napoca/Rimetea/Cetatea Colțești/Conacul Secuiesc/Cluj-Napoca

VENUE:



Transportation to CREIC will be provided by two coaches, as follows:
Coach 1, will pick up participants from the Hotel Paradis/Mărăști district area (Ciocârliei Str. No. 47, 400619)
Coach 2, will pick up participants from the Hotel Platinia area (Calea Mănăștur Str. No. 2-6, 400372 Cluj-Napoca)
A volunteer will be assigned to each coach:
Coach 1: Alexandru Petrișor
Coach 2: Dr. Emilia Licărete
We will provide more details ahead of the conference.

✦ Following the finalization of the program, the parallel sessions have been allocated the same amount of time, which will then be divided among the presentations scheduled in each session.

✦ For presentations in the parallel sessions, we recommend including a QR code at the end that links to your academic profile. This can help expand your professional network and facilitate potential questions and future collaboration opportunities.

On behalf of the Organizing Committee,
We look forward to seeing you at the Congress!
Vivat, crescat, floreat, RSCB!