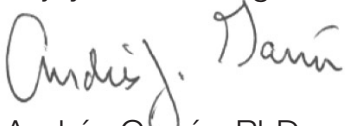


## Welcome to Atlanta and the SFB 2008 Translational Research Symposium!!

I extend a warm welcome to everyone attending the Society For Biomaterials 2008 Translational Research Symposium in Atlanta. The theme for this meeting is "Advancing Discoveries from the Laboratory to the Clinic". Over the next three days, exciting strategies for expediting clinical translation of new and emerging technologies in the biomaterials field will be discussed. The invited keynote speakers from industry and academia will address topics relevant to both academic researchers and medical device manufacturers. The Clinical Application sessions will focus on integrated biomaterial approaches to address significant clinical conditions. Technology Rapid Fire sessions will provide fast-paced views of emerging and promising technologies. The workshops on genomic and proteomic chips and process development for cell and tissue engineering products will provide in-depth education on these important developments. Do not miss the panel discussions on biomaterials intellectual property and liability and regulation. In addition to an outstanding scientific program, the symposium will provide many opportunities for networking and social interactions, highlighted by the night life in Buckhead and the Bash at the Georgia Aquarium, the world's largest and most beautiful aquarium.

I acknowledge and thank all members of the Program Committee, session organizers, abstract reviewers, SIGs, keynote speakers, sponsors, exhibitors, and our headquarters staff for their high level of dedication to excellence and the attention to detail. Special thanks go to Dan Lemyre and Anthony Celenza from Association Headquarters for all their hard work, patience, and efforts to prepare a first class conference. I also thank Meg Graziano McDevitt for the local help and artwork.

Enjoy the meeting!



Andrés García, PhD  
Program Chair