Pritzker Distinguished Lecturer: Ashutosh Chilkoti, PhD, Duke University

Before a packed ballroom at the Biomedical Engineering Society Annual Meeting in Seattle, Duke University's Ashutosh Chilkoti, PhD, delivered the Pritzker Distinguished Lecturer, the society's most prestigious award.

Chilkoti discussed his lab's research on drug delivery techniques that potentially could play a key role in treating diseases including cancer and diabetes.

Delivering drugs throughout the body to cure disease is particularly challenging. Chilkoti said to imagine the body being like the Amazon jungle that the drug must hack its way through.

His talk focused on the power and versatility of genetic engineering to develop molecularly engineered drug delivery systems. His discussed two orthogonal designs of genetically encoded peptide polymers-nanoparticles and gels-for drug delivery in two different therapeutic arenas-cancer and type-2 diabetes.
Dr. Aida Habtezion, shared her story about emigrating from war-torn Eretria, Africa to becoming a physician and researcher. She is currently a faculty member at Stanford Immunology.

The theme of her talk was life how challenges often become valuable opportunities.

Starting at a young age, Habtezion emigrated from Eretria to Rome, Italy, to Canada and finally the United States.

She obtained her medical degree from McMaster University, completed a gastroenterology fellowship at the University of Toronto, and a postdoctoral research fellowship at Stanford University.

Throughout her career, she has made decisions based on family first. And even when things seemed dark in her life, she persevered and discovered opportunities she never expected.
Barabino presents BMES Awards

The new class of BMES fellows, extended abstract winners, and dozens of other distinguished BMES members were recognized Thursday night during the society's annual awards ceremony.
Schedule: Friday
8 am - 9:30 am
Platform Sessions

9:30 am - 5 pm
Exhibit Hall Opens

9:30 am - 10:30 am
Poster Viewing with Authors

10:30 am - noon
Distinguished Achievement Lecture, Sue Van, the Coulter Foundation, and

NIH NIBIB Lecture, W. Mark Salzman, PhD

Noon - 1:15 pm
Women in BME Luncheon

1:30 pm - 2:30 pm
Platform Sessions

3:45 pm - 4:45 pm
Poster Viewing with Authors & Refreshment Break

4:45 pm - 6 pm
Plenary: Techno Stories from Space
Donald Petit, PhD

7 pm
BMES Bash
EMP Museum

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The Biomedical Engineering Society (BMES) is the largest professional society for Biomedical Engineering and Bioengineering, representing nearly 7,000 members. The BMES Annual Meeting is the premiere conference for education and research in the field.