# XXVI Congresso del Collegio dei Docenti di Istologia ed Embriologia Umana

*Società scientifica riconosciuta dal Ministero della Salute*

**Preliminary scientific program**

**February 17**

"Luigi Di Maggio" Lecture Hall, *Società Siciliana per la Storia Patria*,
Piazza San Domenico 1, Palermo

3:00 PM  Registration

4:00 PM – Opening Ceremony

Institutional Greetings and Welcome Address by the President of the CDIE

4:30 PM – Keynote Lecture

Prof. Antonio D'Amore – University of Palermo, University of Pittsburgh Medical Center, Ri.MED Foundation - *Structural Biomimicry for Enhanced Tissue Engineering in Cardiovascular Applications*

5:15 PM – Senior Faculty Lectures

6:45 PM – Closing Remarks

7:00 PM – Concert at the Church of San Domenico

8:00 PM – Welcome Cocktail at the Cloister of the Church of San Domenico

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**February 18**

"Palazzo Chiaromonte-Steri" Monumental Complex.
Piazza Marina 61, Palermo

8:30–9:00 AM – Registration Desk Open

9:00 AM–1:00 PM – Scientific Sessions
(parallel sessions in the "Magna" and "Capriate" Halls)

10:30–11:30 AM – Coffee Break
(served continously in area adjacent to the conference halls)

1:00–2:00 PM – Lunch Break

2:00–5:00 PM – Scientific Sessions
(parallel sessions in the "Magna" and "Capriate" Halls)

5:00 PM – Closing Remarks

5:15–7:00 PM – General Assembly of the College Members

8:00–10:00 PM – Gala Dinner

**February 19**

"Palazzo Chiaromonte-Steri" Monumental Complex,

Piazza Marina 61, Palermo

8:30–9:00 AM – Registration Desk Open

9:00 AM–1:00 PM – Scientific Sessions
(parallel sessions in the "Magna" and "Capriate" Halls)

10:30–11:30 AM – Open Coffee Break
(served in a dedicated area adjacent to the conference halls)

13:00 PM – Closing Ceremony

**Invited speaker**

Prof. Antonio D'Amore is tenured group leader and head of the Cardiovascular Tissue Engineering laboratory at Ri.MED. Foundation, Palermo; he also serves as Associate Professor in the Departments of Surgery and Bioengineering at the University of Pittsburgh (UPMC), PA, U.S., and as Full Professor (*Chiara Fama*) at the University of Palermo.

He received his MS in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Palermo in 2004 and continued his studies at the Imperial College of London obtaining an MS in Biomedical Engineering in 2007. In 2011, he completed his PhD in Biomechanics and Tissue Engineering through a joint program between the University of Palermo and the University of Pittsburgh. Since 2008, he has been a bioengineering industry consultant in both the U.S. and Italy.

He is the author of more than 240 publications, including peer-reviewed journal articles, book chapters, international conference abstracts and extended abstracts, patent applications, U.S. and EU-issued patents, and software to model biological systems. The value of this intellectual property has been recognized by several professional societies, translational science, and career awards such as the National Academy of Inventors (senior member), the "Strazzabosco's" award for young engineers conferred under the patronage of the Italian President of the Republic and the Coulter's Foundation Translational Research award. As PI or Co-I, he obtained numerous research awards, which cumulatively secured funding for more than $ 20 M, including NIH-R01, NIH-STTR, ERC-CoG, and ERC-PoC.

Prof. D'Amore is the co-founder, board member and Chief Technology Officer of "Neoolife" the first Ri.MED-UPMC startup focusing on tissue engineering heart valve technology.