

Gage Lab Symposium

Nov. 13-14, 2025, Roth Auditorium, SCRM

PROGRAM				
	Time	Title	Speaker	Location
Day 1: Thursday, November 13				
	8:30 AM	Registration Continental breakfast available		Patio, Roth Auditorium
	9:05 AM	Welcoming remarks, Session 1	Rusty Gage, Chair	All talks in the Roth Auditorium
	9:15 AM	Engineering brain organoids for modeling neurodevelopment and diseases	Guo-li Ming	
	9:35 AM	Scaling up functional drug screens with iPSC models for pediatric neurodegenerative diseases	Cedric Bardy	
	9:55 AM	Using Stem Cells to Explore the Genetics Underlying Brain Disease.	Kristen Brennand	
	10:15 AM	30 min. Break		
	10:45 AM	Brain mosaicism in pediatric epilepsies	Tracy Bedrosian	
	11:05 AM	Connectome of human glioblastoma	Hongjun Song	
	11:25 AM	Brain-wide contribution of adult-born neurons	Juan Song	
	11:45 AM	Lunch		
	1:15 PM	Session 2	Guo-li Ming, Chair	
	1:15 PM	Mapping the landscape of DNA:RNA hybrids in the aging mammalian nervous system	Dylan Reid	
	1:35 PM	Long-lived RNAs in mammalian brain cells	Tomohisa Toda	
	1:55 PM	Recombinant Adeno-Associated Virus (AAV) Depletes PARP1 and Other DNA Damage	Matthew Shtrahman	
	2:15 PM	An SVA retrotransposon's contribution to neurodegeneration	Jennifer Erwin	
	2:35 PM	30 min. Break		
	3:05 PM	Session 3	Dylan Reid, Chair	
	3:05 PM	Lifelong natural variations in hippocampus neurogenesis	Nico Toni	
	3:25 PM	Creating a targetable and switchable vector system for cell lineage specification	Daniel Peterson	
	3:45 PM	Functions of Adult Neurogenesis in the Human Brain	Michael Bonagudi	
	4:05 PM	Brain activity and neurogenesis	Alejandro Schinder	
	4:25 PM	Poster session, photo op, Happy hour		SCRM Lobby
	6:00 PM	Dinner		SCRM patio
Day 2: Friday, November 14				
	8:30 AM	Continental breakfast available		Patio, Roth Auditorium
	9:05 AM	Session 4	Nico Toni, Chair	
	9:05 AM	Unlocking AUTS2 multifaceted role in neurodevelopment	Carol Marchetto	
	9:25 AM	Bridging Disorders: Insights into Epilepsy and Alzheimer's Through Brain Organoid Models	Jenny Hsieh	

	9:45 AM	Sex-Based Network Connectivity Shapes Cognitive Function in XX and XY Neuronal Models	Shani Stern	
	10:05 AM	Studying the collective dynamics of human iPSC-derived neuronal population activity	Krishan Padmanabhan	
	10:25 AM	30 min. Break		
	10:55 AM	Session 5	Carol Marchetto, Chair	
	10:55 AM	New approaches to decode human microglia phenotypes in health and disease	Simon Schafer	
	11:15 AM	Reprogramming the resident glial cells	Chun-Li Zhang	
	11:35 AM	From New Neurons to New Chips: How Neuromorphic Computing Can Help Us Understand the Brain	Brad Aimone	
	11:55 AM	Multimodal approaches to interrogate critical genes for brain development and autism.	Xinyu Zhao	
	12:15 PM	Lunch		Bella Vista
	1:25 PM	Session 6	Simon Schafer, Chair	
	1:25 PM	TNF- α Hijacks Metabolism in Parkinson's Gut Neurons	Beate Winner	
	1:45 PM	Neurons feel the beat	Lara Rangel	
	2:05 PM	Overexpression of OTX2 in Human Neural Cells Links Depression Risk Genes	Cathy Barr	
	2:25 PM	Regulation of neural development: Hippo pathway and beyond	Xinwei Cao	
	2:45 PM	30 min. Break		
	3:15 PM	Session 7	Beate Winner, Chair	
	3:15 PM	Hippocampal progenitor cells as biomarkers of cognitive ageing and dementia.	Sandrine Thuret	
	3:35 PM	Deubiquitinases (DUBs) and Neurodegeneration: A New Frontier in Therapeutic Development	Mohamed Kagalwala	
	3:55 PM	Directed Evolution of Novel AAV Variants for Clinical Gene Therapy.	David Schaffer	
	4:15 PM	Translational Neuroscience	Mark Tuszynski	
	4:35 PM	Closing Remarks	Rusty Gage	

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If you are interested in being a part of Salk's alumni mentoring program, please contact B. Bea Rajsombath <brajsombath@salk.edu>.
We pair alumni with current Salk postdocs and grad students for a mentorship program.