



Symposium Program September 23 – 25, 2026

Wednesday, September 23rd – 8:30AM – 6:30 PM

Time	Activity	Location
8:30 – 9:00 AM	Registration & arrival coffee	Lobby & Atrium
Workshops		Auditorium
9:00 – 10:00 AM	Social Media – Findable, Not Famous: Low-Effort Social Media for Busy Researchers	
10:00 – 11:00 AM	BioLamina - Beyond the Coating: Decoding the Right Laminin for Cell Fate	
11:00 – 12:00 PM	STEMCELL Technologies - Optimized 2D Culture Workflows Support Long-Term Genetic Stability in hPSCs	
12:00 – 1:15 PM	<i>Lunch</i>	Atrium
Session I		Auditorium
1:15 – 1:30 PM	Ru Gunawardane – Opening Remarks	
1:30 – 2:00 PM	Christina Theodoris – Foundational AI Models for Network Biology	
2:00 – 2:30 PM	Bruno Vellutini – How Do Novel Morphogenetic Processes Evolve?	
2:30 – 2:50 PM	<i>Coffee Break and Discussion</i>	Atrium
2:50 – 3:00 PM	Feyza Nur Arslan – Mechanical Regulation of the Segmentation Clock	
3:00 – 3:10 PM	Saurabh Mogre – Active Osmo-Mechanical Model Predicts 3D Tissue Morphodynamics in hiPSC Lumenoids	
3:10 – 3:40 PM	Sadao Ota – Cells in Capsules: Making Stem Cell Models Simple, Scalable, and Programmable	
3:40 – 4:10 PM	Leslie Sepaniac – Cdc42 Waves Impact Spindle Positioning in a Vertebrate Model	
4:10 – 6:30 PM	Poster Session A & B	Atrium
	Headshots	Auditorium

Thursday, September 24th - 8:30 AM – 6:30 PM

Time	Activity	Location
8:30 – 9:00 AM	Registration and light breakfast	Atrium
Session II	Model Systems and the Organism	Auditorium
9:00 – 9:10 AM	Ida Chow – Opening Remarks	
9:10 – 9:40 AM	Alejandro Aguilera Castrejon – Reconstituting Mouse Embryogenesis Ex Utero Reveals Maternally Independent Metabolic Programs	
9:40 – 10:10 AM	Marta Shahbazi – Aneuploidy and Its Impact on Human Development	
10:10 – 10:30 AM	<i>Coffee break</i>	Atrium
10:30 – 10:40 AM	Ashley Libby – In Vivo Cell Lineage Tracing Reveals Early Segregation of Trunk Neural Crest	
10:40 – 10:50 AM	Dong-Yuan Chen – A Stage-Resolved Roadmap of Peri-Implantation Development Reveals Dual Origins of the Placental Progenitor	
10:50 – 11:00 AM	Edwin Rosado-Olivieri – Geometry-Guided Supracellular Self-Organization Shapes Human Trachea-Esophageal Organ Identity	
11:00 – 11:30 AM	Akane Kawaguchi – Epigenetic Codes Regulates Limb Regeneration Processes in Axolotl	
11:30 – 12:00 PM	Yangfei Xiang – Modeling Human Neural Development and Disease Using Organoids	
12:00 – 1:15 PM	<i>Lunch</i>	Atrium
Session III	States, Fates, and Traits	Auditorium
1:15 – 1:45 PM	Ariel Waisman – Building a Platform to Induce and Accurately Measure Proliferation in Mature Human Cardiomyocytes as a Model for Cardiac Regeneration	
1:45 – 2:15 PM	Crystal Rogers – Beyond the Transcriptome: Microtubule Reprogramming Drives Neural Crest EMT	
2:15 – 2:35 PM	<i>Coffee break</i>	Atrium
2:35 – 3:05 PM	Nika Shakiba – Stem Cell Competition: The Good, the Bad and the Ugly	
3:05 – 3:35 PM	Bianka Seres – Progress Toward Human In Vitro Gametogenesis	
3:35 – 4:45 PM	Poster Session C	Atrium
4:45 – 6:30 PM	Stem Cell Podcast Live	Auditorium

Friday, September 25th - 8:30 AM – 6:30 PM

Time	Activity	Location
8:30 – 9:00 AM	Registration and light breakfast	Atrium
Workshop		Auditorium
9:00 – 10:00 AM	Funding – The Early Career Researcher's Guide to Navigating the Funding Landscape	
10:00 – 10:20 AM	<i>Coffee break</i>	Atrium
Session IV	Spatial Awareness	Auditorium
10:20 – 10:30 AM	Keith Alm – Opening Remarks	
10:30 – 11:00 AM	Gianluca Amadei – Modelling Development and Developmental Perturbations with Mouse Embryo-like Structures	
11:00 – 11:30 AM	Lynn Yap – Eavesdropping on the Ischemic Heart: Spatial Transcriptomics Reveals Midkine-Mediated Angiogenesis from Human Cardiovascular Progenitor Grafts	
11:30 – 11:40 AM	Ian Swinburne – Paracrine and Endocrine Regulation of Ear Pressure Homeostasis by Spatially Restricted Failure	
11:40 – 11:50 AM	Ignas Mazelis – Establishing Semi-Permeable CAGEs for Combinatorial Mapping of Signal-Driven Cell Fate Decisions	
11:50 – 12:00 PM	Seungmae Seo – Emergence of Self-Assembled Niche Structures Modulates Hematopoietic Differentiation from Human iPSCs	
12:00 – 1:15 PM	<i>Lunch</i>	Atrium
1:15 – 1:45 PM	Can Aztekin – Signaling Centers of Appendage Regeneration: From Frogs to Mammals	
1:45 – 2:15 PM	Claudia Vasquez – Learning How Cells Multi-Task and Collaborate to Build an Organ	
2:15 – 2:35 PM	<i>Coffee break</i>	Atrium
2:35 – 3:35 PM	Strategic Working Session	
3:35 – 4:00 PM	Transition to Networking Session	Dexter Yard
4:00 – 6:30 PM	Science in Seattle Networking Session	Dexter Yard

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