

Brain Health Research Centre

Te Pokapū Rakahau Hauora Hinekarō



BHRC 2021 Annual Conference Schedule

Hunter Centre G30 A&B, 279 Great King Street, North Dunedin, 9016

Wednesday, 7th July Public Lecture

5:30 – 6:40 pm

Opening remarks and welcome

Peter Williamson, A/Prof Stephanie Hughes

Public Lecture

Chair: Oluwatobi Eboda

Prof Justin O'Sullivan

Playing the inheritance game: my genes and neurological conditions

Thursday, 8th July

Opening remarks and welcome

9:00 am

Oluwatobi Eboda, A/Prof Stephanie Hughes, Peter Williamson

Brainy Genetics, Part 1

Chair: Dr Lucia Schweitzer

9:10 am

Dr Karen Knapp

Histone fidelity is required for brain development

9:30 am

Sulagna Banerjee (PhD candidate)

Seizures and inflammation: the tadpole story

9:45 am

Matt Higgins (PhD candidate)

The mechanisms underpinning leptin signalling and the maturation of arcuate nucleus neural circuitry

10:00 am

Dr Phillip Wilcox

Culturally informed Genomics-based studies with Māori communities: lessons from the flax roots

10:25 am

Morning Tea

Brainy Genetics, Part 2

Chair: Dr Teodora Georgescu

- 10:45 am Dr Yugo Watanabe
Developmental programming of PCOS by prenatal androgen excess
- 11:05 am Ben Halliday (PhD candidate)
Genetic Insights into neurogenesis through the study of brain malformations
- 11:20 am Nikita Potemkin (PhD candidate)
Whole-transcriptome analyses in Alzheimer's Disease
- 11:35 pm Dr Emma Scotter
The genetics of Motor Neuron Disease in New Zealand
- 12:00 pm Sophie Mathiesen (PhD candidate)
Enhancing gene transfer to the CNS using AAV gene therapy vectors

12:15 pm Lunch

New BHRC Themes

- 1:00 pm Ellie Adams, BHRC Communications and Outreach Manager

"My ARF is the best" competition

Chair: Courteney Westlake

1:05 pm

Keynote Lecture

Chair: Oluwatobi Eboda

- 1:20 pm Prof Justin O'Sullivan
Parkinson's disease - the roles of non-coding variants are hidden in plain sight

2:15 pm Afternoon Tea

Diseases of the Brain, Part 1

Chair: Maddy Williams

- 2:30 pm Mana Mitchell (Honours student)
Mechanisms behind modern intergenerational diseases
- 2:45 pm Dr Phoebe Neo
EEG biomarkers and personality: implications for psychopathology
- 3:05 pm A/Prof Joanna Williams
Alzheimer's disease: discovery of microRNA biomarkers

3:30 pm Coffee Break

Diseases of the Brain, Part 2

Chair: Aimee Chu

- 3:45 pm A/Prof Yoram Barak
Internalising disorders and dementia risk

4:10 pm Lucinda Speers (PhD candidate)
Hippocampal sequencing mechanisms are disorganized in a maternal immune model of schizophrenia risk

4:25 pm Dr Owen Jones
Adaptations to hyperactivity in dentate gyrus granule cells

Closing Remarks A/Prof Stephanie Hughes, BHRC Director
4:45 pm