

UCLA GOODMAN-LUSKIN MICROBIOME CENTER

3rd ANNUAL SYMPOSIUM

Thursday, April 23, 2026

Introduction and Welcoming Remarks

10:00 AM – 10:10 AM	Eric Esrailian, MD, MPH Chief, Vatche and Tamar Manoukian Division of Digestive Diseases, David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA; Director, Melvin & Bren Simon Digestive Diseases Center; Lincy Foundation Chair in Clinical Gastroenterology; Health Sciences Clinical Professor of Medicine, David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA
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State of the Goodman-Luskin Microbiome Center

10:10 AM – 10:25 AM	Elaine Hsiao, PhD Goodman-Luskin Endowed Chair in Microbiome Research; Director, UCLA Goodman-Luskin Microbiome Center; De Logi Associate Professor of Biological Sciences, Department of Integrative Biology & Physiology Division of Life Sciences, UCLA College of Letters & Sciences; Vatche and Tamar Manoukian Division of Digestive Diseases, Department of Medicine Department of Microbiology, Immunology, Molecular Genetics, David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA
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Speakers

Moderator: Gregory Donaldson, PhD

10:25 AM – 10:40 AM	Jonathan Jacobs, MD, PhD Co-Director, UCLA Goodman-Luskin Microbiome Center; Director, Microbiome Core, UCLA Goodman-Luskin Microbiome Center; Assistant Professor-in-Residence, Vatche and Tamar Manoukian Division of Digestive Diseases, David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA <i>Program/Topic: Inflammatory Bowel Diseases</i>
10:40 AM – 10:55 AM	Elaine Hsiao, PhD <i>Program/Topic: Neurodevelopmental or Neurogenerative Disease</i>
10:55 AM – 11:10 AM	Arpana Church, PhD Co-Director, Goodman-Luskin Microbiome Center; Director, Neuroimaging Core, G. Oppenheimer Center for Neurobiology of Stress and Resilience; Ingestive Behavior and Obesity Program; Associate Professor, Vatche and Tamar Manoukian Division of Digestive Diseases, David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA <i>Program/Topic: Obesity, Metabolic Disorders and Eating Behavior</i>
11:10 AM – 11:25 AM	Moderator: Swapna Joshi, PhD Andrea Shin, MD, MSCR Director, Biorepository Core, UCLA Goodman-Luskin Microbiome Center; Co-Director, Clinical Studies and Database Core, UCLA Goodman-Luskin Microbiome Center; Director of Education, Walter and Shirley Wang Center for Integrative Digestive Health; Health Sciences Associate Clinical Professor of Medicine, Vatche and Tamar Manoukian Division of Digestive Diseases David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA <i>Program/Topic: Disorders of Gut-Brain Interaction</i>

11:25 AM – 11:40 AM	Lili Yang, PhD Professor, Department of Microbiology, Immunology & Molecular Genetics, Department of Bioengineering; Eli & Edythe Broad Center of Regenerative Medicine and Stem Cell Research; Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center; Parker Institute for Cancer Immunotherapy, UCLA <i>Program/Topic: TBD</i>
11:40 AM – 11:55 AM	Aldons “Jake” Lusis, PhD Professor, Medicine, Microbiology, Immunology & Molecular Genetics, and Human Genetics; David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA <i>Program/Topic: Cardiovascular Disease and Lipid Metabolism</i>
	Moderator: Arpana Church, PhD
11:55 AM – 12:10 PM	Yvonne Hernandez-Kapila, DDS, PhD, FACD, FICD, ELAM Fellow Professor of Dentistry, Biosystems and Function and Periodontics; Felix and Mildred Yip Endowed Chair in Dentistry; Professor and Associate Dean For Research Biosystems and Function, Periodontics UCLA School of Dentistry <i>Program/Topic: Human Virome</i>
12:10 PM – 12:25 PM	Tiffany Ho, PhD Associate Professor, Department of Psychology, Brain Research Institute, Interdepartmental Graduate Program in Neuroscience, University of California, Los Angeles <i>Program/Topic: Mental Illness</i>
12:25 PM – 12:40 PM	Jennifer Fulcher, MD, PhD Assistant Professor, Division of Infectious Diseases, Department of Medicine David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA; Infectious Diseases Section, VA Greater Los Angeles Healthcare System <i>Program Topic: Infectious Disease and Substance Use Disorder</i>

Lunch

12:40 PM – 2:00 PM Covel Commons Grand Horizon Terrace

Poster and Networking Session

2:00 PM – 3:00 PM Covel Commons West Coast and North Ridge Rooms

Data Blitz

3:00 PM – 3:50 PM	Gregory Donaldson, PhD Assistant Professor, Department of Microbiology, Immunology, & Molecular Genetics, Vatche & Tamar Manoukian Division of Digestive Diseases; California NanoSystems Institute; Goodman-Luskin Microbiome Center, UCLA Courtney DeCan, MD, MPH Health Sciences Clinical Instructor, Department of Medicine, Division of Clinical Nutrition, UCLA Health; LAC-DHS, Department of Medicine, Olive View, UCLA Medical Center
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Benjamin Macadangdang, MD

Assistant Professor, Division of Neonatology, Department of Pediatrics, David Geffen School of Medicine, UCLA

Takahiro Ohara, PhD

Postdoctoral Fellow, Integrative Biology and Physiology, UCLA Life Sciences

Ajoa Addae, PhDc

PhD Candidate, Justin Caram Group, Paul Weiss Group, NSF GRFP Fellow, Center for Diverse Leadership in Science Early Career Fellow, UCLA Department of Chemistry & Biochemistry

Microbiome Industry/Startup Round Table

3:50 PM – 4:50 PM

Moderator: Jeff Miller, PhD

Fred Kavli Chair in NanoSystems Sciences, Director, California NanoSystems Institute, Professor, Dept. of Microbiology, Immunology, and Molecular Genetics UCLA

Panelists: TBD

Poster Awards and Closing Remarks

4:50 PM – 5:00 PM

Elaine Hsiao, PhD