

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 of 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

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

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
Program/Topic: Inflammatory Bowel Diseases

10:40 AM – 10:55 AM **Elaine Hsiao, PhD**
Program/Topic: Neurodevelopmental or Neurogenerative Disease

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
Program/Topic: Obesity, Metabolic Disorders and Eating Behavior

Moderator: Swapna Joshi, PhD

11:10 AM – 11:25 AM **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
Program/Topic: Disorders of Gut-Brain Interaction

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
Program/Topic: TBD

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
Program/Topic: Cardiovascular Disease and Lipid Metabolism

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
Program/Topic: Human Virome

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
Program/Topic: Mental Illness

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
Program Topic: Infectious Disease and Substance Use Disorder

Lunch

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

Poster and Networking Session

2:00 PM – 3:00 PM Covell 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

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, PhD

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