

Annual **Symposium 2026**

Neuromodulation Across Scales



Kavli
NEUROSCIENCE
DISCOVERY
INSTITUTE

November 4 1to6p.m. Mountcastle Auditorium

Join us for an interdisciplinary symposium on advances in neuromodulation, featuring basic scientists, tool developers, clinicians, and AI experts. Explore molecular and circuit mechanisms, genetic tools, computational models, clinical applications, and emerging technologies. Hear from the next generation of scientists while engaging in discussions that highlight key discoveries, unmet challenges, collaboration, and innovation. Through scientific presentations and collaborative discussion, we will highlight recent discoveries, emerging technologies, and the field's most pressing unmet challenges. The symposium will also showcase the work of the next generation of scientists and foster opportunities for dialogue, collaboration, and innovation across disciplines.

Keynote Speakers



Yulong Li

*Professor, School of Life Sciences,
Peking University*



Dayu Lin

*Recanati Family Professor of Science,
Department of Neuroscience; Professor,
Department of Psychiatry, New York
University Grossman School of Medicine*

Emerging Scientists



Leslie Sibener

*Postdoctoral Fellow, Kavli Neural Systems
Institute, The Rockefeller University*



Varun B. Chokshi

*Assistant Research Scientist, Neuroscience
Department, Johns Hopkins University*



Kathleen Cullen

*Raj and Neera Singh Professor of Biomedical
Engineering, Department of Biomedical
Engineering, Whiting School of Engineering,
Johns Hopkins University; Co-Director,
Center for Hearing and Balance,
Johns Hopkins University*



Ilya Monosov

*Bloomberg Distinguished Professor,
Department of Neuroscience, Krieger School
of Arts and Sciences, Johns Hopkins
University; Adjunct Professor, Biomedical
Engineering and Psychiatry, School of
Medicine, Johns Hopkins University*



Christian Wesselborg

*Graduate Student, Biology (CMDDB),
Johns Hopkins University*

Symposium Co Organizers: Sarada Viswanathan, Kishore Kuchibhotla, Tomomi Karigo, and Sharlen Moore.

This event is open to all Hopkins affiliates.
Please register here:



Symposium **Agenda**

1 to 1:10 p.m.	Opening Remarks	<i>Dwight Bergles and Sarada Viswanathan, Kavli NDI</i>
1:10 to 1:15 p.m.	Institutional Remarks	<i>Denis Wirtz, Johns Hopkins University</i>
1:15 to 1:55 p.m.	Keynote Address	<i>Yulong Li, Peking University</i> “Quantitative Imaging of Neuromodulator Dynamics In Vivo by Constructing New GRAB Sensors”
1:55 to 2:25 p.m.	Faculty Talk	<i>Kathleen Cullen, Johns Hopkins University</i> “From Stimulation to Computation: Neuromodulation of Sensorimotor Circuits”
2:25 to 3:10 p.m.	Short Talks with Emerging Scientists	<i>Varun B. Chokshi, Neuroscience Department, Johns Hopkins University</i> <i>Leslie Sibener, Kavli Neural Systems Institute, The Rockefeller University*</i> <i>Christian Wesselborg, Biology (CMDDB), Johns Hopkins University</i>
3:10 to 3:40 p.m.	Faculty Talk	<i>Ilya Monosov, Johns Hopkins University</i> “Curiosity and Calm: A Shared, Targetable Circuit for Curiosity, Risk, and Bodily State”
3:40 to 4:10 p.m.	Coffee Break	
4:10 to 4:50 p.m.	Keynote Address	<i>Dayu Lin, New York University</i> “Neuromodulation of Aggression”
4:50 to 5:05 p.m.	Lightning Talks	<i>Janie Chang-Weinberg, University of California San Diego*</i> <i>Lin Lin, Yale University School of Medicine*</i> <i>Julia Pai, Johns Hopkins University</i> <i>Drishti Soneja, Johns Hopkins University</i> <i>Kimberley Wyse-Sookoo, Johns Hopkins University</i>
5:05 to 5:45 p.m.	Panel Discussion “Neuromodulation Across Scales: Concepts, Tools and New Frontiers”	Panelists: <i>Kathleen Cullen, Johns Hopkins University</i> <i>Yulong Li, Peking University</i> <i>Dayu Lin, New York University</i> <i>Ilya Monosov, Johns Hopkins University</i> Moderator: <i>Kishore Kuchibhotla, Johns Hopkins University</i>
5:45 to 6 p.m.	Closing Remarks	<i>Michael Miller, Kavli NDI</i>
6 to 7:30 p.m.	Poster Session and Reception	

**These speakers are enabled by support from the National Science Foundation*

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By invitation only, join us
for **Brain Brunch** from
10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Pre-registration is required.

Symposium Directory

Dwight Bergles

Professor
Department of Neuroscience
Director Kavli NDI
Opening Remarks
1 to 1:10 p.m.

Janie Chang-Weinberg*

Graduate Student
Department of Neurobiology
University of California San Diego
Lightning Talks
4:50 to 5:05 p.m.

Varun B. Chokshi

Assistant Research Scientist
Neuroscience Department
Johns Hopkins University
Short Talks with Emerging Scientists
2:25 to 3:10 p.m.

Kathleen Cullen

Raj and Neera Singh Professor of
Biomedical Engineering
Department of Biomedical Engineering
Whiting School of Engineering
Johns Hopkins University
Co-Director
Center for Hearing and Balance
Johns Hopkins University
Faculty Talk
1:55 to 2:25 p.m.
Panel Discussion
5:05 to 5:45 p.m.

Tomomi Karigo

Assistant Professor of Neuroscience
The Solomon H. Snyder Department
of Neuroscience
Johns Hopkins University School
of Medicine
Symposium Co Organizer

Kishore Kuchibhotla

Associate Professor
Department of Psychological
& Brain Sciences
Krieger School of Arts and Sciences
Johns Hopkins University
Symposium Co Organizer
Panel Discussion Moderator
5:05 to 5:45 p.m.

Yulong Li

Professor
School of Life Sciences
Peking University
Keynote Address
1:15 to 1:55 p.m.
Panel Discussion
5:05 to 5:45 p.m.

Dayu Lin

Recanati Family Professor of Science
Department of Neuroscience
Professor
Department of Psychiatry
New York University Grossman School
of Medicine
Keynote Address
4:10 to 4:50 p.m.
Panel Discussion
5:05 to 5:45 p.m.

Lin Lin*

Postdoctoral Fellow
Department of Psychiatry
Yale University School of Medicine
Lightning Talks
4:50 to 5:05 p.m.

Michael Miller

Bessie Darling Massey Professor and
Director of Biomedical Engineering
Co-Director
Kavli NDI
Closing Remarks
5:45 to 6 p.m.

Ilya Monosov

Bloomberg Distinguished Professor
Department of Neuroscience
Krieger School of Arts and Sciences
Johns Hopkins University
Adjunct Professor
Biomedical Engineering and Psychiatry
School of Medicine
Johns Hopkins University
Faculty Talk
3:10 to 3:40 p.m.
Panel Discussion
5:05 to 5:45 p.m.

Sharlen Moore

Postdoctoral Fellow
Johns Hopkins University
Symposium Co Organizer

Leslie Sibener*

Postdoctoral Fellow
Kavli Neural Systems Institute
The Rockefeller University
Short Talks with Emerging Scientists
2:25 to 3:10 p.m.

Drishti Soneja

Graduate Student
Neuroscience Department
Johns Hopkins University
Lightning Talks
4:50 to 5:05 p.m.

Sarada Viswanathan

Scientific Director
Kavli NDI
Symposium Co Organizer
Opening Remarks
1 to 1:10 p.m.

Christian Wesselborg

Graduate Student
Biology (CMDB)
Johns Hopkins University
Short Talks with Emerging Scientists
2:25 to 3:10 p.m.

Denis Wirtz

Vice Provost for Research and
Theophilus Halley Smoot Professor
Department of Chemical and
Biomolecular Engineering
Johns Hopkins University
Institutional Remarks
1:10 to 1:15 p.m.

Kimberley Wyse-Sookoo

Graduate Student
Department of Biomedical Engineering
Johns Hopkins University
Lightning Talks
4:50 to 5:05 p.m.

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Brain Brunch **Agenda**

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8:30 to 9 a.m.

Registration

9 to 9:10 a.m.

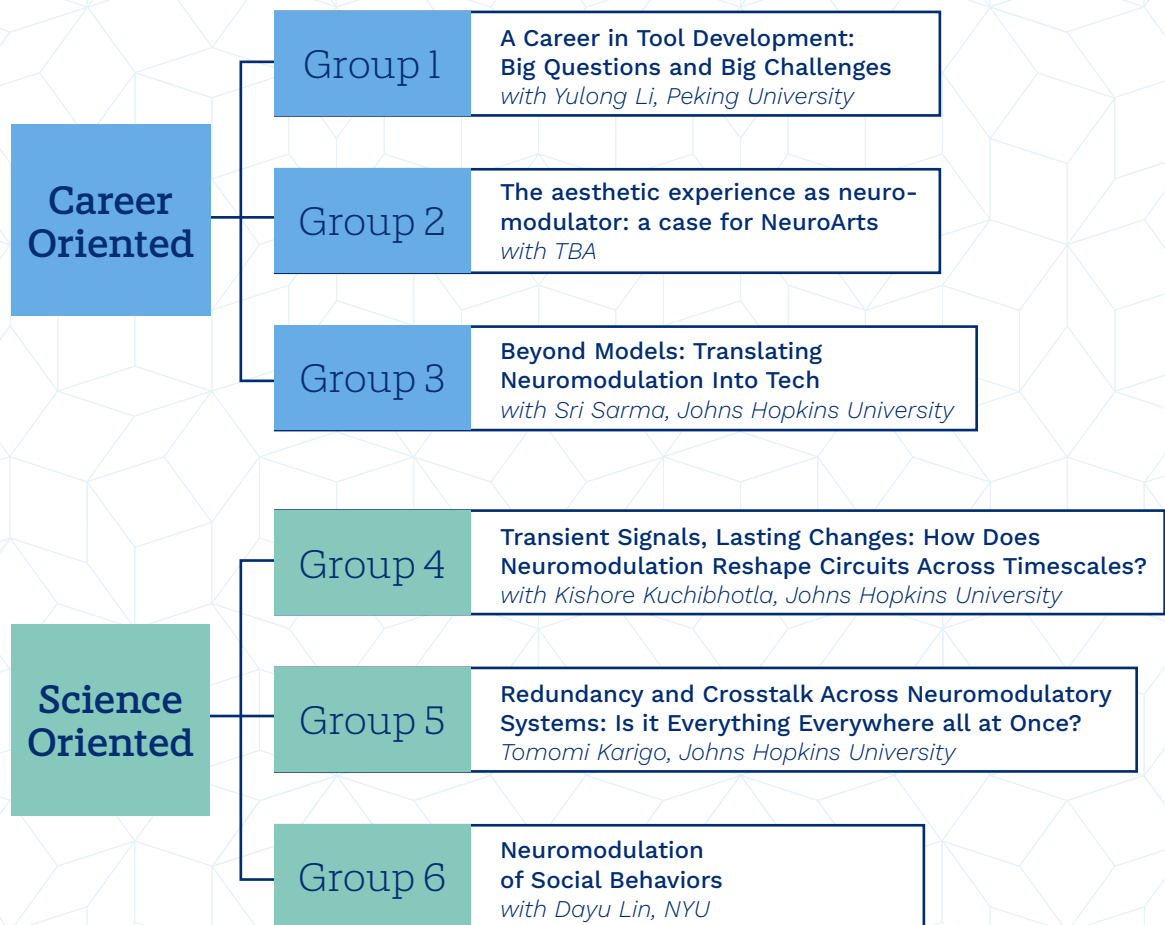
Kick-Off and General Remarks

Sharlen Moore and Kishore Kuchibhotla

9:10 to 9:30 a.m.

Food Pickup and Break into Focus Group

9:30 a.m. to 10:40 p.m.



10:40 to 11:20 a.m.

General Discussion

The Future of Neuromodulation: What Will the Next 10 Years Bring?

11:20 to 11:30 a.m.

Closing Remarks



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