2025 FASI Symposium

Neurobiology & Immunology of Food-Related Behaviors and Eating Disorders

September 12th, 2025

The Broad Institute of MIT & Harvard
415 Main St. Cambridge, MA 02142



Registration & Breakfast

8:00 -9:00am **Registration Opens**
Breakfast Available

9:00 - 9:05am **Opening Remarks**
Carlos Bosques, PhD, FASI

9:05 - 9:15am **FASI Scientific Overview**
Ruslan Medzhitov, PhD, Yale School of Medicine

Session 1: Sensory Receptors and Neuronal Circuits Involved in Taste, Nutrient and Toxin Sensing

9:15 - 9:45am **Taste and Oral Sensations – Where Food First Meets Body**
Nirupa Chaudhari, PhD | University of Miami

9:45 - 10:15am **Mechanisms of Body-Brain Communication**
Stephen Liberles, PhD | Harvard Medical School

Session 2: Processing of Internal Cues That Regulate Appetite, Hunger and Food Intake

10:15- 10:45am **Brain Control of Mucosal Immunity**
Ivan de Araujo, D Phil | Max Planck Institute

10:45- 11:15am **Sensing Immunity: How Sensory Cues Shape Immune Tolerance**
Asya Rolls, PhD | Tel Aviv University

11:15 -11:45am ***Break***

Session 3: Brain-Gut Circuits Mediating Stress and Modulation of Intestinal Immunity

11:45 - 12:15pm **Neural Circuits that Regulate Hunger / Satiety**
Bradford Lowell, PhD | Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center

12:15 - 12:45pm **Exercise Alters Gut to Brain Signals that Reduce Sugar Consumption**
Nicholas Betley, PhD | University of Pennsylvania

12:45 - 1:45pm ***Lunch***

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Session 4: Brain Mechanisms of Maladaptive Eating Disorders in Humans

1:45 - 2:15pm **Altered Motivation to Eat: New Insights into the Neurobiology of Eating Disorders**
Christina Wierenga, PhD | UC San Diego

2:15 - 2:45pm ***Break***

Session 5: Keynote Presentation

2:45 - 3:30pm **GDF15: The sentinel hormone**
Stephen O'Rahilly, MD| University of Cambridge

Session 6: FASI Spotlight

3:30 - 4:15pm **Presentations from FASI Lab Members**
Rocky Barilla (Kuchroo Lab, Harvard Medical School)
Patrick Darcy (Mucida Lab, Rockefeller University)
Aron Gyorgypal (Anthony Lab, Harvard Medical School)

Closing Remarks & Poster Reception

4:15 - 4:20pm **Closing Remarks**
Ruslan Medzhitov, PhD, Yale School of Medicine

4:20 - 6:00pm **Poster Session & Reception**

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