

# No Garland Neuroscience 2026

## Schedule

22<sup>nd</sup> - 25<sup>th</sup> October 2026 | Mohali, Punjab

### Day 1: Thursday, 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2026

Venue: IISER Mohali, Lecture Hall Complex LH7

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|---------------|-----------------|
| 10:00 - 13:45 | Registration    |
| 12:30 - 13:45 | Welcome Lunch   |
| 13:45 - 14:00 | Opening Remarks |

#### Session 1: Neuronal Metabolism and Signaling

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| 14:00 - 14:30 | <b>Saikat Ghosh</b><br>Lysosome-coupled mRNA transport maintains axonal mitochondrial homeostasis and prevents axonal degeneration.                       |
| 14:30 - 14:50 | <b>Kamal Kishore</b><br>Characterizing the function of the PUF family of RNA-binding proteins in <i>Caenorhabditis elegans</i> .                          |
| 14:50 - 15:20 | <b>Abhishek Bhattacharya</b><br>Leucine is essential in maintaining neuronal health during starvation in <i>C. elegans</i> .                              |
| 15:20 - 15:40 | <b>Nitisha Kuila</b><br>Role of SUMOylation in the group I metabotropic glutamate receptor trafficking.                                                   |
| 15:40 - 16:00 | <b>Palamou Das</b><br>Optical sensor for real-time measurement of ER-mitochondria interaction in cells.                                                   |
| 16:00 - 16:30 | <b>Rajesh Ramachandran</b><br>Chromatin-immune-matrix crosstalk determines regenerative competence across vertebrates.                                    |
| 16:30 - 17:00 | <b>Mohit Kumar</b><br>Ketogenic diet enhances brain resilience in estrogen deficiency by improving mitochondrial functions and modulating gut microbiota. |
| 17:00 - 17:20 | <i>Tea Break</i>                                                                                                                                          |

#### Session 2: Sensory Processing, Behavior & Coding

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| 17:20 - 17:40 | <b>Sharanya H</b><br>Elucidating the role of FLP-12 in the regulation of amplitude of body bends of <i>Caenorhabditis elegans</i> . |
| 17:40 - 18:00 | <b>Pradeep Kumar</b><br>Development and validation of [ <sup>18</sup> F]-NAV4694 for imaging amyloid plaques in AD.                 |
| 18:00 - 18:20 | <b>Hanuma Sai Billakurthi</b><br>Experience adaptively retunes human learning in stochastic reward environments.                    |
| 18:20 - 18:40 | <b>Madhurima Roy</b><br>Representations of odor mixtures in the antennal lobe of <i>Aedes aegypti</i> .                             |
| 19:00         | <i>Dinner and Networking</i>                                                                                                        |

## Day 2: Friday, 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2026

Venue: BRIC-NABI, Auditorium

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### Session 3: Neural Plasticity, Circuits and Behaviour

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| 09:30 - 10:00 | <b>Anant Jain</b><br>Plasticity mechanisms underlying spatial memories.                                                                                                                       |
| 10:00 - 10:20 | <b>Atal Vats</b><br>Assembly of heteromeric stomatin caps functionally regulate electrical synapses in <i>C. elegans</i> .                                                                    |
| 10:20 - 10:40 | <b>Ananya Bandyopadhyay</b><br>Cell biological principles governing heteromeric stomatin cap assembly at electrical synapses in <i>C. elegans</i> .                                           |
| 10:40 - 11:00 | <b>Rounak Saha</b><br>A brain–liver circuit modulating liver regeneration in liver diseases.                                                                                                  |
| 11:00 - 11:30 | <i>Tea Break</i>                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 11:30 - 11:50 | <b>Arunima Sen</b><br>Molecularly distinct innexin gap junctions and undocked hemichannels regulate glia morphology and behaviour in <i>Caenorhabditis elegans</i> .                          |
| 11:50 - 12:10 | <b>Akankshya Sahu</b><br>Distinct molecular mechanisms regulate feeding state-dependent CO <sub>2</sub> chemotaxis plasticity during different life stages in <i>Caenorhabditis elegans</i> . |
| 12:10 - 12:40 | <b>Sufyan Ashhad</b><br>From latent rhythms to breaths: neural population dynamics of flexible motor output.                                                                                  |
| 12:40 - 13:40 | <i>Lunch Break</i>                                                                                                                                                                            |

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### Session 4: Molecular & Cellular Foundations of Neuroscience

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| 13:40 - 14:10 | <b>Kavita Babu</b><br>Eavesdropping on worm conversations: investigating the transfer of memory from one worm to another.        |
| 14:10 - 14:30 | <b>Vartika Srivastava</b><br>No complement, no chill – role of complement proteins in recovery from stress.                      |
| 14:30 - 14:50 | <b>Subhajit Pal</b><br>The role of the antagonist in the group I mGluR trafficking and mGluR-mediated AMPA receptor endocytosis. |
| 14:50 - 15:20 | <b>Baskar Bakthavachalu</b><br>Decoding Neuronal RNA-Binding Protein Function Through RNA Editing.                               |
| 15:20 - 15:35 | <b>Flash Talks from Selected Posters</b><br>Will be announced.                                                                   |
| 15:35 - 18:00 | <b>Poster Session and Evening Tea</b>                                                                                            |
| 18:00 - 19:00 | <b>Panel Discussion</b>                                                                                                          |
| 19:00         | <i>Dinner and Networking</i>                                                                                                     |

## Day 3: Saturday, 24<sup>th</sup> October 2026

Venue: BRIC-NABI, Auditorium

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### Session 5: Neurodegeneration & Neurological Disorders

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| 09:00 - 09:30 | <b>Poonam Thakur</b><br>Metabolic changes in Parkinson's disease – brain and beyond.                                                                                                             |
| 09:30 - 09:50 | <b>Sailesh S</b><br>Interfering peptides targeting the slow afterhyperpolarization complex restore intrinsic inhibition and restrict seizures in acquired epilepsy.                              |
| 09:50 - 10:20 | <b>Shweta Tandon</b><br>Ataxin-2 regulates Zfh1 expression in the adult muscle progenitors to mediate neuromuscular development in <i>Drosophila melanogaster</i> .                              |
| 10:20 - 10:40 | <b>Rituparna Sahu</b><br>Selective activator of calcium-activated potassium channels, NS-309, acts as a novel antiepileptic drug by restricting neuronal hyperexcitability in acquired epilepsy. |
| 10:40 - 11:00 | <b>Shriya Palchaudhuri</b><br>From cohorts to mechanisms: advancing the biology of neuropsychiatric disorders.                                                                                   |
| 11:00 - 11:15 | <i>Tea Break</i>                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| 11:15 - 11:45 | <b>Vanshika Ahuja</b><br>Altered stress granules and paraspeckle dynamics by ALS-associated FUS mutations in neuronal and astrocytic models.                                                     |
| 11:45 - 12:15 | <b>Mayanglambam Dhruba Singh</b><br>Therapeutic potential of targeting Pten in poly(Q) disease models.                                                                                           |

### Session 6: Behavioral & Affective Neuroscience

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| 12:15 - 12:35 | <b>Krishna Melnattur</b><br>Mutations in <i>Drosophila</i> antimicrobial peptides differently affect sleep and plasticity.                                             |
| 12:35 - 13:05 | <b>Ozowita Roy Deb</b><br>Recognition memory for natural scenes is supported by temporal context reinstatement in the medial temporal lobe across multiple timescales. |
| 13:05 - 13:35 | <b>Chandrashekhar Borkar</b><br>Central amygdala projections diverge to regulate distinct defensive responses in mice.                                                 |
| 13:35 - 14:30 | <i>Lunch Break</i>                                                                                                                                                     |

### Session 7: Evolution, Cognition & Networks

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| 14:30 - 14:50 | <b>Bittu Kaveri Rajaraman</b><br>The evolution of neural systems underlying communication and quantitative cognition.                                                          |
| 14:50 - 15:10 | <b>Aakash Sharma and Saksham Deol</b><br>Adaptability and efficiency in the brain – evolutionary insights from neuroplasticity and lateralization with implications in autism. |
| 15:10 - 15:30 | <b>Sneha Shashidhara</b><br>Understanding the frontoparietal multiple-demand network.                                                                                          |

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| <b>15:30 - 15:50</b> | <b>Anzal Kannamkualth Shahul Hameed</b><br>From neural circuits to 3D kinematics: multimodal interrogation of adaptive motor control in the cerebellar nuclei. |
| <b>15:50 - 16:10</b> | <b>Indraja Rajendra Jakhalekar</b><br>Representation of space in the rat dorsal CA1 as a function of arena size.                                               |
| <b>16:10 - 16:35</b> | <b>Surya Narayan Biswal</b><br>The long shadow of depression: from brain development to aging.                                                                 |
| <b>16:40</b>         | <i>Closing Tea Break &amp; Conference Adjournment</i>                                                                                                          |
| <b>17:30</b>         | <b>Games &amp; Activities</b>                                                                                                                                  |
| <b>19:00</b>         | <i>Closing Dinner</i>                                                                                                                                          |

## Day 4: Sunday, 25<sup>th</sup> October 2026

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### **Excursion to Kasauli**

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Further information on timings, travel arrangements, and what to carry will be conveyed to registered participants later.