

# 17th Annual SoCal Symposium on Glial-Neuronal Interactions in Health and Disease

**February 9, 2024**

Highlander Union Building, Room 302 - UC Riverside

## Agenda:

9:00 - 10:00 am *Registration. Badge pick-up. Poster set-up.*

10:00 - 10:05 am ***Symposium Opens***

10:05 - 10:15 am *Welcome Address*

*Monica Carson, Ph.D., Director, Center for Glial-Neuronal Interactions  
University of California, Riverside*

10:15 - 11:15 am ***Keynote Speaker***

*“Role of bidirectional gut- microbiota- brain axis in Parkinson's  
disease pathogenesis, disease course and response to levodopa”*

*Ali Keshavarzian M.D., Professor of Medicine  
Physiology, Anatomy & Cell Biology  
Rush University Medical Center*

11:15am - 1:20 pm ***Lunch and Poster Presentations***

*Afternoon Session I, moderator*

1:20 - 1:30 pm *Afternoon Welcome*

1:30 - 2:10 pm ***Presentation I***

*“Mechanosensing controls myelin sheath elongation in the CNS”*

*Marie Bechler, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Cell Biology and Development  
Assistant Professor of Neuroscience and Physiology  
SUNY Upstate Medical University*

2:10 - 2:50 pm

**Presentation II**

***“Neuronal control of peripheral inflammation”***

Colin Reardon, Ph.D., Associate Professor  
Neuroimmunology, School of Veterinary Medicine  
University of California, Davis

2:50 - 3:30 pm

**Presentation III**

***“Inflammation and respiratory control: mechanisms and clinical consequence”***

Erica Heinrich, Ph.D., Assistant Professor  
Division of Biomedical Sciences, UC Riverside

3:30 - 3:50 pm

***Afternoon break and Poster viewings***

***Afternoon Session II, moderator***

3:50 - 4:30 pm

**Presentation IV**

***“Glial-immune priming: the “toll” of prenatal alcohol exposure (PAE) on opioid pain therapeutics”***

Shahani Noor, Ph.D., Assistant Professor  
Department of Neurosciences, School of Medicine  
University of New Mexico

4:30 - 4:40 pm

***Introduction to the Glenn Hatton Lecture***

Afternoon Session II, moderator

4:40 - 5:20 pm

**Glenn Hatton Lecturer**

***“Astrocytic modulation of synaptic activity”***

Nathan Smith, Ph.D., Associate Professor  
Neuroscience, University of Rochester School of Medicine and Dentistry

5:20 - 5:40 pm

***Award announcements***

5:40 - 6:00 pm

***Closing remarks and thank you's!!***