



Center for RNA Biology and Medicine

2024 Mini-Retreat | May 20th | MRB Seminar Room

Program

"Welcome to our Center's 2024 Mini-Retreat! Thank you for joining us. We sincerely hope you will enjoy learning of UCR's newest vibrant and exciting RNA research. We hope this event might offer a platform to strengthen existing collaborations and perhaps stimulate new ones!"

The Mini-Retreat Planning Committee

Time	Activity
9:00 – 9:20 a.m.	Check-in Breakfast
9:20 – 9:25 a.m.	Center Update Sika Zheng, Ph.D., Director
9:30 – 10:50 a.m.	Session 1 – RNA in Disease Session Chair: Meera Nair Karine Le Roch – Proteome-Wide Identification of RNA Dependent Proteins - An Emerging Role for RNA Biology in <i>Plasmodium falciparum</i> Protein Complexes. Meera Nair – The Immune Protein RELM- α Regulates Adipose Inflammation in Obesity and the lncRNA Gm47283. Changcheng Zhou – Small non-coding RNAs and atherosclerosis. Megan Norris – Subcellular RNA Localization in Development and Disease. Khaleel Razak – Sensory Processing Disorders in Fragile X Syndrome.
10:50 – 11:10 a.m.	Coffee Break
11:10 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.	Session 2 – RNA in Biological Regulation Session Chair: Adam Norris Jikui Song – Structural Study of Epigenetic Regulation. Yinsheng Wang – m ⁶ A in Chromatin-Associated RNA Drives Histone H3K9 Acetylation. Sihe Cheloufi – The Grammar of Retrotransposon Regulation and Influence on Cell Fate Decisions. Sika Zheng – The Curious Cases of Alternative Splicing and NMD. Jernej Murn – The RNA World of Cellular Quiescence.
12:30 – 12:35 p.m.	Group Photo

12:35 – 1:25 p.m.	Lunch
1:25 – 1:35 p.m.	Faculty Fun Facts!
1:35 p.m. – 2:55 p.m.	<p>Session 3 – RNA Systems and Computational Biology Session Chair: <i>Vivian Li</i></p> <p>Hailing Jin – The Mobile AGO2 in Action Against Bacterial Infection. Meng Chen – Photobody Dynamics in Plant Temperature Sensing. Joy Xiang – Protein-RNA Interactions in SARS-CoV-2 and Applications in Synthetic Biology. Kevin Freedman – Sensing Nucleic Acids at the Single Molecule Level with Solid-State Nanopores. Vivian Li – Statistical and Computational Methods for Single-Cell and Spatial Transcriptomics Data Analysis.</p>
2:55 – 3:10 p.m.	Coffee Break
3:10 – 4:30 p.m.	<p>Session 4 – The Life Cycle of RNA Session Chair: <i>Seán O'Leary</i></p> <p>Adam Norris – How to Make RNAs of Strange Shapes and Sizes. Weifeng Gu – The Roles of RNA 5' Modifications in Gene Regulation. Ted Karginov – Ca²⁺ Allosterically Activates the EndoU Ribonuclease to Target Diverse Cellular RNAs. Michael Ibba – The Role of Translation Quality Control in Microbial Stress Responses and Signaling. Seán O'Leary – Single-Molecule Dynamics of Eukaryotic Translation Initiation.</p>
4:30 – 4:35 p.m.	Closing Remarks