**Conference program for September 26, 27, and 28 (optional)**

**September 26, 2019. Thursday**

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9:00-9:30 -     Registration

9:30-10:00 -   Welcome and opening remarks

10:00-10:25 - Opening presentation. **Tamara Roitbak**, University of New Mexico, Department of Neurosurgery, USA

*“Alexander Roitbak: Life and Legacy”*

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* *10:30 - 10:50    Coffee break*

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**Session 1 – General Matters of Neuroglia.   *Chair: Alexei Verkhratsky***

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11:00 -11:25 - **Helmut Kettenmann**, Max Delbrueck Center for Molecular Medicine in the Helmholtz Association, Germany

*“The Role of Microglial Cells in Brain Diseases”*

11:30 -11:55 - **Alexei Verkhratsky**, Faculty of Biology, Medicine and Health, University of Manchester, UK

*“Principles of Astrogliopathology”*

12:00 - 12:25 - **Ole Peter Ottersen**, Karolinska Institute, Sweden

*“Unravelling the Functions of Astrocytic Endfeet”*

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* *12:30 - 13:20   Lunch break*

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**Session 2 – Neuroglial Signaling.    *Chair: Richard D. Fields***

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13:30-13:55 - **Dmitri Rusakov**, UCL Queen Square Institute of Neurology, University College London, UK

*“Activity-dependent Plasticity of Synaptic Astroglial Environment”*

14:00-14:25 - **Robert Zorec**, University of Ljubljana, Medical Faculty, Institute of Pathophysiology, Slovenia

*“Noradrenergic Regulation of Astroglial Function in Health and Disease”*

14:30-14:55 - **Richard D. Fields**, National Institutes of Health NICHD, Nervous System Development and Plasticity Section, USA.

*"Astrocytes Regulate Myelin Structure to Adjust Spike Time Arrival for Optimal Neural Circuit Performance”*

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* *15:00 - 15:25    Coffee break*

**Session 3 – Astrocytes and Brain Plasticity.  *Chair: Eva Sykova***

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15:30-15:55 -  **Eva Sykova**, Department of Research and Development, Scimed Biotechnologies Ltd, Czech Republic and Institute of Neuroimmunology, Slovak Academy of Sciences, Slovakia.

“*Astrocytes and Stem Cells in Pathophysiology of Aging and Neurodegenerative Diseases.”*

16:00-16:25 - **Gianvito Martino**, Neuroimmunology Unit, Institute of Exp. Neurology, Div. of Neuroscience, San Raffaele Scientific Institute, Italy

*“Therapeutic Plasticity of Neural Stem Cells”*

16:30-16:55 - **Anna Dunaevsky**, Department of Neurological Sciences, College of Medicine, University of Nebraska Medical Center, USA

*“Motor-Skill Learning and Astroglial Plasticity”*

17:00 -17:25 - **Marc Freeman**, Vollum Institute, Oregon Health and Science University, USA

*“How Are Nervous Systems Remodeled in Complex Metazoans?”*

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* *17:30 - Poster session and Social*

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**September 27, 2019. Friday**

**Session 4 - Neurogliopathology.   *Chair: Agneta Nordberg***

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9:00-9:25 - **Agneta Nordberg**, Karolinska Institute, Div. of Clinical Geriatrics, Center for Alzheimer's Research, Dept. of Neurobiology, Sweden

*“Astrocytosis as an Early Event  in the Time Course of Interactive Pathological Processes in AD as Revealed by PET”*

9:30-9:55 - **Milos Pekny**, Department of Clinical Neuroscience, Sahlgrenska Academy, University of Gothenburg, Sweden

*“Nanofilament System of Astrocytes – an Important Player and Target in CNS Diseases”*

10:00-10:25 - **Isidro Ferrer**, University of Barcelona, Department of Pathology and Experimental Therapeutics, Pathology Unit; CIBERNED, Spain

*“Involvement of Astrocytes and Oligodendrocytes in Tau Seeding and Spreading in Tauopathies”.*

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* *10:30 -10:50    Coffee break*

**Session 5 – Neurogliopathology 2.   *Chair: Zaal Kokaia***

11:00-11:25 -  **Elly Hol**, Department of Translational Neuroscience, UMC Utrecht Brain Center, University Medical Center Utrecht, Netherlands

*“Reactive Glia as a Trigger of Synapse Dysfunction and Cognitive Impairment”*

11:30-11:55 - **Tony Wyss-Coray**, Department of Neurology and Wu Tsai Neurosciences Institute, Stanford University, USA

*“Microglia in the Aging Brain"*

12:00-12:25 - **Zaal Kokaia**, Department of Clinical Sciences, Lund, Division of Neurology, Skåne University Hospital, Lund University, Sweden

*“Macrophages in Stroke Lesioned Brain”*

* *12:30 - 13:20    Lunch break*

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**Session 6 - Microglia.   *Chair: Jonathan Kipnis***

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13:30-13:55 - **Jonathan Kipnis**, Department of Neuroscience, School of Medicine, University of Virginia, USA

*"Microglia and Meningeal Macrophages in Brain’s Health and Disease"*

14:00-14:25 - **Mami Noda**, Kyushu University, Graduate School of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Japan

*" Cellular Mechanism of Thyroid Dysfunction in the Central Nervous System "*

14:30-14:55 - **Christopher K. Glass**, Department of Cellular and Molecular Medicine, Department of Medicine, UC San Diego, USA

*"Nature and Nurture of Human Microglia"*

15:00-15:25 - **Marco Colonna**, Washington University School of Medicine, Department of Pathology and Immunology, USA

*“The Identity and Function of Microglia in Neurodegeneration”*

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* *15:30 - 15:50   Coffee Break*

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**Session 7 - White matter.  *Chair: Dwight Bergles***

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16:00-16:25 - **Dwight Bergles**, Solomon H. Snyder Department of Neuroscience, Kavli Neuroscience Discovery Institute, Johns Hopkins University, USA

*“Oligodendrocyte Dynamics in the Adult Brain”*

16:30-16:55 - **Arthur Butt**, Institute for Biomedical and Biomolecular Sciences, University of Portsmouth, UK

*“Identifying Novel Targets to Promote Life-long Generation of Oligodendrocytes and Myelin”*

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**Closing session - A. Roitbak: Reflections on a Life’s Work**

17:00-17:10 - **Guram Bekaia,**I. Beritashvili Center of Experimental Biomedicine, Georgia

17:10-17:25 -  **Ilya Ocherashvili**, New York Migraine Associates, USA

*“Academic A. Roitbak”*

17:30 - Closing Remarks

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* *19:00   Dinner*

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**September 28, 2019. Saturday:**

Scientific tour in Kakheti region,  lecture on the history of Georgian neuroscience,  plans for the next conference

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