

# 10th Annual Stem Cell Science Symposium

Thursday, February 16, 2023 | 9 AM - 4 PM  
Gross Hall, Thorp Conference Center

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**Keynote Speaker:**  
**Ali Brivanlou, PhD**

The Rockefeller  
University

*"Synthetic Embryos:  
Emergence of the  
Human Brain and  
Progression of  
Neurodegenerative  
Diseases"*

**9:10 AM - 9:50 AM**



**Claire Henchcliffe,  
MD, PhD**

University of California,  
Irvine

*"Stem Cell Therapies for  
Parkinson's Disease:  
Promises and Pitfalls"*

**10:35 AM - 11:05 AM**



**Sydney Prange**

University of California,  
Irvine

*"Dendrotomy, But Not  
Axotomy, Induces  
Neuroprotection in  
Drosophila Models of  
polyQ Disease"*

**11:05 AM - 11:20 AM**



**Randolph Ashton, PhD**

University of  
Wisconsin-Madison

*"Bioengineering Human CNS  
Morphogenesis for  
Regulatory Science, Disease  
Modeling, and Prophylactic  
Drug Discovery Applications"*

**11:20 AM - 11:50 AM**



**Jacob Deyell**

University of California,  
Irvine

*"The Neuroprotective  
Role of PPAR $\delta$  in  
Microglia"*

**12:00 PM - 12:15 PM**

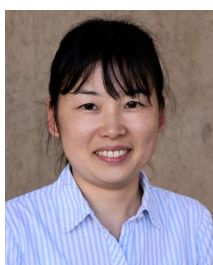


**Zahara Keulen**

University of California,  
Irvine

*"Neuronal Tau Pathology  
Alters Human Microglial  
Morphology,  
Transcriptome, and  
Function"*

**1:15 PM - 1:30 PM**



**Momoko Watanabe,  
PhD**

University of California,  
Irvine

*"Human Brain  
Organoids: New Models  
to Study Neural  
Development and  
Disease"*

**1:30 PM - 2:00 PM**



**Haley Masters**

University of  
California, Irvine

*"Sequential Emergence  
of Epithelial Subtypes in  
the Prenatal Human  
Choroid Plexus Revealed  
by a Stem Cell Model"*

**2:00 PM - 2:15 PM**



**Brad Olwin, PhD**

University of  
Colorado Boulder

*"Assessing Satellite Cell  
Function by Quantitative  
Lineage Tracing and Single  
Nuclear Sequencing"*

**2:40 PM - 3:10 PM**



**Michael Hicks, PhD**

University of California,  
Irvine

*"Making and Breaking  
the Skeletal Muscle  
Stem Cell Niche"*

**3:20 PM - 3:50 PM**

## FEATURED COMMUNITY LECTURE

The Beckman Center | 100 Academy Way, Irvine, CA | Complimentary Parking  
Thursday, February 16, 2023 | 7:00-8:00 PM

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### **Keynote Speaker: Ali Brivanlou, PhD**

The Rockefeller University

*"Synthetic Embryos:  
Emergence of the Human Brain  
and Progression of  
Neurodegenerative Diseases"*

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The Beginnings of Brains:

What Stem Cells Can Tell Us About Human Development and Disease

About the speaker: Dr. Brivanlou is an international leader in the effort to understand the intricacies of human embryonic stem cells and to harness their therapeutic potential. He has played a key role in establishing scientific standards for human embryonic stem cell research. Fundamental studies in the Brivanlou laboratory are not only offering insights into human reproductive biology and development, but also into specific diseases. Using a self-organizing 3D colony of human cells that mimics the brain, the group has demonstrated that the origin of Huntington's disease can be traced to the earliest stage of development and the formation of the nervous system, and thus is a developmental disorder that ultimately manifests its destructive effects in adulthood.

**Important note from the Beckman Center:** Effective Oct. 4, 2021, the National Academies requires that all visitors to the Beckman Center be fully vaccinated against COVID-19. Visitors must show their official COVID-19 Vaccination Record Card (or a digital photo of the card) before entering the building. Masks are currently optional for those that are up to date on their vaccinations. Up to date means a person has received all recommended doses in their primary series of COVID-19 vaccine.