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[Authors]. [Abstract Title]. Program No. XXX.XX. 2026 Neuroscience Meeting Planner. Washington, DC: Society for Neuroscience, 2026. Online.

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Information is current as of October 13, 2026. See the Neuroscience 2026 Neuroscience Meeting Planner on SfN.org for the most up-to-date information.

Meet-the-Clinician-Expert Session

MTCE01: Meet-the-Clinician-Expert: Mayberg — From Mapping Depression Circuits to Circuit Modulation: Path to DBS

Location: WCC Rm 201

Time: Saturday, November 14, 2026, 1:30 PM - 2:30 PM

Description: In this session, the speaker will reflect on a career as a neurologist, where neuroimaging studies of depression defined the circuits that ultimately led to the development of deep brain stimulation (DBS) for treatment-resistant depression. The speaker will describe how this work evolved into a transdisciplinary, team-based program integrating clinical insight, imaging, engineering, and basic science, and highlight lessons learned in building collaborations and translating discoveries into therapies.

Session Sponsor:

Moderator: *L. M. ROMANSKI;
Univ. of Rochester, Rochester, NY

Disclosures:

Speaker: H. S. Mayberg;
Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai, New York, NY.

Disclosures: H.S. Mayberg: C. Other Research Support (receipt of drugs, supplies, equipment or other in-kind support); Medtronic: Device donation for NIH funded research. E. Ownership Interest (stock, stock options, royalty, receipt of intellectual property rights/patent holder, excluding diversified mutual funds); Abbott: IP licensing Fees. F. Consulting Fees (e.g., advisory boards); Abbott: Consulting to ongoing Clinical Trial.

Grant Support: NIH BRAIN UH3NS141080
NIH BRAIN UH3NS103550
NIMH R01 MH132789
NIH 5R01MH102238
Wellcome LEAP MCPsych
BD2 Foundation Discovery

Meet-the-Clinician-Expert Session

MTCE02: Meet-the-Clinician-Expert: Grinberg — Building a Life in Science: From an LMIC to Leadership as a Woman Clinician-Scientist

Location: WCC Rm 201

Time: Monday, November 16, 2026, 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM

Description: In this session, the speaker will reflect on her path from Brazil to the United States, where small clinical observations will grow into research programs in neuropathology, sleep, and neurodegeneration. She will discuss grit, reinvention, teamwork, and the challenge of balancing career, personal life, and self-care, while sharing lessons she will offer to those starting similar paths.

Session Sponsor:

Moderator: *M. V. LOURENCO;
Federal Univ. of Rio de Janeiro, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

Disclosures:

Speaker: L. T. Grinberg;
MayoClinic, jacksonville, FL.

Disclosures: L.T. Grinberg: D. Fees for Non-CME Services Received Directly from Commercial Interest or their Agents (e.g., speakers' bureaus); Orator Inc.. F. Consulting Fees (e.g., advisory boards); UCB.

Grant Support: Nih K24AG053435

Meet-the-Expert Session

MTE01: Meet-the-Expert: Raman — Time and Time Again

Location: WCC Rm 201

Time: Saturday, November 14, 2026, 3:30 PM - 4:30 PM

Description: The speaker's research involves the study of specializations of ion channels and synaptic physiology that permit neurons to transmit signals with specific informational content, particularly in the context of well-timed sensory and motor signals. In this session, she will discuss her scientific trajectory and how it has led her to the questions she has addressed in the laboratory.

Session Sponsor:

Moderator: *F. VIANA;
Univ. Miguel Hernandez-CSIC, San Juan de Alicante, Spain

Disclosures:

Speaker: I. M. Raman;
Northwestern University, Evanston, IL.

Disclosures: I.M. Raman: None.

Grant Support: NIH Grant NS116854

Meet-the-Expert Session

MTE02: Meet-the-Expert: Chedotal — Building Connections: Development and Evolution of Brain Wiring

Location: WCC Rm 201

Time: Sunday, November 15, 2026, 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM

Description: How are brain circuits assembled during development? This question has driven the speaker's research journey. In this session, he will present his work on axon guidance in the brainstem and visual system, highlighting the experimental approaches he has used — from mouse genetics to tissue clearing and 3D imaging. More recently, his interests have expanded to the evolution of axon guidance mechanisms, exploring diverse animal models and revisiting human embryology. Beyond the science, he will share how his path has been shaped by serendipity, collaborations, and the emergence of new technologies.

Session Sponsor: Thorlabs, Inc.

Moderator: *K. R. MONK;
Oregon Hlth. & Sci. Univ., Portland, OR

Disclosures:

Speaker: A. Chedotal;
Université Claude Bernard Lyon 1/Hospices Civils de Lyon, Lyon, FRANCE.

Disclosures: A. Chedotal: None.

Grant Support: Fondation pour la Recherche Medicale EQU202303016301
IHU FOReSIGHT (ANR-18-IAHU-01)
Wellcome Human Developmental Biology Initiative (215116/Z/18/Z)
CIFAR McMillan multiscale human program
Agence National de la Recherche France 2030 ANR-23-CHBS-0004

Meet-the-Expert Session

MTE03: Meet-the-Expert: McGlone — A Symphony in C: A Journey Through Pain, Itch, and Pleasure

Location: WCC Rm 201

Time: Sunday, November 15, 2026, 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Description: In this session, a running theme will be the role of a class of c-fibres in what one could call a "protection racket," and the effects of serendipity in the speaker's research journey over the past ~40 years. The c-fibres in question are the nociceptor, the pruriceptor, and the relatively new addition for human research, the "hedonoceptor." Pain and itch will serve as examples of how vital such "harm detectors" are to survival, but the focus will be hedonoceptors and how working in a soap company provided the intellectual freedom and financial support to fund this journey.

Session Sponsor: Thorlabs, Inc.

Moderator: *R. ACKERLEY;
CNRS - Aix-Marseille Univ., Marseille, France

Disclosures:

Speaker: F. P. McGlone;
Manchester Metropolitan University, Manchester, UNITED KINGDOM.

Disclosures: F.P. McGlone: None.

Grant Support: Leverhulme Trust Grant RPG-2013-058
MRC grant: Human Mechanosensation: RA27LC

Meet-the-Expert Session

MTE04: Meet-the-Expert: Wager — Thoughts, Beliefs, and the Body: The Construction and Regulation of Feelings

Location: WCC Rm 201

Time: Sunday, November 15, 2026, 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM

Description: Feelings are central to human experience. They arise from distributed neural processes that integrate sensory and somatic input, contextual beliefs, and personal goals. In this session, the speaker will describe research on how feelings are constructed and regulated in the brain, and why understanding their neural foundations matters on both personal and scientific levels.

Session Sponsor:

Moderator: *A. J. SHACKMAN;
Univ. of Maryland, College Park, MD

Disclosures:

Speaker: T. D. Wager;
Dartmouth College, Hanover, NH.

Disclosures: T.D. Wager: E. Ownership Interest (stock, stock options, royalty, receipt of intellectual property rights/patent holder, excluding diversified mutual funds); Curable Health, Neurovitals.

Grant Support: NIH Grant R37MH076136
NIH Grant R01MH129397
NIH Grant R01EB026549
NIH Grant R01DA063043
NIH Grant U54DA049110

Meet-the-Expert Session

MTE05: Meet-the-Expert: Wu — Harnessing Brain Immune Power: How Microglia Shape Neuronal Activity

Location: WCC Rm 201

Time: Sunday, November 15, 2026, 3:00 PM - 4:00 PM

Description: In this session, the speaker will describe recent discoveries on how microglia sense, respond to, and regulate neuronal activity in health and disease. The session will highlight *in vivo* imaging approaches to study microglia-neuron interaction and its implication for circuit function, plasticity, and neurological disorders. The speaker will also outline a long-term vision to harness brain immune cells for therapeutic development.

Session Sponsor: Thorlabs, Inc.

Moderator: *Y. ZHANG;
Massachusetts Gen. Hospital/Harvard Med. Sch., Charlestown, MA

Disclosures:

Speaker: L. Wu;
University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston, Houston, TX.

Disclosures: L. Wu: None.

Grant Support: NIH Grant NS132326
NIH Grant AG082314
NIH Grant AG069701
NIH Grant ES033892
NIH Grant AT012544

Meet-the-Expert Session

MTE06: Meet-the-Expert: Russo — Building a Translational Research Program to Study the Neuroimmune Mechanisms of Depression

Location: WCC Rm 201

Time: Monday, November 16, 2026, 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM

Description: In this session, the speaker will present cross-species data to understand how peripheral immune cells interact with the brain to regulate circuits involved in depression and anxiety. It also highlights translational efforts to study stress-induced neuroimmune dysfunction, including inflammation and monocytosis. These findings underscore the need for targeted therapies to treat major depressive disorder (MDD) and post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) by modulating neuroimmune pathways.

Session Sponsor:

Moderator: *D. SCHILLER;
Icahn Sch. of Med. at Mount Sinai, New York, NY

Disclosures:

Speaker: S. J. Russo;
Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai, New York, NY.

Disclosures: S.J. Russo: A. Employment/Salary (full or part-time):; Full time Professor at Mount Sinai. E. Ownership Interest (stock, stock options, royalty, receipt of intellectual property rights/patent holder, excluding diversified mutual funds); Pending patent for use of IL4R antagonists in depression. F. Consulting Fees (e.g., advisory boards); Dr. Russo serves on the advisory board of INIA-N (NIAAA).

Grant Support: R01MH104559
Leon Levy Foundation

Meet-the-Expert Session

MTE07: Meet-the-Expert: Behrmann — Connected Hemispheres: Across the Brain and Across the World

Location: WCC Rm 201

Time: Monday, November 16, 2026, 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Description: How does the brain assemble a meaningful interpretation of the visual world from the sparse signals from the eyes? To address this, leveraging previous clinical experience, the speaker studies individuals in whom vision is abnormal at the level of the eyes or at the level of the brain. This session will discuss the use of a reverse engineering approach to elucidate the normal neural system from studies of an impaired system, has shed light on how humans recognize complex patterns such as words and faces, and how, in longitudinal studies, plasticity can lead to reorganization of visual cortex.

Session Sponsor:

Moderator: *M. RAMOT;
Weizmann Inst. of Sci., Rehovot, Israel

Disclosures:

Speaker: M. Behrmann;
University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA.

Disclosures: M. Behrmann: A. Employment/Salary (full or part-time):; University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine. B. Contracted Research/Research Grant (principal investigator for a drug study, collaborator or consultant and pending and current grants). If you are a PI for a drug study, report that research relationship even if those funds come to an institution.; National Institutes of Health. F. Consulting Fees (e.g., advisory boards); Consultant, Rhygaze; Advisory Board Rothschild Foundation; Advisory Board Hebrew University.

Grant Support: R01EY027018
R01EY026701
P30 CORE award EY08098
The Research to Prevent Blindness Inc, NY
Eye & Ear Foundation of Pittsburgh

Meet-the-Expert Session

MTE08: Meet-the-Expert: Bastian — One Size Does Not Fit All: Lessons From a Career Studying Movement and the Brain

Location: WCC Rm 201

Time: Monday, November 16, 2026, 3:00 PM - 4:00 PM

Description: The speaker's path from physical therapist to neuroscientist was driven by fascination with the brain and a need to answer clinical questions asked daily. Why is rehabilitation often one-size-fits-all when brain damage is so varied? On the flip side, why does the same therapy help some patients dramatically but barely touch others? In this session, the speaker will share some key discoveries about motor control and learning and make the case for the importance of human neuroscience for rehabilitation.

Session Sponsor:

Moderator: *S. A. JAYASINGHE;
Univ. of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN

Disclosures:

Speaker: A. J. Bastian;
Kennedy Krieger Institute, Baltimore, MD.

Disclosures: A.J. Bastian: None.

Grant Support: NIH Grant R35NS122266
NIH Grant P50HD118624
NIH Grant R01HD040289
Raynor Cerebellum Project

Meet-the-Expert Session

MTE09: Meet-the-Expert: St-Pierre — Reading the Brain With Light: A Bioengineer's Journey in Toolmaking

Location: WCC Rm 201

Time: Tuesday, November 17, 2026, 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM

Description: Fifteen years ago, fluorescent protein-based sensors capable of reporting millisecond-scale electrical activity *in vivo* were widely viewed as infeasible. In this session, the speaker will share his journey toward developing optical voltage reporters, highlighting both technical breakthroughs and practical challenges. Topics will include the realities of toolmaking research, navigating publishing and funding, and disseminating new technologies to the neuroscience community.

Session Sponsor:

Moderator: *V. EMILIANI;
Vision Insitut, CNRS, Paris, France

Disclosures:

Speaker: F. St-Pierre;
Baylor College of Medicine, Houston, TX.

Disclosures: F. St-Pierre: F. Consulting Fees (e.g., advisory boards); Co-founder and scientific advisor for Imagen Bioworks, Consultant for Flagship Pioneering. Other; Is an inventor on a U.S. patent covering a class of genetically encoded voltage indicators.

Grant Support: NIH Grant U01NS133971
NIH Grant R01NS136027
NIH Grant R01EB027145
NIH Grant U01NS113294
NSF NeuroNex Innovation Award 1707359
Welch Foundation Grant Q-2016-20190330
Vivian L. Smith Endowed Professorship

Meet-the-Expert Session

MTE10: Meet-the-Expert: Bilbo — Brain-Body Interactions Through the Lens of Immunity

Location: WCC Rm 201

Time: Tuesday, November 17, 2026, 2:30 PM - 3:30 PM

Description: The speaker's research program aims to understand the mechanisms by which the immune system and nervous system communicate and impact one another, and how their interactions, particularly early in life, influence the development of neural circuits and complex behaviors such as cognition and emotion. Recently, her work has begun to examine novel aspects of body-brain interactions, including the lung-brain axis, via these neuroimmune interactions. This session will describe the research journey that brought this speaker to these topics.

Session Sponsor:

Moderator: *H. LEE;
Baylor Col. of Med., Houston, TX

Disclosures:

Speaker: S. Bilbo;
Duke University, Durham, NC.

Disclosures: S. Bilbo: None.

Grant Support: NIH R01-ES033056
NIH U01 AA029969
NIH R01 DA051164
NIH R01-MH137305
Cure Alzheimer's Fund
CIFAR Child and Brain Development