

2026 MARC Research Symposium

University of California, Irvine

Tuesday, September 22, 2026

Oral Presentations

4201 Natural Sciences II | 9:45 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

TIME	PRESENTER	PRESENTATION TITLE	FACULTY MENTOR
9:45 a.m. Welcome & Introduction — Dr. Roberto Tinoco			
10:00 a.m.	Anny Wang	A transcriptional reporter system for de novo-protein mediated endosomal escape	David Baker, PhD; Institute of Protein Design
10:12 a.m.	David Martinez	Fibrosis driven neural reprogramming in pancreatic adenocarcinoma	Sarah Knox, PhD; UC San Francisco
10:24 a.m.	Ash Rosales	Establishing CRISPR-Cas9 genome editing in the disease-associated gut bacterium <i>Eggerthella lenta</i>	Peter Turnbaugh, PhD; UC San Francisco
10:36 a.m.	Advaith Srinivas	Recurrent bacterial vaginosis: Investigating causes and potential treatments	Erika Cyphert, PhD; UC San Diego
Break			
11:00 a.m.	Simon Li	Selective glycosylation site mutagenesis in the KSHV glycoprotein B to improve immunogenicity	Ting-Ting Wu, PhD; UC Los Angeles
11:12 a.m.	Zedriq Rafael	Propionate mitigates alcohol intoxication by blocking protein carbamylation	Cholsoo Jang, PhD; UC Irvine
11:24 a.m.	Emilia Djordjevic	Investigating a fully-suspended culture protocol for retinal organoid development	Magdalene Seiler, PhD; UC Irvine
11:36 a.m.	Christopher Dao	Evaluating the effects of HIV latency-reversing agents on CAR T cell function	Matthew Marsden, PhD; UC Irvine
11:48 a.m.	Bryn Beers	Selective degradation of mislocalized mutant proteins via methyl arginine targeting chimeras	Lauren Albrecht, PhD; UC Irvine

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Poster Presentations

Howard Schneiderman Lecture Hall 200 | 1:00 – 2:30 p.m.

NO.	PRESENTER	POSTER TITLE	FACULTY MENTOR
1	Katrina Yan	Characterizing DNA damage response phenotypes across the cell cycle with a novel QIBC workflow	Rémi Buisson, PhD; UC Irvine
2	Dina Naziri	Investigating cortical neurons as a potential site of latency for HSV-1: Implications for Alzheimer's disease	Orkide Koyuncu, PhD; UC Irvine
3	Anthony Contreras	Virus-specific CD8+ T cells undergo phenotypic and functional exhaustion in liver-specific SAPS3-deficient mice	Roberto Tinoco, PhD; UC Irvine
4	Alan Lopez	Synergistically enhancing the HIV “kick and kill” cure approach using novel PKC modulators and BET-bromodomain inhibitors	Matthew Marsden, PhD; UC Irvine
5	Annabella Moretti	Examining B cell recognition of palmitic acid	Dequina Nicholas, PhD; UC Irvine
6	Julian Masloub	Genome Mining and Metal Toxicity: Metallophore Discovery Strategies in the Cyanobacterium <i>Leptolyngbya</i> sp. 94ISB-08B	Nicole Avalon, PhD, MPAS, PA-C; UC Irvine
7	Isaac Hur	The impact of stearoyl-CoA desaturase 1 (Scd1) on the mechanism of ferroptosis in breast cancer	Kai Kessenbrock, PhD; UC Irvine
8	Ethan Jacoby	Planar cell polarity in tendons is regulated by force	Thomas Schilling, PhD; UC Irvine
9	Abhineet Maini	Targeting N-glycosylation to modulate drug transport and temozolomide resistance in glioblastoma	Lisa Flanagan, PhD; UC Irvine
10	Lan Vu	Liver-specific SAPS3 deletion does not alter virus-specific CD4+ T cell exhaustion during chronic viral infections	Roberto Tinoco, PhD; UC Irvine
11	Leonard Wang	Building a gene expression atlas of developing brainstem motor neurons as a toolbox to study rare congenital neurologic disorders	Matthew Rose, MD-PhD; UC Irvine
12	Joshua Yu	Seeing the bigger PYCture: Antiphage defense phenotypes	Alex Johnson, PhD; Brandeis University
13	Christine Nalbandian	Evaluating viral levels in SAPS3-deficient mice during chronic LCMV infection	Roberto Tinoco, PhD; UC Irvine

Closing Remarks & Awards | 2:40 – 3:00 p.m. | Howard Schneiderman Lecture Hall 200