

## **Making and Breaking Biological Barriers**

Date: Tuesday 2 June 2026

Venue: Lecture Hall 2, Biomedicum, Haartmaninkatu 8, Helsinki

### **Program**

8.15 – 8.50 Registration and setting up posters

8.50 – 9.00 Opening, Johanna Ivaska

### **SESSION I – Imaging and understanding barriers** - Chair: Pipsa Saharinen

09.00 – 09.40 iCANDOC Keynote: Kathleen Green, Northwestern University – Integrating Physical and Immune Barriers through Desmosomes

09.40 – 10.20 Alf Honigmann, BIOTEC Dresden – How cells make tight junctions

10.20 – 10.35 Short talk: Satu Myllymäki – Principles of mammary gland branching morphogenesis

10.35 – 11.30 **Coffee break and posters**

### **SESSION II – The barrier cytoskeleton** - Chair: Pekka Lappalainen

11.30 – 12.10 Laura Machesky, University of Cambridge – Mechanosensing and macropinocytosis in pancreatic cancer

12.10 – 12.25 Short talk: Shraman Bohra Kumar, University of Helsinki - Regulation of the Endothelial Barrier by Actin

12.25 – 12.40 Short talk: Xiang Le (Jerry) Chua, University of Helsinki – Building actin filaments for cell-matrix adhesions (preliminary speaker & title)

12.40 – 13.40 **LUNCH** (at own cost – speakers' lunch provided)

### **SESSION III – Understanding molecular and cell dynamics** Chair: Ilpo Vattulainen

13.40 – 14.20 Aurélien Roux, University of Geneva – Organisation of forces and order during the elongation of gastruloids

14.20 – 14.35 Short talk: Michal Dibus, University of Turku – Tensin-1 protein condensates and stress signaling in adhesion regulation

14.35 – 14.50 Short talk: Shreyas Kpatan, University of Helsinki – Mission not impossible to elucidate the activation mechanism of membrane receptors: AI, analyze the data!

14.50 – 15.15 Poster previews/flash talks

15.15 – 16.15 Coffee break and poster session

**SESSION IV – Modelling and visualising cell behaviour** - Chair: Sara Wickström

16.15 – 16.55 Julia Yeomans, University of Oxford – Modelling epithelial tissues as active materials

16.55 – 17.35 Michael SIXT, Institute of Science and Technology Austria – Mechanics and energetics of migrating leukocytes

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Organized with iCANDOC