

# Charles Weissmann Memorial Symposium

Monday, October 12, 2026

|                                                             |                                                                                                            |                      |
|-------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|
| 09:00 – 09:15                                               | Opening Welcome Address                                                                                    | Adriano Aguzzi       |
| Session I – Molecular Biology I – Chair: Michael Hengartner |                                                                                                            |                      |
| 09:15 – 09:50                                               | On 62 years of friendship and collaboration with Charles Weissmann                                         | Piet Borst           |
| 09:50 – 10:25                                               | DNA damage at the basis of aging and neurodegeneration: the unexpected impact of nutrition and gene length | Jan Hoeijmakers      |
| 10:25 – 11:00                                               | Coffee Break                                                                                               |                      |
| Session II – Molecular Biology II – Chair: Silvia Domcke    |                                                                                                            |                      |
| 11:00 – 11:35                                               | Bacteria and Archaea in their natural environments - a global survey                                       | Christian van Mering |
| 11:35 – 12:10                                               | Phosphomachines: Active Organizers of the Cyto- and Nucleoplasm?                                           | Lucas Pelkmans       |
| 12:10 - 12:45                                               | Dissecting Disease Mechanisms Through the Lens of Humanized Mice                                           | Esen Sefik           |
| 12:45 – 14:00                                               | Lunch Break                                                                                                |                      |
| Session III – Immunology – Chair: Francesca Peri            |                                                                                                            |                      |
| 14:00 – 14:35                                               | Bratwurst and Rösti, Brahms, Q-beta and more with Charles: DAMP molecules in cancer immunity               | Tadatsugu Taniguchi  |
| 14:35 – 15:10                                               | What’s new? Immune sensing of cancer                                                                       | Richard Flavell      |
| 15:10 – 15:45                                               | From interferon to cell death                                                                              | Shigekazu Nagata     |
| 15:45 – 16:30                                               | Coffee Break                                                                                               |                      |
| Evening Keynote – Chair: Beatrice Beck-Schimmer             |                                                                                                            |                      |
| 16:30 – 17:30                                               | Archaic Genomics                                                                                           | Svante Pääbo         |

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| Prions / Neurodegeneration – Chair: Adriano Aguzzi |                                                                           |                       |
|----------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 09:00 – 09:35                                      | Reflections on transmissible dementias                                    | John Collinge         |
| 09:35 – 10:10                                      | Translating Translation in Neurodegeneration                              | Giovanna Mallucci     |
| 10:10 – 10:45                                      | <i>Coffee Break</i>                                                       |                       |
| 10:45 – 11:20                                      | Cellular models of TDP-43 pathology: the prion concept beyond prions      | Magdalini Polymenidou |
| 11:20 – 11:55                                      | Beyond amyloid: leveraging the physiological functions of APP for therapy | Ulrike Müller         |
| 11:55 – 12:10                                      | Closing Remarks                                                           | Adriano Aguzzi        |
| 12:10– 14:00                                       | <i>Lunch Break</i>                                                        |                       |