



OTTO LOEWI RESEARCH CENTER SCIENCE DAY 2026

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 5TH 2026

HÖRSAAL MC4 | MEDICAL UNIVERSITY OF GRAZ
NEUE STIFTINGTALSTRASSE 6 | 8010 GRAZ

WELCOME FROM

9:00 – Univ.-Prof. Dr. med.univ. **Akos Heinemann**
Vice Rector of Research

– Univ.-Prof. Priv.-Doz. Mag. Dr. rer. nat. **Tobias Madl**
Head of the Otto Loewi Research Center

SESSION 1 CANCER AND FIBROSIS

9:20 **Tobias Madl**
Targeting "undruggable" transcription factors

9:40 **Elisabeth Fließer**
The role of endothelial cells in the pathogenesis of pulmonary fibrosis

10:00 **Armin Zebisch**
RAS-signaling in myeloid leukemogenesis

10:20 **4-MINUTES FLASH TALKS**

- Thomas Bauer: Eggs-posed: Tumors on a Plastic Diet
- Oliver Kindler: The Unwilling Presenter - educating cancer cells in-vivo
- Bernhard Reiter: Immunophenotyping of Pulmonary Hypertension associated with Chronic Lung Disease
- Katharina Schindlmaier: Partial Gluconeogenesis: Macrophages' Plan B in the TME
- Alyssa Schnabl: Replicative stress as a source of metabolite antigens in pediatric leukemia

10:40 **COFFEE BREAK | NETWORKING**

SESSION 2 STRUCTURAL BIOLOGY AND TRANSLATIONAL MEDICINE

11:10 **Sonja Lackner**
At the Crossroads of Nutrition, (Immune-) Metabolism and Psychiatry

11:30 Marco Eigenfeld

From youth to senescence: Molecular and physiological insights from age-separated yeast

11:50 Pedro Sánchez Murcia

Revealing the molecular basis of the pathophysiology of active defective human lysosomal hydrolases

12:10 4-MINUTES FLASH TALKS

- Denys Balandin: Regulation of TCF/LEF transcriptional activity in Wnt signaling
- Kaj Dingendoott: Influence of nutrition and inflammatory food intake during pregnancy on circulating human milk oligosaccharides (HMO) composition
- Spase Stojanov: Magnetic nanoparticles as delivery system for vaginal probiotics
- Stefan Wolf: Immune Cell Infiltration in Lipedema
- Diana Zakharchuk: Controlled degradation of nanorobots via computationally engineered biocatalysts

12:30 LUNCH

SESSION 3 METABOLISM

13:30 **Andrijana Kirsch**
Effect of incretin receptor agonism on endothelial metabolism

13:50 **Florian Reichmann**
Environmental modulation of gut-brain axis signaling in an animal model of ulcerative colitis

14:10 **Paul Vesely**
Metabolism of Lung Regeneration

14:30 4-MINUTES FLASH TALKS

- Elena Maria Grao-Cruces: High-density lipoprotein (HDL) lipid remodelling: which are the implications for cardiovascular health?
- Natalia Krajic: The crosstalk between incretins, endothelial cells and adipocytes in cardiometabolic disease
- Angela Mathew: Age-Based Separation of Komagataella phaffii Cells for Evaluating Enhanced Protein Synthesis
- Anna Rieder: Bile acids and GLP-1 as novel modulators of fetal mesenchymal stem cell function: Implications for adipogenesis
- Lamija Zijadic: ApoA-I mimetic nanodiscs preferentially associate with high-density lipoprotein and enhance its functionality in human plasma

14:50 COFFEE BREAK | NETWORKING

SESSION 4 INFLAMMATION AND CARDIOVASCULAR RESEARCH

15:20 Stefano Angiari

Identification of a novel circulating biomarker of inflammation

15:40 Anirudh Muralikrishnan

Effect of Incretins on peripheral T-cells – investigating the immune cellular effects of incretin therapy

16:00 Susanne Sattler

Autoimmune mechanisms in heart disease: Old suspects and new culprits



16:20 4-MINUTES FLASH TALKS

- Johannes Lorenz Berg: The MMP14-endostatin-Notch3 axis in vascular remodeling
- Izabela Borek: CtsC as a therapeutic target in pulmonary arterial hypertension
- Theresa Gogg: Disease-Driven Alterations of Circadian Clock Proteins in Leukocytes from COPD Patients
- Ayu Hutami Syarif: Compartmentalized immune responses in COPD lungs
- Saba Mahboubi: Metabolic regulation of Th9 cells

16:40 PLENARY LECTURE

Prof. Sebastian Preissl, Department of Pharmacology and Toxicology, University of Graz
Dissecting cell-type-specific gene regulation through single-cell multiomics

17:30 MEETING CLOSURE AND PRIZE ANNOUNCEMENT

DINNER AND SOCIAL HOURS

The meeting has been registered for DFP (Continuing Medical Education) points for medical doctors. Attendance to the meeting will be recognized with 8 DFP points. Furthermore, CPD points will be allocated for the event. Please get in touch with Geraldine Zenz geraldine.zenz@medunigraz.at to receive the necessary form.