



October 7-8, 2025 / Purdue Biology 150th Anniversary Celebrating our Legacy – Shaping the Future

October 7: 150th Anniversary Karling Lecture

12:30 – 1:30pm, DLR 131 (Lunch provided at 12:00pm)

[Denise Montell](#), [Duggan Professor and Distinguished Professor](#), UC Santa Barbara

“Racing from border cell migration to an improved cancer immunotherapy”

October 8: 150th Anniversary Symposium and Karling Lectures PMU North and South Ballrooms

8:45 – 9:00 am

Welcome & Opening Remarks / Continental Breakfast

9:00 – 10:35 am

Session 1: From Molecular Structures to Function

Chairs: [John Tesmer](#), Walther Distinguished Professor in Cancer Structural Biology, Purdue Biological Sciences

[Ram Subramanian](#), Gerald and Edna Mann Director, Bindley Center for Bioscience, Professor of Purdue Biomedical Engineering and Biological Sciences

- [Janet Smith](#), Rita Willis Professor of the Life Sciences, Martha L. Ludwig Distinguished University Professor of Biological Chemistry, University of Michigan: *“Flavivirus NS1: Jack of All Trades in Viral Pathogenesis”* (25 minutes)
- [Jack Johnson](#), Professor Emeritus, The Scripps Research Institute: *“Bacteriophage HK97: Proteolytic and Conformational Control of Virus Capsid Maturation”* (25 minutes)
- [Nick Noinaj](#), Associate Professor, Purdue Biological Sciences: *“The role of Neisserial surface machineries in hijacking host nutritional immunity”* (20 minutes)
- [Brian Metzger](#), Assistant Professor, Purdue Biological Sciences: *“Dissecting the evolution of gene regulation using interspecies genetics”* (20 minutes)
- Q&A and Discussion (5minutes)

10:35 – 10:50 am - Coffee Break and Networking

10:50 am – 12:20 pm

Session 2: From Molecules and Cells to Phenotypes and Behaviors

Chairs: [Claudio Aguilar](#), Professor, Purdue Biological Sciences

[Brittany Allen-Petersen](#), Assistant Professor, Purdue Biological Sciences

- [Doug Robinson](#), Professor, Johns Hopkins University, Purdue Distinguished Science Alumnus: *“Cellular Form: the Basis of Healthy Function”* (25 minutes)
- [Jason Hanna](#), Assistant Professor, Purdue Biological Sciences: *“Insights from rare sarcomas”* (20 minutes)
- [Matt Tegtmeier](#), Assistant Professor, Purdue Biological Sciences: *“Population-scale functional genomics using cell villages nominates astrocyte lipid metabolism as a therapeutic target for schizophrenia”* (20 minutes)
- [Jimmy Dooley](#), Asst. Professor, Biological Sciences: *“Sleep like a baby: How REM sleep helps the brain learn to move”* (20 minutes)
- Q&A and Discussion (5 minutes)

12:20 – 1:30 pm - Lunch Break & Networking

1:30–2:30 pm

Session 3: Shaping the future of Biological Sciences.

Introduction: [Stephanie Gardner](#), Professor, Purdue Biological Sciences

- [David Asai](#), Former Senior Director for Science Education, HHMI : *The future of Science Education—Vision, Challenges, Opportunities* (25 minutes)

Panel Discussion

Moderators: [Perry Paschou](#), Professor and Head, Purdue Biological Sciences

[Stephanie Gardner](#), Professor, Purdue Biological Sciences

Introductory Remarks by each Panelist (20 minutes) / Moderated Discussion and Q&A (10 minutes).

- [Rita Colwell](#), Distinguished University Professor, University of Maryland at College Park and Johns Hopkins, Purdue Distinguished Science Alumna
- [Anne Carpenter](#), Senior Director of the Imaging Platform, Institute Scientist, Broad Institute, Purdue BIO 150th Anniversary Distinguished Alumna
- [Richard Kuhn](#), Trent and Judith Anderson Distinguished Professor in Science, Former Department Head, Purdue Biological Sciences

- [David Asai](#), Former Senior Director for Science Education, HHMI and former Department Head of Purdue Biological Sciences

2:30–2:50 pm - Coffee Break & Networking

2:50 – 4:45 pm

Session 4: From Genomes to Evolution

Chairs: [Mark Christie](#), Professor, Purdue Biological Sciences

[Stan Gelvin](#), Edwin Umbarger Distinguished Professor, Purdue Biological Sciences

- [Daniel Hartl](#), Higgins Professor of Biology, Harvard University: *“Malaria Past, Present, and Future”* (25 minutes)
- [Qixin He](#), Mary J. Elmore New Frontiers Assistant Professor, Purdue Biological Sciences: *“Shared and divergent evolutionary patterns in antigens and allergens”* (20 minutes)
- [Jeff Bennetzen](#), Norman and Doris Giles Professor, Georgia Research Alliance Eminent Scholar, University of Georgia: *“Agents of Change, Inside and Outside Plant Genomes”* (25 minutes)
- [Sergio A. Muñoz-Gómez](#), Assistant Professor, Purdue Biological Sciences: *“Are mitochondria required for cellular complexification?”* (20 minutes)
- [Dylan Wainwright](#), Assistant Professor, Purdue Biological Sciences: *“The slimy and snotty mucus of fishes”* (20 minutes)
- Q&A and Discussion (5 minutes)

4:45–6:00 pm

Poster Session & Reception

- Student and faculty posters and student awards
 - Refreshments and networking
 - Three 150th Anniversary Best Poster Awards - \$1,000 each **(Announced at 5:45pm)**
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