June 8, 2025- Day 1 Schedule

3:00 PM- 6:00 PM	Registration Desk Open	Welcome Center S2
	Registration will continue to be available for guests outside of Ballroom 4/5	
4:00 PM	Check-In	Welcome Center
3:00 PM – 5:45 PM	Poster Setup Open Exhibitor Set up Open	Fox Ballroom 4
6:00 PM	Welcome & Start of Meeting Rooster Prize: Talk and Award Presentation	Fox Ballroom 5-6
7:30 PM – 9:30 PM	Welcome Reception (Light snacks will be served)	Courtyard

June 9, 2025- Day 2 Schedule

7:00 AM	**Breakfast**	Dining Room
8:30 AM	**Keynote Lecture** Vera Gorbunova (Department of Biology, Rochester Aging Research Center, University of Rochester, Rochester, New York, USA) Increased hyaluronan by naked mole-rat Has2 improves healthspan in mice.	Fox Ballroom 5-6
9:10 AM	**Refreshments/Exhibitors**	North Reception
9:25 AM 10:15 AM	**Session 1: HA Across the Lifespan** Chairs: Vivien Coulson-Thomas, Akankshi Munjal Akankshi Munjal (Department of Cell Biology, Duke University School of Medicine, Durham, North Carolina, USA) Hyaluronan, tuned by versican, drives inner ear canal morphogenesis. Susi Borzacchiello (Institute of Composite and Biomedical Materials-C.N.R. and Interdisciplinary Research Centre on Biomaterials, University of Naples, Naples, Italy) Hyaluronan: Inside-Out Short talks (Selected from abstracts) Larry Sherman (Division of Neuroscience, Oregon National Primate Research Center, Beaverton, OR, and Department of Cell, Developmental and Cancer Biology, Portland, OR, USA) Blocking CEMIP activity as a strategy to prevent vascular brain injury and cognitive decline in patients with Alzheimer's disease.	Fox Ballroom 5-6

	Ulf Anderegg (Ulm University, Ulm, Germany) Hyaluronan synthase knockout mice: reduced bone quality and osteogenic differentiation of mesenchymal stem cells. Caitlin Lewis (University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus, Aurora, USA) Pulmonary LYVE1+ macrophages accumulate and bind hyaluronan in response to hypoxia, modulated by the redox environment.	
11:00 AM	**Poster Preview #1- Flash Talks**	Fox Ballroom 5/6
11:30 AM	**Lunch**	Dining Room
12:40 PM	**Session 2: HA in Inflammation and Immunology** Chairs: Aaron Petrey, Charles Frevert Joe Reynolds (Center for Cancer, Cell Biology, Immunology and Infection, Rosalind Franklin University of Medicine and Science, Chicago, Illinois, USA) Regulation of inflammatory T cell function through HA modulation. Charles Frevert (Department of Comparative Medicine, University of Washington, Seattle, Washington, USA) Versican-hyaluronan matrices: key players in the innate immune response to influenza A virus.	Fox Ballroom 5-6
1:30 PM	Short talks (Selected from abstracts) Aeliya Zaidi (Wales Kidney Research Unit, School of Medicine, Cardiff University, and Cardiff Transplant Unit, University Hospital of Wales, Cardiff, UK) Therapeutic modulation of stromal hyaluronan matrices via soluble CD44V7/8: a novel strategy to attenuate renal fibrosis and enhance renal outcomes. Rashmin Savani (University of Florida, Gainesville USA and University of Texas Southwestern Medical Cener, Dallas, USA). CD44 is critical for TLR4-mediated NLRP3 inflammasome activation and the development of bronchopulmonary dysplasia. LP Adhikari (Rosalind Franklin University of Medicine and Science, North Chicago, USA) Hyaluronic acid impacts the inflammatory potential and pathogenicity of autoreactive TH17 cells. Meghan Moran (Rush University Medical Center, Chicago USA) Bikunin-CS in serum and synovial fluid distinguishes between joint effusion and synovial pannus formation in an *in vivo* model of joint inflammation.	

2:30 PM	**Refreshments/Exhibitors**	North Reception
2:45 PM 4:15 PM	**Poster Session 1**	Fox Ballroom 4
4:15 PM	**Refreshments/Exhibitors**	North Reception
4:30 PM	**Renato Iozzo Singular Achievement Award Presentation**	Fox Ballroom 5-6
4:40 PM	**Session 3: HA in Signaling and Cellular Biology** Chairs: Larry Sherman, Li Kang Spencer Freeman (Program in Cell Biology, Hospital for Sick Children, Toronto, Ontario, Canada) The glycocalyx at close encounters between cells: from picket fences to cell death. Li Kang (Department of Diabetes Endocrinology and Reproductive Biology, School of Medicine, University of Dundee, Scotland, UK) Role of HA and its membrane receptors in insulin resistance and tissue dysfunction in obesity.	Fox Ballroom 5-6
5:30 PM	Short talks (Selected from abstracts) Vivien Coulson-Thomas (University of Houston, Houston, USA) HA/CD44 regulates limbal epithelial stem cell (LESC) differentiation. Lydia Smith (University of Utah, Salt Lake City, USA) Loss of layilin skews colonic macrophages towards a pro-inflammatory phenotype during colitis. Lennart Gebert (Heinrich Heine University Düsseldorf, Germany) Knockout of proteoglycan versican modulates cardiac remodeling after myocardial infarction. David Jackson (University of Oxford, Oxford, UK) Structure and unusual binding mechanism of the hyaluronan receptor LYVE-1 mediating immune cell entry to lymphatics.	

Dinner on your own

June 10, 2025 – Day 3 Schedule

7:00 AM	**Breakfast**	Dining Room
8:30 AM	**Endre Balazs and Janet Denlinger Award Lecture** **TBA**	Fox Ballroom 5-6
9:00 AM	**Session #4 HA in Biophysics and Structural Biology** Chairs: Ralf Richter, Jennifer Curtis	Fox Ballroom 5-6

	Jennifer Curtis (School of Physics, Institute for Matter and Systems, Georgia Tech, Atlanta, GA, USA) Mechanical consequences of HA pericellular matrix and its remodeling by HYAL2 during cell spreading. Adam Hall (School of Biomedical Engineering and Sciences, Wake Forest University, Winston-Salem, NC, USA) New insights into hyaluronan and heavy chain-hyaluronan enabled by nanopore analysis.	
9:50 AM	Short talks (Selected from abstracts) Ralf Richter (University of Leeds, Leeds, UK) Revealing the unbinding mechanics of hyaluronan · receptor interactions on live cells. Haining Shi (Bloomage Biotechnology Co., Ltd., Jinan, China) The impact of different exercise intensities on knee joint health. Yu Jing (Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta, USA) The role of HYAL2 in mediating hyaluronan degradation during cell-matrix adhesion.	
10:35 AM	**Refreshments/Exhibitors**	North Reception
10:45 AM	**Business Meeting (All welcome to attend)** **Includes an Update on Plans for HA 2027!**	Fox Ballroom 5-6
11:30 AM	**Lunch** The ISHAS Early Career Working Group (ECWG) invites all trainees (students, post-docs, early-career researchers) to join us for lunch in the cafeteria - this will be an informal chance to catch-up with familiar faces and meet new ones!	Dining Room
12:40 PM	**Session #5 HA in Cancer Biology** Chairs: Carmela Ricciardelli, Sarah Heilshorn Sarah Heilshorn (Department of Materials Science & Engineering, Stanford University, Stanford, California, USA) Designer HA biomaterials for cancer organoid models. Sanna Pasonen-Seppänen (Institute of Biomedicine, School of Medicine, University of Eastern Finland, Joensuu, Kuopio, Finland) Dynamic interplay between macrophages and melanoma cells in tumor microenvironment-the effects on hyaluronan matrix and protumor inflammation.	Fox Ballroom 5-6

1:30 PM	Short talks (Selected from abstracts) Andrew Feyo (University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, USA and Lifecore Biomedical, Chaska, USA) Understanding the impact of ovarian cancer cell genomic properties on the uptake of hyaluronic acid coated nanoparticles. Carmela Ricciardelli (Discipline of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, Adelaide Medical School, Robinson Research Institute, University of Adelaide, Adelaide, Australia) Identification of novel targets of hyaluronan signalling in ovarian cancer. Arianna Parnigoni (Department of Medical Biochemistry and Microbiology, Uppsala University, Uppsala, Sweden) Deciphering the role of CD44s and CD44v10 in Palbociclib resistant triple-negative breast cancer.	
2:15 PM	**Afternoon Free and Dinner on your own**	

June 11, 2025 – Day 4 Schedule

7:00 AM	**Breakfast**	Dining Room
8:30 AM	**Keynote Lecture** Jason Burdick (Department of Chemical and Biological Engineering, University of Colorado Boulder, Colorado, USA) Engineering biomedical hydrogels from hyaluronic acid.	Fox Ballroom 5-6
9:10 AM	**Refreshments/Exhibitors**	North Reception
9:25 AM	**Session #6 HA in Metabolism and Synthesis** Chairs: Melanie Simpson, Michele Pritchard Michele Pritchard (Department of Pharmacology, Toxicology, & Therapeutics, The University of Kansas Medical Center, Kansas City, Kansas, USA) Liver regeneration after toxin-induced injury requires hyaluronan synthesis. Marcella Vaicik (Department of Biomedical Engineering, Illinois Institute of Technology, Chicago, Illinois, USA) Matrix matters in the metabolic switch in adipose tissue.	Fox Ballroom 5-6
10:15 AM	Short talks (Selected from abstracts) Anna Strnadová (Public Health and Clinical Medicine, Umeå University, Umeå, Sweden) Hyaluronan metabolism in development of hypertrophic cardiomyopathy.	

	Asher Utz (North Carolina State University, Raleigh, USA) Phosphorylation of UDP-glucose 6-dehydrogenase promotes tumor spheroid growth by redistributing nucleotide sugars to elevate glycosaminoglycan levels. Jan Scrimgeour (Clarkson University, Potsdam USA) Towards a detailed kinetic model for hyaluronan synthesis by non-processive enzymes.	
11:00 AM	**Poster Preview #2-Flash Talks**	Fox Ballroom 5/6
11:30 AM	**Lunch**	Dining Room
12:40 PM 1:30 PM	**Session #7 Therapeutics and Biotechnological Applications of HA** Chairs: Sarah Calve, Anna Plaas Annalisa LaGatta (Department of Experimental Medicine, Vanvitelli University, Caserta, Italy) New Insights in hyaluronan chemical modification and hydrogel features: implications for biomedical applications of hyaluronan. Sarah Calve (Paul M Rady Department of Mechanical Engineering, University of Colorado Boulder, Colorado, USA) Modulation of tendon biomechanics by hyaluronic acid Short talks (Selected from abstracts) Sara Silva (University of Porto, Porto, Portugal) Fabrication of blood-brain barrier (BBB) models using self-assembling peptides and hyaluronan: from 2D to 3D. Kristina Nesporova (Contipro, Dolni Dobrouc, Czech Republic) Oral hyaluronic acid as a protective agent against UV-induced photoaging. Melanie Leroux (HTL Biotechnology, Javene, France) Methacrylated HA: From polymer synthesis platform towards multiple and versatile biomedical applications. Zhe Liu (Bloomage Biotechnology Co., Ltd., Jinan, China) Supramolecular sodium hyaluronate-ectoin complex: a novel skin permeating anti-inflammatory and anti-aging agent.	Fox Ballroom 5-6
2:30 PM	**Refreshments/Exhibitors**	North Reception
2:45 PM – 4:15 PM	**Poster Session 2**	Fox Ballroom 4
4:15 PM	**Refreshments/Exhibitors**	North Reception

4:30 PM	**Session #8 Tissue Engineering and Regenerative Medicine** Chairs: Deva Chan, Alyssa Panitch Alyssa Panitch (Wallace H. Coulter Department of Biomedical Engineering, Emory University, Atlanta, Georgia, USA) HA functionalization and biological properties. Chiara Schiraldi (Department of Experimental Medicine, Section of Biotechnology, Medical Histology and Molecular Biology, University of Campania "Luigi Vanvitelli", Naples, Italy) Mimicking extracellular matrix: glycosaminoglycans as key components in inks for 3D printed scaffolds in tissue engineering and regenerative medicine.	Fox Ballroom 5-6
5:20 PM	Short talks (Selected from abstracts) Rayan Abdulhadi (Illinois Institute of Technology, Chicago, USA) Design of hydrogel drug delivery platforms with network infrastructure for controlled release of a 35 kDa hyaluronan oligosaccharide. Giacomo Garofolin (Fidia Farmaceutici, Abano Terme, Italy) Photoinitiator-free hyaluronic acid and gelatin-based photocrosslinkable bioink for extrusion 3D-bioprinting. Thorsten Kirsch (NYU Grossman School of Medicine and Tandon School of Engineering, New York, USA) Anti-inflammatory and anti-fibrotic effects of a RHAMM-mimetic peptide on synovial fibroblasts.	
6:05 PM	**Free Time**	
7:00 PM – 10:00 PM	**Dinner and Celebration** **"Sights, Sounds and Taste of Chicago"** **Presentation of Travel and Poster Awards**	Pavilion

June 12, 2025 – Day 5 Schedule

7:00 AM	**Breakfast**	Dining Room
8:30 AM	**Session #9 HA in Metabolic and Systemic Disease** Chairs: Soma Meran, Hala Chaaban Jessica Kwok (Department of Biological Sciences, University of Leeds, Leeds, UK) Hyaluronan modulation induces systemic plasticity in the central nervous system.	Fox Ballroom 5-6

	Hala Chaaban (Department of Pediatrics, The University of Oklahoma College of Medicine, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, USA) Maternal influences on human milk hyaluronan: implications for neonatal gut protection.	
9:30 AM	Short talks (Selected from abstracts) Irina Grigorieva (Cardiff University, Cardiff, UK) Investigating the dual role of hyaluronan in kidney disease. Maren Döring (Institute for Translational Pharmacology, Medical Faculty and University Hospital Düsseldorf, Heinrich Heine University, Düsseldorf, Germany) Role of HAS2 in bone marrow niche alterations in the development and progression of type 2 diabetes. Hali Harwood (Department of Molecular and Structural Biochemistry, NC State University, Raleigh, USA) Clinical UGDH C-terminal domain variants uniquely disrupt enzyme assembly, activity, and ligand binding, inducing developmental dysfunction.	
10:05 AM	**Refreshments/Exhibitors**	North Reception
10:30 AM	**Session # 10 HA in Infectious Diseases** Chairs: Stavros Garantziotis, Chelsie Armbruster Chelsie Armbruster (University of Buffalo, Buffalo, New York, USA) Degradation of hyaluronan contributes to *Enterococcus faecalis* colonization and dissemination within the catheterized urinary tract. George Liu (Department of Pediatrics, School of Medicine, University of California San Diego, California, USA) Bacterial hyaluronidases as pathogenic factor of human diseases.	Fox Ballroom 5-6
11:20 AM	Short talks (Selected from abstracts) Stephen Reeves (Center for Respiratory Biology and Therapeutics, Seattle Children's Research Institute, Seattle, USA and Department of Pediatrics, University of Washington School of Medicine, Seattle, USA) Group B Streptococcus hyaluronidase promotes lung invasion and early onset disease. Rebecca Dodd (Manchester Cell Matrix Centre and Lydia Becker Institute of Immunology and Inflammation, University of Manchester, Manchester, UK) Injury from nematode lung migration induces an IL-13 dependent hyaluronan matrix.	

	Duncan Hart (University of Virginia, Charlottesville, USA) The primary hyaluronan receptor CD44 drives COVID-19 severity through mediation of neutrophil migration.	
12:05 PM	**Closing Remarks**	Fox Ballroom 5-6
12:30 PM	**Lunch**	Dining Room