

Biochemistry Research Day
Friday May 9, 2025 - JSMBS 2220A/B
Alumni Keynote Seminar Presentations



8:40am – 9:25am

Peter Penzes, PhD (*Napoli lab-1997*)

Ruth and Evelyn Dunbar Professor of Psychiatry and
Behavioral Sciences
Northwestern University

"Intercellular signaling through soluble ectodomains at neuronal
synapses: from basic biology to biomarkers and treatments"



1:05pm – 1:50pm

Siva Sankari, PhD (*O'Brian lab-2016*)

Assistant Investigator
Stowers Institute for Medical Research
Assistant Professor, The Graduate School of the Stowers
Institute for Medical Research

"Host peptides drive bacterial differentiation"



3:40pm – 4:25pm

Kirstie Cummings, PhD (*Popescu lab-2016*)

Assistant Professor of Neurobiology
University of Alabama, Birmingham

"Prefrontal GABAergic interneuron regulation of memory"



4:30pm – 5:15pm

Kushal Suryamohan, PhD (*Halfon lab-2016*)

Field Bioinformatics group leader for Americas at Oxford
Nanopore Technologies

"The short story of long-read sequencing and a new era of
genome assemblies"

Department of Biochemistry

955 Main Street, Suite 4102, Buffalo, NY 14203
716.829.2727 (F) 716.829.2725

medicine.buffalo.edu