

Beyond the Microbiome

Molecules, Mechanisms, and the Future of Host-Microbe Biology

Friday, October 9, 2026 9:30 – 16:06 | Fortune Garden Kyoto, Japan (4F, The Metropole room)

Time	Session	Speaker / Presentation	Duration
9:30–9:35	Opening Remarks	Bill Moran Publisher, Science Family of Journals, AAAS	5 min
9:35–9:45	Opening Remarks	Kohey Kitao Founder, Representative Director & CEO, Noster Inc.	10 min
9:45–10:05	Noster's Metabolite Research Strategy	Noster Inc.	20 min
10:05–10:20	Editor's Comment	Latest trends and developments in the microbiome field Sarah Ross Associate Editor, Science <i>"Emerging themes in microbiome research"</i>	15 min
10:20–11:00	Session 1 Chair: Reiko Shinkura	New functions of microbial metabolites ① (15-min talk, 5-min Q&A) Chun-Jun Guo Associate Professor of Microbiology & Immunology in Medicine, Weill Cornell Medicine <i>"Using Genetics to Explore Microbe-Host Interactions at the Molecular Level"</i> New functions of microbial metabolites ② (15-min talk, 5-min Q&A) Eran Blacher Gut-Brain Axis Research Group, Department of Biological Chemistry, The Alexander Silberman Institute of Life Sciences, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Israel <i>"Age-dependent gut barrier failure amplifies stroke injury via a microbiota-lipid axis"</i>	20 min×2
11:00–11:20	Coffee Break		20 min
11:20–12:00	Session 2 Chair: Toshikazu Yoshikawa	Structural studies of functional molecules (15-min talk, 5-min Q&A) Antonio Molinaro Full Professor of Organic Chemistry, University of Naples Federico II / Specially Appointed Professor of Chemical Biology, The University of Osaka <i>"Bacterial endotoxins: the revolution of gut microbiota"</i> Clinical effects of microbial metabolites (15-min talk, 5-min Q&A) Wataru Ogawa Specially Appointed Professor, Section of Metabolic Diseases, Division of Translational Science, Kobe University Graduate School of Medicine <i>"Gut-Mediated Regulation of Skeletal Muscle Mass"</i>	20 min×2
12:00–13:15	Lunch		75 min

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13:15– 13:45	Prize Session Chair: Djenet Bousbaine	Award essay presentation ① (7-min talk, 3-min Q&A) Yibin Zhu Research Associate Professor, School of Basic Medical Sciences, Tsinghua University <i>"Mosquito-borne virus transmission and microbiota"</i> Award essay presentation ② (7-min talk, 3-min Q&A) Erik Bakkeren Assistant Professor, Tier II Canada Research Chair, CIFAR Azrieli Global Scholar / Department of Biological Sciences & Snyder Institute for Chronic Diseases, University of Calgary <i>"Ecology of the gut microbiome: harnessing microbial competition to prevent and cure deadly diseases"</i> Award essay presentation ③ (7-min talk, 3-min Q&A) Taichi Suzuki Assistant Professor, College of Health Solutions & Biodesign Center for Health Through Microbiomes, Arizona State University <i>"The Missing Thriftiness: Microbial Contributions to Host Adaptation"</i>	10 min×3
13:45– 14:45	Session 3 Chair: Hiroshi Itoh	New applications of bacteria to medical science ① (15-min talk, 5-min Q&A) Reiko Shinkura Professor, The Institute for Quantitative Biosciences, The University of Tokyo <i>"A new IgA-based drug development aimed at improving the gut microbiome by distinguishing between beneficial and harmful gut bacteria"</i> New applications of bacteria to medical science ② (15-min talk, 5-min Q&A) Djenet Bousbaine Incoming Assistant Professor, UC Berkeley — School of Public Health (Infectious Diseases and Vaccinology) and Molecular and Cell Biology (Immunology and Molecular Medicine) <i>"Engineering Genetically Intractable Commensal Bacteria for Topical Vaccination"</i> Lipid diversity and networks (15-min talk, 5-min Q&A) Makoto Arita Professor & Dean, Keio University Faculty of Pharmacy / Core Director, Human Biology Microbiome Quantum Research Center / Team Director, RIKEN-IMS <i>"Lipidome Atlas associated with aging and the host-microbiome interactions"</i>	20 min×3
14:45– 15:05	Coffee Break		20 min
15:05– 16:05	Round Table Discussion Chairs: Hiroshi Itoh, Wataru Ogawa	Discussion on 3–4 themes Hiroshi Itoh Specially Appointed Professor, Center for Preventive Medicine, Keio University / Professor Emeritus of Keio University Wataru Ogawa Specially Appointed Professor, Section of Metabolic Diseases, Division of Translational Science, Kobe University Graduate School of Medicine Naofumi Yoshida National Cerebral and Cardiovascular Center Research Institute	60 min
16:05– 16:06	Closing Comment	Hiroshi Itoh, Wataru Ogawa	1 min