

KAUST Brain Awareness Week April 13–17, 2025



Sunday, April 13, 2025, *Foundations of Learning and Sensory Processing*

11:00 AM: Opening Remarks

11:30 AM – 12:00 PM: " **Brain energy and learning:** role of glial cells, the emerging mavericks of the brain" by Prof. Pierre Magistretti (*KAUST*)

12:00 PM - 12:45 PM: Lunch

1:00 PM - 1:45 PM: "What goes on in Ronaldo's head when he scores for Al Nassr": An Interactive Demo by Prof. Shubha Tole (*TIFR, India*)

2:00 PM - 3:00 PM: Neuroscience across continents - How the Neuroverse get scientists closer: A virtual reality public demo with Prof. Corrado Cali (*University of Torino Italy*), Prof. Marco Agus (*HBKU, Qatar*) and Prof. Leena Ibrahim (*KAUST*).

1:45 PM - 4:00 PM: Brain Exploration Pavilion featuring interactive booths and demos

Monday, April 14, 2025, *Brain Development and the Teenage Brain*

10:30 AM: Brain Exploration Pavilion opens

12:00 PM - 12:45 PM: Lunch

1:00 PM - 1:20 PM: "Outside-In: How we perceive the world" by Prof. Shubha Tole (*TIFR, India*)

1:30 PM - 2:00 PM: " **Neurons Gone Wild:** The Science of Teenage Brains and Their Decision-Making" by Dr. Paul O'Callaghan.

2:00 PM – 4:00 PM: Brain Exploration Pavilion

Tuesday, April 15, 2025, *Brain Health and Wellness*

10:30 AM: Brain Exploration Pavilion opens

12:00 PM - 12:45 PM: Lunch

1:00 PM -1:30 PM: "mRNA Biology: Unlocking New Paths to Brain Wellness" by Prof. Imed Gallouzi (*KAUST*).

1:30 – 4:00 PM: Brain Exploration Pavilion

2:00 PM – 2:45 PM: Your Brain on Improv: A fun and creative Improv session by Basel Al-Naffouri (*BATS Improv*)

5:00 PM: Movie Night featuring "Inside Out 2". Co-sponsored with KAUST Wellbeing Week

Wednesday, April 16, 2025, Innovation and Creativity

11:30 AM - 12:00 PM: "Artificial Intelligence and the Brain: Building Safe, Smart and Sustainable Machines" by Prof. Jesper Tegner (KAUST)

12:00 – 12:45 PM: Lunch

1:00 PM - 1:45 PM: "Crossing the Hemispheres: A Personal Journey" by Prof. David Keyes (KAUST)

1:45 PM - 4:00 PM: Brain Exploration Pavilion open

3:00 PM - 4:00 PM: Your Brain, Your Future: Exciting Career Paths in Neuroscience: Join us for a dynamic panel discussion where experts from a spectrum of disciplines unite to explore the significant transformations in neuroscience. Discover how the integration of diverse technologies is revolutionizing our understanding of the brain and learn about the exciting career opportunities this field offers. Our panelists will share insights into making these advancements accessible and impactful for all. Panelists include Prof. Jesper Tegner, Prof. Ahmed Eltawil, Prof. Sahika Inal, Prof. Sara Elfarrash, Prof. Matteo Parsani, Prof. Leena Ibrahim.

Thursday, April 17, 2025, Exciting Transformations in Neuroscience

تحولات مثيرة في علم الأعصاب

9:00 AM: Opening remarks and Lectures in Arabic

The Brain-Body Connection: How brain and body interact with each other to influence your mental and physical health: by Prof. Hilal Lashuel (Qatar Foundation)

From Cells to Solutions: Tackling Parkinson's Disease: How understanding specific brain circuits and dysfunctions is opening new doors for treatment and hope for patients with neurodegenerative diseases like Parkinson's by Prof. Sara Elfarrash (Fakieh College for Medical Science, Jeddah)

10:00 AM – 12: 00 PM: Brain Exploration Pavilion

11:30-12:00 pm: Your Brain on Improv: A fun and creative Improv session by Basel Al-Naffouri (BATS Improv) (Arabic Version)

12:00-12:45 pm: Lunch