

**Genetics Society Autumn Meeting: Functional Regulatory Genomics & Disease
16 - 18 November 2020 | Hadyn Ellis Building, Cardiff University**

Programme

Monday 16 November

12:00-12:30 Registration

12:30-12:35 Welcome

12:35-12:45 Introduction to the conference
Dr Alasdair MacKenzie, University of Aberdeen

**Session 1: The Non-Coding Genome in Health and Disease
Chair: Professor Anneke Lucassen, University of Southampton**

12:45-12:50 Introduction to the session

12:50-13:15 Professor Andrew McIntosh, The University of Edinburgh
The genetic architecture of depression

13:15-13:40 Professor Ruth Loos, University of Icahn
The genetics of obesity – from genes to biology...to clinical practise

13:40-14:05 Professor Michael O'Donovan, Cardiff University
Genetics of mental health disorders

14:05-14:30 Professor David FitzPatrick, The University of Edinburgh
Genetic basis of human eye malformations

14:30-14:50 **Refreshment break**

14:50-15:05 Professor Anneke Lucassen, University of Southampton
To be confirmed

15:05-15:30 Professor Danielle Posthuma, University of Amsterdam
Identifying genetic pathways for brain disorders

15:30-15:45 Selected speaker

15:45-16:00 Selected speaker

16:00-16:05 Introduction to the poster session
Dr Alasdair MacKenzie, University of Aberdeen

16:05-17:00 Poster pitches

17:00-18:00 **Drinks reception and poster viewing**

Tuesday 17 November

08:30-09:00 Registration

Session 2: “Big Data” Approaches in Functional Genomics **Chair: Dr Nick Bray, Cardiff University**

09:00-09:05 Introduction to the session
Dr Nick Bray, Cardiff University

09:05-09:30 Professor Marcelo Nobrega, University of Chicago
Functionally dissecting the genetic landscape of complex human traits

09:30-09:55 Dr Tatjana Sauka-Spengler, University of Oxford
To be confirmed

09:55-10:20 Dr Nick Bray, Cardiff University
Gene regulation in the prenatal human brain and genetic risk for neuropsychiatric disorders

10:20-10:40 **Refreshment break**

10:40-11:05 Professor Stefan Hoppler, University of Aberdeen
Whole genome signal transduction pathway interaction

11:05-11:30 Professor Jonathan Mill, University of Exeter
Epigenetics of psychiatric disease

11:30-11:55 Professor Chris Ponting, The University of Edinburgh
Pinpointing casual variants for human complex traits and diseases

11:55-12:20 Dr Renée van Amerongen, University of Amsterdam
To be confirmed

12:20-12:35 Selected speaker

12:35-12:50 Selected speaker

12:50-13:50 **Lunch break**
Poster session

Session 3: The Biology of Gene Regulation **Chair: Professor Robert Hill, The University of Edinburgh**

13:50-13:55 Introduction to the session
Professor Robert Hill, The University of Edinburgh

13:55-14:20 Professor Robert Hill, The University of Edinburgh
Mutations in long distance regulators and disruption of chromatin organisation effect congenital defects

14:20-14:45 Dr Alasdair MacKenzie, University of Aberdeen

Exploring the regulatory genetics of fat and alcohol intake and anxiety

- 14:45-15:10** Professor Axel Visel, University of California
Distant acting enhancers in development, disease and evolution
- 15:10-15:30** **Refreshment break**
- 15:30-15:55** Professor Marc S Halfon, University at Buffalo
Convergence and divergence of enhancer sequences
- 15:55-16:20** Dr Emma K Farley, University of California
Enhancer syntax and function
- 16:20-16:55** Professor François Spitz, Institut Pasteur
Genomics and epigenomics of animal development
- 16:55-17:20** Professor Douglas Higgs, University of Oxford
Gene regulation during haematopoiesis
- 17:20-17:35** Selected speaker
- 17:35-17:50** Selected speaker
- 17:50-18:20** **Genetics Society AGM**
- 19:00-20:00** **Public engagement event**
Dr Alasdair MacKenzie, University of Aberdeen
Delving the genetic “dark matter” to determine the causes of human disease
- 19:00-21:00** **Conference Dinner**
Chapel 1877 Bar & Restaurant, Churchill Way, Cardiff CF10 2WF

Wednesday 18 November

08:30-09:00 Registration

Session 4: Epigenetics and Gene Regulation

Chair: Professor Wendy Bickmore, The University of Edinburgh

09:00-09:05 Introduction to the session

Professor Wendy Bickmore, The University of Edinburgh

09:05-09:30 Dr Chris Murgatroyd, Manchester Metropolitan University

Epigenetics of early life stress

09:30-09:55 Dr Kathy Evans, The University of Edinburgh

Characterising differential methylation associated with dementia risk

09:55-10:20 Professor Gert Jan Veenstra, University of Nijmegen

The role of Polycomb in gene regulation and exit of pluripotency

10:20-10:35 **Refreshment break**

10:35-11:00 Professor Rebecca Oakey, King's College London

The activity of intragenic CpG islands influences alternative splicing and polyadenylation genome-wide generating tissue-specific transcriptomes

11:00-11:25 To be confirmed

11:25-11:50 Professor Wendy Bickmore, The University of Edinburgh

To be confirmed

11:50-12:05 Selected speaker

12:05-12:20 Selected speaker

12:20-12:30 Final comments

Dr Alasdair MacKenzie, University of Aberdeen

12:30-13:30 Lunch break

13:30 **End**