PROGRAMME

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 14TH, 2026

Paris Brain Institute

Celebrating the 15th anniversary of the Paris Brain Institute

As an introduction to the forum, the Paris Brain Institute is also organizing a series of plenary lectures and round tables on January 14 to celebrate its 15 years of existence.

08:30 - 09:00 **WELCOME COFFEE & REGISTRATION**
Light breakfast and informal networking in the lobby

ACHIEVEMENTS IN NEUROSCIENCE AT THE PARIS BRAIN INSTITUTE & BEYOND OVER THE PAST 15 YEARS

Session in English, presented by the Paris Brain Institute steering committee members and international key opinion leaders.

09:00 - 09:10 **Greetings**
Stéphanie Debette - *Executive Director of the Paris Brain Institute*

09:10 - 09:45 **Keynote**
How do Brain Synapses get the Proteins they Need?
Erin Schuman - *Frankfurt Max Planck for Brain Research, Germany*
Chair : **Stéphanie Debette -** *Executive Director of the Paris Brain Institute*

09:45 – 10:10 **Breakthroughs in Cellular and Molecular Neurobiology**
Paris Brain Institute speakers : **Stéphanie Baulac & Nicolas Renier**
Chair : ***Philip De Jager*** *- Columbia University and Paris Brain Institute, USA, France*

10:10 – 10:35 **Transformative Research in Integrative Neurophysiology**
Paris Brain Institute speakers : **Claire Wyart & Nelson Rebola**
Chair : **Jaime De Juan Sanz** *– Paris Brain Institute, France*

BREAK

11:00 – 11:25 **AI for Neuroscience and Neuroscience for AI**
Paris Brain Institute speakers : **Jacobo Sitt & Olivier Colliot**
Chair : **Adrienne Fairhall** - *University of Washington, Seattle, USA*

11:25 – 11:50 **From Lab to Life: Key Advances in Clinical and Translational Neuroscience**
Paris Brain Institute speakers : **Céline Louapre & Mehdi Touat**
Chair : **Nada Jabado** - *McGill University, Canada*

11:50 - 12:25 **Keynote**
Finding principles of neural function through theory
Adrienne Fairhall - *University of Washington, USA*
Chair : **Alberto Bacci** - *Paris Brain Institute, France*

CELEBRATORY LUNCH

13:30 - 13:55 **Critical Discoveries in Cognitive Neuroscience**
Paris Brain Institute speakers : **Liane Schmidt & Paolo Bartolomeo**
Chair : **Mathias Pessiglione** - *Paris Brain Institute*

13:55 - 14:30 **Keynote**
How Memory Guides Value-based Decision
Daphna Shohamy - *Columbia University, USA*
Chair : **Mathias Pessiglione** - *Paris Brain Institute*

FUTURE PERSPECTIVES THROUGH THE LENS OF EARLY-CAREER RESEARCHERS

Session in English, presented by early and mid-career researchers and illustrated with cartoons by Frédéric Deligne.

15:00 - 15:05 **Welcome Adresses**
Stéphanie Debette - *Executive Director of the Paris Brain Institute*
Edith Gross - *International Scientific Affairs Manager, Paris Brain Institute*

15:05 - 16:35 **Lightning Talks & Joint Perspectives**
Chair : **Edith Gross** - *International Scientific Affairs Manager, Paris Brain Institute*

15:05 - 15:20 **Alzheimer's Disease**
Susana Boluda - *Paris Brain Institute*
Alexandre Trotier - *Paris Brain Institute*
Discussion

15:20 - 15:35 **Parkinson's Disease**
Aymeric Lanore - *Paris Brain Institute*
Nicolas Tempier - *Paris Brain Institute*
Discussion

15:35 - 15:50 **Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis**
Thomas Nedelec - *Paris Brain Institute*
Lea El Hajjar - *Paris Brain Institute*
Discussion

15:50 - 16:05 **Glioma**
Oumaima Aboubakr - *Paris Brain Institute*
Reuben Dorent - *Paris Brain Institute*
Discussion

16:05 - 16:20 **Multiple Sclerosis**
Andrea Lazzarotto - *Paris Brain Institute*
Tala Karam - *Paris Brain Institute*
Discussion

16:20 - 16:35 **Mental Health**
David Aziz Alaoui - *Paris Brain Institute*
Marc Benhamou - *Paris Brain Institute*
Discussion

16:35 - 16:45 **Equity and Inclusivity in Brain Research**
Violetta Zujovic - *Paris Brain Institute PI & Chair of Alba Network*

16:45 - 17:05 **Creating connections**
Presented by Cure-ND early and mid-career researchers.
Chair : **Olivier Stéphan -** *Director of International Alliances & Competitive Funding, Paris Brain Institute*

Helena Balabin – *KU Leuven, Belgium - Neurosciences – Artificial Intelligence*
Viola Volpato – *UK DRI, UK - Parkinson's Disease and insulin resistance*
Jannis Spintge – *DZNE, Germany - Systemic inflammation in Alzheimer Disease*
Bastien Rioux – *Paris Brain Institute, France - Brain and vessels*

16:45 - 17:05 **VISIT OF THE PITIÉ-SALPÊTRIÈRE CAMPUS**

PROGRAMME

THURSDAY, JANUARY 15TH, 2026

UNESCO House

World Brain Health Forum Main Conference

All keynotes pitches and panel discussion, roundtables, and talks throughout the day will be held in English.

7:30 - 08:30 **Welcome and Registration**

08:30 - 9:20 **WORDS OF WELCOME AND INAUGURATION**

Brief Welcome Addresses

Serge Weinberg – *President of the Paris Brain Institute*
Jean Todt - *Vice-President of the Paris Brain Institute*
Olivier Goy - *Paris Brain Institute Ambassador*
Didier Samuel - *Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Inserm*
Stéphanie Debette - *Executive Director of the Paris Brain Institute*

Inaugural Lectures on Global, Intersectoral Partnerships

Khaled El-Enany - *Director-General of UNESCO*
His Excellency Ban Ki-moon - *8th Secretary-General of the United Nations*
Tedros Adhanom Gebreyesus - *World Health Organization Director-General (video)*

9:20 – 11:00 **SESSION 1 : TOWARDS A HOLISTIC APPROACH TO BRAIN HEALTH**

Focus: Redefining brain disease boundaries using biological and molecular hallmarks to accelerate development of accurate biomarkers, therapies, and prevention.

Aging populations worldwide contribute to a massive rise in common age-related neurological diseases while, simultaneously, mental health conditions are surging among the younger working-age population, at a scale that weakens our societies. There is an urgent need for coordinated global action addressing both neurological and mental disorders. These share mechanisms and profound consequences on brain function and may trigger or exacerbate each other. Redefining brain disease entities by biological, molecular hallmarks rather than siloed clinical entities could considerably facilitate the development of accurate biomarkers and efficient therapies. Moreover, a significant proportion of brain diseases is linked to shared, modifiable risk factors and accessible to prevention, calling for strategic action.

Session Chairs

Mathieu Vandenbulcke - *Leuven Brain Institute (KU Leuven), director, Belgium*
Marie Vidailhet - *Paris Brain Institute, French Neurological Society president, France*
Claire Wyart – *Paris Brain Institute, Deputy scientific director, Paris Brain Institute*

Keynote Pitches

Natalia Rost - *Harvard Medical School, American Academy of Neurology president, USA*
Claudio Bassetti - *Swiss Brain Health Plan and European Brain Council, Switzerland*
Eric Nestler - *Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai, Dean, USA*
Christopher Chen - *Memory Aging & Cognition Centre director, National University Singapore*
Joachim Schultze - *German Center for Neurodegenerative Diseases director, Germany*
Marion Leboyer - *Institut Fondamental, Paris, France*
Jonathan Rosand - *Harvard Medical School & Massachusetts General Hospital, McCance Center for Brain Health director, USA*

Panel Discussion: Advancing action in Brain Health

Moderator : **Lisa Burke**

Kana Enomoto - *McKinsey Health Institute, Director for Brain Health, USA*
Elena Moro - *Grenoble University & European Academy of Neurology president, France*
Hee-Joon Bae - *Seoul National University & Korean Stroke Society, South Korea*
Mathieu Vandenbulcke - *Leuven Brain Institute (KU Leuven) director, Belgium*

11:00 - 11:25 **COFFEE BREAK**

11:30 – 12:45 **SESSION 2 : ACCELERATING THERAPIES & PREVENTION**

Focus: Leveraging neuroscience, AI, and public-private collaborations to develop transformative therapies.

Advances in fundamental neuroscience, imaging, neurophysiology, combined with high throughput molecular approaches and AI, are unveiling brain function and disease mechanisms at unprecedented depth and scale. In addition, it is now well established that whole body and life-course influences play a major role in age-related brain disease. These include vascular, immune, and metabolic determinants of brain health, with underlying genetic, behavioral and environmental risk factors. At the same time, technological innovations and programmable therapies offer transformative potential for brain health, including for currently intractable brain disorders, heralding the beginning of a new era. Unlocking these opportunities requires breaking down silos and fostering public-private, interdisciplinary collaboration.

Session Chairs and Panel Moderators

Fanny Elahi - *Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai, USA*
Jean-Christophe Corvol - *Paris Brain Institute Deputy scientific director, France*

Keynote Pitches

Katerina Akassoglou - *Gladstone Institute of Neurological Diseases, UCSF, USA*
Philip De Jager - *Columbia University & Paris Brain Institute, USA & France*
Philip Scheltens - *EQT Dementia, The Netherlands*
Matthias Tschöp - *Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität, LMU Munich, president, Germany*
Jeffery Kelly - *Scripps Institute, USA*

Panel Discussion : Lifting barriers to novel therapies

Priya Singhal - *Biogen executive VP and head of development, USA*
Shibeshih Belachew - *Indivi chief medical officer, Switzerland*
Claudia Hirawat - *VOZ Executive Chair, USA*

12:45 – 14:15 **NETWORKING LUNCH**

14:25 – 15:40 **SESSION 3 : AI & DATA SCIENCE FOR BRAIN HEALTH**

Focus: Harnessing AI and digital innovation to advance brain health.

AI and data science are poised to transform brain health by reshaping how we understand, diagnose, prevent and treat brain diseases. In recent years this has been accelerated by the convergence of mathematical and computational advances, generation of unprecedented volumes of data, and exponential growth in computing power. AI's capabilities to assist in content generation, prediction and complex reasoning have the potential to transform the way scientific discoveries are made, new treatments are discovered, and health care is provided, in particular for conditions as complex as brain disorders. Realizing the full potential of AI for brain health on a global scale also requires ensuring accessibility and representativeness, and mitigating potential harms, through responsible, inclusive, and social AI approaches. Finally, AI's contribution to socio-economic progress is relying heavily on brain capital, underscoring the need to reduce cognitive disparities through education and lifelong skill development.

Session Chairs

Isabelle Ryl - *PRAIRIE, director, PSL University, director of the Paris School of AI, France*
Olivier Colliot - *Paris Brain Institute, Deputy scientific director, and director of the Paris Brain Institute center for AI and data science, France*

Keynote Pitches

Joëlle Barral - *Google DeepMind, director for fundamental research, France*
Gregory Moore - *Gates Ventures and Alzheimer's Disease Data Initiative, USA*
Peter Van Wijngaarden - *Florey Institute director, Melbourne, Australia*
William Saurin - *Science Strategy & Corporate Research Technology Senior Director, Dassault Systèmes*
Justine Cassell - *Carnegie Mellon University, USA and PRAIRIE, INRIA, France*
Michael I. Jordan - *INRIA, France and University of California, Berkeley, USA*

Special Lecture - Should we fear AI? : Challenges & Opportunities

Philippe Aghion - *Collège de France and INSEAD, Nobel Prize of Economy*

15:35 – 16:00 **COFFEE BREAK**

16:00 – 17:20 **SESSION 4: PRECISION BRAIN HEALTH ACROSS THE LIFESPAN**

Focus : Brain health across the lifespan, integrating genomic and multiomic technologies for prevention and therapy.

The aging of populations worldwide contributes to a massive rise in age-related brain diseases. Simultaneously, mental health conditions are surging among younger people, impacting working-age populations, and predisposing to later onset neurological disorders, calling for a lifelong approach to brain health. In parallel, breakthroughs in genomic medicine and multiomic technologies, as well as increasingly elaborate methods to are opening new horizons for precision medicine and prevention applied to brain disorders, across the lifespan.

Session Chairs

Fumihiko Matsuda - *Kyoto University center for genomic medicine, director, Japan*
Mark Lathrop - *Victor Phillip Dahdaleh Institute of Genomic Medicine, director, Canada*

Keynote Pitches

Paul Matthews - *Rosalind Franklin Institute, director, UK*
Myriam Fornage - *University of Texas, Houston, USA*
Guy Rouleau - *The Neuro (Montreal Neurological Institute & Hospital), director, Canada*
Stéphanie Debette - *Paris Brain Institute, Executive director, France*
Nada Jabado - *McGill, L'Oréal-UNESCO for Women in Science Laureate, Canada*
Anne-Louise Ponsonby - *Florey Institute, Australia*
Sandrine Humbert - *Paris Brain Institute, France*

17:25 – 18:50 **SESSION 5: GLOBAL, MULTILATERAL, MULTI-STAKEHOLDER APPROACHES TO BRAIN HEALTH**

Focus: Building international partnerships to accelerate equitable brain health innovations.

Most brain disease research remains isolated within national or regional efforts and has largely focused on individuals of European ancestry. By 2050, over two-thirds of people affected by brain disorders will be in the Global South. International, cross-continental partnerships can accelerate progress by pooling data, resources, and expertise. Such collaborations are crucial to enhance innovation through scientific complementarity and population diversity and ensure equitable advances in brain health.

Session Chairs

Brian Lau - *Paris Brain Institute, Deputy scientific director, France*
Maëlenn Guerchet - *National Institute for Sustainable Development (IRD), Cotonou, Benin, and Limoges, France*

Keynote Pitches

Sudha Seshadri - *Glenn Biggs Institute for Alzheimer's & Neurodegenerative Diseases, founding director UT Health San Antonio, USA*
Agustín Ibáñez - *Latin American Brain Health Institute (BrainLat) director, Universidad Adolfo Ibáñez, Chile*
Rufus Akinyemi - *University of Ibadan, Deputy Director of the Centre for Genomics and Precision Medicine, Nigeria*
Yoichiro Kamatani - *Tokyo University, Laboratory of complex trait genomics, director, Japan*
Siddharthan Chandran - *UK Dementia Research Institute, director, Edinburgh, UK*

Panel Discussion : Levers for Equitable Brain Health

Moderator : **Lisa Burke**

Bo Wang - *Secretary General, China Brain Health Initiatives Executive Chair, Shanghai Medical Innovation & Development Foundation, China*

Rajinder K. Dhamija - *Chair National Task Force on Brain Health Govt of India, New Delhi, India*

Emanuele Buratti - *UN - affiliated International Center for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology (ICGEB), scientific director, Trieste, Italy*

Alexander Tsiskaridze - *Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University, Georgia*

Igor Sibon - *Vascular Brain Health Institute, University of Bordeaux, France*

18:50 **SUMMARY AND CLOSING REMARKS**

Nicolas Revel – *Chief Executive Officer of Assistance Publique – Hôpitaux de Paris, France*

Antoine Petit - *Chairman & Chief Executive Officer of CNRS, France*

Alexis Brice - *past Executive Director of Paris Brain Institute, France*

À propos de l'Institut du Cerveau

Créé en 2010, l'Institut du Cerveau est un centre de recherche scientifique et médicale dédié à l'étude du cerveau et à la découverte de nouveaux traitements pour les maladies du système nerveux. Son modèle innovant réunit patients, médecins, chercheurs et entrepreneurs avec un objectif commun : transformer les découvertes fondamentales en solutions thérapeutiques via une approche translationnelle et interdisciplinaire. Situé à Paris au cœur de l'Hôpital de la Pitié-Salpêtrière – plus grand pôle de neurologie en Europe – l'Institut du Cerveau rassemble près de 1000 experts internationaux au sein de 29 équipes de recherche, 12 plateformes technologiques de pointe, un centre d'investigation clinique, un organisme de formation et un pôle innovation comprenant notamment un start-up studio et un living lab. Il repose sur l'association d'une unité mixte de recherche (CNRS, Inserm et Sorbonne Université) et d'une fondation privée reconnue d'utilité publique, la Fondation ICM, en partenariat avec l'AP-HP.
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