



UNLV HEALTH RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM

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February 27, 2026

Science and Engineering Building Auditorium

8:00 *Check-In and Breakfast*

8:30 *Welcome*

Janet Dufek, PhD

Jenny Kent, Ph.D.

8:40 *Opening Remarks*

Peter Kaufmann, PhD FABMR

Merrill Landers, Ph.D, DPT

9:00 *Keynote Address*

Behavioral and Social Sciences: at the Crossroads of Health

Jane M. Simoni, PhD

Associate Director for Behavioral and Social Sciences Research, NIH

Director, Office of Behavioral and Social Sciences Research, NIH

9:45 *Nanotech Meets Neurorepair: Precision Engineering of Biomaterials-Based
Artificial Brain Implants for Brain Repair*

Lina Nih, PhD

10:15 *Brain structure in health and disease: revelations from fMRI studies.* *Ayan Sengupta, PhD*

10:45 *Break.*

11:00 *Place holder: 30 min talk by PhD*

TBA

11:30 *Place holder: 15 min talk*

TBA,

11:45 *Place holder: 15 min talk*

TBA,

12:00 *Lunch*

TBA,

1:30 *Place holder: 15 min talk*

TBA,

1:45 *Place holder: 15 min talk*

TBA,

etc

2:45 *Break*

3:00 *Place holder: 15 min talk*

4:30 *Awards*

Sable Systems International Awards for Outstanding Poster Presentations

Peter G. Kaufmann Award for Translational Research

5:00 *Adjourn*

***PLANNING
COMMITTEE***

Peter Kaufmann (Chair)
Arpita Basu
Janet Dufek
Julia Freedman Silvernail
Jenny Kent

Jaime Carbajal
Ayan Sengupta
Steven Slivka
Chih-Huang Yu
Alexandria Meyer
Staci Bueno