



UNIVERSITY SYSTEM
of MARYLAND

Third Annual

Postdoctoral Research Symposium

September 30, 2026

Adele H. Stamp Student Union

University of Maryland



UNIVERSITY SYSTEM
of MARYLAND

Postdoctoral Research Symposium

September 30, 2026 | Stamp Student Union | 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Full Program

8:45 AM	Registration and Breakfast (Colony Ballroom)
9:15 AM	Opening Remarks (Colony Ballroom) Blessing Enekwe, Ph.D. , Program Director, Office of Postdoctoral Affairs (OPA) University of Maryland Jenny Owens, ScD, MS , Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs University System of Maryland Jay A. Perman, MD , Chancellor University System of Maryland
9:30 AM	Flash Talks I (Colony Ballroom)
10:15 AM	Networking Activity (Colony Ballroom)
10:45 AM	Session 1 - Two Concurrent Workshops Workshop 1: Generative AI and Your Writing in the Job Search Process (Charles Carroll Room A) Workshop 2: Micro Steps: Building Your Skills and Your Resume (Charles Carroll Room B)
12:00 PM	Lunch Announcement of Mentor of the Year Award Winners & Award Nominees
12:45 PM	Poster Sessions A & B (Colony Ballroom)
2:15 PM	Flash Talks II (Colony Ballroom)
3:00 PM	Alumni Panel & Ice Cream Social (Colony Ballroom)

Flash Talks I

Abhishek Sose atsose@umd.edu

University of Maryland, College Park, Chemical Engineering, **Autonomous Multi-Agent Molecular Dynamics for Closed-Loop Discovery of Sustainable Biopolymer-Clay Nanocomposites**

Anne Karabell karabell@umd.edu

University of Maryland, College Park, Special Education, **An Exploratory Investigation of a Multi-Tiered Aligned Instructional Model to Accelerate Students' Reading Growth**

Arunraj Mekhemadhom Rajendrakuma arunraj@umd.edu

University of Maryland, College Park, Department of Veterinary Medicine, **Unarming the alarmins: Gastrointestinal nematode parasite survives by hijacking host IL-25**

Blessing Sasanya blessing.sasanya@morgan.edu

Morgan State University, Civil, Environmental and Transportation Engineering, **Explainable Machine Learning Enhanced Wetlands and Waterways Detection for Transportation Resilience and Mitigation**

Christopher Johnson chriswj@umd.edu

University of Maryland, College Park, Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering, **Minimal-Component Electrolyte Design for Battery Operations at Sub-Zero Temperatures**

Eid Gul egul@umd.edu

University of Maryland, College Park, Department of Environmental Science and Technology, **An AI-Enabled Hybrid Decision-Support Framework for National Surplus Food Diversion and Logistics Optimization**

Suh Hee Cook shcook@umd.edu

University of Maryland, College Park, Department of Bioengineering, **Biomechanical changes in the aging inguinal lymph node**

Eunsaem Cho saemrnt@umd.edu

University of Maryland, College Park, Earth System Science Interdisciplinary Center, **Can GRACE Data-Assimilated Initial Conditions Improve Subseasonal-to-Seasonal Streamflow Forecasts?**

Networking Activity

Session 1 - Workshops

Generative AI and Your Writing in the Job Search Process: Risks, Rewards, and How to Decide (Charles Carroll Room A)

Micro Steps: Building Your Skills and Your Resume (Charles Carroll Room B)

Poster Session A

Adnan Mansour adnanrm@umd.edu

University of Maryland, College Park, Aerospace Engineering, **Addressing Key Challenges to Mapping Sub-cm Orbital Debris in LEO via Plasma Soliton Detection**

Arnaja Mitra amitra13@umd.edu

University of Maryland, College Park, Department of Mathematics, **A Mathematical Assessment of the Impact of the R21/Matrix-M Vaccine on Malaria Control in Children**

Benjamin Eller beller@umd.edu

University of Maryland, College Park, Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry, **Edge states and quantum confinement in fluorescent ultrashort nanotubes**

Chen Wang chen.wang@morgan.edu

Morgan State University, Department of Physics, **Machine Learning Mapping of Crystallite Size and Microstrain in Ball Milled Bi₂Te₃ Powders**

Ishita Roy Chowdhury iroychow@umd.edu

University of Maryland, College Park, Department of Veterinary Medicine, **Newcastle Disease Virus vector elicits cytotoxic T-cell-mediated protection against influenza**

Jennifer Janovick janovick@umd.edu

University of Maryland, College Park, Joint Institute for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition (JIFSAN), **Liquid- and Solid-State ¹⁹F NMR in the Identification and Quantification of the 6:2 Fluorotelomer Alcohol in Food Packaging Materials**

Jennifer Magnuson jem3@umd.edu

University of Maryland, College Park, Department of Human Development and Quantitative Methodology, **Assessment at Home: Using Ecological Momentary Assessment to Understand Daily Experiences in Child Language Development"**

Jiarui Li jiaruili@umd.edu

University of Maryland, College Park, Department of Bioengineering, **High-speed non-contact mechanical measurements enabled by pulsed stimulated Brillouin microscopy**

Joni Brown jbrown97@umd.edu

University of Maryland, College Park, Department of Family Science, **Abortion Stigma and Mental Health: The Moderating Role of Social Support**

Juan Zegers Delgado jazegers@umd.edu

University of Maryland, College Park, Department of Biology, **A fast and simple algorithm for accurate spike detection in HD-MEA recordings**

Meghavarshini Krishnaswamy mkswamy@umd.edu

University of Maryland, College Park, Center for Educational Data Science and Innovation, **Bridging Human and AI Instructional Coaching Through Vocal Entrainment**

Muddassar Iqbal miqbal@som.umaryland.edu

University of Maryland, Baltimore, Department of Medicine, **Cytoglobin regulates airway cilia length and motility via nitric oxide and hedgehog signaling**

Nan Hu nhu@umd.edu

University of Maryland, College Park, Joint Institute of Food Safety and Applied Nutrition, **SPrOUT: Predict Plant Species From A Mixture**

Rushil Mandlik rushilrm@umd.edu

University of Maryland, College Park, Department of Plant Science and Landscape Architecture, **Morphogen activation enhances regeneration of gene edited carrot**

Noah Greenman ngreenma@umd.edu

University of Maryland, College Park Joint Institute of Food Safety and Applied Nutrition, **Constructing a Database for Classification of Foodborne Pathogens using Whole-Genome Sequencing Methods**

Pranjali Kanvinde pranjali.kanvinde@som.umaryland.edu

University of Maryland, Baltimore, Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences, **Evaluation of Tolerogenic IL-2 Microparticles on Ocular Disease Severity in a Haploidentical Mouse Model Of Ocular Graft vs Host Disease**

Poster Session B

Navleen Kaur nkaur26@umd.edu

University of Maryland, College Park, Institute for Bioscience and Biotechnology Research, **Poly-Arginine Motifs and Helical Segments Enhance Activity of Antimicrobial peptides through Concerted Membrane Disruption**

Sandeep Kumar sandeepkumar.chem2015@gmail.com

University of Maryland, College Park, Institute for Bioscience and Biotechnology Research, **Effect of Quench Conditions on Deuterium Back-Exchange in Peptides and Protein in HDX-MS**

Shrestha Mathur smathur3@umd.edu

University of Maryland, College Park, Department of Cellular & Molecular Biology, **Influenza Virus Infection Alters Immunomodulatory Mucin 1 Expression in Airway Epithelium and Immune Cells**

Sungha Baek baek@umd.edu

University of Maryland, College Park, Materials Science & Engineering, **Josephson Current through Topological Trilayer YB6/SmB6/YB6 Junctions**

Valinteshley Pierre vdpierre@umd.edu

University of Maryland, College Park, Department of Bioengineering,

Wright Makambi wmakambi@umd.edu

University of Maryland, College Park, Institute for Bioscience and Biotechnology Research, **Engineering Antimicrobial Peptides from Inactive Scaffolds**

Xin Zhou xin.zhou@morgan.edu

Morgan State University, Department of Civil, Environmental, and Transportation Engineering, **Embedding AI into Engineering Courses: Building Critical Evaluation and Engineering Judgment in AI-Assisted Workflows**

Xuewen Zhou xzhou112@umd.edu

University of Maryland, College Park, Department of Bioengineering, **Total Internal Reflection Waveguide For Depth-Selective Optical Probing**

Yanli Chen ylchen95@umd.edu

University of Maryland, College Park, Department of Veterinary Medicine, **Recruited Ly6Chi Mononuclear Phagocytes Are Effector Cells for the Clearance of Cryptococcus neoformans in the Brain Involving Cell-intrinsic TNF- α and IFN- γ Signaling**

Yogeshwari Ambekar yambekar@umd.edu

University of Maryland, College Park, Department of Bioengineering, **Mechanical Characterization of Oocytes Fertilization and Preimplantation Embryo Development Using Brillouin Microscopy**

Youran Sun sun1245@umd.edu

University of Maryland, College Park, Artificial Intelligence Interdisciplinary Institute at Maryland (AIM), **AutoSR: Automatic Symbolic Regression by Searching Research States**

Suh Hee Cook shcook@umd.edu

University of Maryland, College Park, Department of Bioengineering, **Biomechanical changes in the aging inguinal lymph node**

Emma Brannon erbranno@umd.edu

University of Maryland, College Park, Department of Bioengineering,

Ching-Yi Lin chingyi@umd.edu

University of Maryland, College Park, Department Electrical and Computer Engineering,

Chongan Wang cwang097@umd.edu

University of Maryland, College Park, Department of Mechanical Engineering, **Framework for Reduced Order Models of Kerr Ring Resonators**

Mary Pat Reiter mpreiter@umd.edu

University of Maryland, College Park, Department of Aerospace Engineering, **Evaluating a rotational cleaning device for the Gecko Roller**

Flash Talks II

Guy Dayhoff gdayhoff@rx.umaryland.edu

University of Maryland, Baltimore, School of Pharmacy, **Mapping the Ligandable Human Proteome with AI Protein Profiling**

Davindar Singh davindarsingh@g.harvard.edu

University of Maryland, College Park, School of Music, **Cultures of Cargo: Illicit Patronage, Musical Media, and the Corruption of Punjabi Supply Chains**

Hossain Mohiuddin hossain.mohiuddin@morgan.edu

Morgan State University, Department of Civil, Environmental, and Transportation Engineering, **Driving For Good, But At What Cost? Evaluation the Environmental Impacts of Volunteer-Based Food Recovery Logistics**

Iram Maqsood imaqsood@rx.umaryland.edu

University of Maryland, Baltimore, Department of Pharmaceutics, **Ultrafast Endoscopic Alginate Hydrogel for Rapid and Durable Gastrointestinal Hemostasis**

Nayara Sabrina Freitas Alves nayalves@umd.edu

University of Maryland, College Park, Department of Plant Science and Landscape Architecture, **Optimization of CRISPR sgRNA Length Enhances Base Editing Efficiency in Plants**

Tohid Asheghimehmandari Tohid.Mehmandari@morgan.edu

Morgan State University, Department of Civil, Environmental and Transportation Engineering, **Landslide Prediction Using Interferometric Synthetic Aperture Radar (InSAR) and Machine Learning: A Case Study of Maryland**

Xianyan Wang wxy27wyy@umd.edu

University of Maryland, College Park, Department of Biochemistry, **Immune-stimulating Antibody Conjugates (ISACs) for Cancer Treatment**

Xumin Li xuminli@umd.edu

University of Maryland, College Park, Earth System Science Interdisciplinary Center, **Why Do Some El Niño and La Niña Events Last for Years?**

Alumni Panel & Social

Panelists

Taj Yeruva

University of Maryland, College Park

Assistant Research Professor, Fischell Department of Bioengineering

Lucy March

University of Pennsylvania

Coordinator, Office of Postdoctoral Affairs

Amanda J. Schech

University of Maryland, Baltimore

Senior Lecturer, Department of Chemistry & Biochemistry

Menu

Good Tidings

University of Maryland Catering

Breakfast

Bakery Basket Pastries

Assorted Croissants

Danish

Muffins

Fruit Preserves

Honey

Sweet Butter

Sliced Fresh Seasonal Fruit

Drinks

Coffee

Tea

Apple Juice

Orange Juice

Lunch

Southeast Asian Power Bowls

Jasmine Rice

Vermicelli Noodles

Spring Mix Lettuce Blend

Thai Marinated Grilled Chicken Breasts

Diced Crispy Tofu

Toppings

Sliced Hard Boiled Egg

Julienne Cucumbers And Carrots

Pickled Daikon Radish

Edamame

Crushed Peanuts

Beansprouts, Mint, Cilantro, And Thai Basil

Lime Wedges

Dressings

Sriracha Dressing

Hoisin Vinaigrette

Traditional Nuoc Cham

Flatbreads And Lavash

Desserts

Freshly Baked Assorted Cookies

Mini Brownie Truffle Cakes

Drinks

Water and Iced Tea

Acknowledgements

2026 Postdoctoral Symposium Planning Committee Members

Blessing Enekwe, Program Director, Office of Postdoctoral Affairs (Symposium Co-Chair)

Christopher William Johnson, Postdoctoral Associate, Department of Chemical & Biomolecular Engineering

Jennifer Aumiller, Director, Office of Graduate and Postdoctoral Training and Advancement /Graduate Program in Life Sciences, University of Maryland School of Medicine

Jonathan Brower, Postdoctoral Associate, Latin American and Caribbean Studies Center

Linnea Hoheisel, Postdoctoral Associate, Fischell Department of Bioengineering

Lucy March, Postdoctoral Affairs Program Coordinator, Morgan State University

Naga Rama Mani Manohar Prasad Koduri Veera Venkata, Postdoctoral Associate, Department of Mechanical Engineering

Robin Cresiski, Associate Vice Provost for Graduate Student Development and Postdoctoral Affairs, University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC)

Yung Priscilla Lai, Postdoctoral Associate, Institute for Systems Research

Zakiya Lee, Associate Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs, University System of Maryland

Our Judges

Aleah Roberts, University of Maryland, Baltimore, Microbiology and Immunology

Dr. Tina L. Jordan, Morgan State University, Social Work

Francis Patrick McCluskey, University of Maryland, College Park, Mechanical Engineering

Jennifer Aumiller, University of Maryland, Baltimore, Graduate Studies & Office of Postdoctoral Scholars

Linda Macri, University of Maryland, College Park, The Graduate School

Lucy March, Morgan State University, Office of Postdoctoral Affairs

Najat Ziyadi, Morgan State University, Mathematics

Niangoran Koissi, Morgan State University, Chemistry

Rianna Murray, University of Maryland, College Park, School of Public Health

Seyma Intepe, University of Maryland, College Park, CHSE

Shanna E Hirsch, University of Maryland, College Park, CHSE

Spencer Benson, University of Maryland, College Park, The Graduate School

Stephanie Lansing, University of Maryland, College Park, Environmental Science & Technology

Tamra Jones-Brooks, Morgan State University, Clinical Training Director MSU Counseling Center

Yucheng Lan, Morgan State University, Physics and Engineering Physics



Thank you for attending today's event.

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