



StratNeuro Retreat 2026

Day 1: June 4th

08.15 Buses leaving KI to Djurönäset

09.00–09.30 Arrival + coffee

Plenary session 1

09.30–09.45 **Opening of meeting, StratNeuro introduction**

Jens Hjerling–Leffler, director for StratNeuro (MBB, KI)

09.50–10.30 **Keynote Lecture**

Neural codes for natural behaviors in bats

Nachum Ulanovsky (Weizmann Institute of Science, Israel)

Chair: Pablo Lopez (Neuro, KI)

10.40–10.50 **Short talk 1**

The culinary brain: How perceptual integration supports valuation of food cues

Janina Seubert (CNS, KI)

Chair: Pablo Lopez (Neuro, KI)

11.00 –11.30 Coffee break

11.30–11.40 **Short talk 2**

From genes to outcomes: molecular pathways and predictive insights in autism

Kristiina Tammimies (KBH, KI)

Chair: Joana Pereira (CNS, KI)

11.45–12.15 **Poster blitz** (10 participants, selected among abstracts)

12.15–12.30 **Group photo**

12.30–13.45 Lunch

Plenary session 2

13.50–14.30 **Keynote Lecture**

"Adaptive" Immunity of Microglia

Anne Schaefer (Max Planck Institute for Biology of Ageing, Germany)

Chair: Gonçalo Castelo–Branco (MBB, KI)



14.40–14.50 **Short talk 3**

Harnessing Protein Disorder to Shape Neuroplasticity

Onur Dagliyan (MBB, KI)

Chair: Gonçalo Castelo-Branco (MBB, KI)

14.55–15.25 Coffee break

Plenary session 3

15.25–15.45 **Talk 1**

The Heart's Hidden "Brain": Discovering the Intracardiac Nervous System.

Konstantinos Ampatzis (Neuro, KI)

Chair: Alessandro Furlan (Neuro, KI)

15.55–16.15 **Talk 2**

Sympathetic Neuroimmunity in Obesity

Ana Domingos (University of Oxford, UK)

Chair: Alessandro Furlan (Neuro, KI)

16:20–18:00 Check-in, Free Time, hanging posters

18.00–20.00 **Poster and Mingle session**

Group 1 (odd numbered posters): 18:00–19:00

Group 2 (even numbered posters): 19:00–20:00

-- Take down the posters at the end of the session --

20.30–22.00 Dinner

22.00– 01:00 (Bar, music)



Day 2: June 5th

07.00–09.15 Breakfast (Check-out latest by 11.00)

Plenary session 4

09.30–10.10 **Keynote Lecture**

The neuron that repairs the central nervous system

Gregoire Courtine (EPFL, Switzerland)

Chair: Emanuela Santini (Neuro, KI)

10:20–10.40 **Talk 3**

Midbrain dopamine neuron development and diversity

Thomas Perlmann (CMB, KI)

Chair: Emanuela Santini (Neuro, KI)

10.50–11.15 Coffee Break (Check-out latest by 11.00)

Parallel breakout sessions:

11.15–12.45 **Breakout session I: Circuits to Behavior**

Hosted by Laurence Picton (Neuro, KI) & Stefanos Stagourakis (Neuro, KI)

Speakers:

- *From need to action: Neural control of foraging and food intake*
Nilay Yapici (Cornell University, USA)
- *Searching for Evolutionary Traces of Vertebrate Thalamo–Cortical Systems in the Zebrafish Brain*
Emre Yaksi (NTNU, Norway)
- *Unravelling interneuron contribution to Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS)*
Ilary Allodi (University of St Andrews, UK)
- *The archerfish predictive C-start*
Stefan Schuster (University of Bayreuth, Germany)

11.15–12.45 **Breakout session II: Biomarkers in Neurodegenerative Diseases**

Hosted by Giulia Grande (NVS, KI)

Speakers:

- *Neuronal–microglial dysfunction as a potential early biomarker of Alzheimer’s disease*
Luis Enrique Arroyo–Garcia (NVS, KI)
- *From cradle to grave: Phospho–tau levels in newborns and Alzheimer’s disease*
Fernando Gonzalez Ortiz (Gothenburg University, Sweden)
- *Accounting for clinical complexity in the era of Alzheimer’s disease blood biomarkers*
Giulia Grande (NVS, KI)



12.45–13.45 Lunch

Parallel breakout sessions (continued):

13.45–15.15 Breakout session III: Computational Neuroscience

Hosted by Arvind Kumar (KTH)

Speakers:

- *The power of random feedback*
Arvind Kumar (KTH)
- *BrAIInspiration: What can artificial neural networks learn from neuromodulatory systems?*
Srikanth Ramaswamy (Newcastle University, UK)
- *Primary and Supplementary Motor cortex implement parallel solutions for the control of rhythmic and discrete arm movements*
Mark Humphries (Nottingham University, UK)

13.45–15.15 Breakout session IV: Human Brain Imaging

Hosted by Johan Lundström (CNS, KI)

Speakers:

- *Molecular Imaging Meets Neuropsychopharmacology: Toward Mechanism-Based Treatment of Depression and Anxiety*
Johan Lundberg (CNS, KI)
- *A neuroimaging indicator of biological brain age in ageing and neurodegenerative disorders*
Eric Westman (NVS, KI)
- *What Diseased Networks Reveal: Functional MRI as a Window into Mechanism of Pain*
Karin Jensen (CNS, KI)
- *Alfa and beta bursting in working memory control*
Mikael Lundkvist (CNS, KI)

15.15–15:35 Coffee Break

15:35–16:00 **Concluding remarks & poster prize awards**

16.00 Buses return to KI (arrival approx. 17.00)