

The 4th

Drug Discovery Innovation Workshop

February 27th, 2026

10:00 am – 5:30 pm



Location:

Michelson Center
for Convergent Bioscience
1002 Childs Way, MCB 101/102
Los Angeles, California 90089

Students and postdocs are invited to present posters on their research related to Drug Discovery and Development – please do not forget to indicate this in the registration form

Please Register at:



Website:

https://dornsife.usc.edu/cnt3d/cnt3d_workshop_2026

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PROGRAM

9:30 am	Check-in and Coffee
10:00 am	Introduction by Dr. Vsevolod Katritch and Dr. Charles McKenna, CNT3D co-directors
10:10 am	Greetings from Dr. Ishwar Puri, Senior Vice President, Research and Innovation
10:15 am – 12:40 pm	Morning Session
	Chair: Dr. Steve Kay, University and Provost Professor of Neurology, Biomedical Engineering and Biological Sciences, Director of Convergent Bioscience
10:15 am	Dr. Kenneth Jacobson (NIH/NIDDK). Keynote Lecture. Action of Nucleosides and Nucleotides at Purinergic and Non-purinergic Drug Targets
11:00 am	Dr. Irina Kufareva (UCSD). GPCR Intelligence Unlocks New Pharmacology
11:30 am	Dr. Dmitry Eremin (Caltech). Autonomy in High Throughput Structure Determination: Are We There Yet?
12:00 am	Dr. Joseph Ho (Eli Lilly). Orfoglipron (LY3502970): Structural insights of an oral GLP-1R non-peptide agonist
12:20 am	Dr. Pius Padayatti (MoleculeMind). GPCR-FM-OM- 1- A foundational GPCR AI model for Accelerated GPCR-Targeted Virtual Screening
12:40–1:40 pm	Lunch and Poster Session
1:40 – 3:40 pm	Afternoon Session
	Chair: Dr. Hussein Yassine, the Volke Endowed Professor of Neurology at Keck School of Medicine of USC, Director of the Center for Personalized Brain Health
1:40 pm	Dr. Justin Ichida (USC). Development of antisense therapeutics for ALS
2:10 pm	Dr. Shannon Mumenthaler (USC). New Approach Methodologies (NAM) in Drug Discovery: Organs-on-Chip Applications
2:40 pm	Dr. Anastasiia Sadybekov (USC). Computationally Driven Collaborative Platform for Drug Discovery at USC
3:00 pm	Sabrina Yang (USC). Candida Bromodomain Drug Discovery
3:20 pm	Dr. Fariborz Nasertorabi (USC). Introduction of Bridge Core Facilities
	Industry participants: Amgen, Takeda, Eli Lilly, Gilead, Agilent and other SoCal companies
3:40 – 4:30 pm	Discussion Panel
	Lead Dr. Charles McKenna, Professor of Chemistry and Pharmacology and Pharmaceutical Sciences, CNT3D co-director
4:30 – 5:30 pm	Reception