



**Human Pluripotent Stem Cells Symposium 22 - 24 April 2009**  
**Schedule of talks**

**Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2009**

**12:00 - 13:00 Registration and poster set-up**

**13:00 – 14:00 Lunch and poster viewing**

**14:00 – 14:35 Welcome (5 addresses)**

14:00 – 14:10 Welcome: Dr Stephen Sullivan (Trinity College Dublin) - Overview of the field, focus of the conference

14:10 – 14:15 Dr. Stephen Simpson, Life Sciences Director, Science Foundation Ireland – Increasing Ireland's competitiveness in the stem cell research sector: funding and policy

14:15 – 14:20 Prof. Patrick Cunningham, Chief Science Advisor to the Government– Facilitating basic and applied stem cell research in Ireland through scientifically informed governmental policy

14:20 – 14:25 Prof. Clive Williams, Dean, Faculty of Engineering, Mathematics and Science, Trinity College – Creating the appropriate environment for stem cell innovation in Ireland

14:25 – 14:35 A few words from Abcam  
Dr Seema Sharma, Senior Marketing Co-ordinator

**14:35 – 18:00 Session 1 Pluripotent stem cells: Disease modelling**  
**Chair: Dr Stephen Sullivan (Department of Biochemistry and Immunology, Trinity College Dublin)**

14.35 – 15:10 Benjamin Reubinoff (Hadassah Medical Organization, Jerusalem)  
*Human Embryonic stem cells - towards future therapy of neurological disorders*

15.10 - 15.45 Lorenz Studer (Sloan Kettering Institute for Cancer Research)  
*Modeling Neural Development and Disease in Human Pluripotent Cells*

**15.45 – 16:15 Tea/coffee and poster viewing**

16.15 – 16:50 Paolo Di Giorgio (Salk Institute of Biological Studies)  
*Interrogating disease states using embryonic stem cells: A case study in ALS*

16.50 – 17.25 Rick Livesey (University of Cambridge)  
*Modelling development and disease of the cerebral cortex in vitro*

17.25 – 18.00 Justin Ichida (Stowers Medical Institute)  
*Reprogramming somatic cells to pluripotency using small molecules*

**18.00 – 19.00 Wine, nibbles and poster viewing**

Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2009

**9.00 – 11.50 Session 2 Pluripotent stem cells: Disease modelling**  
**Chair: Sir Ian Wilmut OBE (Centre for Regenerative Medicine, University of Edinburgh)**

9.00 – 9.35 Nissim Benvenisty (University of Jerusalem)  
*The role of human embryonic stem cells in modeling human genetic disorders*

9.35 - 10.10 Alan Colman (A\*STAR Institute of Medical Biology, Singapore)  
*Induced pluripotent stem cells and research into aging*

10.10 – 10.45 Jeffrey Karp (Harvard Stem Cell Institute)  
*Chemical engineering of the stem cell surface – towards targeted cell therapy*

**10.45 – 11.15 Coffee/tea and poster viewing**

11.15 – 11.50 Cécile Martinat (Institute for Stem Cell Therapy, Genopole)  
*Pluripotent stem cells to explore mechanisms and treatments of monogenic diseases*

**11.50 – 12.25** Elsa Quintana (University of Michigan)  
*Tumorigenic capacity is a common attribute of melanoma cells*

12.25-12.40 Antoine Marteyn (INSERM/UEVE)  
*Use of human embryonic stem cells-derived motoneurons to study the molecular and cellular mechanisms of Myotonic Dystrophy type 1*

**12.40 – 14.00 Lunch and poster viewing**

**14.00 – 16.20 Session 3 Pluripotent stem cells: tissue culture, engineering, and drug screening**  
**Chair: Dr Alan Colman (Executive Director of the Singapore Stem Cell Consortium)**

14.00 – 14.35 Ian Wilmut (University of Edinburgh)  
*Stem cells in drug discovery and toxicology*

14.35 – 15.10 Miodrag Stojkovic (Research Centre Principe Felipe, Valencia, Spain)  
*Why do we need embryonic and adult stem cells?*

15.10 – 15.45 Peter W Andrews (University of Sheffield)  
*Population dynamics of human ES cells: self renewal, adaptation and cancer*

15.45 – 16.20 Dan Anderson (MIT)  
*Combinatorial development of biomaterials for tissue engineering and drug delivery*

**Social event (optional)**

**Friday 24<sup>th</sup> April 2009**

**9.15 – 16.00 Session 4 Pluripotent stem cells: Fate decisions - Reprogramming and Differentiation  
Chair: Azim Surani (University of Cambridge)**

9.15 – 9.50 In-Hyun Park (Children's Hospital Massachusetts)  
*Disease-specific induced pluripotent stem cells*

9.50 – 10.25 Chad Cowan (Massachusetts General Hospital)  
*Twists of fate: programming and reprogramming development*

**10.25 – 11.00** Ali H. Brivanlou (The Rockefeller University, New York)  
*Genetic dissection of pluripotency in human embryonic stem cells*

**11.00-11.30 Coffee/tea and poster viewing**

11.30 – 12.05 Keisuke Kaji (University of Edinburgh)  
*Induced pluripotency without virus*

12.05 – 12.40 Chris Denning (University of Nottingham)  
*In vitro utility of stem cell derived cardiomyocytes*

12.40 – 12.55 Monica Courtney (King's College London)  
*Generation of insulin-expressing cells from human embryonic stem cells*

12.55 – 13.10 Katherine Myers (Columbia University)  
*Recapitulating the cellular pathogenesis of HD: iPS derived neurons vs primary neurons from mice*

**13.10 – 14.10 Lunch and poster viewing**

14.10 – 14.45 Lee Rubin (Harvard University)  
*Making neurons From ES cells: a better way to study neurodegenerative disease*

14.45 – 15.20 Gavin Davey (Trinity College Dublin)  
*Using iPS cells to study neurodegeneration*

15.20 – 15.55 Konrad Hochedlinger (Harvard Medical School)  
*Understanding nuclear reprogramming*

**16.00 Conference ends**