

2021 Suddath Symposium
“The Origins and Early Evolution of Life”
January 28-29, 2021



AGENDA

DAY 1 - January 28, 2021

- 11:00 a.m. Suddath Award Winner Presentation
“Antimicrobial Competition Dynamics of the Vibrio cholerae Type VI Secretion System” – Cristian Crisan, Ph.D. Candidate – Brian Hammer, Ph.D., Advisor
**participation link: <https://bluejeans.com/591435588>*
- 11:45 a.m. *break until start of Suddath Symposium*

~~~ Formal start of Suddath Symposium ~~~

Primary Symposium PARTICIPATION LINK: <https://primetime.bluejeans.com/a2m/live-event/tubsvrg>

- 1:00 p.m. Welcome and Opening Remarks – Nick Hud, Ph.D., Symposium Co-Chair, Georgia Tech

SESSION I

Session Chair – Loren Williams, Ph.D., Symposium Co-Chair, Georgia Tech

- 1:05 p.m. *“Letting Chemistry be Our Guide on a Journey Far Back in Time: A Brief Overview of a Decade of Discoveries Enabled by the NSF-NASA Center for Chemical Evolution”*
Nick Hud, Ph.D., Georgia Tech
- 1:35 p.m. *“Rethinking the Paradigms of the Prebiotic Emergence of Biopolymers”*
Ramanarayanan Krishnamurthy, Ph.D. – Scripps Research Institute
- 2:05 p.m. *“The Emergence of RNA from Prebiotic Chemistry”*
Jack Szostak, Ph.D. – Harvard Medical School, Harvard University, Massachusetts General Hospital
- 2:40 p.m. Session I “Meet the Speakers” – all attendees welcome
**dedicated participation links for each speaker to be provided via Chat*

SESSION II

Session Chair – Heather Abbott-Lyon, Ph.D., Kennesaw State University

- 3:10 p.m. *“Mineral Mediated Prebiotic Chemistry on an Early Rocky Planet”*
Thomas Orlando, Ph.D., Georgia Tech
- 3:40 p.m. *“Surface and Multiphase Chemistry and Photochemistry of Pyruvate”*
Vicki Grassian, Ph.D. – University of California, San Diego
- 4:10 p.m. *“Protometabolic Analogs of the Modern Citric Acid Cycle”*
Greg Springsteen, Ph.D. – Furman University
- 4:40 p.m. Session II “Meet the Speakers” – all attendees welcome
**dedicated participation links for each speaker to be provided via Chat*

- 5:10 pm. Round Table Discussion with Session I and II Speakers – all attendees welcome
**return to “primary” meeting space - <https://primetime.bluejeans.com/a2m/live-event/tubsrvrg>*
- 6:00 p.m. Adjourn

DAY 2 - January 29, 2021

SESSION III

Session Chair – Paul Bracher, Ph.D., Saint Louis University

- 1:00 p.m. Opening Remarks – Nick Hud and Loren Williams
- 1:05 p.m. *“Triboelectric Mass Spectrometry to Unravel Complex Prebiotic Mixtures”*
Facundo Fernandez, Ph.D. – Georgia Tech
- 1:35 p.m. *“Cycles and Systems: Ratcheting Toward Life”*
Martha Grover, Ph.D. – Georgia Tech
- 2:05 p.m. *“Autocatalytic Models for Symmetry Breaking and the Emergence of Homochirality”*
Donna Blackmond, Ph.D. – Scripps Research Institute
- 2:35 p.m. Session III “Meet the Speakers” – all attendees welcome

SESSION IV

Session Chair – Jay Forsythe, Ph.D., College of Charleston

- 3:05 p.m. *“What a Wonderful (RNA-peptide) World: Mutually Stabilizing Interactions between Proto-peptides and RNA”*
Luke Leman, Ph.D. – Scripps Research Institute
- 3:35 p.m. *“The RNA World: Insights from the RNA Virosphere”*
Antonio Lazcano, Ph.D. – National Autonomous University of Mexico, Mexico City
- 4:05 p.m. *“The Origins of the Ribosome and the Origins of Life”*
Loren Williams, Ph.D. – Georgia Tech
- 4:35 p.m. Session IV “Meet the Speakers” – all attendees welcome
- 5:05 p.m. Round Table Discussion with All Invited Suddath Speakers – all attendees welcome
- 6:00 p.m. Adjourn

*Support for the 29th Annual Suddath Symposium is provided
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