

rhine – main
neuroscience network



9th Biennial Meeting

May 20 – 22, 2026

Jugendherberge Oberwesel
Auf dem Schönberg
55430 Oberwesel

Update 26.02.2026

Wednesday, May 20

14:00 Welcome
Susann Schweiger speaker rmn²
Torfi Sigurdsson speaker program committee

14:15 – 15:15 Opening Plenary Lecture
Cerebral organoids: Human brain development and disease in stem cell derived 3D culture
Jürgen Knoblich
IMBA, Vienna, Austria

Symposium I
Neurodevelopment and Neurodiversity
Chair: Sandra Schick

15:15 – 16:15 Keynote Lecture
Understanding epigenetic regulation of early human brain development at single cell resolution
Fides Zenk
EPFL, Lausanne, Switzerland

16:15 Coffee Break

16:35 – 16:55
How neuronal activity shapes developmental processes in immature neocortical circuits
Anne Sinning
University Medical Center, Mainz

16:55 – 17:15
TALE-transcription factors: From helpful bystander to important component of the engines that drives neurogenic differentiation
Dorothea Schulte
University Medical Center, Frankfurt

17:15 – 17:35
Uncovering the meningeal regulation of neurodevelopment
Marta Segarra
Goethe University, Frankfurt

17:35 Coffee Break

Symposium II
Body-Brain Interactions
Chair: Sandra Schick

17:55 – 18:55 Keynote Lecture
Two distinct functional roles for interoception: information and coordination
Catherine Tallon-Baudry
Ecole Normale Supérieure, Paris

18:55 – 19:15
Impact of western diet on brain signaling and mental health
Sharmili Edwin Thanarajah
University Medical Center, Frankfurt

19:15– 19:35
Stress Resilience: Brain–Periphery Interactions
Larglinda Islami
Leibniz Institute for Resilience Research, Mainz

19:35 – 19:55
Effects of sensorimotor delays in body ownership and agency
Loes van Dam
Institute for Psychology & Centre for Cognitive Science, TU Darmstadt

20:00 Cookout

Thursday, May 21

Symposium III Cognition, Computation and AI

Chair: Loes van Dam

09:00 – 10:00 Keynote Lecture

NEURO-AI: When Brains meet Machines

Marcel van Gerven

Radboud University, Nijmegen

10:00 – 10:20

Data-Driven Interpretable Dynamical Systems Models for Neuroscience & Psychiatry

Manuel Brenner

Loewe Center Dynamic; Goethe University, Frankfurt

10:20 – 10:40

Structure Gates Hippocampal Value Gradients During Reward-Based Decision Making

Charley Wu

Centre for Cognitive Science, TU Darmstadt

10:40 – 11:00

Computation in ecological tasks

Constantin Rothkopf

Centre for Cognitive Science, TU Darmstadt

11:00 Coffee break

11:30 – 12:15 Poster Flash Talks

12:15 Lunch break

13:15 meet, hike, talk

15:45 Posters and coffee

19:00 Dinner

20:30 Party

Friday, May 22

Symposium IV Disorders of the Brain

Chair: Torfi Sigurdsson

09:30 – 10:30 Keynote Lecture

Presymptomatic Alzheimer's disease: amyloid biology and biomarkers

Mathias Jucker

Hertie-Institute for Clinical Brain Research, University of Tübingen and German Center for Neurodegenerative Diseases (DZNE)

10:30 – 10:50

The role of stromal progenitor cells in recovery post stroke

Jasmin Hefendehl

Goethe University, Frankfurt

10:50 – 11:10

Portraying and modulating reorganization after stroke

Caroline Tscherpel

Clinic for Neurology, University Medical Center, Frankfurt

11:10 – 11:30

The role of the 3D structure of the chromatin in neurodevelopmental disorders

Susann Schweiger

University Medical Center, Mainz

11:30 Coffee break

11:50 – 12:10

Relating structure and function of neuronal circuits in the larval zebrafish

Gregor Schuhknecht

MPI for Brain Research, Frankfurt

12:10 – 12:30

Cognitive and neuronal mechanisms of criterion learning

Maik Stüttgen

University Medical Center, Mainz

12:30 – 12:50

The developmental emergence of reliable cortical representations

Sigrid Trägenap

FIAS, Goethe University, Frankfurt

12:50– 13:50 Closing Plenary Lecture

Revealing latent computations from neural activity and movement

Fanny Cazettes

Institute de Neurosciences de la Timone, CNRS and Aix Marseille Université, Marseille

13:50 Awarding of Poster Prizes

Concluding Remarks

14:00 Snacks to go and Departure