



The PDA Annual Conference 2025

May 29-30, 2025

Johns Hopkins University (Homewood & East Baltimore Campuses)

DAY 01 | May 29, 2025 | Homewood Campus

4:00 – 7:15 PM

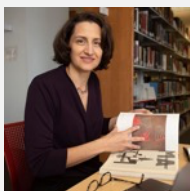
Venue: Homewood, Imagine Center, 113 W University Pkwy, Baltimore, MD 21210

4:00 – 4:30 PM

Doors open, welcoming remarks

4:30 – 5:15 PM

Postdoctoral address, followed by Q&A, with the American Association of University Professors (AAUP), JHU Chapter. Hear about the AAUP's mission to defend American Universities!



Dr. Lisa Siraganian, incoming president:
J. R. Herbert Boone Chair in Humanities at Johns Hopkins University, and Professor in the Department of Comparative Thought and Literature



Dr. Ahmed Ragab, incoming vice-president:
Associate Professor in the Department of the History of Medicine, Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine.

5:15-6:00 PM



**Open Conversation with Dr. Kevin Tervala:
“Moving Museums Beyond the Academy”**

Eddie C. and C. Sylvia Brown Chief Curator,
Baltimore Museum of Art.

A unique chance to engage beyond science — and explore how creativity shapes communities.

6:00- 7:15 PM

Reception and Icebreaker

Warm bites, light fare and drinks provided

DAY 2 | May 30, 2025 | East Baltimore Campus

9:00 – 9:30 AM

Coffee and Warm-up,
Venue: Turner Concourse

9:30 – 10:15 AM



Professional development workshop:
From Contact to Connection: How Career-Advancing Relationships Form
Dr. Andrea Pereyra
Assistant Director, Postdoctoral life Design
Venue: EB Tilghman Auditorium

10:30 – 12:30 PM

Nexus Talks – A Spotlight Session of the Conference

A postdoc-led, enlightening talk-session spotlighting faculty members across various disciplines at Hopkins.

Venue: Tilghman Auditorium, 720 Rutland Ave, Baltimore, MD 21205

Optional: Don't forget to grab your Free Lunch Tokens at the Entrance

10:30 – 10:40 AM



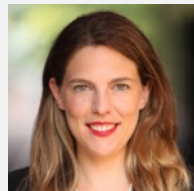
Dr. Chetan Bettgowda
Professor, Neurological Surgery
Advancing personalized treatment approaches and targeted therapies for brain and spinal tumors through innovations in neurological oncology

10:45 – 10:55 AM



Dr. Jeff S. Mumm
Associate Professor, Ophthalmology
Harnessing regenerative biology to restore visual function by decoding and repairing vision-relevant neural circuits

11:00 – 11:10 AM







Dr. Soledad Villar
Assistant Professor, Applied Mathematics and Statistics
Pioneering new computational methods for learning more efficiently from data

11:15 – 11:25 AM



Dr. Aline Thomas
Assistant Professor, Radiology and Radiological Science
Engineering metabolic imaging tools to track and tailor cancer therapies with precision

11:30 – 11:40 AM	 <p><u>Dr. Yingzi Xiong</u> Assistant Professor, Ophthalmology <i>Investigating interaction of senses in real life activities to develop effective training methods and establish tools to improve accessibility of both digital devices and environments</i></p>
11:45 – 11:55 AM	 <p><u>Dr. Annie Kathuria</u> Assistant Professor, Biomedical Engineering <i>Pioneering innovations in organoid tissue engineering to drive groundbreaking advances in precision medicine and regenerative therapies</i></p>
12:00 – 12:10 PM	 <p><u>Dr. Utthara Nayar</u> Professor, Biochemistry and Molecular Biology <i>Uncovering resistance pathways in breast and ovarian cancers to drive next-generation precision therapies</i></p>
12:15 – 12:25 PM	 <p><u>Dr. Sridevi Sarma</u> Professor, Biomedical Engineering <i>Pioneering intelligent neural systems to decode brain dysfunction and engineer data-driven therapies for neurological disorders</i></p>
12:30 – 1:30 PM	Networking Lunch / Industrial Talk (Admera Health)
1:00 – 2:30 PM	Poster Session Venue: EB Turner Concourse
2:30 – 4:00 PM	Slam Talks Venue: EB Tilghman Auditorium
4:00 – 4:30 PM	Coffee Break & JHPDA-HWPDA Shoutout

4:30 – 5:45 PM

Experts' Round Table: *Voices That Shape Academia*

The Experts' Round Table gathers visionary Hopkins faculty to share candid reflections on navigating, surviving, and thriving in academia. It's not a keynote — it's a conversation across generations, sparked by postdocs.

Venue: Tilghman Auditorium, 720 Rutland Ave, Baltimore, MD 21205

Moderators: Anuradha Mehta, Josué Tonelli-Cueto and Patrick Beaudry



Dr. Valeria Culotta

Professor, Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology,
Associate Vice Provost for Postdoctoral affairs



Dr. Joshua M. Sharfstein

Vice Dean for Public Health Practice and Community Engagement,
Distinguished Professor of the Practice, Department of Health
Policy and Management



Dr. Roland Thorpe Jr.

Associate Vice Provost of Faculty Diversity
Professor, Department of Health, Behavior and Society,
Bloomberg School of Public Health (Joint appointments in Krieger
School of Arts and Sciences and School of Medicine)



Dr. David Dowdy

Executive Vice Dean for Academic Affairs
Professor, Department of Epidemiology, Bloomberg School Public
Health. Joint appointments in School of Medicine and International
Health



Dr. Jeremias Sulam

Assistant Professor, Biomedical Engineering. Machine Learning and
Applications to Biomedical Imaging

Optional: Don't forget to grab your Free Dinner Tokens at the Entrance

5:45 – 6:00 PM

Valedictory and Vote of Thanks

6:00 – 7:30 PM

Reception & Dinner

