

EMBRIO INSTITUTE ANNUAL RETREAT 2025

June 12–13, 2025

 [Martin C. Jischke Hall of Biomedical Engineering \(MJIS\), Room 1097, Purdue University](#)

Day 1 – Thursday, June 12

8:00 – 8:30 AM

Registration and Poster Setup

- Place posters on assigned boards
- Beverages and light breakfast items available (no food or drinks in 1097)
- Please refrain from using phones/laptops during sessions—bio & e-breaks are built in

8:30 – 8:45 AM

Welcome & Institute Overview

- David Umulis & Jeremy Zartman (Institute Co-Directors)

8:45 – 9:25 AM

Journal Club Presentations (20 min each)

- A) Calcium Signaling (David Gazzo + Linlin Li)
- B) Calcium Imaging Techniques (Deiver Suarez Gomez)

9:25 – 9:40 PM

Connection Activity – *Anjali Iyer-Pascuzzi*

10-Minute Break

9:50 – 11:00 PM

Panel & Discussion (Session Chairs: Stephanie Gardner and Elsje Pienaar)

"Toward Integration in the Interdisciplinary Research Framework of EMBRIO Institute: An Open Discussion on Cross-Systems Communications and Collaborations."

Panelists on page 4.

10-Minute Break

Martin Jischke Hall of Biomedical Engineering | 206 S. Martin Jischke Dr. | West Lafayette, IN, 47907
embrio@purdue.edu <https://www.purdue.edu/research/embrio>

11:10 – Noon

Professional Development Session (Steph Gardner)

"What is your 'hook'? Integrating EMBRIO into your elevator pitch"

Group Photo – Assemble at the *BME Stairwell at West end of building (wear your 2023 or 2024 EMBRIO t-shirt)*

Lunch – Commons outside 1097

1:15 – 2:15 PM

Thrust 1: Intracellular Signaling and Integration

Chair: Abasiafak (Aby) Ndifreke Udosen, Ph.D. Student, Magana Lab

- Thrust 1A – Tami Kinzer-Ursem
- Thrust 1B – Janice Evans

5-Minute Bio-break

2:20 PM – 3:20 PM

Thrust 2: Cellular to Multicellular Communication and Coordination

Chair: Soumi Mukherjee, Ph.D. Student, Gardner Lab

- Thrust 2A – Chris Staiger (Weiwei Zhang and Nilay Kumar presenting)
- Thrust 2B – Jeremy Zartman

10-Minute Break

3:30 – 3:45 PM

Lightning Talks (1 min each) – *Poster Session I Preview*

3:45 – 5:00 PM

Poster Session I

Evening:

Investigators' Dinner 5:30 (invites sent by email with details)

Trainees: (small groups on own)

Day 2 – Friday, June 13

8:00 – 8:30 AM

Beverages/Snacks available (*no food or drinks in 1097*)

8:30 – 8:45 AM

Lightning Talks (1 min each) – *Poster Session II Preview*

8:45 – 10:00 AM

Poster Session II

Break

10:15 – 11:15 AM

Thrust 3: Multicellular to Organism-Wide Coordination and Emergence

Chair: Emily Georgopoulos, Ph.D. Student, Gardner Lab

- Thrust 3A – Mary Mullins (w/ Bakary Samasa, Linlin Li)
- Thrust 3B – Qing Deng

10-Minute break

11:30 AM – 12:00 PM

Thrust 4: Pedagogical Research, Training, and Outreach

Chair: Nissa Larson, Ph.D. Student, Umulis Lab

- EMBRIO Multiscale Modeling E-Book – Hayden Fennell (Glazier Lab)

12:00 PM

Awards:

Best Paper Award and Scientific Figure Award

Final Remarks / Sendoff

Lunch – Boxed lunches available (can stay for lunch in the commons, or grab and go for traveling)

- Please remove posters, leave magnets, and dispose of any trash

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Panel Discussion: Thursday, 9:50 – 11am

"Toward Integration in the Interdisciplinary Research Framework of EMBRIO Institute: An Open Discussion on Cross-Systems Communications and Collaborations."

Session Chairs:

Stephanie Gardner, Professor (T4 Co-Lead, Purdue)

Elsje Pienaar, Associate Professor (Core – Simulations Lead, Purdue)

Panelists:

Chrissy Boody, Ph.D. Student (Purdue, T1B, Evans Lab)

Agnes Doszpoly, Ph.D. Candidate (Purdue, T1A, Kinzer Ursem Lab)

David Gazzo, Ph.D. Candidate (Notre Dame, T2B, Zartman Lab)

Nilay Kumar, Sr. Research Scientist (Purdue, Core, T2, T3, Cross-Systems Coordination Team, Pienaar Lab and Buganza-Tepole Lab)

Linlin Li, Sr. Research Scientist (Purdue, Core, T2,T3, Cross-Systems Coordination Team, Umulis Lab)

Allison McCarthy (Purdue, T1B, Evans Lab)

Sharon Minsuk, Research Fellow (IU, Core, T3A, Glazier Lab)

Greg Reeves, Associate Professor (Core – affiliate, TAMU)

Bakary Samasa, Ph.D. Candidate (UPenn, T3A, Mullins Lab)

Razeen Shaikh, Ph.D. Candidate (TAMU, Core - affiliate, Reeves Lab)

Chris Staiger, Distinguished Professor (T2A Co-Lead, Purdue)

Aby Udosen, Ph.D. Candidate (Purdue, T4, Magana Lab)

Weiwei Zhang, Sr. Research Scientist (Purdue, T2A, Cross-Systems Coordination Team, Staiger Lab)

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