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/tubsrvrg

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”
Ramanarayan 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 by the Parker H. Petit Institute for Bioengineering and Bioscience at Georgia Tech