Welcome to Santa Barbara and to our 16th Annual University of California Neurotrauma Symposium. For those of you who have attended previous meetings, I think you will agree with me that the quality of the science presented continues to rise in terms of merit and prestige.

I hope you will enjoy our Young Investigator and Hot Off the Press presentations. It is always gratifying to see young people become involved in neurotrauma research. This year we have featured sports and youth concussions in two separate sessions with both local and national level experts. The topic of concussion is at the forefront of public awareness, and we are also excited to hear the personal perspectives of Dr. Gerry Gioia, who has worked as a clinician, researcher, policy-maker and advocate for youth concussion awareness and prevention. But TBI is more than concussions, and other sessions this year cover neurorecovery, advanced imaging of TBI, behavioral consequences of TBI and recovery. A brand new area introduced this year are Brain-Body interactions with a focus on brain-gut changes and immune modulation after TBI.

Our sincere thanks to Drs. Mayumi Prins, Chris Giza, and Fernando Gómez-Pinilla for another heroic effort in developing an outstanding program and Dr. Mark Ashley and the Centre for Neuro Skills for their continuing generous financial support.

Again, I would like to welcome you to Santa Barbara. It is our pleasure to host this celebration of science and teaching in a field that has such a profound impact on people all over the State of California and throughout the world.
12:00pm Registration

12:45pm Welcome and Opening Remarks - David Hovda (UCLA)

1:00–2:00 SESSION 1 YOUNG INVESTIGATORS

Chair: David Hovda (UCLA)

White Matter Function After Pediatric TBI - Monica Ellis (UCLA)

Diagnosis and Treatment of Dural Sinus Thrombosis after TBI - Tamar Binyamin (UCD)

Effect of Dexmedetomidine as an Adjunct for Elevated Intracranial Pressure - Kendra Schomer (UCD)

A Big Data Model Of The Healthy Brain - Matt Cieslak (UCSB)

2:00–2:45 SESSION 2 NEUROUROIN

Chair: Sue Yudovin (UCLA)

UCLA Steve Tisch BrainSPORT – Building a Comprehensive Multidisciplinary Center for Sport Concussions in Youth through Education, Treatment & Research - Sue Yudovin (UCLA)

Research & Reality in TBI; A Case Study - Courtney Real (UCLA)

2:45-3:00 Break

3:00–4:45 SESSION 3 SPORTS CONCUSSION 1: EPIDEMIOLOGY, PREVENTION, IMAGING

Chair: John DiFiori (UCLA)

Who Gets Sports Concussions? Update on Epidemiology - Dawn Comstock (Colorado)

The Challenges of Concussion Diagnosis and Prevention in Athletics - Kevin Guskelewitz (UNC)

Advanced Imaging for Sports Concussions - Christopher Whitlow (Wake Forest)

4:50-6:00 "HOT OFF THE PRESS"

Chair: Fernando Gómez-Pinilla (UCLA)

6:30 Reception

7:00 Dinner and Evening Program

“Advocacy Inside the beltway: Jewels on the Rules & Tools to Keep Kids’ Brains Cool” - Gerry Gioia (Children’s National Medical Center)

8:00–9:50 SESSION 4 SPORTS CONCUSSION 2: PEDIATRICS, REPEAT INJURY AND PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT

Chair: Christopher Giza (UCLA)

Multimodal Evaluation & Management of Youth Concussion: Using the Available Evidence and Our Heads - Gerry Gioia (Children’s National Medical Center)

Determining Return to Play: The Vulnerable Window in Sports Concussion - John DiFiori (UCLA)

Engineering a Better Helmet Material - Larry Carlson (UCLA)

The iTAKL Study: Preliminary Biomechanics, MEG and Imaging Findings? - Joseph Maldjian (University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center)

9:50-10:05 Break

10:05–11:15 SESSION 5 STRUCTURE – FUNCTION RELATIONSHIPS IN TBI AND RECOVERY

Chair: Brenda Bartnik-Olson (Loma Linda, UCR)

Is she conscious? The Challenge of Covert Cognition - Carolyn Schnakers (UCLA)

Advanced Neuroimaging in Pediatric TBI - Emily Dennis (USC-UCLA)

Imaging the Neurovascular Unit - Brenda Bartnik-Olson (Loma Linda, UCR)

11:15–12:25 SESSION 6 TBI AND BEHAVIOR

Chair: Robert Asarnow (UCLA)

Enhanced Fear-Based Learning after Experimental TBI - Annie Hoffman (UCLA)

Incidence and Impact of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) In Blast Versus Non-Blast Traumatic Brain Injury in a Veteran Population - Kim Panizzon/Roi Ann Wallis (UCLA-Wadsworth VA)

Psychiatric Sequelae of Pediatric TBI - Jeff Max (UCSD)

Afternoon and Evening - On your own

8:00–9:15 SESSION 7 BRAIN – BODY INTERACTIONS AFTER TBI

Chair: Mayumi Prins (UCLA)

Brain-Gut-Microbiome Interactions - Kirsten Tillisch (UCLA)

Blast Type Brain Trauma in Rats: Intestinal Barrier Integrity and Motility - Million Mulugueta (UCLA)

Breaking Immune Privilege: Autoimmune Targeting of Astrocytes Initiates Epileptogenesis - Yelena Grinberg (UCR)

9:15-9:35 Break / Checkout

9:35–11:10 SESSION 8 NEUROTRAUMA AND RECOVERY

Chair: Mark Ashley (CNS)

The Role of Early Mobility and Early PM&R Consultation In Severe TBI - Cassie Spalding-Dias (UCD)

Metabolic Therapy Following TBI - Tiffany Greco (UCLA)

Strategies to Enhance Rehabilitation after TBI: What We Have Learned from Experimental Research - Grace Griesbach (CNS)

Enteral Albuterol Decreases the Need for Chronotropic Agents in Patients with Cervical Spinal Cord Injury-Induced Bradycardia - Christine Cacanour (UCD)

11:10 Closing Remarks - David Hovda (UCLA)

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