

2nd Annual Henry + MSU Neuroscience Research Symposium

November 6, 2026

Martha Firestone and William Clay Ford Hall

9:00 – 9:30 a.m. CHECK-IN & BREAKFAST

9:30 – 10:00 a.m. Opening Remarks

Caryl Sortwell, Ph.D.

Henry Ford + MSU Neuroscience Committee Co-Chair

Steven Kalkanis, M.D.

Henry Ford Medical Group CEO, Henry Ford Hospital CEO, MSU College of Human Medicine Associate Dean

Kevin Guskiewicz, Ph.D.

Michigan State University President

10:00 – 11:00 a.m. Session 1: Neuroscience Seed Funding Awardee Presentations

Session Chair: Michelle Mazei-Robison, Ph.D. (MSU)

10:00 – 10:15 a.m. **Directional Extracellular Vesicle Release and Vascular Dysfunction in Alzheimer's Disease**

Yi Zhang, Ph.D. (Henry Ford) and Nicholas Kanaan, Ph.D. (MSU)

10:15 – 10:30 a.m. **Drivers of Fluid and Metabolite Transport in the Aging Brain**

Quan Jiang, Ph.D. (Henry Ford) and Qingguang Zhang, Ph.D. (MSU)

10:30 – 10:45 a.m. **Extracellular Vesicles Carrying Mitochondrial DNA Cargo Translate Lewy Body Pathology into Microglial Activation**

Yi Zhang, Ph.D. (Henry Ford) and Joseph Patterson, Ph.D. (MSU)

10:45 – 11:00 a.m. **Clinical Neuroimmunology of Non-Allergic Rhinitis**

John Craig, M.D. (Henry Ford) and Geffroy Laumet, Ph.D. (MSU)

11:00 – 12:00 p.m. Poster Session

12:00 – 1:00 p.m. LUNCH

1:00 – 2:00 p.m. Keynote Speaker: "State of Neuroscience; Present and Future"

Session Chair: Caryl Sortwell, Ph.D. (MSU)

Walter Koroshetz, M.D.

Neurologist; Former Director of the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke (NINDS)

3:00 – 3:15 p.m. BREAK

3:15 – 4:00 p.m. Session 2: Emerging Research & Introduction to the NGNRI

Session Chair: Michael Chopp, Ph.D. (Henry Ford)

3:15 – 3:45 p.m. **Graduate Student & Postdoctoral Scholar Presentations**
Mapping the Interactome of Oligomeric Tau in Alzheimer's Disease using Biotinylation by Antibody Recognition

Ahmed Atwa, B.S. (MSU)

Single-Cell Atlas of Neuroinflammation Reveals AMPK as a Master Metabolic Gatekeeper Restraining Myeloid Reprogramming and Pathogenic Th17/Treg Dysregulation

Mena Fatma, Ph.D. (Henry Ford)

Developing Engineered Endosymbionts for Direct Reprogramming of Astrocytes into Dopaminergic Neurons

Ahmed Zarea, B.S. (MSU)

3:45 – 4:00 p.m. **The Nick Gilbert Neurofibromatosis Research Institute (NGNRI)**

Ivan Baines, Ph.D.

NGNRI Chief Operating Officer and Project Lead

4:00 - 4:15 p.m. Closing Remarks

Ellen Air, M.D., Ph.D.

Henry Ford + MSU Neuroscience Committee Co-Chair

4:15 – 5:15 p.m. NETWORKING RECEPTION
