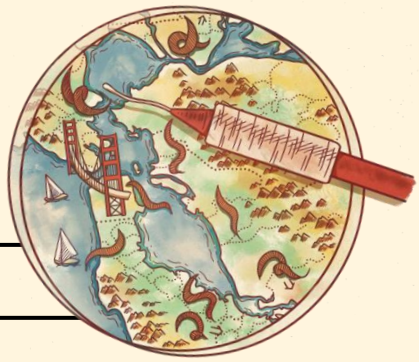
# Bay Area Worm Meeting

April 11, 2026

The Buck Institute for Research on Aging



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| 8:30 - 9:30 | **Registration/Breakfast** |
| 9:30 – 9:40 | **Welcome Remarks** |
| 9:40 – 10:30 | **Morning Keynote - Dr. Maria Gallegos** (California State University, East Bay)<br>"Curiosity-driven research at a public PUI" |
| 10:30 - 10:45 | **Dr. Huichao Deng** (Stanford University)<br>"How are the morphology and function of Endoplasmic Reticulum - Plasma Membrane (ER-PM) Junction regulated in neurons?" |
| 10:45 - 11:00 | **Dr. Lauren Cote** (Stanford University)<br>"Reciprocal E-cadherin signaling aligns apical surfaces between neighboring epithelial tissues to complete the *C. elegans* digestive tract" |
| 11:00 - 11:15 | **Special Talk - Dr. Celja Uebel** (Stanford University)<br>"Digging up worm history: the overlooked origins of nematode biology" |
| 11:15 - 11:30 | **Coffee Break** |
| 11:30 - 11:45 | **Xiangyi Ding** (UC Davis)<br>"LINC complexes control nucleolar assembly through heterochromatin organization in *C. elegans* early embryo" |
| 11:45 - 12:00 | **Ling-Hsuan Sun** (Buck Institute)<br>"Non-canonical roles for autophagy protein ATG16 in neuronal exopher biogenesis and longevity" |
| 12:00 - 12:15 | **Catherin DeSousa** (UC Berkeley)<br>"A toolkit to study translation mediated longevity" |
| 12:15 - 12:30 | **Dr. Shunpan Shu** (UCSF)<br>"Ceramide supplementation rescues lysosomal dysfunction in *C. elegans* models of FTLD-PGRN" |
| 12:30 - 1:30 | **Lunch** |
| 1:30 - 1:45 | **Dr. Orkan Ilbay** (Stanford University)<br>"Prion-induced heritable states in *C. elegans*" |
| 1:45 – 2:00 | **Dr. Rui Jiang** (UC Berkeley)<br>"Robust, low-input chromatin profiling enables tissue-specific analysis in *C. elegans*" |
| 2:00 – 2:15 | **Dr. Emmanuel Nsamba** (Stanford University)<br>"Differential contributions of β-tubulin isotypes to spindle assembly and chromosome separation dynamics during *C. elegans* acentrosomal oocyte meiosis" |
| 2:15 - 2:30 | **Dr. Frank McNally** (UC Davis)<br>"Mechanisms of meiotic spindle positioning and paternal centriole silencing by kinesin-1" |
| 2:30 - 4:00 | **Poster Session** |
| 4:00 - 4:50 | **Afternoon Keynote - Dr. Andrew Dillin** (UC Berkeley)<br>"The surprising regulation of cellular quiescence revealed by worm genetics" |
| 4:50 – 5:00 | **Closing Remarks and Awards** |
| 5:00 - 6:00 | **Reception** |

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