



UK Human Functional Genomics Initiative Inaugural Scientific Symposium

Monday 16 June 2025

Location: The University of Exeter Forum, Stocker Road, Exeter EX4 4PT

[Agenda \(subject to change\)](#)

09:30 – 10:30	Registration, coffee, pastries and networking
10:30 – 12:10	Session 1:
10:30 – 10:45	Welcome to the UK Functional Genomics Initiative and launch of collaborative funding opportunity – Jonathan Mill, Director of the UK Human Functional Genomics Initiative, University of Exeter
10:45 – 11:00	Exploring function in the dark genome - Wendy Bickmore, Institute of Genetics and Cancer, University of Edinburgh
11:00 – 11:10	An introduction to the UK Human Functional Genomics Screening Laboratory - Nicola McCarthy, Milner Therapeutics Institute, University of Cambridge
11:10 – 11:30	Harnessing the power of whole genome arrayed screening to discover new mechanisms and targets in rare genetic conditions - Delphine Larrieu, Altos Labs, Cambridge institute of Science
11:30-11:45	An overview of the MRC Mouse Genetics Network - Sara Wells, Mary Lyons Centre, MRC Harwell Institute
11:45 – 12:15	Understanding the functional effects of coding variation at scale - Lea Starita, Department of Genome Sciences, University of Washington
12:15 – 13:30	Lunch, posters & networking
13:30 – 15:00	Session 2:
13:30 – 13:40	Sponsored talk
13:40 – 14:00	Mapping the human thymus one cell at a time: a Human Cell Atlas perspective - Ioannis Sarropoulos, Cambridge Stem Cell Institute, University of Cambridge
14:00 – 14:30	Gene regulation of human cell systems - Roser Vento-Torno, Wellcome Sanger Institute
14:30 – 15:00	Interpreting variant function across the human genome - Martin Kircher, Institute of Human Genetics of the University Medical Center Schleswig-Holstein, University of Lübeck
15:00 – 15:30	Break with refreshments

15:30 – 17:00	Session 3:
15:30 – 15:40	Sponsored talk
15:40 – 15:45	An introduction to BioFAIR - Tony Burdett
15:45 – 16:05	Protein feature-targeted mutagenesis to interrogate rare disease mechanisms - Matthew Child, Imperial College London
16:00 – 16:20	Using functional genomics data for new therapeutics – Mina Ryten, Dementia Research Institute, University of Cambridge
16:20 – 16:50	Unravelling the complexity using genetically diverse human cellular models - Ralda Nehme, Stanley Center for Psychiatric Research, Broad Institute of MIT and Harvard
16:50 – 17:00	Closing remarks & poster winner announced
17:00 – 18:00	Drinks Reception