2026 MBP Symposium

ANNUAL RESEARCH CONFERENCE

May 11, 2026

New College III, 45 Wilcocks St, University of Toronto

Register Now!

Event Itinerary

Medical Biophysics
UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

JLM
James Lepock Memorial Committee

MBP Symposium

AGENDA

May 11, 2026

Location A: William Doo Auditorium, New College III

Location B: Room 1016 Amphitheatre, Wilson Hall, New College

Location	Time	
A	8:30 - 9:00 AM	Breakfast
B	9:00 - 9:10 AM	Opening Remarks
B	9:10 - 9:55 AM	Keynote 1: **Dr. Jennifer Gommerman**
	9:55 - 10:05 AM	Break
B	10:05 - 10:50 AM	Lower Year Talks: **Soroush Ghomashchi, Sean D'Mello, Alicia Matthew**
	10:50 - 11:05 PM	Break
B	11:05 - 11:20 PM	Sponsor Talk: **StemCell**
	11:20 - 12:30 PM	Lunch
B	12:30 - 1:15 PM	Keynote 2: **Dr. Brian Wilson**
B	1:15 - 2:15 PM	Patient-Clinician Panel: Voices in Research
A	2:15 - 3:30 PM	Poster Session
	3:30 - 3:45 PM	Break
B	3:45 - 4:30 PM	Upper Year Talks: **Brianne Laverty, Yuexin Xi, Olivia Drummond**
B	4:30 - 4:45 PM	Raffle, Awards & Closing Remarks

STEMCELL™ TECHNOLOGIES

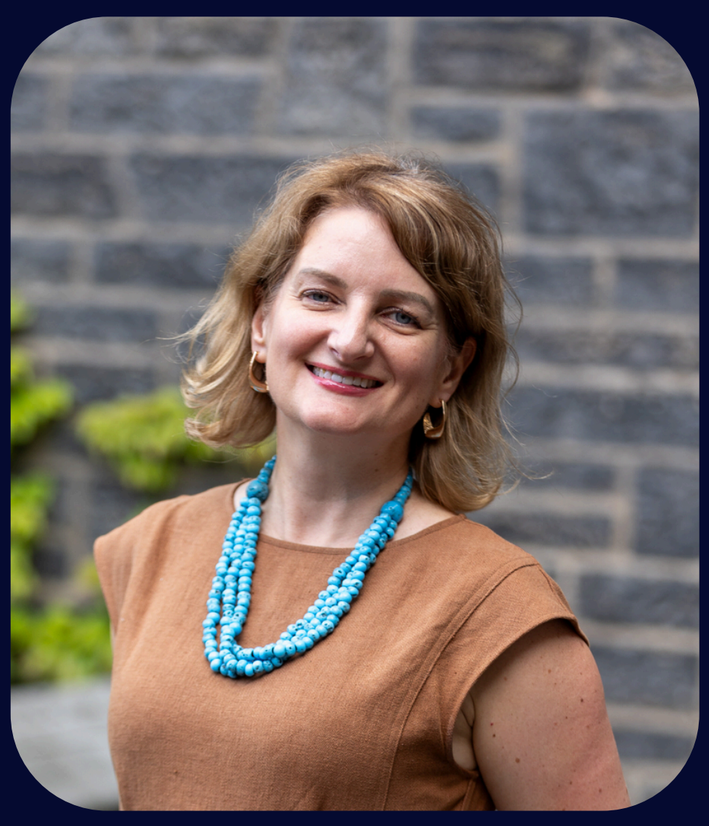
OICR Ontario Institute for Cancer Research

UHN Princess Margaret Cancer Centre

Sunnybrook RESEARCH INSTITUTE

Keynotes

DR. JENNIFER GOMMERMAN



Professor and Chair,
Department of Immunology,
University of Toronto

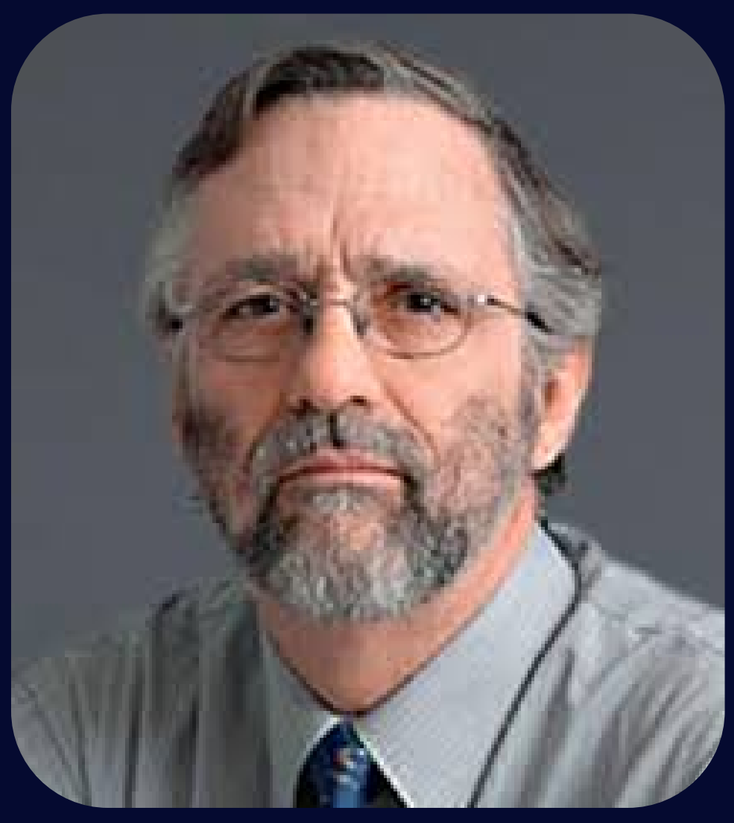
What Comes Around Goes Around – From Industry to Academia to Translational Research on Multiple Sclerosis

Dr. Jennifer Gommerman completed her PhD in Immunology at the University of Toronto in 1998, followed by postdoctoral training at Harvard Medical School, before joining Biogen as a Staff Scientist.

Her research focuses on how members of the TNF superfamily regulate immunity and autoimmunity, with particular emphasis on neuroinflammation and Multiple Sclerosis. Her team has identified a novel gut–brain axis involved in regulating neuroinflammation and has extensively studied the role of B lymphocytes in MS in both patients and animal models.

In addition, she has contributed to understanding mucosal antibody responses to SARS-CoV-2 and co-led pandemic preparedness efforts across Ontario. She is a Distinguished Fellow of the American Association of Immunology and holds a Canada Research Chair in Tissue-specific Immunity.

DR. BRIAN WILSON



Professor of Medical Biophysics,
University of Toronto and Princess
Margaret Cancer Centre

From Kaons to X- and Gamma Rays to Light, Nano and Photoimmunology: An Accidental Journey

Dr. Brian Wilson completed his training in Natural Sciences and High-Energy Physics at the University of Glasgow, followed by roles in medical radiation physics and radiology across England and Australia before moving to Canada.

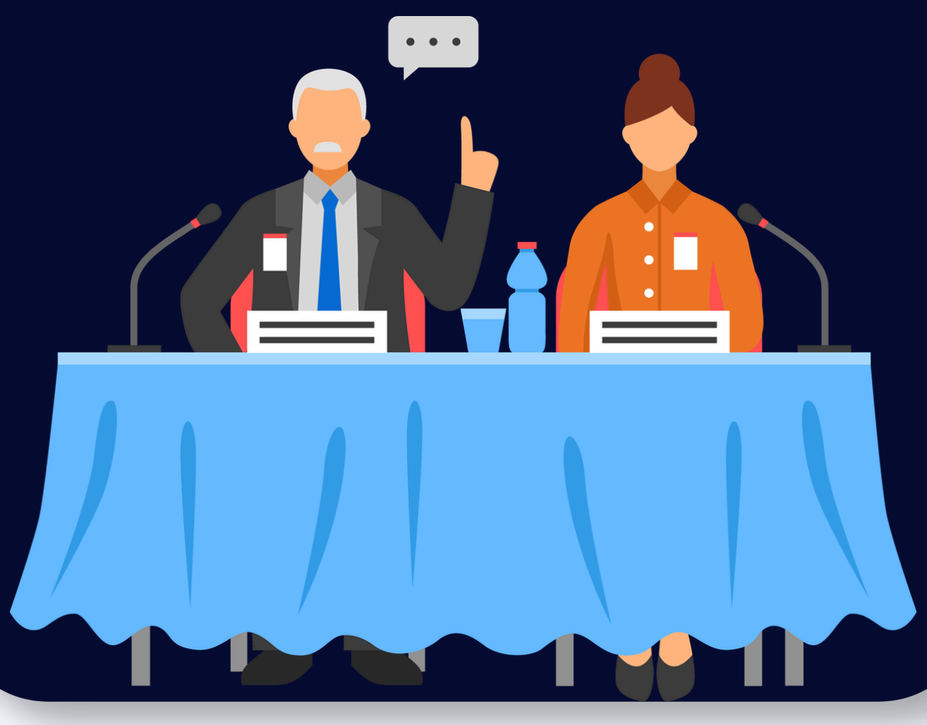
His research focuses on the application of optical and nanotechnologies to cancer detection, image-guided interventions, and phototherapeutics, spanning both laboratory research and clinical translation. He founded the Laboratory for Applied Biophotonics to accelerate the development of clinically relevant technologies through interdisciplinary and industry collaborations.

His current work includes the use of multifunctional nanoparticles for cancer theranostics, gold nanoclusters for photo- and radiation-based therapies, and photodynamic immune stimulation in solid tumors. He has received numerous national and international honors and is a Fellow of Optica and SPIE, as well as a recipient of the Princess Margaret Cancer Centre Richard Hill Mentorship Award.

Engagement

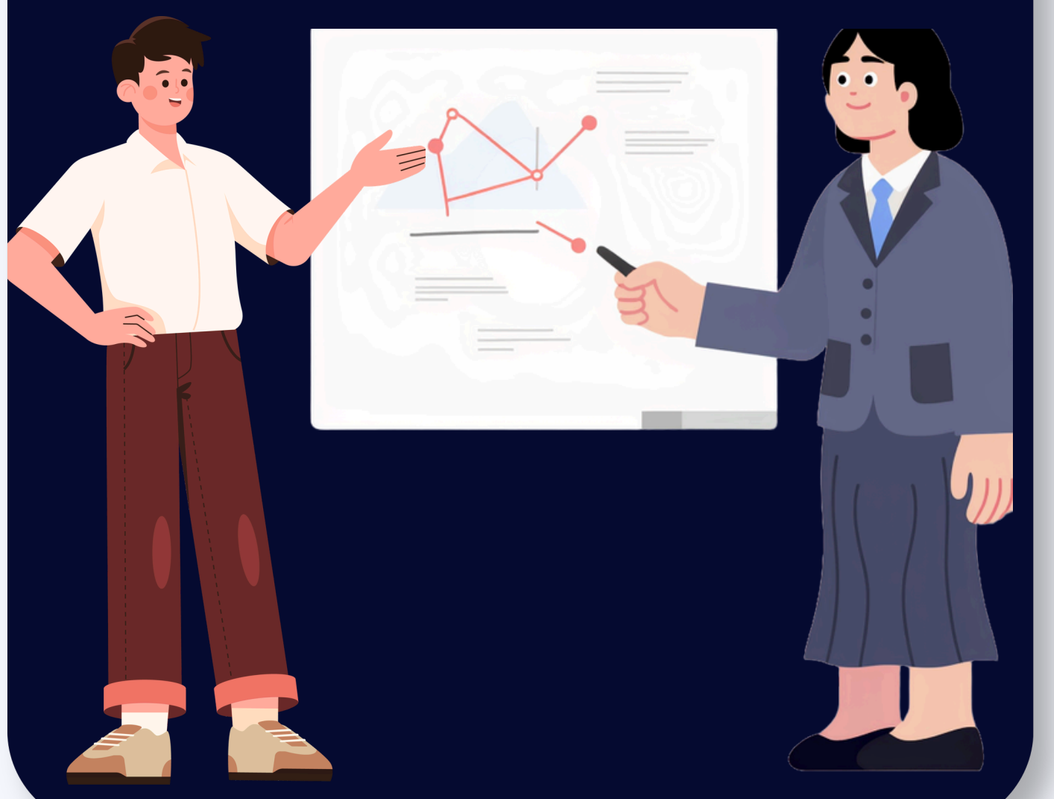
PATIENT-CLINICIAN PANEL: VOICES IN RESEARCH

From inclusion to impact: rethinking patient partnership in research.
In conversation with **Vinesha Ramasamy, Paige Johnson, Dr. Jean Chen, and Dr. Catherine Coolens**



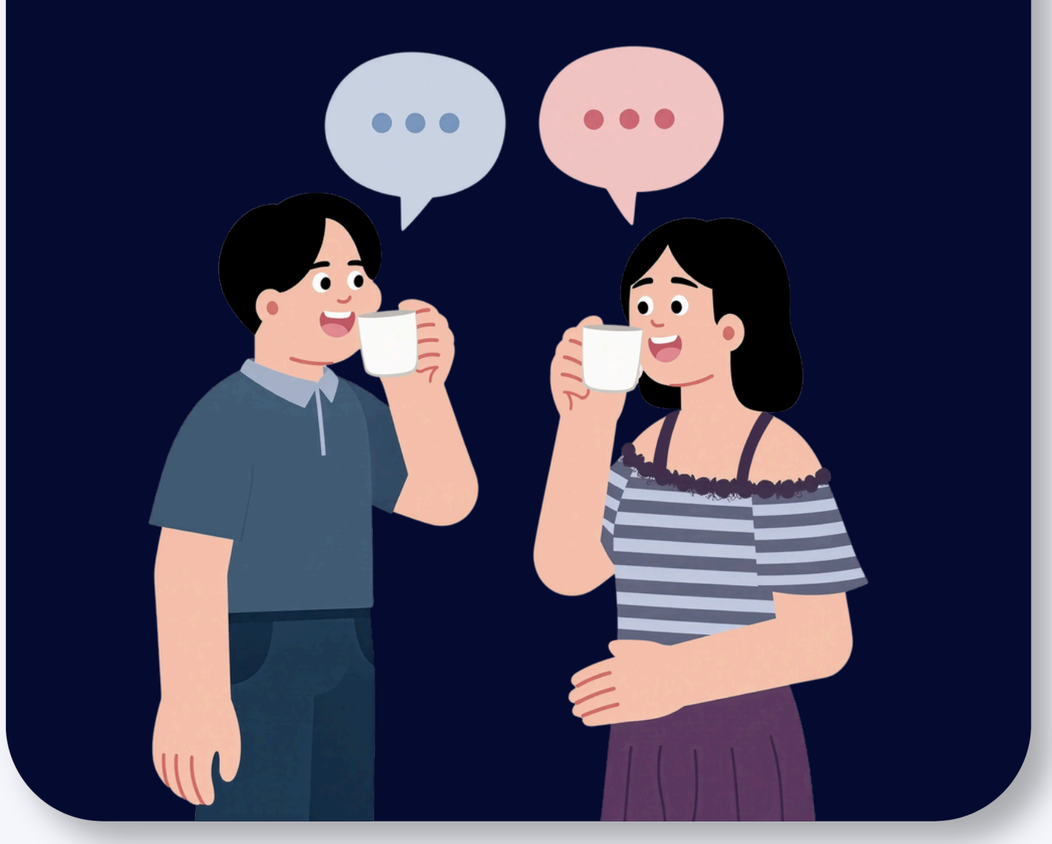
PEOPLE'S CHOICE AWARD

Get your research evaluated beyond the lab! Patient partners provide perspective by judging student posters.



COFFEE CHATS

Connect with patient partners one-on-one! Hear their experiences and understand the real-world impact of your research.



RAFFLE

Enter the raffle and win prizes! Participate in coffee chats and visit the sponsor table to earn entries.