



COMMHIT26 SPEAKER

Sarah A. Stern

PHD

Research Group Leader

Max Planck Lab for Integrative Neural Circuits and Behavior

ON STAGE AT COMMHIT26

FRI, DEC 11
11am-12pm

A Round Table Discussion with Max Planck on the Frontiers of Brain Science

PANEL

With Vidhya Rangaraju, Karen Panetta, Kendra Siler

ABOUT SARAH

Dr. Sarah A. Stern is a Research Group Leader at the Max Planck Florida Institute for Neuroscience, where she leads the Integrative Neural Circuits and Behavior laboratory.

Her research explores how the brain integrates internal drives, learning, stress, motivation, and environmental influences to shape behavior. Through her work, she is helping uncover the neural mechanisms that influence decision-making, performance, resilience, and human adaptability. Dr. Stern's research spans neuroscience, behavior, metabolism, and mental health, with a particular focus on how brain circuits regulate motivated behaviors and respond to changing internal and external conditions. Her work has been recognized through support from the NIH, the BRAIN Initiative, the Brain & Behavior

Research Foundation, and other leading scientific organizations. At CommHIT26, Dr. Stern brings a neuroscience perspective to mental performance, helping attendees better understand how the brain influences focus, decision-making, stress response, learning, and resilience. Her insights offer practical relevance for healthcare leaders, first responders, and professionals working in high-consequence environments where performance under pressure matters. Dr. Stern earned her PhD from the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai and completed postdoctoral training at Rockefeller University.

JOIN US

CommHIT26 · December 10-11, 2026

CommHIT Headquarters at the Astronauts Memorial Foundation, Kennedy Space Center, Florida



REGISTER

commhit.org/commhit26