



COMMHIT26 SPEAKER

Vidhya Rangaraju

PHD

Research Group Leader
Max Planck Neuroenergetics Lab

ON STAGE AT COMMHIT26

FRI, DEC 11
11am-12pm

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

PANEL

With Sarah A. Stern, Karen Panetta, Kendra Siler

ABOUT VIDHYA

Dr. Vidhya Rangaraju has led her research group in Brain Energetics at the Max Planck Florida Institute for Neuroscience since January 2020.

Her laboratory investigates how local energy supply enables and constrains synaptic plasticity, learning, and memory, and how disruptions in this supply contribute to neurodegeneration such as in Alzheimer's, Parkinson's, and ALS. Recent work from her group has revealed that mitochondria adapt their energy production and structure near synapses to meet the immediate and sustained energy demands of synaptic plasticity. As an EMBO and Marie Curie Postdoctoral Fellow in Erin Schuman's laboratory, she discovered local mitochondrial energy compartments that fuel protein synthesis during synaptic

plasticity. During her Ph.D. in Tim Ryan's laboratory, she developed an optical reporter of synaptic ATP and established the link between neuronal activity and ATP synthesis. She is the recipient of numerous awards, including the Vincent du Vigneaud Award of Excellence, the MPIBR Scientific Discovery of the Year Award, the SfN Peter and Patricia Gruber International Research Award, the CZI Ben Barres Early Career Acceleration Award, the SfN Janett Rosenberg Trubatch Career Development Award, and the NIH Director's New Innovator Award.

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