Brain Mapping Center

SEMINAR SERIES

Sponsored by the Brain Mapping Medical Research Organization and Brain Mapping Support Foundation

The focus of these talks is on advancing the use of brain mapping methods in neuroscience with an emphasis on contemporary issues of neuroplasticity, neurodevelopment, and biomarker development in neuropsychiatric disease.

Hosted By: Shantanu Joshi, Ph.D., Neurology, UCLA

"From Scaffold to Signal: New PET tools for imaging Alzheimer's disease"



Kiran K Solingapuram Sai , Ph.D.

Professor, Wake Forest University School of Medicine

Chief of DIvision of REsearch and Clinical Translation in Imaging DIRECT-I (Radiology Enterprise)

Director of Translational Imaging Program (CTSI)

Alzheimer's disease is often detected after significant damage has occurred, limiting opportunities for early intervention. This talk highlights two first-in-class PET imaging technologies designed to capture earlier, upstream changes in brain biology. First, a novel microtubule PET tool enables in vivo visualization of microtubule destabilization, an early structural failure in neurons that links amyloid and tau pathology and reflects emerging neurodegeneration. Complementing this approach, radiolabeled insulin PET provides the first direct evidence of brain delivery following intranasal administration, offering a new way to study impaired insulin signaling in Alzheimer's disease. Together, these platforms move PET imaging beyond detecting established pathology to capturing living brain function, opening new opportunities for early diagnosis and therapeutic monitoring in Alzheimer's disease.

May 28, 2026 11:00 am - 12:00 pm PDT

In-person: Brain Mapping Center Conference Room (221)
660 Charles E. Young Dr. South
Zoom: https://ucla.in/4wpMngO

For more information contact: Shantanu Joshi (sjoshi@mednet.ucla.edu)