

Thursday, September 24, 2026 at 9:59:48 AM Pacific Daylight Time

Subject: EM: Neuroscience Speaker Series: Dr. Francesco Boata USC
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From: Tom Borowski

NEUROSCIENCE SPEAKER SERIES



Francesco Boata

**Research Pediatrics and Neurology
The Saban Research Institute
University of Southern California**

Wiring and Rewiring the CNS in Health and Disease

**Thursday, October 1st
4:00 PM**

**Burns Lecture Hall
Department of Natural Science Nucleus**

Abstract: Neural function depends on the precise establishment and maintenance of connections between neurons and their targets. This presentation will explore how the molecular programs that wire the developing central nervous system can be reactivated or redirected to promote repair after injury. Drawing on studies on axon-guidance molecules, Rho GTPases, and BRAF/MAP2K signaling, I will discuss how intrinsic growth programs and environmental cues regulate neuronal survival, axon growth, and synapse formation. I will also describe a non-invasive approach that engage growth-associated signaling and promote axonal sprouting and functional recovery in the adult CNS. Finally, I will present current and future work aimed at using developmental wiring principles as strategies for rebuilding damaged neural circuits.