

Time	Session	Speaker(s)
9:00 – 9:20	Registration & Coffee	
9:20 – 9:30	Welcome & Opening Remarks	Dr Sara Anjomani Virmouni (Brunel)
9:30-10:00	Kenote Address	Dr Myriam Rai (FARA)
10:00 – 10:35	Funding, Strategy & Research Infrastructure	Ms Chey Chapman & Ms Kassie Akompey (Great Ormond Street Hospital Charity - GOSH) Dr Geoffrey Denwood (Oxford Harrington Rare Disease Centre) Dr Elizabeth McCarthy (Brunel Facilities)
10:35-10:50	Coffee Break	
10:50-12:30	Session 1: Disease Mechanisms & Pathways <i>(Chairs: Dr Doreen Leu & Dr Sara Anjomani Virmouni)</i>	10:50-11:10 Prof Natalia Gromak (Oxford) Toxic RNA in neurodegeneration 11:15-11:35 Prof Paola Vagnarelli (Brunel) A Novel frameshift mutation in RIN2 linked to a skeletal-progeroid syndrome: from patient to pathway 11:40-12:00 Prof Joanna Bridger (Brunel) 25 Years of Progeria Research at Brunel 12:05-12:25 Dr Hrvoje Augustin (RHUL) Genetic modifiers of C9-ALS motor phenotypes in Drosophila
12:30- 13:30	Lunch, Poster Session and Networking	
13:30-14:20	Session 2: Models & Experimental Systems <i>(Chair: Dr Doreen Leu)</i>	13:30-13:50 Prof Esther Becker (Oxford) Spinocerebellar Ataxia and beyond - new models and mechanisms 13:55-14:15 Dr Christopher Wilkinson (RHUL) At the beginning and at the end: investigating the role of cilia in neurogenesis and neurodegeneration using zebrafish.
14:20-15:10	Session 3: Translational Research & Therapies <i>(Chair: Professor Joanna Bridger)</i>	14:20-14:40 Dr Sara Anjomani Virmouni (Brunel) Novel Therapeutic Strategies for Friedreich Ataxia 14:45-15:05 Prof Carlo Rinaldi (Oxford) From Mechanism to Therapies: Scaling Personalised Medicine for Rare Neurological Diseases
15:10-15:25	Coffee Break	
15:25-16:40	Session 3: Translational Research & Therapies <i>(Chair: Professor Joanna Bridger)</i>	15:25-15:45 Prof Linda Popplewell (RHUL) Development of gene therapies for neurofibromatosis type 1 15:50-16:10 Prof Emmanouil Karteris (Brunel) Clinical utility of liquid biopsies 16:15-16:35 Dr Konstantinos Stamatiou (Brunel) Repurposing antidepressants as immunotherapy enhancers for the rare childhood cancer neuroblastoma.
16:40-17:00	Final Remarks and Close	Dr Sara Anjomani Virmouni (Brunel)