



22nd Annual MABioN Biosafety Symposium

Tentative Itinerary

August 3-5, 2026

Warwick Allerton Hotel, Chicago, IL

Pre-Symposium Course: Protein Safety

Monday August 3, 8:15am – 12:00pm

Speakers

- **Crystal O'Donnell**, University of Michigan, *U-M Prion and Prion-Like Protein Guidance*
- **Leo Njongmeta**, Abbvie, *BioRisk Evaluation and Mitigation for In Vitro/In Vivo Work with Human-Derived Prion Agents*
- **Kara Sarchet**, Lilly, *prion & protein safety and regulations*
- **Mike Miles**, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, *α -Synuclein Risk Assessment*
- **Sarah Lawson**, University of Michigan Medical School, *Intro to Prions and Protein Safety, Biological Toxin Safety*

There will be a mid-morning break. Lunch will be provided for pre-symposium course attendees.

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Monday August 3, 1:00pm – Wednesday August 5, 12:00pm

Highlights

- Welcome and Logistics: University of Chicago, Northwestern University host(s)
- ABSA International Updates: Anne-Sophie Brocard, PhD, RBP(ABSA), CBSP(ABSA), SM(NRCM), ASP, CSP, CHMM, President of ABSA International
- MABioN Business Meeting: Kara Sarchet, Lilly
- Monday 6:00pm – 8:00pm: Social Hour hosted by SciSure @ Electric Shuffle, 488 N La Salle Dr, Chicago
- Tuesday 12:00pm – 1:30pm: Lunch, visit sponsor displays, participate in biosafety activities
- Tuesday 6:00pm – 9:00pm: Dinner Reception @ International Museum of Surgical Science, 1524 N. Lake Shore Drive, Chicago
- Wednesday 9:45am: Drawings for prizes for visiting sponsor displays and participating in biosafety activities
- Wednesday 10:00am – 12:00pm: Northwestern University Digester Tour, Simpson-Querrey Biomedical Research Center Tour

Speakers

- **Jim Mastrianni**, University of Chicago, *Investigating the Nature of Prion Propagation: A Guide to Therapeutic Intervention*
- **Shabaana Khader**, University of Chicago, *Targeting the lung for novel vaccines for Tuberculosis*

- **Jessica Felgenhauer and Betty Theriault**, University of Chicago, *Implementation of digital ventilated caging systems within a high containment biosafety vivarium*
- **Kathryn Harris**, PhD, RBP, NIH Office of Science Policy, *Strengthening and Modernizing Biosafety Oversight for NIH-Supported Research*
- **John Bivona**, University of Chicago, *Safe and Secure Science: Operating a Regional Biocontainment Laboratory (RBL)*
- **Jeremy Sandler**, LabConco, *Airflow Characterization of Exhausted and Recirculating Zones in a Type C1 Biosafety Cabinet Using Chemical Tracer Release*
- **Sumit Ghosh**, Abigail Wexner Research Institute at Nationwide Children's Hospital, *Enhancing Biosafety and Reduction of Injuries in Research Laboratories Through Implementation of Safer Sharps Controls*
- **Kathleen Ignatoski**, University of Michigan, *War of the Worlds*
- **Filiberto Palacios**, Azusa Pacific University, *Lessons Learned from Autoclave Validation Process for Small Quantity Generators*
- **Nicoleen Boyle**, University of Michigan, *Protect the Participants: A Pilot Program to Identify Risks in Research Spaces*
- **Renée Hajnik**, University of Chicago, *Bean There, Bagged That: Interactive Hazardous Waste Segregation Training*
- **Anthony Wang**, Texas Biomedical Research Institute, *High and Maximum Biocontainment drills and exercises: a practical guide*
- **Dan Eisenman**, Advarra, TBD
- **Greg Smith**, Northwestern University, TBD
- **Joshua Leonard**, Northwestern University, TBD

Breakfast and lunch are provided on Tuesday and Wednesday. There will be morning and afternoon breaks each day.