



SAPIENZA
UNIVERSITÀ DI ROMA



Structure and Function of lncRNAs

February 9, 2026

Venue: Auletta seminari, Ex Istituto di Fisiologia Generale, Edificio CU026, piano seminterrato,
Università di Roma La Sapienza

Program

09:00 – 09:10 Greetings Luca Tesei

Chair: Pietro Laneve

09:10 – 09:30 Monica Ballarino (Sapienza) “Dark matter really matters?”

09:30 – 09:50 Daniele Durante (Sapienza) “Unveiling the function of muscle-specific lncRNAs: from cell-autonomous to non-cell-autonomous effects”

09:50 – 10:10 Nicole Luchetti (CNRS-IBPC) “From Structure to Function: Modeling lncRNAs and their Molecular Interactions”

10:10 – 10:30 Coffee Break

Chair: Luca Tesei

10:30 – 10:50 Pietro Laneve (CNR-IBPM) “Examples of RNA-RNA interactions in mechanisms of neuronal pathophysiology”

10:50 – 11:10 Adriano Setti (Sapienza) “Decoding RNA–RNA Interactions: The Role of Low-Complexity Repeats and a Deep Learning Framework for Sequence-Based Prediction”

11:10 – 11:30 Valentina Mussi (CNR-IMM) “The unexpected diagnostic potential of 3D *nano-disorder*: exploring biomechanical properties with Raman spectroscopy to fast unveil epigenetic effects and cancer alterations on genomic DNA”

11:30 – 11:50 Coffee Break

Chair: Letizia Chiodo

11:50 – 12:10 Luca Tesei (Unicam) “Comparing RNA Structures: Methods, Tools, and Emerging Directions”

12:10 – 12:30 Michela Quadrini (Unicam) “From Structure to Motif Discovery: Abstractions and Pattern Search”

12:30 – 12:50 Margherita A. G. Matarrese (UCBM) “TripleMatcher: A Computational Framework to Decode RNA Triple Helices”

12:50 – 13:00 Discussion and Conclusions

Organizers: M. Ballarino, L. Chiodo, L. Tesei, M. Quadrini, M. A. G. Matarrese

RNA2Fun – <https://bdslab.unicam.it/rna2fun/>

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