

The Los Angeles Stroke Rehabilitation Network



4th Annual Stroke Rehabilitation Continuing Education Workshop

Date: Saturday, November 7th, 2026
Time: 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM
Location: UCLA Franz Hall, Room 1178 (see next page)
The Workshop can also be attended via Zoom; link provided after RSVP
RSVP form: www.thelasernet.com/workshop_2026.aspx
Parking: No charge for those who RSVP.
Cost: Free refreshments will be provided.
Website: www.thelasernet.com



TO RSVP, fill out the form on
www.thelasernet.com/workshop_2026.aspx
or use the QR code above.

Continuing Education Credits are being arranged for OTs, PTs, and SLPs at no charge.

Agenda

- 9:00 – 9:30 **Diagnosis, treatment, and prediction of language recovery in aphasia: moving towards precision medicine**
Swathi Kiran, Ph.D., CCC-SLP
Boston University
- 9:30 – 10:00 **Intersections of Balance Control, Energetic Cost, and Asymmetry in Post-Stroke Gait**
James M. Finley, Ph.D.
University of Southern California
- 10:00 – 10:30 **Brain-Computer Interface Control with AI Copilots**
Jonathan C. Kao, Ph.D.
University of California, Los Angeles
- 10:30 – 11:00 *Refreshments*
- 11:00 – 12:00 **Lessons from the Queen Square Upper Limb Rehabilitation Programme**
Nick Ward, M.D.
University College London

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Swathi Kiran, Ph.D., CCC-SLP**Boston University**

Swathi Kiran is the James and Cecelia Ying Professor of Neurorehabilitation in the Department of Speech and Hearing Sciences and the Founding Director for the Center for Brain Recovery at Boston University. The mission of the Center for Brain Recovery is to study neurological disorders in the brain while focusing on real outcomes for the patient. She has over 190 peer-reviewed papers in these fields and has been funded by NIH and the ASH Foundation. She currently serves on the NIDCD Advisory Council. She is current Editor-in-Chief for Journal of Speech Language and Hearing Research-Language. She is the past-Board Chair for the Academy of Aphasia, and Board Member for the National Aphasia Association, Board Trustee for the American Speech Language Hearing Foundation. She is the co-founder and scientific advisor for Constant Therapy Health, a software platform for rehabilitation tools after brain injury. Dr. Kiran is also the past Director for Strategic Planning Implementation at the Office of the Provost at Boston University.

James M. Finley, Ph.D.**University of Southern California**

Dr. James Finley is an Associate Professor in the Division of Biokinesiology and Physical Therapy, the Department of Biomedical Engineering, and the Neuroscience Graduate Program at the University of Southern California. Dr. Finley and his research team in the Locomotor Control Lab at USC use experimental studies and computational models to understand how mobility is controlled in healthy individuals and individuals with neuromotor impairments such as stroke and Parkinson's disease. This work relies on principles of engineering, neuroscience, game design, biomechanics, and exercise physiology to design more effective interventions to improve mobility.

Jonathan C. Kao, Ph.D.**University of California, Los Angeles**

Jonathan is an Associate Professor of Electrical Engineering, Computer Science, and Neurobiology at UCLA, where he directs the Neural Engineering and Computation Laboratory (NECL). His research spans brain-computer interfaces, robot learning, and neural computation. His team at NECL designs algorithms that help people control robots after paralysis and uses AI to ask how biological circuits implement decisions. He is the recipient of the NIH Director's Pioneer Award, the NIH Director's New Innovator Award, the NSF CAREER Award, the Brain & Behavior Research Foundation Young Investigator Award, the UCLA Distinguished Teaching Award, and the Northrop Grumman Excellence in Teaching Award.

Nick Ward, M.D.**University College London**

Ward is a Professor of Clinical Neurology & Neurorehabilitation at UCL Queen Square Institute of Neurology and The National Hospital for Neurology and Neurosurgery. He is lead of the first dedicated upper limb neurorehabilitation programme in the UK.

His work seeks to understand the mechanisms of impairment and recovery of movement after stroke so that we might optimise both the dose and type of treatments to improve long-term recovery. He is Co-editor of the Oxford Textbook of Neurorehabilitation, Deputy Editor of the Journal for Neurology, Neurosurgery and Psychiatry and Associate Editor of Neurorehabilitation and Neural Repair. He is Chair of the International Stroke Rehabilitation and Recovery Alliance Scientific Committee.

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Learning Objectives:

- To appreciate emerging treatment approaches for neurorehabilitation following stroke.
- To understand research approaches to developing novel neurorehabilitation treatment strategies.
- To understand the use of technology in stroke neurorehabilitation.
- To evaluate the impact of clinical factors in recovery after CNS injury such as stroke.
- To contextualize new developments in motor learning and control.
- To analyze post-stroke recovery across levels, from neuron to behavior.

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