

# Relaunching of Tuesday presentation series

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MASSACHUSETTS  
GENERAL HOSPITAL



HARVARD  
MEDICAL SCHOOL



Gordon Center  
for Medical Imaging

# General format

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- Combination of different presentation types
  - Journal club
  - Research updates by internal investigators
  - Invited lectures from external speakers
- Two slots per week
  - Each led by different individuals
  - Each ~30 minutes total, inclusive of presentation and discussion
    - Exceptions likely, especially for external speakers
- Multiple goals
  - Convey information
  - Generate discussion
  - Promote collaborations



<https://gordon.mgh.harvard.edu/gc/intranet/seminar-sign-up/>



# Equilibrium condition

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- “Default configuration”: 1x journal club and 1x research update each week
- Research update and journal club slots preferentially assigned to junior members of the Center
  - Number of people in the center
  - Number of slots per year
  - Duration of stay for students/postdocs
  - Ensure they have a chance to present before leaving



# Journal club

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- Choose an appropriate paper
  - Generally, interesting work published in a good journal (top two quartiles)
    - Needn't be flawless but shouldn't be garbage either
  - Recency (from last three years or so) preferred but not required
  - Circulate the paper at least a week in advance
  - *Audience: Read the paper ahead of the meeting*
- Introduce some foundational material
  - Make sure everyone understands basic concepts
- Summarize the main methods and findings of the paper
- Initiate discussion about the paper
  - Point out key concepts, limitations, questions, next steps, implications for our work, etc.
  - This is the most important part, otherwise we could all just read the paper on our own



# Research updates (in the long run)

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- Preference for junior investigators to present
- Suggested content
  - Some personal background
  - Scientific introduction giving foundation for those who are not in your field
  - An explanation of your research project and key results
  - A review of ongoing challenges/questions and opportunities for collaboration to help promote group discussion
  - Overall, speaking about your research in some level of detail



# Research updates (in the short run)

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- Given by more senior investigators
- “Set the tone” for future presentations
  - Model of good practices
- “Set the stage” for future presentations
  - High level summaries of work being done in the group
  - Intentionally avoid detailed coverage of any specific project
  - Series of teasers that will help generate interest in
    - detailed presentations to be given later by junior people from the team
    - collaboration and resources → foster connections across groups



# Assignment of slots

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- Semi-random selection of volunteers
  - From pool of people who've been here a while but not presented yet/recently
- Individuals sign up for preferred slot within open time chunk
- Will generally try to fill schedule a couple months out
  - Resolve scheduling conflicts, allow plenty of time to prepare
- Possible intervention to avoid string of presentations in same area, otherwise will try to stay hands off
- Progression from research overviews to detailed research updates



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# Closing remarks

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- Relaunch will consist of journal club, research updates, and external speakers
- Generally 1x journal club and 1x research update each week
- Journal club papers circulated (and read) in advance, discussed during the meeting
- Research updates
  - To start out, more senior investigators will give research summaries
  - Over time, transition toward detailed research updates from more junior investigators
- *This is a work in progress, aiming for continuous improvement*
- *Success requires everyone to participate!*

