



To the Winter Brain Community:

As the 54<sup>th</sup> Winter Conference on Brain Research approaches, we are tracking the COVID-19 situation carefully and making meeting changes to the extent possible. We are disappointed that some registrants may have to cancel their attendance to WCBR based on travel restrictions and health-related decisions. With the 500+ registrants who are planning to attend in person, we are still aiming to offer a vibrant and informative meeting on-site.

WCBR is committed to maximizing the safety of all attendees while offering scientific panels, posters, and networking opportunities. This year, we will implement extra health and safety measures including proof of vaccination for registration, a mask requirement for all indoor events, and limited access to the meeting space for unregistered guests. It is critical for all attendees to adhere to these policies so that together we can host a successful meeting. Be sure to read [WCBR's COVID-19 Health and Safety Guide](#).

In an effort to preserve the interactive environment that characterizes WCBR, while also protecting the quality of the meeting and the longevity of the organization, WCBR will not offer a virtual component. This may be disappointing to some registrants, as it may limit their ability to be involved in the meeting. We sincerely appreciate your understanding in navigating the present challenges.

WCBR remains dedicated to extending flexibility where possible:

- **Speaker Replacement:** If you are participating in a panel and need guidance with speaker withdrawal and/or replacement, please contact [info@winterbrain.org](mailto:info@winterbrain.org). We are not offering Zoom or pre-recorded options for presentations, due to limitations in the conference facilities and an effort to maintain the high quality of the meeting for those who do attend in person. Working with the full Board of Directors and Panel Chairs, we are in the process of generating creative solutions for re-combining panel speakers as needed, in order to maintain a robust scientific schedule for those presenters who are still able to attend in person. At this time, meeting cancellations are affecting at least one speaker in approximately 25% of the conference panels.
- **Hotel Cancellations:** The Viewline Resort and Wildwood Snowmass have extended their standard cancellation policies from 30 days prior to arrival to 21 days prior to arrival for WCBR attendees. If you have a reservation at either property, please note that you

can now cancel your reservation up to 21 days prior to your arrival without incurring 100% cancellation charges. Please contact the hotel directly at 970-923-8214.

- **Registration Cancellations:** If you find yourself in need of a conference cancellation due to COVID-19 concerns, please reach out to the Executive Office at [info@winterbrain.org](mailto:info@winterbrain.org) so we can assist. WCBR will provide a full refund for COVID-19 cancellations until **Friday, January 14, 2022**. All refunds requested after that date will incur a \$150 processing fee.
- **Weekly Communication:** Beginning this week, WCBR will send a weekly email with updates regarding WCBR 2022. Please review these communiques and feel free to reach out to [info@winterbrain.org](mailto:info@winterbrain.org) with questions or comments.

We understand that you may have additional questions, and we are here to help! Please reach out to the Executive Office at [info@winterbrain.org](mailto:info@winterbrain.org) with all inquiries. We are appreciative of you, the WCBR community, for your commitment to this organization and its mission. We are excited to welcome all who can attend in Snowmass and look forward to many more successful meetings in the future.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kyle Frantz". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Kyle Frantz, WCBR Conference Chair  
on behalf of the WCBR Executive Committee and Parthenon Management Group