



# 12th Annual Research Symposium

## SOUTH JORDAN CAMPUS AGENDA

Wednesday, February 18, 2026 | 3pm (local time)

2:30-3pm	Registration and Presenter Check-In
3-4pm	Poster Session
4-5pm	Keynote Speaker - Melodie L. Weller, PhD - <i>Classroom 100</i>
5-6pm	Podium Presentations - <i>Classroom 100</i>
6-6:15pm	Break (Meal Served) - <i>P1-1 Breakroom</i>
6:15-6:30pm	Awards and Closing Remarks- <i>Classroom 100</i>

# 2026 Keynote Speaker



**Melodie L. Weller, PhD**

Spencer Fox Eccles School of Medicine,  
Adjunct - Pathology

Dr. Melodie Weller is a research scientist and educator specializing in virology, oral-systemic disease, and pathogen discovery. Her interdisciplinary research program focuses on understanding how viral, bacterial, and fungal pathogens contribute to chronic inflammatory diseases, with a particular emphasis on the oral cavity as a reservoir and indicator of systemic disease.

Her lab has pioneered studies identifying novel variants of Hepatitis Delta Virus (HDV) in salivary gland tissues of patients with Sjogren's disease, independent of Hepatitis B Virus co-infection. This work extends to characterizing satellite RNA viruses within the Kolmioviridae family and exploring their potential plant origins and cross-kingdom transmission. She also leads investigations into the oral microbiome and its impact on autoimmune disease, integrating large-scale epidemiologic data with molecular approaches.

In the clinical and teaching arenas, Dr. Weller is committed to advancing diagnostic tools for oral disease, training the next generation of scientists, and promoting translational research that bridges dentistry, immunology, and infectious disease. She actively mentors undergraduate and graduate students and collaborates across disciplines to uncover environmental and microbial contributors to systemic autoimmune conditions.

## Program & Abstract Book

The Research Symposium Program and Abstract Book are available to view/download by scanning the QR code or visiting [www.roseman.edu/research/research-symposium/](http://www.roseman.edu/research/research-symposium/)



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