2024 UAB Aging Research Symposium
March 11-12, 2024
UAB Alumni House

March 11, 2024

UAB Alumni House
7:30-8:30 am Registration and Continental Breakfast

8:30-8:35 am Welcome
Thomas Buford, PhD
Professor and Associate Dean
Co-Director, UAB Nathan Shock Center of Excellence in the Basic Biology of Aging
Director, UAB Center for Exercise Medicine
The University of Alabama at Birmingham

SESSION I: Diversive models of biological aging
Chair:
Steven Austad, PhD
Distinguished Professor
Protective Life Endowed Chair in Healthy Aging Research
Co-Director, UAB Nathan Shock Center of Excellence in the Basic Biology of Aging
The University of Alabama at Birmingham

8:35 – 9:35 am KEYNOTE PRESENTATION
Joao Passos, Ph.D.
Professor
Mayo Clinic
“Mitochondria and Cell Senescence: A Matter of Life and Death”

9:35-10:00 am Abbi Hernandez, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor
The University of Alabama at Birmingham
“Metabolism and the Gut-Brain-Axis in Aging and Alzheimer’s Disease”

10:00-10:25 am Daniella Chusyd, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor
Indiana University Bloomington
“Trunks Up: Elephants for Aging Research”

10:25-10:45 am BREAK

10:45-11:10 am Scott Ballinger, Ph.D.
Professor and Associate Dean
Co-Leader UAB Nathan Shock Center Comparative Mitochondrial Health Assessment Core
The University of Alabama at Birmingham
“A Quantitative Assay for Determining Mitochondrial DNA Derived Damage Associated Molecular Pattern (DAMP) Levels in Humans and Rodents”

11:10-11:35 am  Stanislava Chtarbanova, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor
The University of Alabama Tuscaloosa
“As Time Flies By: Studying the Impact of Aging on Drosophila Antiviral Defenses”

11:35-11:50 am  ELEVATOR PITCH
- Dean Bunnell, Graduate Student
  The University of Alabama Tuscaloosa
  “Evaluating Flock House virus genome changes after replication in young and aged Drosophila melanogaster”.
- Osagie Emokpae, Graduate Student
  The University of Alabama Tuscaloosa
  “Sub-neurotoxic exposure to ethyl acetate fraction of soil bacterium metabolite promotes longevity in C. elegans”.
- Tate Lasher, Graduate Student
  The University of Alabama at Birmingham
  “Hypoglycemia and impaired glucagon response in a transgenic mouse model of tauopathy”.
- Angad Yadav, PhD, Postdoctoral Fellow
  The University of Alabama at Birmingham
  “Glutamine availability impacts skeletal muscle progenitor cell state transition via Mito-Nuclear communication with advancing age”.

11:50-12:10 pm  Christy Carter, Ph.D.
Health Scientist Administrator
Division of Aging Biology (DAB)
National Institute on Aging (NIA) | National Institutes of Health (NIH)
Overview of training at NIA and DAB priority for funding

12:00 AM – 1:00 pm  LUNCH & NETWORKING

SESSION II:  Circadian and nutritional-based intervention for maintaining healthy aging
Chair:
Girish Melkani, PhD
Associate Professor
Co-Leader UAB Nathan Shock Center Comparative Organismal Energetics Core
The University of Alabama at Birmingham
KEYNOTE PRESENTATION

Rozalyn Anderson, Ph.D.
Professor of Medicine
University of Wisconsin-Madison
School of Medicine and Public Health
“Aging & Delayed Aging by Caloric Restriction”

2:10-2:35 pm Girish Melkani, Ph.D.
“Chronobiology of Lipid Modulation: Discovering the Role of Time-Restricted Feeding in Aging and Metabolic Disorders”

2:35-3:00 pm Courtney Peterson, Ph.D.
Associate Professor
The University of Alabama at Birmingham
“Effects of Time-Restricted Eating on Primary and Secondary Aging in Humans”

3:00-3:20 pm BREAK

3:20-3:45 pm Martin Young, Ph.D.
Professor
The University of Alabama at Birmingham
“Circadian Control of Cardiac Physiology and Pathophysiology”

3:45-4:10 pm Karen Gamble, Ph.D.
Professor, F. Cleveland Kinney Endowed Chair in Geriatric Psychiatry
The University of Alabama at Birmingham
“Salty Secrets: Impact of High Salt Diet on the Primary Circadian Clock”

4:10-4:15 pm Closing Remarks
Steven Austad, PhD

Alys Stephens Center
4:30-6:30 pm POSTER SESSION and RECEPTION
March 12, 2024

UAB Alumni House

7:30-8:30 am  Registration and continental breakfast

8:30-8:40 am  Welcome
Ken Boockvar, MD, MS
Professor, Department of Medicine, Division of Gerontology, Geriatrics, and Palliative Care
Gwen McWhorter Endowed Chair in Geriatric Medicine
Director, UAB Integrative Center for Aging Research
The University of Alabama at Birmingham

Seth Landefeld, MD
Professor and Chair of the Department of Medicine
The University of Alabama at Birmingham

SESSION I:  Cutting Edge Research
Chair
Ken Boockvar, MD, MS

8:45 – 9:45 am  KEYNOTE PRESENTATION
Stephanie Studenski, RN, MD, MPH
Professor Emeritus, University of Pittsburgh
“There’s Something in the Way they Move: Aging and Mobility”

9:45-10:05 am  BREAK

10:10-10:55 am  FLASH TALK
• Zahra Bassiri, Graduate Student
The University of Alabama Tuscaloosa
“Subsensory Electrical Noise Stimulation Enhances Postural Control During Visual Perturbations in Older Adults”

• George C. Ling, MD, Resident
The University of Alabama at Birmingham
“Dynamics of Dominant Default Mode Network Linked to Processing Speed in Cognitively Healthy Oldest-Old”

• Koriina Valenti, PhD, IPCC, MS, Instructor
The University of Alabama at Birmingham
“Experiences with culturally based values and preferences for clinician communication and care with lesbian and bisexual older women with serious illness & their care partners”

• Belinda Williams, MD, Postdoctoral Fellow
The University of Alabama at Birmingham
“Lower Urinary Tract Symptoms and Cognitive Impairment among Participants in the REasons for Geographic and Racial Differences in Stroke Cohort Study”
• Chunhong Xiao, PhD, RN, Postdoctoral Fellow  
The University of Alabama at Birmingham  
“Care-resistant Behavior Trajectories in the Context of Mouth Care of Persons Living with Dementia in Nursing Homes”

10:55-11:20 am  Alayne Markland, DO, MSc  
Professor, UAB Division of Gerontology, Geriatrics and Palliative Care  
Birmingham VAHCS Director, Birmingham/Atlanta Geriatric Research, Educational, and Clinical Center (GRECC)  
“Improving Access to Urinary Incontinence Treatments through Mobile Health Technology”

11:25-11:50 am  Virginia Howard, PhD, FAHA, FSCT  
Distinguished Professor of Epidemiology, UAB School of Public Health  
“Recruiting and Retaining Diverse Participants in Longitudinal Studies of Aging and Health - It Takes a Village, $$$ and Advance Planning”

12:00-1:00 pm  LUNCH & NETWORKING

1:00-1:05 pm  Afternoon Welcome  
Christopher S. Brown, PhD  
Vice President for Research  
The University of Alabama at Birmingham

SESSION II:  
Community & Society  
Chair:  
Alayne Markland, DO, MSc

1:05-2:05 pm  KEYNOTE PRESENTATION  
Dr. John Beard  
Professor, Columbia University  
Director, International Longevity Center-USA  
“Beyond the absence of disease”

2:05-2:25 pm  BREAK

2:30-2:55 pm  Pamela Bowen, PhD, CRNP, FNP-BC, BBA  
Associate Professor, Acute, Chronic and Continuing Care Department  
UAB School of Nursing  
Co-Investigator and Clinical Director, Evelyn F. McKnight Brain Institute at UAB  
Brain Health Advocacy Mission (BHAM): Improving Brain Health Through Primary Care

3:00-4:00 pm  PANEL – Future of Aging Research  
Moderators: Dr. Ken Boockvar  
Panelists: Dr. Steve Austad, Dr. John Beard, Dr. Pamela Bowen, Dr. Stephanie Studenski

4:00 pm  CLOSING REMARKS  
Dr. Ken Boockvar and Dr. Steve Austad