
Comprehensive Neuroscience Center April Newsletter

From UAB Comprehensive Neuroscience Center <cnc@reach.uab.edu>

Date Tue 2025-04-01 12:20

To CNC <cnc@uab.edu>

Web Version

UAB MEDICINE.

Comprehensive Neuroscience Center

Top Stories



UAB Brain Awareness Week 2025 Recap

UAB BAW 2025 was held last week, March 26-29 at McWane Science Center. During the four day event, UAB volunteers and McWane Science Center guests were able to connect, learn and celebrate brain health together.

This year's activities gave participants the opportunity to join UAB volunteers in the Genius Lab for dissections (Sheep brains & Cow and Sheep Eyes) and join additional UAB volunteers at the Sensory Demonstration Station for engaging activities like prism goggles, PTC paper & Miracle Fruit tasting, hearing bingo, olfaction games, and EMG muscle activities. Altogether, our volunteers had **3,927 points of engagement** through these brain awareness activities, a near 60% increase from 2024!





Thank you to the Dana Foundation, IBRO, Protein Tech, UAB Psychology, UAB Neuroengineering, UAB Neurosurgery, UAB College of Arts and Sciences and UAB CNC for sponsoring this year's activities and THANK YOU to the Brain Awareness Week Team Captains, Volunteers and McWane Science Center who helped make this event a success!

Save the Dates

NeuroGateways 2025

3rd annual

NEUROGATEWAYS symposium

Hosted by
THE UAB CENTER FOR NEUROENGINEERING AND BRAIN-
COMPUTER INTERFACES

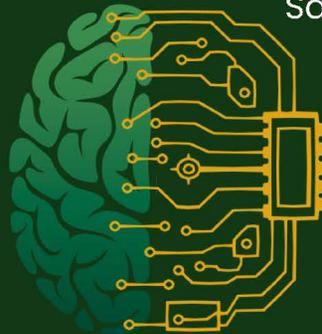
Date: April 10–11, 2025
Location: UAB Alumni House

Registration open now!
Abstracts due 3/7

Keynote:
Brian Litt, MD



Keynote:
Sameer Sheth, MD/PhD



Register at
NeuroGateways.com



2025 Simpson-Ramsey Neurodevelopment
Symposium

SAVE THE DATE

4

1

7

25

**SIMPSON-RAMSEY
NEURODEVELOPMENT
SYMPOSIUM**

April 17, 2025
BRADLEY LECTURE CENTER
TENTATIVE TIME 8:30-4:30

MORE DETAILS TO FOLLOW AT:

[HTTPS://SITES.UAB.EDU/CEDD/EVENTS/ANNUAL-SYMPOSIUM/](https://sites.uab.edu/cedd/events/annual-symposium/)
HOSTED BY THE CENTER FOR EXCELLENCE IN DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES AT UAB WITH SUPPORT FROM
CIVITAN INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH CENTER AND UAB DEVELOPMENTAL-BEHAVIORAL PEDIATRICS

Annual CNET Retreat

Annual Retreat

April 17, 2025

The UAB Center for Neurodegeneration and Experimental Therapeutics (CNET) will host its 11th Annual Retreat, open to the UAB community. Renowned speakers will be on-hand for networking and interaction opportunities.

Seminar Sessions:

8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Breakfast and lunch will be provided

Reception and Poster Session:

4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Refreshments will be provided

[Register here](#)

Haven
2515 6th Ave S,
Birmingham, AL 35233

Psychiatry and Behavioral Neurobiology 2025 Annual Research Symposium



UAB THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA AT BIRMINGHAM

DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHIATRY AND BEHAVIORAL NEUROBIOLOGY

Presents the

ANNUAL RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM
APRIL 22, 2025

**SPEAKER PRESENTATIONS WILL BE FROM 9:00AM - 12:30PM
IN THE O'NEAL CANCER CENTER - WTI 101**

DATA BLITZ: PRESENTATIONS BY UAB RESEARCH TRAINEES

Guest Speaker Presentation

“Precision Medicine for Alcohol Use Disorders”
Dr. Katie Witkiewitz
Distinguished Professor, Department of Psychology
University of New Mexico

UAB Faculty Presentations

**Cognitive Engagement vs. Cognitive Training:
Effects on Cognitive Aging and Dementia Risk**
Dr. Jerri Edwards
Professor, Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Neurobiology

**Laminar and Cell Type Analysis of the Postmortem Dorsolateral Prefrontal Cortex:
Implications for Schizophrenia**
Dr. Kirsten Schoonover
Assistant Professor, Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Neurobiology

**Poster Presentation will be in the O’Neal Cancer Center Lobby
12:30 - 2:00pm**

LUNCH WILL BE PROVIDED

Award RFAs

UAB CNBCI - Pilot Award Program

The UAB Consortium for Neuroengineering and Brain-Computer Interfaces (CNBCI) is pleased to announce a Request for Applications (RFA) for its Pilot Award Program.

The goal of this Neuroengineering Pilot Award Program is to provide funding to early-stage faculty who study the function of neural circuits using techniques such as neurophysiology, neuromodulation, in vivo optogenetics, fiber photometry, miniscopes, and other approaches. The funding will support high-risk early-stage ideas that have not yet received federal funding (R01 or equivalent). Through this RFA, the CNBCI aims to fund up to two Pilot Awards of \$10,000 each for one year.

Applications are welcome from early-stage UAB faculty members who are actively involved in research related to in vivo neural circuit analysis or related neuroengineering topics. Winners will be announced at the NeuroGateways Symposium April 10-11th, 2025.

Applications should be submitted to mbolding@uab.edu and are **due by Friday, April 4th, 2025 at 5 pm CT**. Include "CNBCI Pilot Award" in the email subject line.

Applications should include the following:

A one page research proposal in the format of an NIH Specific Aims page
The PI's NIH style biosketch

Include "CNBCI Pilot Award" in the email subject line.

Contact Mark Bolding at mbolding@uab.edu for more information.

UAB ADRC - Research Education Component Scholars program

The UAB Alzheimer's Disease Center is pleased to announce the Request for Applications for the Research Education Component (REC) Scholars program. This initiative aims to foster the development of early-stage investigators in Alzheimer's disease and related dementias (ADRD) research. Scholars will receive mentorship, access to resources, and support to advance their independent research careers. Interested candidates should have a strong commitment to ADRD research and a desire to engage in interdisciplinary and collaborative studies.

Applications are to be submitted by April 15, 2025. For more information or to submit an application, visit [UAB Alzheimer's REC Scholars](#).

Emerging Scholars Award

Civitan International Research Center is requesting proposals for fundamental science research focused on brain development, autism spectrum disorders, developmental disabilities, impaired cognitive development, or the effects of environmental toxins on brain development. The \$30,000 award may be used for stipend or direct research costs. Applicants should be Ph.D. graduate students, postdoctoral fellows, research associates, or non-tenure track instructors with fewer than ten years since earning their terminal degree. **Proposals are due on April 30.** [Read More](#)

2025-2026 VSRC Pilot Grant Program

Goal to encourage vision research at UAB by providing support of an individual PI of up to \$20K to develop a competitive NIH, preferably NEI, R01 grant submission. Also, to encourage larger-scale collaborative vision research projects across UAB by providing support to a team of investigators from two or more UAB academic departments for up to \$40K to develop a competitive multi-investigator grant submission to NIH, preferably NEI. Priority Areas of Interest: All areas of vision research that are supported by the National Eye Institute (see <https://www.nei.nih.gov/grants-and-training>) Funding Criteria: Applications most likely to position the applicant(s) to successfully apply for a new NEI grant application will be the most competitive. No funds will be provided for: Faculty salaries Indirect costs associated with a grant project Supplementation to existing grants Travel. **The deadline for submission is 11:59 pm, May 19th, 2025.** [Read More](#)

FCIDD McNulty Award

Civitan International Research Center is requesting proposals for the FCIDD McNulty Award, which provides \$75,000 per year for three years in pilot funds. The award is designed to foster interdisciplinary collaborations across UAB departments and facilitate subsequent MPI grant submissions. Proposals should focus on clinical or fundamental science research aimed at

understanding brain development, autism spectrum disorders, intellectual disabilities, and other neurodevelopmental issues. Faculty at all levels are eligible. **Proposals are due on May 30.** [Read More](#)

Happening This Month

April 3 at 1:30pm

[Neurobiology Seminar Series: Lindsay Cameron](#)

BBRB, 170

April 4 at 9am

[Neurobiology Works-In-Progress Seminar Series](#)

SHEL, 1015

April 5 at 10am-2pm

[9th Annual End Addiction BHAM Walk](#)

City Walk BHAM Amphitheater

April 9 at 10am

[Dissertation Defense - Kasey Brida](#)

SHEL, 105

April 10 & 11

[NeuroGateways Symposium](#)

UAB National Alumni Society House

April 10 at Noon

[Rich Lecture Series - Jonathan Horton, M.D., Ph.D.](#)

Callahan Eye Hospital, Smith Education Center, Suite 300

April 10 at 3:30pm

[Program in Immunology Seminar: Dr. Shin-Ichi Kano](#)

BBRB, 170

April 11 at 9am

[Neurobiology Works-In-Progress Seminar Series](#)

SHEL, 1015

April 11 at Noon

[ICAR Seminar Series with Dr. Jerri Edwards](#)

[Zoom](#)

April 12 at 8am

[19th Annual Scholarship Run presented by Viva Health](#)

Crestline Village (Mountain Brook)

April 15 at 3pm

[Thesis Defense - Katherine Ward](#)

Virtual Event (Contact Dept of Psychology for Zoom link)

April 16 at Noon

[Cell, Developmental, and Integrative Biology Seminar Series: Dr. Caghan](#)

[Kizil](#)

Tinsley Harrison Tower, 740

April 16 at Noon

[Rich Lecture Series - Yoshikazu Imanishi, Ph.D.](#)

Callahan Eye Hospital, Smith Education Center, Suite 300

April 17 at 8am- 6pm

[2025 CNET Retreat](#)

Haven

April 17 at 8:30am- 3pm

[2025 Simpson-Ramsey Neurodevelopment Symposium](#)

The Bradley Lecture Center, Children's of AL

April 17 at 1:30pm

[Neurobiology Seminar Series: Rahul Srinivasan](#)

BBRB, 170

April 18 at 9am

[Neurobiology Works-In-Progress Seminar Series](#)

SHEL, 1015

April 18 at Noon

[Visiting Scholars Program Seminar - Goldis Malek, PhD, FARVO, FAOPT](#)

Henry Peters Building, 202

April 22 at 9am-2pm

[Psychiatry and Behavioral Neurobiology - 2025 Annual Research Symposium](#)

Wallace Tumor Institute, 101

April 23 at Noon

[UAB Nathan Shock Center Seminar with Pinchas \(Hassy\) Cohen](#)

TBA

April 24 at 1:30pm

[Neurobiology Seminar Series: Barbara Juarez](#)

BBRB, 170

April 25 at 9am

[Neurobiology Works-In-Progress Seminar Series](#)

SHEL, 1015

Official titles of Seminars will be included in Weekly Updates!

Have an event to share?

Tag the CNC on the [UAB Calendar Event](#) or email cnc@uab.edu

UAB News



Announcing the 2025 Heersink School of Medicine 1R01 Award recipients

The Heersink School of Medicine proudly announces the 2025 1R01 Award recipients, recognizing outstanding faculty for their innovative research and contributions to medical science. These awards highlight the school's commitment to advancing health through groundbreaking research.



Samal receives COMET grant for stroke research

Juhi Samal, Ph.D., assistant professor in the Department of Biomedical Engineering, is a recent recipient of the COMET™ from the Heersink School of Medicine Immunology Institute for her proposed study, "Immune Cell Sialoglycan Signatures in Ischemic Stroke."



9 graduate from UAB Medicine's LEAD program

Nine faculty members recently graduated from UAB Medicine's LEAD program. The program, presented by the UAB Medicine Leadership Development Office, recognized its graduates at a ceremony on March 13.

SfN News



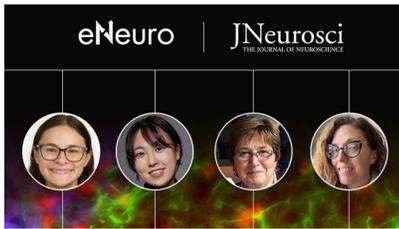
SfN Awards and Prizes

Submit your nominations for SfN's 2025 Awards and Prizes, Honoring those who've dedicated their careers to furthering the field of Neuroscience.



Advocacy Response to recent actions by the U.S. Administration

Stay informed on the latest actions from the administration affecting NIH and federal funding. SfN, along with its coalition partners, is actively engaged on these issues.

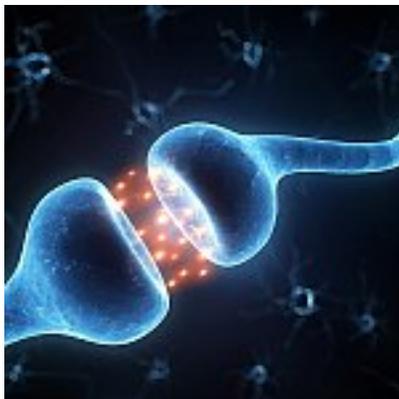


Choice Behaviors and Prefrontal-Hippocampal Coupling Are Disrupted in a Rat Model of Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders

April 22, 2025

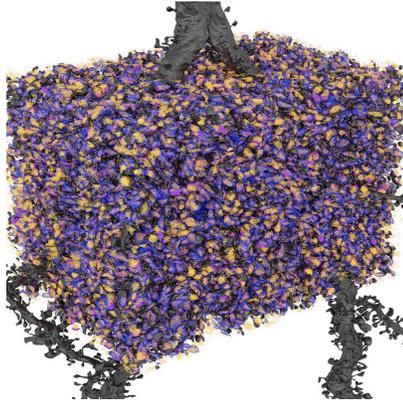
12:00 PM - 1:00 PM EDT

NIH News



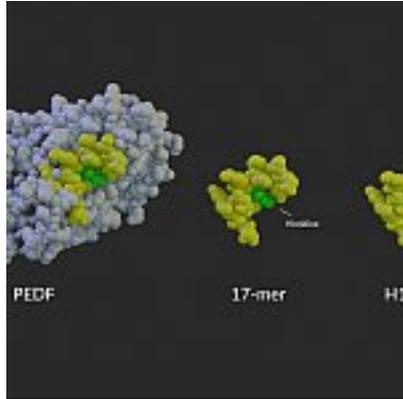
NIH-funded research team engineers new drug targeting pain sensation pathway.

Study of CB1 receptor has implications for chronic pain treatment.



Study illuminates the structural features of memory formation at cellular and subcellular levels

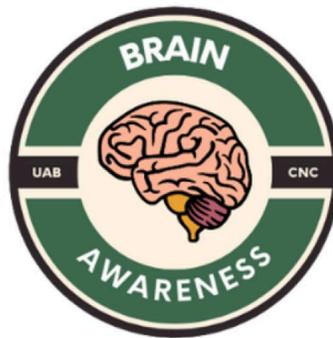
NIH-funded study uses cutting-edge imaging techniques to reconstruct features underlying learning and memory in the mouse brain.



NIH researchers develop eye drops that slow vision loss in animals

Treatment shows potential to slow the progression of human degenerative eye diseases, including retinitis pigmentosa.

Get Involved



Are you a student or CNC member looking to excite your community about Neuroscience research?

We have several outreach opportunities for you to get involved!

To join the CNC Brain Awareness (Outreach) Listserv, Click [Here](#). Complete the registration form and select CNC Brain Awareness (Outreach) Listserv at the bottom.

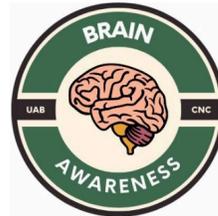
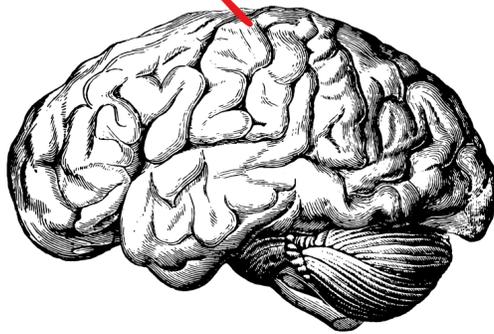
You can also check <https://www.brainawarenessuab.com/upcoming-events> for upcoming events and volunteer opportunities!

Join us for April Brain Snacks!

LEARN ABOUT YOUR SENSE OF TOUCH



APRIL 12TH
11-1PM
MCWANE
SCIENCE CENTER



Additional Links

[CNC Website](#)

[Join CNC Listserv](#)

[UAB CNC Neuroscience For All](#)

[UAB Research News](#)

[UAB Heersink School of Medicine News](#)

[Society for Neuroscience \(SfN\)](#)

[National Institutes of Health \(NIH\)](#)



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