

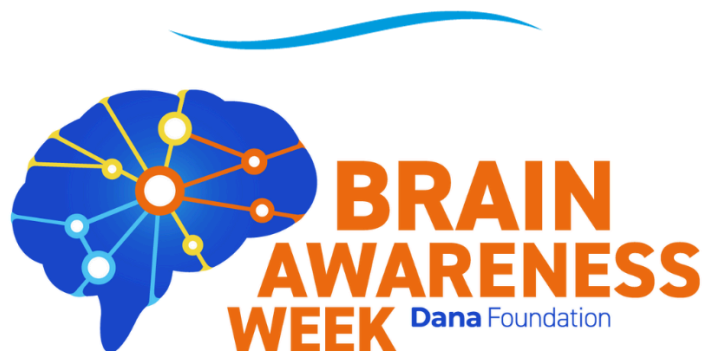


Comprehensive Neuroscience Center

## Latest Stories



## GRANT AWARDEE



## Brain Awareness Week 2024

Brain Awareness Week is the global campaign to foster public enthusiasm and support for brain science. Every March, event organizers host imaginative activities in their communities that share the wonders of the brain, and the impact brain science has on

our everyday lives.

We are happy to share that the CNC Brain Awareness Team has received an IBRO/Dana Brain Awareness Week grant to support this year's Brain Awareness Week activities! Join us during #BrainAwarenessWeek at **McWane Science Center on March 27-30** to study your senses, measure your muscles, perform dissections and learn all about the brain! [Learn More](#)

This year's activities are also sponsored by: UAB Consortium for Neuroengineering and Brain-Computer Interfaces (CNBCI) and UAB Comprehensive Neuroscience Center (CNC).

## CNBCI RFA - 2024 Pilot Award Program

The [Consortium for Neuroengineering and Brain-Computer Interfaces](#) is now soliciting applications for our Pilot Award Program.

The goal of the Neuroengineering Pilot Award Program is to provide seed funding to early-stage UAB faculty using innovative neural engineering approaches. Examples of responsive applications include those directed at neurophysiology, neuromodulation, in vivo optogenetics, fiber photometry, miniscopes, and others. The funding will support high-risk early-stage ideas that have not yet received substantial federal funding (R01 or similar), stimulating new research opportunities at UAB. 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.

Applications should be submitted by email to [CNBCI@uab.edu](mailto:CNBCI@uab.edu) and are due by **Friday, March 29th, 2024 at 5 pm CT.**

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

Please contact [CNBCI@uab.edu](mailto:CNBCI@uab.edu) if you have any questions.

## CNC RFA - 2024 Pilot Award Program

The mission of the Comprehensive Neuroscience Center (CNC) is to accelerate discovery by promoting excellence in fundamental, translational, and clinical neuroscience research, as well as education and clinical care, through integration of the UAB-wide neuroscience community. Toward that goal, the CNC is pleased to announce that it will fund two multi-PI pilot grants for up to \$40,000 for a 24-month period. **Only individuals who receive an Invitation to Submit may submit a full proposal for consideration.**

Proposal submission will involve two rounds: an initial Letter of Intent (LOI) followed by an invitation to submit a full proposal. LOIs will be reviewed by the CNC executive committee and additional reviewers with program project grant experience. Full applications (3-page limit) will be reviewed and scored on the 1-9 point NIH scale by two to three reviewers serving on a separate review committee comprised of UAB faculty. Scoring will focus on the following areas: 1) quality of the research (scientific merit, innovation, and impact); 2) relevancy to the mission of the CNC and the Pilot Award Program; and 3) qualifications of the research team to lead the research effort toward securing extramural funding.

Earliest submission date: March 15, 2024

LOI due date: April 15, 2024

Full application invitations sent by: May 1, 2024

Full application due date (invitation only): June 25, 2024

Award Level: Up to \$40,000 (\$20,000/year) for a 2-year support period (upon satisfactory progress of meeting Year 1 milestones).

**Full RFA with additional details coming soon!**

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## Save The Dates

### NeuroGateways Conference

The symposium, hosted by The Consortium for Neuroengineering and Brain-Computer Interfaces will bring together UAB and external experts, including academic scientists, clinicians, and industry, to discuss the latest discoveries, clinical applications, and business opportunities in neuroengineering and neurotechnology. The symposium has 3 central themes: Neurorehabilitation, Neuromodulation and Neurodata. [Read More](#)

The symposium will be **Thursday, April 11-Friday, April 12** at Regions Field Ballroom. Register by **March 18, 2024**.

Abstract Deadline for the 2024 NeuroGateways Symposium had been extended until **Thursday, March 14, 2024 at 5 pm**.

[Register & Submit an Abstract Now](#)

## CNET 2024 Retreat

The UAB Center for Neurodegeneration and Experimental Therapeutics (CNET) will host its 10th annual retreat on **April 18, 2024** at 8:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. in UAB — Hill Student Center Ballrooms. All members of the larger UAB Neuroscience Community are welcome! Keynote speakers include internationally renowned Ph.D. scientists in Neuroscience Drug Discovery and Publishing.

Other presentations will highlight ongoing research from faculty and trainees in neurodegeneration. There will be ample opportunities for networking and collaborative discussions with invited speakers and panel discussions related to career development and advances in treatment. [Read More](#)

## Simpson-Ramsey Neurodevelopment Symposium

The overall goal of the [Simpson-Ramsey Neurodevelopment Symposium](#) is to highlight translational research in developmental disabilities across the lifespan and from a multidisciplinary perspective. This event attracts a broad audience of academics, professionals, trainees, families, and self-advocates and is hosted by the Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities with support from the LEND, UCEDD, Civitan International Research Center (CIRC), and UAB Department of Pediatrics, Division of Developmental-Behavioral Pediatrics.

This is a full-day CE event with an agenda highlighting local and national speakers as well as current and former trainees. The Symposium will take place on **April 25, 2024** from 8:30 a.m.- 4:30 p.m. at the Bradley Lecture Center. [Read More](#)

## CNC 2024 Retreat- Vote for Keynote Speakers

This year's Annual CNC Retreat will be on **September 5-6, 2024** at Lake Guntersville State Park and Lodge.

Help us select the TOP THREE nominees for our Keynote Speakers!

# Happening This Month

Women's History Month

[Browse Upcoming Events](#)

March 1 at 8:30 a.m.- 4 p.m.

[11th Annual Rare Disease Symposium](#)

Children's Hospital Harbor Center, The Bradley Center or via Zoom

March 1 at Noon

[CCVC Seminar Series Spring 2024 - Daniel Tyrrell, PhD](#)

Bevill Biomedical Sciences, 170

March 1 at 9 a.m.

Neuroscience WIPs- Kaitlin Davis, C&CD T32 Trainee

SHEL 1015

March 5 at 8 a.m.

[Neurology Grand Rounds - Roy Martin, PhD](#)

West Pavilion, Conference Center E

March 5 at 9 a.m.

Neurobiology Special Seminar- Dr. Ganesh Chand, Washington

University in St. Louis

SHEL 1015

March 5 at 1 p.m.

[SON Scholarship Grand Rounds: Michael Daniel](#)

School of Nursing, 1056

March 7 at 2 p.m.

[CNC Neuroscience Café: Linda Wadiche, PhD](#)

Avondale Library

March 7 at 7-8:30 p.m.

[Neuroengineering the Future of Medicine, Science & Education](#)

Spencer Honors House, Sanctuary

March 8 at 8 a.m.- 5 p.m.

[CIRC Neurodevelopment Research and Care Retreat](#)

Hilton Birmingham at UAB, Skipwith Ballroom

March 8 at Noon

[ICAR Seminar Series with Dr. Edmund Arthur](#)

West Pavilion, Conference Center Board Room

March 11-12

[2024 UAB Aging Research Symposium](#)

UAB National Alumni Society House

March 12 at 8:00 a.m.

[Neurology Grand Rounds - Annual Sahlie Lecture](#)

West Pavilion, Conference Center E

March 15 16 at 9 a.m.

Neuroscience WIPs- Kaue Costa, PhD, Assistant Professor

SHEL 1015

March 19 at 8:00 a.m.

[Neurology Grand Rounds - Senior Neurology Resident Presentation](#)

West Pavilion, Conference Center E

March 21 at 1:30 p.m.

[Neurobiology Seminar Series: Shawn Ferguson, PhD, Yale School of Medicine](#)

Bevill Biomedical Sciences, 170

March 22 at 9 a.m.

Neuroscience WIPs- Devon Grey, C&CD T32 Trainee

SHEL 1015

March 27-30

[Brain Awareness Week 2024](#)

Mcwane Science Center

March 29 at 9 a.m.

Neuroscience WIPs- George Ling, Grad Student

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](mailto:cnc@uab.edu)

**[View more department events](#) →**

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## UAB News



### **Five grand challenges for the future at the interface of engineering and medicine**

These research areas — part of the Convergence Revolution — have the greatest potential of achieving tremendous impact on the field of medicine in the coming decades or century.



### **Interferon-gamma drives brain pathology in a mouse model of multiple system atrophy**

Multiple system atrophy is a rare and fatal neurodegenerative disease, with no known disease modifying therapy.



### **A sense of touch: ASICs are the receptor for a proton synaptic messenger between Merkel cells and an afferent nerve**

Merkel cells in fingertips were known to turn mechanical force into an electrical signal, but how that signal transferred to the nerve across the synapse was unknown.

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## SfN News



### **Bonus Day**

Activate your 2024 membership by Monday, March 15 at 11:59 p.m. EDT to take advantage of this benefit.



## [Young Investigator Award](#)

Submit nominations by April 4, 2024, 5 p.m. ET

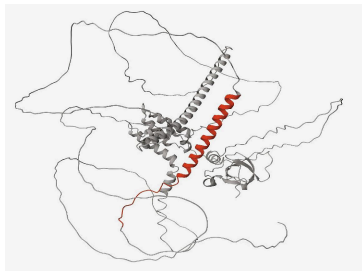


## [Call for Abstracts](#)

Abstract Submission for Neuroscience 2024 Will Open April 23.

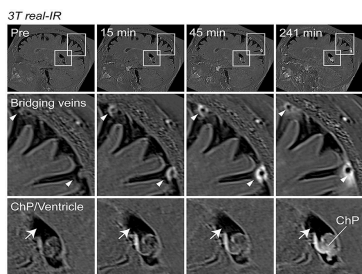
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# NIH News



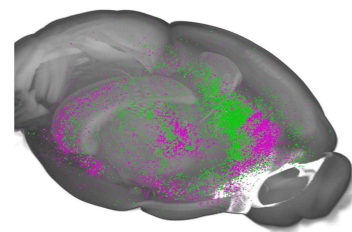
## [Abnormal proteins found in the spinal fluid of people with ALS and frontotemporal dementia](#)

Proteins could serve as biomarkers that improve diagnosis and guide the development of novel therapies.



## [New direct links discovered between the brain and its surrounding environment](#)

NIH collaboration has implications for neural-immune system responses and aging.



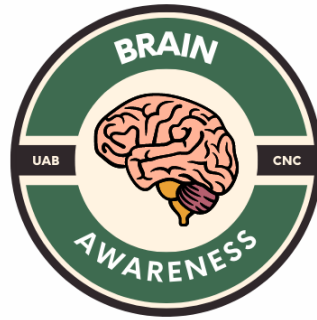
## [Researchers identify brain hub with key role in learned response to direct and indirect threats](#)

NIH-supported study in mice could inform treatments of trauma- and stress-related psychiatric conditions.

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# 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/brain-awareness/upcoming-events-volunteer-opportunities> for upcoming events and volunteer opportunities!

### **Join Us for the Spring Neuroscience Cafe!**



**March 7th at 2 p.m.**  
**Avondale Library** (509 40th St. S  
Birmingham, Alabama 35222)

Speaker: Linda Wadiche, PhD  
Department of Neurobiology  
University of Alabama at Birmingham

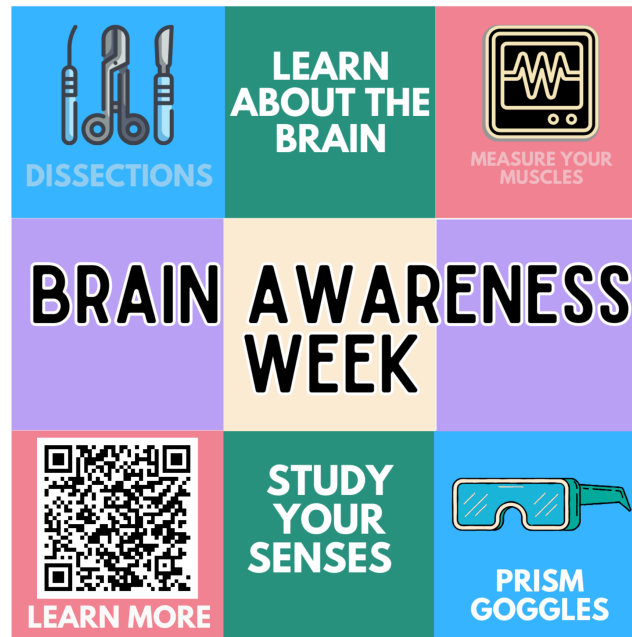
Topic: New Neurons in Old Brains

**Brain Awareness Week 2024!**



MARCH  
27-30

**JOIN UAB AT THE MCWANE SCIENCE CENTER TO  
LEARN ABOUT THE BRAIN!**



**FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY!**

**Sponsored by:**



If you have an upcoming brain awareness opportunity, please let the CNC the following:

What's the opportunity

When is it (date, time)?

Where is it?

How long do you need volunteers for?

What expertise should volunteers have?

Who should volunteers contact? (email? Phone?)?

Email [cnc@uab.edu](mailto:cnc@uab.edu) with event details.

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## Additional Links

[CNC Website](#)

[CNC Neuroscience Research Pillars](#)

[Join CNC Listserv](#)

[Previous CNC Newsletters](#)

[UAB CNC Brain Awareness](#)

[UAB Research News](#)

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

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



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