
Comprehensive Neuroscience Center August Newsletter

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

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To CNC <cnc@uab.edu>

Web Version

UAB MEDICINE

Comprehensive Neuroscience Center

Top Stories

NIH Limiting Applications per PI and Revising
Appropriate AI Usage Guidance



The [National Institutes of Health](#) (NIH) has provided guidance to researchers on the appropriate usage of artificial intelligence (AI) to maintain the fairness and originality of NIH's research application process. NIH will not consider applications that are either substantially developed by AI, or contain sections substantially developed by AI, to be original ideas of applicants.

NIH is also instituting a new policy limiting the number of applications that NIH will consider per Principal Investigator per calendar year. NIH will only accept six new, renewal, resubmission, or revision applications from an individual Principal Investigator/Program Director or Multiple Principal Investigator for all council rounds in a calendar year.

This policy applies to all activity codes except T activity codes and R13 Conference Grant Applications.

[NIH Notice](#) (NOT-OD-25-132)

UAB Hospital again named best in Alabama and Birmingham metro, according to U.S. News & World Report



UAB Hospital has once again earned the distinction of being the No. 1 hospital in both Alabama and the Birmingham metro area, according to the 2025-2026 U.S. News & World Report Best Hospitals rankings recently released.

[Read More](#)

Save The Dates

CNC 2025 Retreat - Abstracts Due by 5PM Today!



The overall mission of the [UAB Comprehensive Neuroscience Center \(CNC\)](#) is to promote and support interdisciplinary neuroscience research, clinical care and education at UAB. The annual CNC retreat is a two day opportunity for UAB faculty and trainees to learn more areas of neuroscience research, team build and explore new avenues of collaboration.

The 2025 CNC Retreat will be held **September 17-18, 2025** at the Marnix E Heersink Institute for Biomedical Innovation Conference Center (located in the Altec/Styslinger Genomic Medicine and Data Sciences Building).

The program will feature faculty and trainee oral presentations, poster presentations, presentation awards, updates on CNC activities and a Keynote Speaker presentation from [Ishmail Abdus- Saboor, PhD](#), Associate Professor of Biological Sciences; Principal Investigator at Columbia's Zuckerman Institute.

The deadline to submit your abstract is August 1st at 5PM! You must submit your abstract by the deadline in order to be eligible for awards. Trainee platform presentations will be selected from abstract submissions.

Platform and Poster Presentation Awards:

1st Place- \$500, 2nd Place- \$250, 3rd Place-\$100

Register Now: <https://www.uab.edu/medicine/cnc/news-events/retreat/2025/2025-retreat-registration>

2025 Civitan International Convention



Civitan International is an organization of volunteer service clubs around the world, dedicated to helping people in their own communities. Civitans help wherever the need arises – from collecting food for a homeless shelter, to volunteering at their local retirement home, to building a playground for children with disabilities.

The 2025 Convention will be **August 6-9, 2025** at the Crowne Plaza Atlanta Perimeter at Ravinia (4355 Ashford Dunwoody Road Atlanta, GA 30346). For more on Convention registration and schedule, visit civitan.org/convention

UAB Volunteers are needed to support neuroscience demonstrations at the 2025 Civitan International Convention. Participants will help present engaging, hands-on neuroscience activities to Civitan members. Individuals interested in participating should contact [Craig Powell, M.D., Ph.D.](#), or [Tawanna Brown](#).

AL Summit on Addiction and Pain



Save the Date for the Alabama Summit on Addiction and Pain on **September 2-3, 2025** hosted by the UAB Center for Addiction and Pain Prevention and Intervention (CAPPI).

The Keynote Speaker will be [Nora D. Volkow, M.D.](#), Director of the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) at the National Institutes of Health. NIDA is the world's largest funder of scientific research on the health aspects of drug use and addiction.

Registration and Abstract Deadline: **August 16, 2025**. Register Today, <https://go.uab.edu/44fpK1r>.

To submit your abstract, please email it to cappi@uabmc.edu.

Funding Opportunities

2025 UAB CAPPI Pilot Grant Program

Purpose: The program provides pilot funds for new pain and/or addiction research. The expectation is generation of pilot data resulting in a NIH or other grant submission after one year of funding.

Award amount: \$25,000

Eligibility: Full-time faculty at UAB only.

Deadline: Apply by **September 15, 2025 at 5pm**

How to submit: Via the [InfoReady portal](#).

2025-2026 ICAR Pilot Funding Announcement

The Integrative Center for Aging Research (ICAR) solicits proposals for its pilot project research program. Applications may range from basic biology of aging to translational, clinical, and community-based research. Themes of particular interest are: 1) the relationships between aging and disease, 2) interventions to promote function and independence for older adults, 3) serious and chronic illness among vulnerable and under-resourced older adults, and 4) intervention delivery and implementation science in older adults. Integrated, multidisciplinary, and translational approaches are encouraged.

ICAR will prioritize meritorious applications from early-stage investigators; however, established investigators seeking funding to start a new innovative research line that is significantly different from their current research work will also be considered.

The program will provide up to \$25,000 per award.

Submission deadline — Thursday, **September 25, 2025** @ 11:59pm CT

[Read More and Apply Today](#)

ASF - "Save Our Scientists" Postdoctoral Grants

Federal funding cuts are forcing early-career autism scientists out of research. ASF's new "Save Our Scientists" (SOS) Grants are designed to sustain and empower postdoctoral investigators and keep critically-needed autism research moving forward. Grant funds may be used for a wide variety of research-related expenses. Applications are now open and are due by **October 17, 2025**. [Read More](#)

Happening This Month

August 2 at 11am

Brain Chats (More Information below under "Get Involved")

Avondale Public Library

August 21 at 1:30pm

[Neurobiology Department Seminar: Dr. Katie Wert](#)

Bevill Biomedical Sciences, 170

August 28 at 1:30pm

[Neurobiology Department Seminar: Dr. Bilal Haider](#)

Bevill Biomedical Sciences, 170

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



UAB receives \$2.1 million grant to study how the brain sees through retinal damage

The grant will support development of specialized optical instruments, extensive physiological data analysis and training for emerging optometry scientists.



Cognitive decline rate after a mini stroke is the same as a full stroke, UAB study shows

While strokes are widely recognized as a major cause of long-term disability in the United States, their quieter cousin, the mini stroke, or transient ischemic attack (TIA), often flies under the radar. These brief episodes of disrupted brain function may seem harmless, but could they be warning signs of something more serious?



Meet a Civitan Scientist: Alexander's mission to treat rare neuromuscular disorders

UAB's Civitan International Research Center (CIRC) is a world leader in research and treatment of intellectual and developmental disabilities. With more than 100 scientists, clinicians, and research staff from around the globe, the center is united by a single mission: improving the well-being and quality of life of individuals and families affected by neurodevelopmental disorders.

SfN News



Neuroscience 2025 Updates

[Regular Abstract Submission is Closed](#)

Presenting authors of abstracts will be emailed in August regarding their abstract's acceptance status.

[Late-Breaking Abstract Submission Opens September 3](#)

Late-breaking abstract submission will open Wednesday, September 3. Late-breaking abstracts will be accepted until Wednesday, September 10 or until the 2,500 submission cap has been reached.

[Registration Now Open](#)

Registration and Housing for Neuroscience 2025 is now open.

[Preliminary Program](#)

Click the thumbnail to view the Preliminary Program for Neuroscience 2025.

[Satellite symposium- Movement Disorders Journal \(MDJ\) Symposium: Neurobiology of Parkinson's Disease](#)

This symposium is organized by the editorial team of Movement Disorders, the official journal of the International Parkinson and Movement Disorder Society. The symposium will explore the biological underpinnings of Parkinson's disease (PD), the neurobiological basis for current and emerging treatments, and the mechanisms responsible for disease complications and adverse responses to therapy.

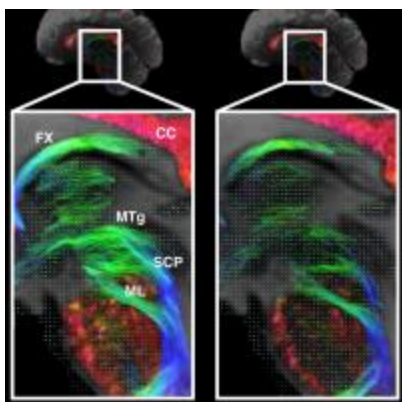
Registration Deadline: October 31, 2025

NIH News



NIH researchers conclude that taurine is unlikely to be a good aging biomarker

Findings show this amino acid did not longitudinally decline with age.



Scientists Develop High-Performance MRI Scanner in Effort to Define Microscopic Brain Structures

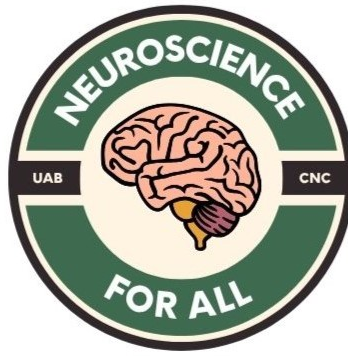
Next-generation system noninvasively images tiny nerve structures disrupted in brain disorders.



NIH researchers develop AI agent that improves accuracy of gene set analysis by leveraging expert-curated databases

The AI agent could help lead to a better understanding of how different diseases and conditions affect groups of genes individually and together.

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.

Join us for August Brain Chats!

BRAIN CHATS



**ENGAGE IN
CONVERSATIONS
WITH
NEUROSCIENTISTS
FROM UAB!**

INFORMATION



LOCATION

Avondale Library
509 40th Street South
Birmingham, AL 35222



UPCOMING EVENTS

August 2, 2025 at 11 a.m.



Speaker: Ronald M. Lazar, PhD, FAHA, FAAN
Professor, UAB Department of Neurology
Director, Evelyn F. McKnight Brain Institute at UAB

Topic: Improving your Brain Health

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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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