
Comprehensive Neuroscience Center June 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

CNC Annual Retreat 2025 - Registration Now Open



REGISTRATION NOW OPEN!
UAB CNC ANNUAL RETREAT
September 17-18, 2025
Marnix E. Heersink Institute for Biomedical Innovation Conference Center

Keynote Speaker:
Ishmall Abdus-Saboor, PhD
Associate Professor of Biological Sciences
Columbia University
Zuckerman Mind, Brain, Behavior Institute

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The poster features a circular inset image of a man, Ishmall Abdus-Saboor, PhD, sitting at a desk. Another circular inset shows a modern building, likely the Marnix E. Heersink Institute for Biomedical Innovation Conference Center. The background is light gray with green and gold geometric shapes.

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. We are pleased to announce that registration for our annual retreat is now open!

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.

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

2025 NEURAL Conference

11th Annual NEURAL Conference 2025



National Enhancement of UnderRepresented Academic Leaders

The annual NEURAL (National Enhancement of UnderRepresented Academic Leaders) Conference, hosted by the Neuroscience Roadmap Scholars Program (RMS) at the University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB), is upcoming on **Wednesday-Friday, June 11-13**, at the UAB Alumni House.

This scientific conference is designed to benefit UAB graduate trainees in the neurosciences, with opportunities for undergraduates, summer students, postdocs, and faculty to participate and attend as well.

Deadline to register is Wednesday, June 4th.

For more Information, please visit:

<https://www.uab.edu/medicine/rms/neural-conference/neural-2025>. For questions, email roadmap@uab.edu.

Additional Save the Dates

Annual AAIC Retreat



The 2025 Annual AAIC Retreat (14th Annual) will be **Friday and Saturday, July 18-19, 2025.**

The Alabama Advanced Imaging Consortium (AAIC) promotes collaboration, project management, and support between the major research centers in the field of imaging in the State of Alabama and promotes innovative research and the submission of research and training grant proposals to Federal or other funding agencies. [Read More](#)

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.

Funding Opportunities

MBRF CAMI Core Inter-institutional Pilot Program

The McKnight Research Foundation (MBRF) Cognitive Aging and Memory Intervention (CAMI) Core invites Inter-Institutional MBI applications for pilot studies related to interventions that aim to reduce age-related memory loss and cognitive decline. The specific goal of these projects will be to facilitate and nurture new Inter-Institute collaborations that will establish nationally renowned and impactful research programs for improving memory and cognition in older adults.

[Full RFA Announcement](#)

LOI Deadline: July 1, 2025

Full Application Deadline: November 5, 2025 (if invited to submit by the CAMI Core)

Macular Degeneration Research Program

Brightfocus provides research funds for U.S. domestic as well as international researchers to cover a wide range of investigator-initiated topics to better understand, treat, and prevent age-related macular degeneration, a leading cause of blindness. Three types of grants are available to fund a wide range of innovative scientific ideas from early-stage and established investigators.

- Postdoctoral Fellowship (maximum award value \$200,000, 2 years)
- New Investigator Grant (maximum award value \$450,000, up to 3 years)
- Innovative Research Grant (maximum award value \$200,000, up to 3 years)

Visit <https://www.brightfocus.org/MDR-RFP> for more information about the BrightFocus macular degeneration grants, including how to apply. For grants beginning in 2026, the **letter of intent is due July 17, 2025.**

Happening This Month

June 3 at 8am

Neurology Grand Rounds- Nicole Bentley, MD

WPCC Conference Room and [Zoom](#)

June 4 at 10am-4pm

[Genomic Contributors to Neurodegeneration: from GWAS to Functional Genomics](#)

Finley Conference Center, KAUL 270

June 5 at Noon

[2025 Jean Kelley Lecture with Dr. Alison Webel](#)

School of Nursing, 1052

June 5 at Noon

[Drugs, Bugs, and Fire: How Meth, HIV, and the Microbiome Drive Inflammation](#)

Tinsley Harrison Tower, 225

June 5 at 5pm

[Neurosurgery Grand Rounds - Nelci Zanon MD, PhD, IFAANS](#)

Faculty Office Tower, 1001

June 11-13

[2025 NEURAL Conference](#)

UAB National Alumni Society House

June 26 at 8am-5pm

[Mental Health First Aid](#)

Virtual Event

June 27 at 10:15am

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

Tinsley Harrison Tower, 740

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



The New York Times: A Ministroke Can Have Major Consequences

So-called transient ischemic attacks can eventually lead to cognitive declines as steep as those following a full-on stroke, new research finds.



Two UAB students named 2025 Goldwater Scholars

The Barry Goldwater Scholarship and Excellence in Education program has named two University of Alabama at Birmingham students 2025 Goldwater Scholars: Juliana Eberhardt and Zoey Swalley.



UAB Voice Center helps Parkinson's patient reclaim confidence thanks to SPEAK OUT!® Therapy Program

Thanks to a grant from the Parkinson Voice Project, co-principal investigators Sarah Hoch and Edie R. Hapner, Ph.D., speech-language pathologists at the UAB Voice Center, are able to offer SPEAK OUT!



Neuroscience 2025 Updates

[Abstract Submission is Now Open](#)

Submit and finalize your abstract by Wednesday, June 4, 5 p.m. EDT. In addition, there will be a call for late-breaking Neuroscience 2025 abstracts September 3–10.

[How to Submit an Impactful Abstract](#)

In this one-hour long webinar, we will discuss how to prepare an informative and engaging abstract, including where to start, how to best convey the key points that will be presented, and how to effectively use the abstract submission system.

[Trainee Professional Development Award](#)

The Trainee Professional Development Award (TPDA) recognizes undergraduate and graduate students and post baccalaureate and postdoctoral scholars who demonstrate scientific merit and excellence in research. The award application is open to eligible candidates in the above categories who have submitted an approved abstract to SfN's annual meeting.

Submissions Open: Jun 10, 2025, 08:00 AM, EDT

Submissions Close: Jun 24, 2025, 05:00 PM, EDT

NIH News



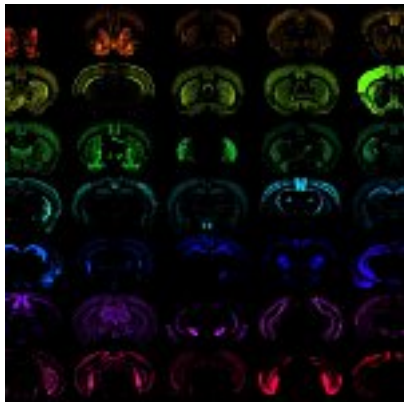
NIH, CMS Partner to Advance Understanding of Autism Through Secure Access to Select Medicare and Medicaid Data

The partnership will focus first on enabling research around the root causes of autism spectrum disorder.



Infant with rare, incurable disease is first to successfully receive personalized gene therapy treatment

NIH-supported gene-editing platform lays groundwork to rapidly develop treatments for other rare genetic diseases.



Scientists design gene delivery systems for cells in the brain and spinal cord

NIH-funded breakthrough could enable targeted therapies for many neurological disorders.

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 June Brain Chats!

BRAIN CHATS



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

INFORMATION



LOCATION

Avondale Library
509 40th Street South
Birmingham, AL 35222



UPCOMING EVENTS

June 7, 2025 at 11 a.m.



**Speaker: Andrew Hardaway, PhD,
Assistant Professor,
UAB Department of Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology**

**Topic: GLP-1 Medicines: Myths, Truths,
and a Tale of Basic Science**

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Create a Team for The Longest Day- June 21

THE LONGEST DAY

JOIN THE FIGHT TO END ALZHEIMER'S



The Longest Day[®] is inspired by the day with the most light — the summer solstice. Across the country, individuals outshine the darkness of Alzheimer's and dementia year-round by turning their hobbies into fundraisers.

From baking to biking, card games to crafts, participants use their creativity and passion to raise funds and awareness for the care, support, and research efforts of the Alzheimer's Association. Once you select your activity, Association staff and volunteers will be there every step of the way with tools, tips, and coaching.

GETTING STARTED

- Visit alz.org/TLD
- Click the REGISTER button
- Select the activity of your choice
- Start fundraising
- HAVE FUN!

QUESTIONS?

For more information about The Longest Day or assistance getting started with your Longest Day efforts, please contact:

Cecile Brown
The Longest Day Staff Partner

cebrown@alz.org



For more information on how to participate in The Longest Day, visit: act.alz.org

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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