



2021 Annual

Richard B. Marchase, PhD

**Interdisciplinary
Research Symposium**

**Monday
November 1, 2021
1:30 – 4 PM**

Location
**1701 University Boulevard
Birmingham, Alabama 35233
School of Nursing
Leadership Center | Great Hall**

Virtual Attendance Link:
https://uab.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_Q4_Dko7vSS0lhZKTwivfVw

Organized by:

The UAB Office of Research



The **Richard B. Marchase, PhD, Interdisciplinary Research Symposium** is an opportunity to celebrate and encourage interdisciplinary research among members of the campus research community, our students, and trainees. The symposium includes a keynote address from a national leader in scientific research, and presentation of the annual Marchase Award to a faculty member who exemplifies the spirit of collaboration and fellowship that Dr. Marchase promoted throughout his 30 years at UAB.

The annual symposium is financially supported by the UAB Office of Research, as well as the ***Friends of Richard B. Marchase, PhD***, endowed fund, which was established in 2017 to foster opportunities for interdisciplinary research and enhance a spirit of camaraderie among the UAB research community.

AGENDA

- 1:30 PMCall to order and meeting logistics
Michael A. Matthews, MPA, CPM
Director of Research Technology and Communications,
Office of Research
- 1:35 PMWelcome by **Christopher S. Brown, PhD**,
Vice President for Research
- 1:40 PMWelcome to the UAB School of Nursing Leadership Center
Doreen Harper, PhD, RN, FAAN,
Dean of the School of Nursing
- 1:45 PMIntroduction of Rochelle P. Walensky, MD, MPH
Michael Saag, MD,
Professor of Medicine, Associate Dean for Global Health,
Director, Center for AIDS Research, School of Medicine
- 1:45 – 2 PM***COVID-19: Vaccines, Research and What's Next***
Keynote Address by **Rochelle P. Walensky, MD, MPH**,
Director, U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
- 2 – 2:30 PMPanel Discussion moderated by
Jeanne Marrazzo, MD, MPH, Professor of Medicine,
Director, Division of Infectious Diseases, School of
Medicine and **Dr. Michael Saag**
- 2:30 – 2:45 PMIntroduction of 2021 Marchase Award Winner
James O. Hill, PhD, Professor and Chair,
Department of Nutrition Sciences
Chair, Council of Center Directors
- 2:45 – 3:15 PM***The Importance of Using a Team Approach in Health
Equity Research***
Andrea L. Cherrington, MD, MPH, Professor of Medicine,
Department of Medicine, School of Medicine
- 3:15 – 3:30 PMQ&A Session with **Dr. Andrea Cherrington**
- 3:30 PMPresentation of 2021 Marchase Award to
Dr. Andrea Cherrington by **Drs. Brown & Hill**
- 3:35 – 3:40 PMFinal Remarks from **Dr. Christopher S. Brown**

Speaker Profiles



Rochelle P. Walensky, MD, MPH, is the 19th Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the ninth Administrator of the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry. She is an influential scholar whose pioneering research has helped advance the national and global response to HIV/AIDS. Dr. Walensky is also a well-respected expert on the value of testing and treatment of deadly viruses.

Dr. Walensky served as Chief of the Division of Infectious Diseases at Massachusetts General Hospital from 2017-2020 and Professor of Medicine at Harvard Medical School from 2012-2020. She served on the frontline of the COVID-19 pandemic and conducted research on vaccine delivery and strategies to reach underserved communities.

Dr. Walensky is recognized internationally for her work to improve HIV screening and care in South Africa and nationally recognized for motivating health policy and informing clinical trial design and evaluation in a variety of settings.

She is a past Chair of the Office of AIDS Research Advisory Council at the National Institutes of Health, Chair-elect of the HIV Medical Association, and previously served as an advisor to both the World Health Organization and the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS.

Originally from Maryland, Dr. Walensky received her Bachelor of Arts from Washington University in St. Louis, her Doctor of Medicine from the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine, and her Masters in Public Health from the Harvard School of Public Health.



Andrea L. Cherrington, MD, MPH, is a Professor of Medicine at the University of Alabama Birmingham (UAB) in Birmingham, Alabama.

She earned her MPH and participated in the Robert Wood Johnson Clinical Scholars' Program at the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill after completing residency in Internal Medicine at UAB in 2003. In 2006, she returned to UAB where her research has focused on developing, implementing, and evaluating community-based interventions for chronic disease prevention and management in high risk and under-resourced communities, with an increasing emphasis on linking those interventions to health systems.

She has been continuously funded since 2008 with grants from the National Institutes of Health, the American Diabetes Association, the American Heart Association, the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, and the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality.

She serves as Director for the UAB Program in Clinical and Population Health Sciences as well as the Intervention and Translation Core within the UAB Diabetes Research Center and is a multiple PI for the recently awarded Deep South Center to Reduce Disparities in Chronic Disease. Dr. Cherrington remains clinically active in ambulatory medicine at Cooper Green Mercy Health System, Alabama's only county-owned, safety-net clinic in the greater Birmingham area.



Christopher S. Brown, PhD, began as Vice President for Research at the University of Alabama at Birmingham in January 2017. He and his team will work with stakeholders to broaden and grow UAB's research portfolio across campus, strengthen support operations to achieve excellence, and enhance the stature, visibility, and support of the UAB research enterprise nationally and internationally.

Prior to joining UAB, Dr. Brown served as the Vice President for Research at the 16-campus University of North Carolina System and as a professor of plant and microbial biology at North Carolina State University. His research focused on plant physiology and biochemistry, especially related to effects of low-earth orbit and the space environment.

Dr. Brown has a BS degree from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, an MS and PhD from North Carolina State University, and conducted postdoctoral research at the University of Missouri-Columbia. Chris and his wife Sue, retired after a 30-year teaching career, live in Birmingham. They have two grown sons.



Doreen Harper, PhD, RN, FAAN, is Dean and Fay B. Ireland Endowed Chair, and Director of the PAHO/WHO Collaborating Center for International Nursing at UAB School of Nursing. An adult nurse practitioner, Dean Harper is internationally known for nursing and nurse practitioner workforce development, interprofessional and academic nursing leadership.

Dr. Harper holds degrees from Cornell University, Catholic University, and the University of Maryland. She has held faculty and administrative positions at George Mason University, the University of Maryland, George Washington University, and the University of Massachusetts Medical School.

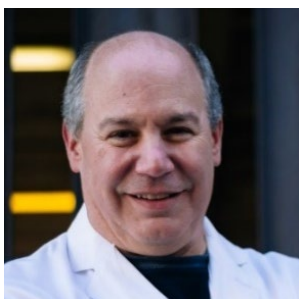
Under her leadership, UAB's School of Nursing expanded innovative educational, practice and research opportunities, such as: the Accelerated Master's in Nursing Pathway, the DNP Program, the Paul D. Coverdell Peace Corps Fellows Program, and multiple advanced practice specialties. The first nurse to serve on the UAB Health System Board, Harper developed the academic practice partnership with UAB Hospital and Health System, the Birmingham VA Medical Center, and Children's of Alabama and grew research substantially in the areas of chronic conditions and technology driven clinical interventions. A hallmark of her leadership is her collaborative approach to research, education, and service.



James O. Hill, PhD, is Professor and Chair of the Department of Nutrition Sciences in the UAB School of Health Professions and Director of the NIH-funded Nutrition Obesity Research Center (NORC). He is one of the world's foremost experts in obesity. For over 40 years he has been conducting research to understand how obesity develops, health consequences of obesity, and strategies to prevent and treat obesity. He has been continuously funded by NIH since 1981 and has published over 650 peer reviewed papers. He has previously served as President of The Obesity Society and The American Society for Nutrition. He is a member of the National Academy of Medicine. Dr. Hill is currently serving as the 2021 Chair of the UAB Council of Center Directors.



Jeanne Marrazzo, MD, MPH, is Professor of Medicine and Director of the Division of Infectious Diseases at the University of Alabama at Birmingham. She is internationally recognized for her research and education efforts in the field of sexually transmitted infections, especially as they affect women's health. She is a Fellow of the American College of Physicians and of the Infectious Diseases Society of America. Dr. Marrazzo has chaired the American Board of Internal Medicine (ABIM) Council, and the ABIM Infectious Disease Specialty Board. She conducts research on the human microbiome, specifically as it relates to female reproductive tract infections and hormonal contraception. Her other research interests include prevention of HIV infection using biomedical interventions, including PrEP and microbicides. Other research interests include pathogenesis and management of bacterial vaginosis, sexually transmitted diseases in HIV-infected persons, and management of antibiotic resistance in gonorrhea. She obtained her undergraduate degree from Harvard and Radcliffe College and medical degree from Jefferson Medical College. She completed residency training and chief residency in internal medicine at Yale-New Haven Hospital. She obtained a master's degree in public health degree in epidemiology at the University of Washington in 1994, where she also completed a fellowship in infectious diseases.



Michael Saag, MD, is director of the University of Alabama at Birmingham Center for AIDS Research and an internationally known expert on the virus that causes AIDS. Over the past three decades, Saag's achievements include making seminal discoveries in the genetic evolution of HIV in vivo, directing the first in-patient studies of seven of the 25 antiretroviral drugs, and developing an innovative, comprehensive HIV outpatient clinic blending patient care and high-quality clinical outcomes research. In 2014, Saag released his first book, *Positive*, which chronicles his journey in helping turn the most-deadly virus in human history into a manageable chronic disease, now in its second printing.

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