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JOHNS HOPKINS
CENTER *on* AGING & HEALTH

The COAH Chronicle

Volume I, Issue 9 (March 8, 2024)

The COAH Chronicle aims to bring you the Center's latest: news and highlights; upcoming seminars, events, and meetings; recent publications from our faculty and fellows; and aging-related research funding opportunities.

Center Highlights



Brian Buta, MHS Named Winter 2024 COAH Champion

It is with great pleasure that we celebrate the achievements and contributions of Brian Buta, MHS, and name him our Winter 2024 COAH Champion. Brian is the Project Administrator with the Center on Aging & Health, and he plays a critical role in the daily operations of the center. In addition to shepherding through many of COAH's goals and objectives with adept management and excellent interpersonal skills, Brian is also a keen researcher in the etiology and assessment of frailty, in interventional and translational studies among older adults, and in health promotion and dissemination. Please enjoy this opportunity to get to know him better as an esteemed colleague, and, moreover as a fun, kind person.

[Read the Interview](#)

Registration & Call For Abstracts

Now Open for

The 17th Annual JHSPH

Research on Aging Showcase

Event Date: Fri., April 5, 2024

Last Call!
Showcase Poster Abstract
Deadline: Fri., March 15, 2024



Keynote Speaker:

Dr. Claudia Kawas
Al and Trish Nichols Chair
in Clinical Neuroscience
Professor of Neurobiology &
Behavior and Neurology
University of California, Irvine

The 17th Annual Research on Aging Showcase will be held on Friday, April 5, 2024. This year's Keynote Speaker will be **Claudia Kawas, MD**, Professor of Neurology in the School of Medicine and Professor of Neurobiology in the School of Biological Sciences at the University of California, Irvine. Dr. Kawas will present on ***“Dementia and Resilience in the Oldest Old: The 90+ Study.”***

The keynote address will take place in Sheldon Hall (Room W1214) at the Bloomberg School of Public Health from 12:15pm –1:20pm EST, followed by the poster and networking session in the Turner Concourse (720 Rutland Ave.) from 1:30pm – 3:30pm EST.

Last call to submit your poster abstract for the Showcase! Deadline: Fri., 3/15.

[Submit a Poster Abstract by 3/15](#)

[Register for Showcase Events](#)

News & Announcements



**Healthy Longevity
Global Competition
2024 Application
Cycle is Now Open!**

Please consider applying! This is a unique opportunity that only requires a 2-page narrative submission. Open to individuals and teams, the National Academy of Medicine's Catalyst Awardees will each earn a \$50,000 cash prize, unlock exclusive access to future funding opportunities, and become part of a global interdisciplinary network.

The application period will close on March 11, 2024 at 11:59 pm EST.

[Learn More](#)



GSA 2024 Annual Scientific Meeting Seattle, WA Nov. 13 -16, 2024

This is a premier annual scientific meeting for cutting-edge scholarship, research, and networking relating to the fields of aging and gerontology. This year's theme is "The Fortitude Factor."

- Early-bird registration is open
- **Abstract deadline is 3/14**

[Submit an Abstract](#)

[Register for GSA 2024](#)

Happenings

**William H. Adler, III, MD Lecture
on Science and Aging
Thursday, March 28th at 4pm ET
Grossi Auditorium**

Johns Hopkins Bayview Medical Center



Featured Speaker:
Huda Yaha Zoghbi, MD
Ralph D. Feigin, MD Endowed Chair
Baylor College of Medicine
Houston, Texas

Dr. Huda Zoghbi, an internationally known investigator who has helped to illustrate the importance of accumulation of abnormal proteins as a cause of many aging-related neurological conditions, will present at the William H. Adler, III, MD Inaugural Lecture on Science and Aging.

Dr. Zoghbi is a pediatrician who has spent her career doing basic medical science highly relevant to the aging population. We are thrilled to welcome Dr. Zoghbi as the lecture’s inaugural speaker. Please join us!

RCCN WEBINAR SERIES A GUIDE TO APPLYING FOR NIA K CAREER DEVELOPMENT AWARDS

Career Development Awards at NIA/NIH | March 22, 2-3pm ET
Strategies for Preparing Strong Career Development Applications | April 2, 2-3pm ET
NIH/NIA Grant Review Process | May 9, 12-1pm ET
Stories of Successful K Awards | June 2024, DATE/TIME TBA

Co-Sponsored by:



This four-part webinar series will:

- Give an overview of Career Development Awards available from NIA
- Offer advice for preparing successful applications
- Share information on the review process
- Provide success stories from previous applicants

The presentations aim to provide valuable information to both early career researchers seeking K award funding and their mentors. Registration information and additional details are listed below.

Career Development Awards at NIA/NIH

Friday, March 22 from 2-3pm ET

Speaker: Laura Major, Training Officer, NIA Office of Strategic Extramural Programs

This session will give an overview of the different Mentored Career Development Awards (K) offered by NIA. The presentation will touch on many types of K awards and make recommendations for which opportunities to apply for depending on a researcher's circumstances and career stage. The webinar is recommended for anyone who is interested in applying for a K award, or who may be a mentor to a future K award applicant.

Strategies for Preparing Strong Career Development Applications

Tuesday, April 2 from 2-3pm ET

Speaker: Jamie Lavich, Training Officer, NIA Office of Strategic Extramural Programs

This webinar will share tips and advice to help at every stage of preparing a K award application. The presentation aims to provide valuable information for prospective applicants and their mentors as they navigate the application process.

NIH/NIA Grant Review Process

Thursday, May 9 from 12-1pm ET

Speaker: Ramona Dumitrescu, Section Chief, Clinical Sciences Section, NIA Scientific Review Branch

This session will discuss the K award review process, including an overview of peer review and information on information on how grants are scored. The presentation will also touch on how the review process has changed in recent years and may be particularly helpful to mentors supporting new applicants.

Stories of Successful K Awards

June 2024, Date and time TBA

Current and previous K awardees will share their experiences of applying and being funded. This webinar aims to be a useful resource for prospective applicants and their mentors to gain insight into the process, and to ask questions of awardees about their journey to receiving a K award.

[Learn More & Register](#)US Deprescribing
Research Network**SAVE THE DATE** USDeN Annual Meeting

May 15, 2024 • Boston, Massachusetts

USDeN 2024 Annual Meeting Poster Abstract Deadline Extended to 3/22!

The US Deprescribing Research Network will hold their 2024 Annual Network Meeting in-person on **Wednesday, May 15th in Boston, Massachusetts** in conjunction with the Society of General Internal Medicine's Annual Meeting.

This highly interactive meeting is open to all with an interest in research that aims to improve deprescribing and medication use in older adults, and features tremendous opportunities to learn from leaders in the field and to network and share ideas with colleagues from across the US and the world.

Students, residents, fellows, and community members may use comp code USDEN2024 when registering at checkout to waive the \$75 registration fee.

[Register for USDEN24](#)[Submit a poster abstract by 3/22](#)



**The Karen A. Armacost
10th Annual Lecture on Geriatric Care
Thursday, April 18, 2024
4 to 5pm ET**

**Richard A. Grossi Auditorium - Asthma & Allergy Center
Johns Hopkins Bayview Campus
(Reception to follow)**

***Maryland Launches Longevity Ready Initiative:
Planning for Maryland's Growing Older Population***

The Division of Geriatric Medicine and Gerontology at Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine and Johns Hopkins Bayview Medical Center welcome **Maryland Department of Aging Secretary Carmel Roques** as presenter for this year's lecture. She was appointed to this role by Governor Wes Moore in 2023.

In January 2024, the governor signed an executive order establishing the Longevity Ready Maryland Initiative and directed the Maryland Department of Aging to develop a long-term plan to address the needs of the growing older population and the infrastructure that supports them. Speaking about these goals, Secretary Roques said:

“Integrating a longevity lens into every government department, promoting coordinated responses, and helping the state shape how public services are delivered will help us prepare, serve and utilize our aging population.”



Join Secretary Roques to learn about the goals, the rationale and the planning process of this ambitious, important initiative.

Seating is limited and is on a first-come, first-served basis (no RSVP required), or attend via Zoom (no registration required—just tap the button below at 4pm on 4/18 and join the live broadcast).

[Attend Armacost Lecture Virtually \(Live Link\)](#)

Upcoming Talks & Meetings

COAH Scientific Seminars & Meetings

- **17th Annual Research on Aging Showcase:**
 - **4/5, 12:15pm - 1:20pm**
Keynote Speaker: Claudia Kawas, MD
Sheldon Hall W1214
Poster session follows at the Turner Concourse; abstracts due by 3/15

- **Scientific Seminars in May & June:**
 - **5/6, 3:30pm - 5pm**
Stephen Kritchevsky, PhD, Professor, Gerontology and Geriatric Medicine,
Wake Forest University School of Medicine
Powe Room 1-500Q, or via Zoom
 - **6/3, 3:30pm - 5pm**
Mark Dredze, PhD, John C. Malone Professor, Department of Computer
Science, Johns Hopkins University
Powe Room 1-500Q, or via Zoom

- **EBA Presentations:**
 - Epi & Biostats of Aging Research-in Progress
3/11, 3:30 - 4:30pm
Pat Donahue, PhD Candidate in Mental Health
“Investigating associations between wearable accelerometry measures
and respiratory function with cognition.”
SPH Room E6519
 - Epi & Biostats of Aging Research-in Progress
3/25/24, 3:30 - 4:30pm
Kate Gordon, PhD Student in Mental Health
“Living alone with or at risk of dementia.”
SPH Room E6519

- **Epi of Aging Journal Club:**
 - **3/11, 12:15pm - 1:15pm**
Wenjie Cai, PhD Student in Public Health
“Accounting for lack of representation in dementia research: Generalizing
KHANDLE study findings on the prevalence of cognitive impairment to the
California older population”
COAH Large Conference Room (Room 2-701)

Visit [COAH Events](#) or email [Monique Lee](#) for more information, such as Zoom links if you are unable to join us in-person.



Division of Geriatric Medicine & Gerontology

- **Grand Rounds**

- Every **Thursday 4:00pm - 5:00pm** Norman Library
Asthma & Allergy Center, Room 2B.65
 - 3/14, Dr. Falvey
 - **3/21, Dr. Cudjoe**
 - 3/28, Dr. Zoghbi

For more information, contact [Teresa Sponaugle](#).

COAH Research Working Groups

(Groups meet in the COAH Large Conference Room, unless otherwise noted)

- **Biostatistics and Research Design**
2nd Wednesday of each month, 11:00am – 12:00pm
Next meeting: to be announced
- **Cognitive and Sensory Functions**
3rd Monday of each month, 11:00am – 12:00pm
Next meeting: to be announced
- **ENGAGE (Energy, Activity and Aging) Research Group**
Every other Thursday, 12:15 – 1:15pm – Hybrid
Next meeting: 3/14

- **Family and Social Resources**

4th Tuesday of each month, 8:30 – 9:30am – Zoom

Next meeting: 3/26

- **Frailty and Multisystem Dysregulation**

2nd & 4th Wednesdays of each month, 9:00 – 10:00am – Zoom

Next meeting: 3/13

- **International Approaches to Aging**

3rd Wednesday of each month, 11:00am – 12:00pm – Hybrid

Next meeting: 3/19

- **Medicare Claims and EHR Analyses**

4th Wednesday of each month, 3:00 – 4:00pm – Hybrid

Next meeting: 3/27

Visit [Research Working Groups](#) for descriptions and contact information.

Publications

Fresh from COAH Faculty and Fellows

- **Dougherty RJ**, Wang H, **Gross AL**, **Schrack JA**, **Agrawal Y**, Davatzikos C, Cai Y, Simonsick EM, Ferrucci L, Resnick SM, Tian Q. Shared and Distinct Associations of Manual Dexterity and Gross Motor Function With Brain Atrophy. J Gerontol A Biol Sci Med Sci. 2024 Mar 1;79(3):glad245. doi: 10.1093/gerona/glad245.
- Hladek MD, Wilson D, Krasnansky K, McDaniel K, Shanbhag M, McAdams-DeMarco M, **Crews DC**, Brennan DC, Taylor J, Segev D, **Walston J**, **Xue QL**, **Szanton SL**. Using Photovoice to Explore the Lived Environment and Experience of Older Adults with Frailty on their Kidney Transplant Journey. Kidney360. 2024 Feb 21. doi: 10.34067/KID.0000000000000380.
- **Kalyani RR**, Allende-Vigo MZ, Antinori-Lent KJ, Close KL, Das SR, Deroze P, Edelman SV, El Sayed NA, Kerr D, Neumiller JJ, Norton A. Prioritizing Patient

Experiences in the Management of Diabetes and Its Complications: An Endocrine Society Position Statement. J Clin Endocrinol Metab. 2024 Feb 21:dgad745. doi: 10.1210/clinem/dgad745. Online ahead of print.

- Sayyid ZN, Wang H, Cai Y, **Gross AL, Swenor BK, Deal JA, Lin FR, Wanigatunga AA, Dougherty RJ**, Tian Q, Simonsick EM, Ferrucci L, **Schrack JA**, Resnick SM, **Agrawal Y**. Sensory and motor deficits as contributors to early cognitive impairment. Alzheimers Dement. 2024 Feb 20. doi: 10.1002/alz.13715. Online ahead of print.
- **Spira AP, Liu F, Zipunnikov V**, Bilgel M, Rabinowitz JA, An Y, Di J, Bai J, Wanigatunga SK, Wu MN, Lucey BP, **Schrack JA, Wanigatunga AA**, Rosenberg PB, Simonsick EM, Walker KA, Ferrucci L, Resnick SM. Evaluating a Novel 24-Hour Rest/Activity Rhythm Marker of Preclinical β -Amyloid Deposition. Sleep. 2024 Feb 21:zsae037. doi: 10.1093/sleep/zsae037. Online ahead of print.
- **Twardzik E, Schrack JA**, Pollack Porter KM, Coleman T, Washington K, **Swenor BK**. TRansit ACcessibility Tool (TRACT): Developing a novel scoring system for public transportation system accessibility. J Transp Health. 2024 Jan;34:101742. doi: 10.1016/j.jth.2023.101742.
- Umoh ME, **Pomeroy ML**, Mueller A, Craig T, **Ornstein KA**, Prichett L, **Cudjoe TKM**. The dynamics of social isolation among a national sample of community-dwelling older adults. J Am Geriatr Soc. 2024 Feb 28. doi: 10.1111/jgs.18832. Online ahead of print.

Funding Opportunities

 **PILOT AWARDS**

 **JOHNS HOPKINS**
AI & TECHNOLOGY
COLLABORATORY
FOR AGING RESEARCH

 **MassAITC**

 **PennAITech**

**NON-DILUTIVE FUNDING FOR
AI/TECH + AGING**

including Alzheimer's disease and related dementias

The NIA has earmarked \$40 million to fund technology demonstration projects that utilize artificial intelligence (AI) approaches and technology to improve care and health

outcomes for older Americans, including persons with Alzheimer's disease and related dementias (AD/ADRD), and their caregivers.

Applications for the fourth annual a2 Pilot Awards will be accepted from March 1 to April 30, 2024.

There will be a Q&A webinar on March 25th at 12pm ET.

[Register for the 3/25 Q&A webinar](#)

[Genera a2 Pilot Award Information](#)



**RESEARCH CENTERS
COLLABORATIVE NETWORK**
of the National Institute on Aging, NIH

The Research Centers Collaborative Network (RCCN) of the National Institute on Aging, offers grant award opportunities throughout the year, as well as supports inter-NIA collaborative, cross-center pilot awards.

[Learn more about RCCN Grant Awards](#)

[Learn more about RCCN cross-center Pilot Awards](#)

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COAH was established in 1997 as a center of excellence for aging research at the Johns Hopkins Medical Institutions. Our mission is to optimize the health and well-being of older adults through innovative research, leadership, education, and service that meet the needs and goals of a diverse aging population.

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