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
AI 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

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News & Announcements

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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
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!
- 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 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.
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).
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.

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**Publications**

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**Fresh from COAH Faculty and Fellows**


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**Funding Opportunities**

[Image of PILOT AWARDS]

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.

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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.

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Want us to consider something for The COAH Chronicle?

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Follow us on X (Twitter): @jhu_coah

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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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