

Scientific Session I:

9:30 AM - 10:45 AM

Obesity & Cardiometabolic Diseases

Session Chair:

Lily Cardozo, PhD
University of Mississippi
Medical Center

“The potential of manipulating essential amino acid nutrition in the treatment of obesity”

Thomas W. Gettys, PhD

Professor of Nutrient Sensing and Adipocyte Signaling, Pennington Biomedical Research Center, Baton Rouge, LA

“The Impact of Diabetic Conditions and AGE/RAGE Signaling on Cardiac Fibroblast Behavior”

James A. Stewart, Jr., PhD

Associate Professor, School of Pharmacy, Division of BioMolecular Sciences, The University of Mississippi

“Role of microRNAs on the metabolic effects in Polycystic Ovary Syndrome”

Damian G. Romero, PhD

Associate Professor, Department of Cell and Molecular Biology, University of Mississippi Medical Center

“Impact of parental obesity on developmental programming of metabolic and cardiorenal dysfunction”

Jussara M. do Carmo, PhD

Associate Professor, Department of Physiology and Biophysics, University of Mississippi Medical Center

Scientific Session II:

9:30 AM - 10:45 AM

Infectious Diseases & Immunology

Session Chair:

Keun-Seok Seo, PhD
Mississippi State University

“Chemical Cross Talk Between Two Skin Pathogens: *Mycobacterium ulcerans* and *Staphylococcus aureus*”

Heather R. Jordan, PhD

Dept. of Biological Sciences, Mississippi State University

“Identification of novel host receptors for pneumococcal colonization factors”

Justin A. Thornton, PhD

Dept. of Biological Sciences, Mississippi State University

“Immune evasion factors of *Haemophilus influenzae* as anti-infective targets”

Brian J. Akerley, PhD

Dept of Microbiology and Immunology, University of Mississippi Medical Center

“Oral Administration of the Plant-derived Cannabinoid, Cannabidiol (CBD), Attenuates Experimental Autoimmune Encephalomyelitis (EAE)”

Barbara L. F. Kaplan, PhD

Dept of Basic Sciences, College of Veterinary Medicine, Mississippi State University

Scientific Session III:

Neuroscience

9:30 AM - 10:45 AM

Session Chair:

Nicole Ashpole, PhD
University of Mississippi

“Modulation of Acetylcholine receptor activity by a non-canonical microRNA”

Sweta Khanal, PhD candidate

The University of Southern Mississippi

“Glycan Regulation of Neurite Outgrowth”

Gabriella Hartman, undergraduate researcher

University of Mississippi

“Neural Correlates of Circadian Rhythm Dysfunction in Bipolar Disorder”

Harry Patnazopoulos, PhD

Assistant Professor, University of Mississippi Medical Center

“Human visual cortical gamma reflects natural image structure”

Nicolas Brunet, PhD

Millsaps College

Scientific Session IV:

Cancer

2:45 PM - 4:00 PM

Session Chair:

Nita Maihle, PhD
*University of Mississippi
Medical Center*

“Cancer Control in Mississippi: Promoting Research to Make a Difference”

Michael Stefanek, PhD

Associate Director for Cancer Control, Epidemiology and Disparities Research, Cancer Center and Research Institute, University of Mississippi Medical Center

“Prostate Cancer: Genes and Policy”

Sarah Buxbaum, PhD

Assistant Professor, Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics, School of Public Health, Jackson State University

“Zebrafish as a model for lipid usage during cancer progression and therapeutics testing”

Yann Gibert, PhD

Associate Professor, Department of Cell and Molecular Biology, Cancer Center and Research Institute, University of Mississippi Medical Center

“Screening anticancer natural products produced by predatory myxobacteria using zebrafish”

Kristine Willett, PhD

Chair of BioMolecular Sciences, School of Pharmacy, University of Mississippi

Scientific Session V:

Biotechnology

2:45 PM - 4:00 PM

Session Chair:

Gene L. Bidwell, PhD
*University of Mississippi
Medical Center*

“Flying fish, crouching cats, and colorful columns: how obscure animations can be used for concussion prevention and rehabilitation”

Jennifer C. Reneker, PT, MSPT, PhD

University of Mississippi Medical Center

“IL-17 bridges innate and adaptive immunity against West Nile virus infection”

Fengwei Bai, PhD

The University of Southern Mississippi

“Improving the effectiveness of topical ophthalmic formulations”

Soumyajit Majumdar, PhD

University of Mississippi

“POSS: Not your Ordinary Bandage”

Michelle Tucci, PhD

University of Mississippi Medical Center

Scientific Session VI:

Behavior Management &
Technology Supported Solutions
to Address Health Disparities

2:45 PM - 4:00 PM

Session Chair:

Jennifer Lemacks, PhD, RD
The University of Southern Mississippi

Session Co-Chairs:

Sandra Melvin, DrPH
Open Arms Healthcare Clinic

June Gipson, PhD
My Brother's Keeper, Inc.

Telenutrition Center Pilot Intervention: Developing and Testing an Intensive Behavior Therapy for Obesity Program Targeting African Americans in Mississippi”

Jaqueline Reese-Smith, PhD

Jackson State University

“Okla Achukma: The Development of a Multi-faceted, Culturally-Adapted Community-Based Intervention to Address Obesity-related Health Disparities in Southeastern American Indian Populations”

Tammy Greer, PhD

The University of Southern Mississippi

“Adopting a Holistic Approach to Healthcare: The Importance of Support Services”

Talya Straughter, PhD

Open Arms Healthcare Center

“Use of Care Coordination and Home Tele-monitoring for Heart Failure Patient”

Ron Horswell, PhD

Pennington Biomedical Research Center

Scientific Session VII:

Integrating Omics Technologies

4:15 PM - 5:30 PM

Session Chair:

Alex Flynt, PhD

The University of Southern Mississippi

“Physio-omics of Complex Disease”

Michael Garrett, PhD

University of Mississippi Medical Center

“Roles of Different DCLK1 Isoforms during Oncogenesis of Human Colorectal Cancer”

Liana Li, PhD

Tougaloo College

“Applying multiple Omics to understand Plant-virus interactions”

Ying Wang, PhD

Mississippi State University

“Defining a novel mechanism of microbiome cooperation and conflict”

Shahid Karim, PhD

The University of Southern Mississippi

Session IX:

Student Engagement & Professional Development

4:15 PM - 5:30 PM

Session Chair:

Caroline Iverson

Mississippi INBRE

“How to Evaluate, Build, and Highlight Transferable and Career Relevant Skills”

Lauren Celano, PhD

President and CEO, Propel Careers

Community Engagement
& Interest Group hosts
**“The Voice of Community-
Academic Partnerships”**

Session Chair:

Jennifer Lemacks, PhD, RD
The University of Southern Mississippi

Session Moderator:

Sandra Melvin, DrPH
Open Arms Healthcare Clinic

GOAL: To share community academic experiences and lessons learned with a professional audience.

Session Chair:

Jennifer L. Lemacks, PhD, RD

Director, Mississippi INBRE Telenutrition Center
Associate Professor and Associate Director, School of Kinesiology, The University of Southern Mississippi

Session Moderator:

Sandra Melvin, DrPH

Investigator, Mississippi INBRE Community Engagement and Training Core
Chief Operating Officer, Open Arms Healthcare Center

Academic Panelists:

Carol Connell, PhD, RD

Co-director, Community Engaged Research Core, MS Center for Clinical & Translational Research
Professor and Associate Dean of Research, College of Education and Human Sciences, School of Kinesiology and Nutrition,
The University of Southern Mississippi

Mauda Monger, MPH

My Brother's Keeper, Inc.

Jaqueline Reese-Smith, PhD

Investigator, Mississippi INBRE Telenutrition Center

Community Panelists:

Jackie Hawkins, MS

Chief Executive Officer/Owner, Delta Community Solutions, LLC

Tammy Fordham Bell, BBA, MS

Health Educator, Mercy Delta Express Project
MCCTR Community Advisory Board, The University of Mississippi Medical Center

Erica Thompson, MD

Magnolia Medical Foundation

CEIG Committee Members:

Carol Connell, PhD, RD

Co-director, Community Engaged Research Core, MS Center for Clinical & Translational Research
Professor and Associate Dean of Research, College of Education and Human Sciences, School of Kinesiology and Nutrition, The
University of Southern Mississippi

LaShaundrea Crook, MS, RD

Assistant Director, Office of VP for Research & Mississippi INBRE Telenutrition Center, The University of Southern Mississippi

June Gipson, PhD, EdS

Director, Mississippi INBRE Community Engagement and Training Core
President/CEO, My Brother's Keeper, Inc.

Sandra Melvin, DrPH

Investigator, Mississippi INBRE Community Engagement and Training Core
Chief Operating Officer, Open Arms Healthcare Center

Jennifer C. Robinson, PhD, RN, CNE, FAHA

Co-director, Community Engaged Research Core, MS Center for Clinical & Translational Research
Professor and Associate Dean of Research of Research, School of Nursing, University of Mississippi Medical Center