

President's Research Council 2021

Supporting the Advancement
of Science and Medicine

Schedule of 2021 Programs

January 26

March 23

September 14

November 9

6:00 p.m. Virtual Program
(We will notify members if any 2021
programs can be held in person.)

Medical Education and Conference Center
T. Boone Pickens Biomedical Building
6001 Forest Park Road
Dallas, Texas 75390

UT Southwestern
Medical Center

engage.utsouthwestern.edu/prc



About UT Southwestern Medical Center

One of the top academic medical centers in the world, UT Southwestern is a premiere educational, clinical, and research institution with an innovative approach to medicine. Our physicians and researchers seamlessly integrate breakthroughs in science, advances in comprehensive patient care, and prestigious educational programs to improve health care in North Texas and around the world.

Consistently ranked among the top institutions for biomedical research, UT Southwestern is home to six Nobel laureates, 16 members of the National Academy of Medicine, 23 members of the National Academy of Sciences, and 13 Howard Hughes Medical Institute Investigators. More than 5,800 research projects totaling more than \$489.4 million annually are underway at UT Southwestern on a host of medical disorders including: cancer, heart disease and stroke, neurological diseases, arthritis, diabetes, and Alzheimer's disease.

Faculty and residents provide care to more than 105,000 hospitalized patients and oversee more than 3 million outpatient visits each year. UT Southwestern also impacts the regional economy as an employer of more than 18,800 people in North Texas.

Supporting the Advancement of Science and Medicine

Members of the President's Research Council propel the advancement of medical research at UT Southwestern. Joining the President's Research Council brings opportunities to hear from internationally recognized scientists conducting high-impact research. Your membership supports promising young scientists who are the innovators of tomorrow. As a member of the President's Research Council, you empower UT Southwestern's pursuit of the future of medicine, today.

President's Research Council member functions and activities include:

- Attending four engaging programs each year presented by prominent faculty researchers.
- Meeting outstanding scientists who are revolutionizing the scope and practice of medicine.
- Hosting an annual dinner with UT Southwestern President Daniel K. Podolsky, M.D., to honor the recipients of the Distinguished Researcher Awards.
- Learning about the latest advances in medical science from one of the nation's leading institutions.
- Supporting the annual Distinguished Researcher Awards, which recognize faculty members early in their research careers when federal grants can be difficult to obtain. Support may also be given to a past recipient named as the Marnie and Kern Wildenthal President's Research Council Professor in Medical Science.

President's Research Council programming in 2021 offers members the opportunity to hear directly from gifted researchers who are rethinking and redefining what is possible in medical science.

An annual membership in the President's Research Council is \$1,000 for individuals or Membership gifts at higher levels further support the pursuit of discovery at UT Southwestern.

For additional information about the
President's Research Council,
please call the Office of Development and
Alumni Relations at **214-648-2344** or visit
engage.utsouthwestern.edu/prc



President's Research Council Co-Chairs

Karen and Jim Wiley

Steering Committee Members

Peggy and Richard Allison
Pamela and Don Buckroyd
Adrienne and Dennis Drapkin
Ann and Chuck Eisemann
Diane and Donald Gaskins
Laurie and Major Ginsberg
Mary Jalonick
Charles Jones
Patti and Tom Kiernan
Cece and Ford Lacy
Judy and Jack Myers

Connie Harkins and
Douglas Newby
Susan and Gene Palma
Karen and William Pardoe
Hedi and Don Reynolds
Stefanie Schneider and
Jeff Robinson
Genie and Gary Short
Joanna and Peter Townsend
Karen and Jim Wiley



Helen Hobbs, M.D.

*Professor, Internal Medicine | Molecular Genetics
Director, Eugene McDermott Center for Human Growth and Development
Philip O'Bryan Montgomery Jr., M.D. Distinguished Chair in Developmental Biology
Eugene McDermott Distinguished Chair
for the Study of Human Growth and Development*



*Genes and Fast Foods:
Eat, Drink and Be Wary*

Tuesday, January 26, 2021

Dr. Helen Hobbs began her research career as a post-doctoral fellow in the laboratory of Dr. Michael Brown and Dr. Joseph Goldstein, and joined the faculty at UT Southwestern in 1987. She is Director of the Eugene McDermott Center for Human Growth and Development, which serves as the Center for Human Genetics at UTSW. Dr. Hobbs is a Howard Hughes Medical Institute Investigator, as well as a member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, the National Academy of Sciences and the National Academy of Medicine.

In 1999, Dr. Hobbs co-founded the Dallas Heart Study, a longitudinal, multi-ethnic, population-based study of heart and metabolic diseases. Through this study, she discovered that individuals with hypomorphic *PCSK9* genes had markedly lower LDL-cholesterol levels, making them essentially immune to heart disease, despite risk factors like smoking, diabetes, and hypertension. This discovery led to the development of a new class of cholesterol-lowering drugs that mimic the effects of the mutation. For this, and other discoveries, Dr. Hobbs has received numerous prizes, including the Breakthrough Prize in Life Sciences, the Grand Prix Award from the Institute of France, and the Harrington Prize for Innovation in Medicine.

Dr. Hobbs graduated from Stanford University and completed her medical degree at Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine. After an internship in internal medicine at Columbia-Presbyterian Medical Center in New York, she moved to Dallas to finish her clinical training. Dr. Hobbs was Chief Resident in internal medicine at Parkland Memorial Hospital where she also completed a fellowship in endocrinology and metabolism.



Elan Louis, M.D.

*Professor and Chair, Neurology
Linda and Mitch Hart Distinguished Chair in Neurology*



*What's Shakin' with Shaking? A Combined and Multi-pronged
Approach to Understand a Medical Dilemma*

Tuesday, March 23, 2021

Dr. Elan Louis joined the UT Southwestern faculty in 2020 as Chair of the Department of Neurology. Prior to that, he was Professor and Vice-Chair of Neurology at Yale Medical School. For more than two decades, Dr. Louis's pioneering research has focused on the genetics, epidemiology, and pathophysiology of tremor disorders. He has authored more than 700 peer-reviewed scientific articles and book chapters and serves on the editorial board of more than 10 scholarly journals. Dr. Louis is the founding Editor-in-Chief of *Tremor and Other Hyperkinetic Movements*, and he is also the editor of *Merritt's Textbook of Neurology*, one of the premier neurology textbooks in the country.

Considered the world's leading scholar in essential tremor (ET), Dr. Louis has produced work that has not only challenged many of the prevailing notions about ET, but substantially recreated the dialogue in the field. He established the Essential Tremor Centralized Brain Repository – a national, centralized brain bank for the study of ET, and he has collaborated with investigators around the world, studying ET in various populations. For the last 25 years, Dr. Louis has received continuous funding from the National Institutes of Health and other sources.

Dr. Louis earned his medical degree, and completed an internship in internal medicine at Yale University. After his residency at Columbia University, he earned a master's degree in epidemiology and completed fellowships in both movement disorders and neuro-epidemiology at the institution before serving on their faculty for more than 20 years.



Thomas Wang, M.D.

*Professor and Chair, Internal Medicine
Donald W. Seldin Distinguished Chair in Internal Medicine*



*Preventing Cardiovascular Disease:
The Past, Present, and Future*

Tuesday, September 14, 2021

Dr. Thomas Wang joined the UT Southwestern faculty in February 2020, becoming the Donald W. Seldin Distinguished Chair in Internal Medicine and seventh chair of the department. Dr. Wang is a fellow of the American College of Cardiology and the American Heart Association as well as an elected member of the Association of University Cardiologists, the American Society of Clinical Investigation, and the Association of American Physicians. He is published in numerous medical journals, including the New England Journal of Medicine and JAMA, and he is co-inventor of multiple patents.

Dr. Wang's groundbreaking clinical and translational research focuses on preclinical cardiovascular disease, obesity, and metabolism, and he has received more than \$44 million in grant funding. One of his major areas of interest is the interaction between metabolism and cardiovascular disease, focusing on hormones the heart makes called natriuretic peptides. He seeks to understand how these hormones operate in healthy people as well as those with diseases. Dr. Wang also investigates how cardiovascular risk can be assessed in people who do not yet have the disease by using tools such as biomarkers and genetics.

After graduating from Harvard College, Dr. Wang earned his medical degree from Harvard Medical School. He completed both his internal medicine residency and a cardiology fellowship at Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston before joining the cardiology faculty there in 2003. Most recently, Dr. Wang comes from Vanderbilt University Medical Center where he served as the Director of the Division of Cardiovascular Medicine. He is certified by the American Board of Internal Medicine.



Ralph DeBerardinis, M.D., Ph.D.

*Professor | Pediatrics | Genetics and Metabolism
Chief, Division of Pediatric Genetics and Metabolism
Joel B. Steinberg, M.D. Chair in Pediatrics | Sowell Family Scholar
in Medical Research*



*Human Metabolism:
New Approaches and New Diseases*

Tuesday, November 9, 2021

Dr. Ralph DeBerardinis joined the faculty of UT Southwestern Medical Center in 2008 and then joined the Children's Medical Center Research Institute at UTSW (CRI) shortly after its founding in 2012. He is Chief of Pediatric Genetics and Metabolism at UTSW and Director of the Genetic and Metabolic Disease Program at CRI. Dr. DeBerardinis is a Howard Hughes Medical Institute Investigator and the recipient of numerous awards including the National Cancer Institute's Outstanding Investigator Award; The Academy of Medicine, Engineering & Science of Texas' Edith and Peter O'Donnell Award in Medicine; and a President's Research Council Distinguished Young Researcher Award.

Collaborating with surgeons, oncologists, radiologists, and pathologists, Dr. DeBerardinis studies the role of altered metabolism in pediatric inborn errors of metabolism, cancer, and other diseases. By tracking the path of labeled nutrients given to cancer patients shortly before tumor removal, he analyzes how the tumor uses these nutrients. This approach provides vital insights that would not occur in laboratory-based experiments and led to the discovery that lactate provides a fuel for growing tumors, challenging a century-old assumption that lactate is a waste product of the tumor.

Dr. DeBerardinis received a Bachelor of Science in Biology from St. Joseph's University, and his M.D. and Ph.D. from the University of Pennsylvania's School of Medicine. He completed his residency at The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, where he trained in pediatrics, medical genetics, and clinical biochemical genetics, and achieved board certification in all three disciplines. Before coming to UTSW, he pursued postdoctoral research at the Penn Cancer Center.