Aging & Fit-Life

17th -18th October 2024 in Tübingen





MEDIZINISCHE Universitätski Tübinere

FAKULTAT

Speakers



Philip Awadalla

Dr. Philip Awadalla, PhD, is National Scientific Director of CanPath (Canadian Partnership for Tomorrow's Health), Director of Computational Biology and the Executive Scientific Director of Ontario Health Study at the Ontario Institute for Cancer Research, and Professor of Population and Medical Genomics at the University of Toronto. He obtained his doctorate in population and statistical genetics from the University of Edinburgh and was awarded NSERC, Killam, and Wellcome Trust Fellowships to pursue his postdoctoral work before taking faculty positions at North Carolina and the University of Montreal. He was the Scientific Director of CARTaGENE, and was part of the analysis groups of the 1000 Genomes Program and PCAWG. Major projects include genomics of aging, hematological diseases and cancers. Other projects include estimating mutation and recombination rates; model-based approaches to identify genetic; and environmental control points for infectious diseases in Africa.



Della David

Della David is a senior group leader at the Babraham Institute, Cambridge, UK. After studies in France at the European School of Biotechnology, she moved to Switzerland and obtained her PhD in 2005 from the University of Zürich. For her postdoctoral work (2006-2011), she joined the lab of Cynthia Kenyon at UCSF in the USA, supported with funding from the Swiss National Science Foundation, Larry L. Hillblom Foundation, American Federation for Aging Research and Program for Breakthrough Biomedical Research. There, she discovered that widespread protein aggregation occurs during normal ageing in the model organism Caenorhabditis elegans. In 2011, she became an independent research group leader in Germany at the German Center for Neurodegenerative Diseases (DZNE) in Tübingen and then moved to the Interfaculty Institute of Biochemistry, University of Tübingen. In 2022, Della relocated her lab to the Babraham Institute. Her group continues to focus on age-dependent protein aggregation with the aim of uncovering endogenous mechanisms to prevent aggregation and promote healthy ageing. A key recent study from her group identified the extracellular proteostasis network in C. elegans. Della has received a Wellcome Discovery Award to expand this area of research.



Annelies Goris

Annelies Goris is Program Director of the Health & Nutrition Program at imec / OnePlanet Research Center in The Netherlands. She has a PhD in human nutrition and worked for 17 years at Philips Electronics in different roles at research and in the business related to health technology products. In 2018 she started at imec Netherlands, a non for profit international R&D center, and from 2019 she has been responsible for setting up the health & nutrition program within imec / OnePlanet Research Center together with partners Wageningen University and Radboud University and Medical Center. The program focuses on development of innovative nano & digital technology for preventive health of which the ingestible sensor platform for gut health research is an example here.



Thomas Illig

Thomas Illig, head of the central biobank of the Hannover Medical School, the Hannover Unified Biobank (HUB has a longstanding and profound expertise in genetics and genomics, molecular epidemiology, biomarker research, preventive medicine approaches, omics technologies, biobanking research and bioinformatics. T. Illig is author on more than 700 peer-review articles with an H-index of 160. According to a recent analysis of Thomson & Reuter, T. Illig is one of the worldwide most cited researchers in the fields of molecular biology & genetics. He is speaker of the Lower Saxony Omics and bioinformatics initiative TRAINomics. T. Illig is the member of the Steering Committee of the German Biobank Alliance (GBA).



Martijn Huisman

Prof.dr. Martijn Huisman is a Full Professor of Epidemiology of Ageing with a joint position at the department of Sociology of the VU University in Amsterdam, the Netherlands, and the department of Epidemiology and Data Science of the Amsterdam University Medical Center in the Netherlands. Dr. Huisman received his PhD in Public Health from the Erasmus University Medical Center in Rotterdam, the Netherlands, in 2004. His research is focused on understanding the life experience, health, and wellbeing of socioeconomically vulnerable groups. He is also the principal investigator of the Longitudinal Aging Study Amsterdam (LASA).



Shohreh Issazadeh-Navikas

Shohreh Issazadeh-Navikas is a Professor of Neuroimmunology and Head of Neuroinflammation Unit, University of Copenhagen, Denmark. She is also currently serving as the director of Molecular Mechanisms of Diseases (MoMED) PhD School at UC. Her research interest lies at the intersection of immune system and its interaction with central nervous system, and seeks to improve our understanding of how the immune genes regulates neuronal homeostasis and their malfunction contribute to brain diseases. Her research strength lies in its strong interdisciplinary in immunology, neuroimmunology, and basic neuroscience, merging a central role for mitochondrial biology in these parallel concepts and technologies to perform cutting-edge research. Among many awards and honours, she received the The Danish Royal Cross of the Order of Chivalry award; has served as a member of scientific evaluation committees for the Swedish Research Council, The Danish Research Council among others.



Peter Klimek

Peter Klimek holds an associate professorship at the Medical University of Vienna, is director of the Supply Chain Intelligence Institute Austria (ASCII), and is a faculty member of the Complexity Science Hub. Drawing from his expertise in complexity science, data science, statistics and physics, his research aims to improve our understanding and ability to predict complex socioeconomic systems, ranging from human disease over healthcare systems to economic and financial systems. Peter and his research team developed prediction and stress-test models for how people acquire more and more chronic disorders as they age, how healthcare systems cope with changes in their workforce, and how shocks disrupt economic and financial markets. He coauthored a textbook on the Theory of Complex Systems and operated a model used by the Austrian government to forecast the COVID-19 epidemics in Austria. Peter earned a PhD in physics in 2010 and a Venia Docendi (habilitation) in computational science in 2018. He is author or co-author of more than 100 publications, received the Paul Watzlawick Ring of Honor and was named Austrian Scientist of the Year 2021.



Stefan Kohler

Stefan Kohler is a research associate at the Heidelberg Institute of Global Health of Heidelberg University, where he leads a research group on global health and economics. He holds a doctorate in economics from the European University Institute in Florence and a medical degree from the Charité – Universitätsmedizin Berlin. He is an academic editor for PLOS Global Public Health and a collaborator in the Global Burden of Disease (GBD) Collaborator Network. In the past, he was the speaker of the Global Health Section of the German Public Health Association (DGPH) and a member of the Global Young Academy (GYA), in which he co-led the Global Health Working Group.



Anne-Li Lind

Anne-Li Lind, Ph.D., is the Lead of Neuroscience at Olink Proteomics, where she supports researchers in neurology and psychiatry. She is dedicated to understanding the needs of the scientific community and ensuring that Olink provides the most effective tools to enable biofluid protein biomarkers discovery for neurodegenerative diseases and neuropsychiatric disorders.

Anne-Li received her training in biomedical and neurobiological sciences at Uppsala University and Harvard University. She gained expertise in chronic pain research models and methods at Brigham and Women's Hospital. Her doctoral and postdoctoral work at Uppsala University focused on biomarker discovery. Specifically she adapted antibody-based, and mass spectrometric



Harold Snieder

Harold Snieder has a multidisciplinary (both biomedical and psychosocial) background in human movement sciences and genetic epidemiology. His primary research areas include the genetics and epigenetics of cardiometabolic and kidney disease as well as the interaction of genetic risk with environmental exposures such as diet and psychosocial stress. Since 2006 he heads the Unit of Genetic Epidemiology and Bioinformatics within the Department of Epidemiology, University Medical Center Groningen. He has led or participated in numerous large scale genome-wide and epigenome-wide association studies and has been leading the genetic studies of the large Lifelines Cohort Study and Biobank. methods to identify biomarkers for chronic pain and other nervous system conditions such as amyotrophic lateral sclerosis and traumatic brain injury. During this time, she expanded theUppsala University Hospital biobank and conducted studies within the Uppsala Berzelii Technology Centre for Neurodiagnostics and the U-PAIN consortium.



Aleksandra Trifunovic

Aleksandra Trifunovic is since 2014 Full Professor in Mitochondrial Diseases and Ageing at the University of Cologne's Faculty of Medicine. Currently, Trifunovic serves as the Head of Research Area 1 and coordinator of Core Facilities of the CECAD Cluster of Excellence. She studied biology at the University of Belgrade (Serbia) and received her doctoral degree in molecular biology and biochemistry from the same University in 2000. After a period as a postdoctoral researcher at Karolinska Institute in Stockholm (Sweden), she obtained an assistant professor position at Karolinska Institute in 2006. In 2009 she was initially recruited as a research group leader through the CECAD Cluster of Excellence initiative. Prof Trifunovic's research interest mainly focused on the regulation of mitochondrial quality control and stress responses induced by mitochondrial dysfunction in ageing and various pathological conditions.



Cornelia van Duijn

Cornelia M van Duijn is Professor of Epidemiology at Oxford Population Health and Fellow of St Cross College, Oxford. She studied Human Nutrition and Mathematical Statistics at the Agricultural University of Wageningen and Genetics and Epidemiology at the Erasmus University Medical School. Her research within the Oxford Big Data Institute focuses on large-scale -omics studies of neurodegenerative disorders including Alzheimer. Parkinson Creutzfeldt–Jakob and disease and ophthalmological disorders including glaucoma, agerelated macular degeneration and myopia. She further studies systemic vascular, endocrine and gastrointestinal pathology that is relevant for brain and ocular function. Her current research portfolio includes cross-omics research integrating (epi)genetic, transcriptomic, proteomic, metabolomic and microbiome data of epidemiological cohorts with state of the art brain imaging and cellular model systems.



Karin Wirdefeldt

Karin Wirdefeldt is an adjunct professor at the Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics, Karolinska Institutet and a senior neurologist and movement disorder specialist at Karolinska University Hospital. Her main research interest is epidemiology of Parkinson's disease, but she also studies other neurological diseases. She is the PI of the Swedish Twin Study of Parkinson's Disease and has vast experience of working with longitudinal cohort studies and national register data in Sweden.



Other Speakers:

- Eva Baumann
- Francesca Cormack
- Claudio Franceschi
- David Mcdaid
- Brit Mollenhauer