# Women’s Health Research Day Agenda

**April 3, 2014**

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<th>Time</th>
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| 8:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. | **Registration & Continental Breakfast** (IOP Lobby)  
Breakfast sponsored by ARROW (Advancement, Recruitment, and Retention of Women Scientists) |
| 9:00 a.m. – 9:15 a.m. | **Welcome**  
Kathleen Brady, M.D., Ph.D.  
Welcome  
Tamara Nowling, Ph.D.  
*ARROW (Advancement, Recruitment, and Retention of Women Scientists)* |
| 9:15 a.m. – 9:30 a.m. | **Women’s Health Research Across Campus**  
Jennifer Harper, M.D.  
*Incorporating Patient Satisfaction Metrics in Assessing Multidisciplinary Breast Cancer Care Quality* |
| 9:30 a.m. – 9:45 a.m. | Melissa Cunningham, M.D., Ph.D.  
*An Estrogen Receptor alpha Functional Mutant is Protective in Murine Lupus* |
| 9:45 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. | Brittney Cox  
*Motivation to Self-Administer Methamphetamine in a Behavioral-Economics Paradigm Predicts the Effect of Oxytocin on Relapse Behavior* |
| 10:00 a.m. – 10:15 a.m. | Jennifer Scott  
*Understanding the Role of Estrogen Receptor alpha in Plasmacytoid Dendritic Cell Activation and Function in Systemic Lupus Erythematosus* |
| 10:15 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. | Chitra Lal, M.D.  
*Cognitive Impairment and Obstructive Sleep Apnea Syndrome in Early Postmenopausal Women* |
| 10:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. | Constance Guille, M.D.  
*Insomnia and Risk for Peripartum Depression* |
| 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 a.m. | Etta Pisano, M.D.  
*Women’s Health Research in Medical Imaging* |
| 12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m. | **Plenary Speaker Presentation**  
Larry Cahill, Ph.D.  
*Sex and Hemisphere Influences on Emotional Memory: The Burden of Proof has Shifted* |
| 1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. | **Poster Presentations**  
Lunch Reception & Poster Presentations (IOP Lobby) |
**Women’s Health Research Day Plenary Speaker**

**Larry Cahill, Ph.D.**

Dr. Larry Cahill is a Professor in the Department of Neurobiology and Behavior at the University of California, Irvine. He first became interested in brain and memory as an undergraduate at Northwestern University. After working for two years at Searle Drug Company in Illinois on memory enhancing drugs, he earned his Ph.D. in Neuroscience from the University of California at Irvine in 1990, and then conducted postdoctoral research in Germany for 2 years. He returned to UC Irvine to extend his research to studies of human subjects, which in turn led to his discoveries about sex influences on emotional memory, and to his current general interest in the profoundly important issue of sex influences on brain function. He is a long-standing leader in the area of brain and memory, and more recently has become one of the most influential leaders on the topic of sex influences on the brain. He is an internationally regarded, dynamic speaker, whose work has been highlighted extensively in the press, including in the New York Times, London Times, Frankfurt Allgemeine Zeitung, PBS, and 60 Minutes.

**Women’s Health Research Day Speakers**

**Jennifer Harper, M.D.**

Dr. Harper is an Associate Professor of Radiation Oncology at MUSC whose primary clinical & research interests are in the field of breast cancer. She received her medical degree from MUSC in 2001 & went on complete a General Surgery Internship & Radiation Oncology Residency at MUSC. She currently serves as the Medical Director of the Medical Physics Residency Program & on the Residency Review Committee of the Commission on Accreditation of Medical Physics Education Programs. She serves as a Translational Science Clinical Mentor for MD/PhD candidates at MUSC. Her commitment to medical education has been recognized by a Teaching Award from the Association of Residents in Radiation Oncology & a MUSC College of Medicine Faculty Excellence in Teaching Award.

**Melissa Cunningham, M.D., Ph.D.**

Dr. Cunningham received her undergraduate degree from Dartmouth & a Master’s degree in Molecular Medicine from Boston University. She earned her PhD (2004) & MD (2006) at The Pennsylvania State University. She then entered the ABIM’s clinician-scientist track at MUSC, where she completed her residency & fellowship training in 2012, & subsequently joined the faculty as an assistant professor in the Division of Rheumatology & Immunology. During her graduate training, Dr. Cunningham had an interest in reproductive endocrinology & ovarian physiology. Her continued interest in women’s health issues evolved into a focus on sex bias in autoimmunity. Under the mentorship of Dr. Gary Gilkeson, her research has focused on the female predominance in SLE. She investigates the role of estrogen receptor alpha on modulation of Toll-like receptor signaling & the inflammatory response, with a specific interest in dendritic cells.

**Brittney Cox**

Brittney graduated with a BS from Michigan State University in 2009. Following graduation, she worked in the behavioral neuroscience laboratory of Shane Perrine & Matthew Galloway at Wayne State University School of Medicine investigating the biochemical & behavioral effects of addiction. In 2010, she began pursuing her PhD in the Department of Neuroscience at MUSC. Brittney is currently a 4th year graduate student working with Drs. Gary Aston-Jones, Carmela Reichel, & Ron See. Her dissertation research focuses on investigating sex differences in the effects of the potential pharmacotherapy oxytocin on methamphetamine seeking & relapse behavior.

**Jennifer Scott**

Jennifer is a 5th year MD/PhD student in the laboratory of Dr. Gary Gilkeson. She is researching the role of the Estrogen Receptor in the development of systemic lupus erythematosus and function of the innate immune system.

**Chitra Lal, M.D.**

Dr. Lal is an Assistant Professor of Medicine in the Division of Pulmonary, Critical Care, Allergy & Sleep Medicine at MUSC. After finishing her pulmonary, critical care & sleep fellowship from University of TN Health Sciences Center in 2006, she moved to Maine to join a hospital-based practice, where she served as Medical Director of Cardiopulmonary Services, Pharmacy & Therapeutics Committee & the Sleep Laboratory for over 3 years. In 2009, she was recruited to USC, Columbia, SC as an Assistant Professor of Medicine. She came to MUSC in 2010 where, in addition to practicing clinical sleep medicine she has conducted research on cognitive impairment in obstructive sleep apnea (OSA). She is specifically interested in the impact of OSA on cognition in postmenopausal women.

**Constance Guille, M.D.**

Dr. Guille received her medical degree from St. George’s University & competed her psychiatry residency training & sub-specialty training in perinatal psychiatry at Yale University. Subsequently she completed a NIMH postdoctoral research training program & received a Masters in Science in Clinical Research at MUSC. She is currently a BIRCWH scholar & conducting clinical research in the area of peripartum mental health.

**Etta Pisano, M.D.**

Dr. Pisano joined MUSC as Vice President for Medical Affairs & Dean of the College of Medicine on July 1, 2010. Prior to accepting the position at MUSC, Etta served as Vice Dean for Academic Affairs at the UNC School of Medicine, Kenan Professor of Radiology & Biomedical Engineering, Director of the UNC Biomedical Research Imaging Center, & Director of the N.C. Translational & Clinical Sciences Institute. She is an expert in breast cancer imaging & from 1989-2005, served as the Chief of Breast Imaging at UNC Hospitals. Her undergraduate degree in Philosophy is from Dartmouth & her medical degree is from Duke. Etta’s professional interests center around the development, application & testing of imaging technology for the early detection & diagnosis of breast cancer & other breast problems.