

2024 Summer Seminar Series

Hosted by gBSA



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How Diversity Equity and Inclusion Gave my Dream a Direction

For decades scientists have known that chronic inflammation is important for the progression of Type 2 Diabetes (T2D), a common disorder of high blood sugar that impacts minority communities at an alarming rate. Even with this understanding, no successful anti-inflammatory therapies have been developed. Why? Likely because the cause of chronic inflammation in Type 2 Diabetes remains undiscovered. Classically, immune systems initiate inflammation in response to foreign proteins. However, humans, and not the animal models used to study Type 2 Diabetes, have a unique ability to recognize fats or lipids. In this talk I will discuss:

1. Emerging immunology concepts that allow the human immune system to respond to fats
2. Why mice have failed the scientific community as a model of Type 2 Diabetes
3. How support from organized DEI programs, thinking outside the box, and being resilient in the face haters led to a scientific breakthrough.

Friday, July 12th, 2024
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