Dr. Leanne Groban, M.D.
Professor
Department of Anesthesiology
Wake Forest School of Medicine
Winston-Salem, NC

**EMBARK on the Journey to Healthy Aging with Columbine Health Systems Center for Healthy Aging at CSU**

Dr. Groban will give a presentation overviewing her background, research interests, and vision for the Columbine Health Systems Center for Healthy Aging, followed by time for discussion and questions.

Dr. Leanne Groban is a physician-scientist and Professor of Anesthesiology at Wake Forest School of Medicine in Winston-Salem, NC. She earned her medical degree from the Medical College of Wisconsin, and completed subspecialty training in cardiac anesthesia. After spending over a decade providing perioperative care and anesthesia to older patients undergoing heart surgery, she brought her echocardiographic skills and interest in the biology of the aging heart to the research laboratory. As director of the Cardiac Aging Laboratory, Dr. Groban is exploring the mechanisms driving diastolic dysfunction, the precursor to heart failure with preserved ejection fraction and the most common form of heart failure in postmenopausal women. Her lab investigates the pathways by which estrogen maintains cardiac structure and function during aging, which may reveal new therapeutic strategies to slow the pace of diastolic dysfunction after estrogen loss. She also leads an interdisciplinary team of clinical investigators focused on how unique risk factors of older patients, such as mobility/disability, can be used to predict adverse surgical outcomes (complications, hospital stay, nursing home placement), in order to better inform and optimize their perioperative care, including prehabilitation. Dr. Groban is the recipient of several prestigious awards including the Paul Beeson Physician Faculty Scholars in Aging Research award. Her research has received 14 years of consecutive support from the National Institute on Aging, and is also currently funded by the National Heart Lung and Blood Institute. She has authored more than 110 peer-reviewed articles and chapters, as well as two textbooks on echocardiography.