



Columbine Health Systems
Center for Healthy Aging
COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY

INNOVATIONS IN AGING RESEARCH SPEAKER SERIES

DOWN SYNDROME AND ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE: COMMON PATHWAYS



Lotta Granholm-Bentley, PhD

Executive Director, Knoebel Institute for Healthy Aging
University of Denver

MONDAY, MARCH 25

1 - 2 PM

Room 1418, Columbine Health Systems Center for Healthy Aging

Located in the Health and Medical Center, Corner of College & Prospect

Dr. Granholm-Bentley is the inaugural Executive Director of the Knoebel Institute for Healthy Aging, and Research Professor in the Department of Biological Sciences, at the University of Denver. She is also a Guest Professor at the prestigious Karolinska Institute in Stockholm, Department of Neurobiology, Care Sciences and Society. Before coming to DU, Dr. Granholm-Bentley served as the Director for the Center on Aging at the Medical University of South Carolina (MUSC) from 2001-2016. The focus in her laboratory is on neuroplasticity during development and aging, especially related to neurodegenerative disease. She and her team are studying factors that influence physiological function of the nervous system, such as neurotrophic factors, reactive oxygen species (ROS), and pro- and anti-inflammatory cytokines. An important line of work in the lab is to understand biological mechanisms for cognitive impairment in Down Syndrome (DS), and design novel treatment paradigms. Other ongoing studies in the laboratory are related to dietary supplementation with antioxidants and low-cholesterol diets. The overall goal of the laboratory is to develop treatment strategies as well as novel biomarker methods for Down syndrome, Parkinson's and Alzheimer's disease. Her work uses a systems approach, studying memory and movement behaviors, and correlating these behavioral data with biochemical and structural correlates in the brain. Recently, Dr. Granholm-Bentley's team have incorporated a translational research approach, with ongoing studies together with clinical laboratories. She is PI for a 5-year grant from the Bright Focus Foundation, focusing on building a brain bank focused on tissue donations from people with Down syndrome and Alzheimer's disease, involving 7 different sites in the US and Europe. She has published more than 160 peer-reviewed papers and has been funded by the NIH and other funding agencies since 1991.