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## Lecture Presents Clues on Reducing Human Aging

Miami, February 25, 2009—The first of a new three-part lecture series on aging will be held on **Friday, March 6<sup>th</sup>, 2009**, from 1:30-3 p.m. at the Miami Science Museum, 3280 S. Miami Ave., Miami, FL 33129. The cost is \$5 for non-museum members, and free of charge for museum members. Seating is limited. RSVPs are required. Contact [susan@afar.org](mailto:susan@afar.org) or call 305-598-1115.

As part of its signature “Senior Science Series,” the Miami Science Museum ([www.miamisci.org](http://www.miamisci.org)) has partnered with the American Federation for Aging Research Florida Affiliate, with support from AvMed Health Plans, to offer lectures on topics in aging research on the first Friday of each month – upcoming dates are: March 6<sup>th</sup>, April 3<sup>rd</sup>, May 1<sup>st</sup>. The featured speaker on March 6<sup>th</sup> will be Dr. David Wilson, a previous AFAR grantee and long-time University of Miami biology professor, speaking on “Reducing Human Aging: Clues to Why and How We Age.”

Wilson earned his B.S. in physics from the Univ. of Maryland and Ph.D. in biophysics from the Univ. of Chicago, where he was an NIH fellow and James Franck Dissertation fellow. He also held a postdoctoral fellowship at California Institute of Technology. A fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science and the Gerontological Society of America, Dr. Wilson is widely published. His latest book, written with Zack Bowen, *Science and Literature: Bridging the Two Cultures*, was published in 2001.

The American Federation for Aging Research ([www.afar.org](http://www.afar.org)) is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to support biological and biomedical research on aging. The organization is devoted to creating the knowledge that all of us need to live healthy,

productive, and independent lives. AFAR's new Florida Affiliate joins an affiliate network that has awarded approximately \$720,000 to 12 grantees in the southeastern U.S., New York and Ohio. Since AFAR's founding in 1981, the organization has granted approximately \$113 million to nearly 2,500 scientists, helping to further many careers in aging research and geriatric medicine.

"We are delighted to partner with the Miami Science Museum in offering this exciting new educational program, and are also grateful to AvMed Health Plans for their support," said Susan G. Lichtman, AFAR Florida's regional director. "Florida is ranked *first* in the nation in its percentage of residents age 65 and older. With an aging population that consists of nearly *one-fourth* the entire population of the state, it makes sense for AFAR to focus on securing and distributing resources to Florida-based researchers who are studying aging, and to present highlights of their work to the community through lectures and other educational events."

The Miami Science Museum continues to bring special traveling exhibits to South Florida such as *Amazon Voyage*, *Titanic: The Artifact Exhibition* and *The Dinosaurs of China*. The Museum aims to make a difference in people's lives by inspiring them to appreciate the impact that science and technology can have on every facet of our world. The Museum is accredited by the American Association of Museums and is an affiliate of the Smithsonian Institution. For more information about the Museum, please visit [www.miamisci.org](http://www.miamisci.org) or call (305) 646-4200. To learn more about the Senior Science Series at Miami Science Museum, please contact Lucia Enriconi at 305-646-4210.

To RSVP for the March 6<sup>th</sup> lecture, please contact Susan Lichtman at 305-598-1115, or [susan@afar.org](mailto:susan@afar.org).

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