For Immediate Release

Contact: Fred Yaeger (914) 525-9198

AMERICAN FEDERATION FOR AGING RESEARCH (AFAR) SPONSORS SCIENTIFIC CONFERENCE FOCUSING ON A HEALTHIER LONGER HEALTHSPAN

World Scientists Explore How the Science of Aging is Increasing Knowledge Addressing One of the Leading Public Health Challenges of our Time

EVENT – New York, NY: The American Federation for Aging Research (AFAR) www.afar.org Scientific Conference to be held on Monday, October 4th 2010 at The Union Club in New York City will highlight new and exciting discoveries in the understanding of major metabolic pathways associated with the target of rapamycin (TOR) signaling and how these insights relate to the regulation of aging.

What does this mean for us? Scientists agree that compounds like these will pave the way for breakthroughs that will increase human health in later life.

The conference will explore how the science of aging is showing increasing power to address the leading public health challenges of our time. Rapamycin, which can extend healthy life in mice, is just one compound that provides the roadmap that can ultimately benefit human lifespan. Leading scientists will discuss how it is realistically possible to develop interventions like these that can stall the aging process with the goals of adding healthy years to life.

The conference will focus on the role(s) that TOR signaling plays in the major diseases related to aging and how preemptive intervention may lessen their burden. These compounds are ripe for discoveries of new and better drug therapies. Scientist’s and researchers will discuss the feasibility of clinical trials for aging intervention and/or disease prevention.

Many of the researchers attending the conference believe that the recent success in lifespan extension of mid- and late-age male and female mice by chronic treatments with the drug rapamycin could lead to a new era of pharmacological intervention for aging and age related diseases.

The conference will also spotlight recent discoveries of next generation mammalian TOR inhibitors and delivery systems and address the questions: how can they best be used as tools to better understand aging and will they be better or worse than rapamycin as potential interventional approaches for the modulations of healthspan and lifespan?

WHEN: Monday, October 4th 2010 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM

WHERE: The Union Club
101 E 69th Street
New York, New York 10065
AFAR Conference Schedule – Monday, October 4th 2010

7:30-8:30 am
Registration and Continental Breakfast
Schermerhorn Room, 2nd floor

8:30 am

Keynote: *Chronic mTOR Inhibition by Rapamycin to Increase Healthspan*
Z. Dave Sharp, PhD, University of Texas Health Science Center

9:15 - 10:15 am
Session I: mTOR Signaling & Nutrient Signaling

*TOR Signaling and the Control of Cell and Animal Growth*
Michael Hall, PhD, University of Basel

*mTOR Signaling, Cellular Energy Status and Aging*
George Thomas, PhD, University of Cincinnati

Reactor: Steve Austad, PhD, University of Texas Health Science Center

10:15 - 11:45 am
Session II: Translational Control

*TOR Translation and Aging*
Brian Kennedy, PhD, The Buck Institute

Coffee Break

*TOR as a Conserved Pathway for Lifespan Extension*
Pankaj Kapahi, PhD, The Buck Institute

Reactor: Roger McCarter, PhD, Pennsylvania State University

11:45 - 12:30 pm
Session III: Role of mTOR Signaling in Synaptic Plasticity in Health and Disease

Eric Klann, PhD, New York University

Reactor: George M. Martin, MD, University of Washington

12:30 - 2:00 pm
Lunch: Speakers assigned to tables for small-group discussion

2:00 - 2:45 pm
Closing Speaker: Looking Forward
*mTOR and its Role in Growth Control and Aging*
David Sabatini, MD, PhD, Massachusetts Institute of Technology

2:45 - 4:00 pm
*Translating Basic Research to Application: Where Will mTOR Take Us Now?*
Panel Dialogue Sponsored by the NIA
Moderator: Felipe Sierra, PhD, National Institute on Aging
Featuring conference speakers.