

Timothy Rhoads of the University of Wisconsin Madison receives the 2023 Sagol Network GerOmic Award for Junior Faculty

*Grant seeks to understand how RNA processing influences aging
and the development of age-related diseases*

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NEW YORK — The American Federation for Aging Research (AFAR) is pleased to announce the recipient of the 2023 Sagol Network GerOmic Award for Junior Faculty: **Timothy Rhoads, PhD, Assistant Professor, University of Wisconsin-Madison**. Established in 2020, the [Sagol Network GerOmic Award for Junior Faculty](#) is a one- to two-year award given to junior faculty (MDs and PhDs) to conduct aging-related Omics (GerOmics) research.

Omics is a rapidly evolving, multi-disciplinary, and emerging field that encompasses genomics, epigenomics, transcriptomics, proteomics, and metabolomics. Each of these fields offers the possibility to understand and view biology from a global perspective in a way that was previously unthinkable. Given the biological complexity and heterogeneity of the aging process, omics research can play an important role in providing important insights into the aging process and many age-related diseases.

Rhoads' funded project is titled "[**The role of hepatic RNA processing in the beneficial metabolic effects of caloric restriction.**](#)" This research seeks to identify potential relationships between hepatic RNA processing and changes to systemic metabolism in the context of delayed aging by caloric restriction in a mouse model. "Omics research has tremendous potential to impact healthy lifespan and build on the foundation of knowledge in the basic biology of aging and geroscience that AFAR has advanced for decades," says Sami Sagol, Founder, Sagol Network and AFAR board member.

"GerOmics research is essential to help unfold the complexity of biology of aging," says Stephanie Lederman, EdM, Executive Director, AFAR. "AFAR is pleased to continue our collaboration with the Sagol Network to encourage early career investigators to focus their research on this vital emerging field."

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About AFAR - The American Federation for Aging Research (AFAR) is a national non-profit organization that supports and advances pioneering biomedical research that is revolutionizing how we live healthier and longer. For more than four decades, AFAR has served as the field's talent incubator, providing nearly \$200 million to some 4,400 investigators at premier research institutions to date—and growing. In 2023, AFAR expects to provide approximately \$12,500,000 to more than 60 investigators. A trusted leader and strategist, AFAR also works with public and private funders to steer high quality grant programs and interdisciplinary research networks. AFAR-funded researchers are finding that modifying basic cellular processes can delay—or even prevent—many chronic diseases, often at the same time. They are discovering that it is never too late—or too early—to improve health. This groundbreaking science is paving the way for innovative new therapies that promise to improve and extend our quality of life—at any age. Learn more at www.afar.org.

About the Sagol Network

The Sagol Network was set up by the Sagol Family with a vision to support and accelerate advanced research, education and therapy in the fields of Neuroscience & Healthy lifespan. Under the leadership of Sami Sagol, the family set up a virtual network of schools & research centers based in leading academic and medical institutions promoting multidisciplinary projects, laboratories, and technologies. Among these, The Sagol School of Neuroscience at Tel Aviv University, Joseph Sagol Neuroscience Center at Sheba Medical Centre, Sagol Institute for Longevity Research, Weizmann Institute, The Sagol Center for Neurobiology & Ethology and Emily Sagol Center for Creative Art Therapy at Haifa University, Sagol Healthy Human Longevity Center at Bar-Ilan University, Sagol center for Brain & Mind at the IDC, The Sagol Brain center at Sourasky (Tel Aviv) medical center, The Sagol program for computational healthcare at Hebrew University, Kahn-Sagol-Maccabi Health Data Science Institute and The Sagol Center for Hyperbaric Medicine & Research at Shamir Medical Center. The Sagol Network's philanthropic efforts have also extended to 'bridge' & promote collaborations between Ivy league institutions throughout the world, with initiatives such as Sagol MIT-Weizmann Bridge program, Sagol-Kandel Brain Longevity Initiative at Columbia University, and The Sagol Center for Epigenetics of Metabolism and Aging between Monash University, in Sydney and Tel Aviv Medical Center. The Sagol Network GerOmic Awards for Junior Faculty with American Federation for Aging Research exemplify the Sagol Network's global approach.