Speaker Bio-Sketches

Scott Hummel, MD
Assistant Professor, Medicine/Cardiovascular Medicine
Director, Heart Failure Program

University of Michigan

Dr. Hummel is a board-certified Advanced Heart Failure/Transplant cardiologist at the University of Michigan. His K23-award funded research aims to clarify the underlying pathophysiology of heart failure with preserved ejection fraction (HFPEF), a highly morbid condition affecting millions of Americans that is currently without evidence-based therapy. Dr. Hummel's recent work suggests that the sodium-restricted Dietary Approaches to Stop Hypertension (DASH/SRD) diet reduces oxidative stress and vascular dysfunction in human HFPEF. Obesity and metabolic syndrome are key risk factors for the development of HFPEF, and Dr. Hummel's future work will seek to clarify links between lifestyle patterns, inflammation/oxidative stress, and cardiovascular damage in these HFPEF 'precursor' populations.

James Sallis, PhD
Distinguished Professor, Family Medicine and Public Health
Director, Active Living Research
UC-San Diego

His primary research interests are promoting physical activity and understanding policy and environmental influences on physical activity, nutrition, and obesity. He has made contributions in the areas of measurement, correlates of physical activity, intervention, and advocacy. Dr. Sallis has received awards for his science from the American College of Sports Medicine, Society of Behavioral Medicine, and American Psychological Association Division of Health Psychology and was just elected to the National Academy of Medicine.

Susanne Iwarsson, PhD, OT
Mary and Seved Ribbing Professor of Gerontology
Director, Centre for Ageing and Supportive Environments
University of Lund

Her research focuses on older persons and housing and neighbourhood issues, geriatric rehabilitation, and assistive technology. Her research concerns person-environment-activity transactions, with a particular emphasis on accessibility and usability to the physical environment. Over the years, she has been engaged in methodological development in this field, with the Housing Enabler instrument as the most acknowledged contribution. Iwarsson has published more than 125 original papers in international journals representing a range of disciplines, numerous books, book chapters, reports and many conference contributions.

Amanda Lehning, PhD., MSW
Assistant Professor, School of Social Work
University of Maryland

Amanda Lehning is an assistant professor at the University of Maryland, School of Social Work. Her research focuses on the effects of policies, programs, and neighborhood infrastructure on elder health, well-being, and the ability to age in place. Her research on aging-friendly communities aims to advance the conceptualization, measurement, and evaluation of this type of community-level initiative. Additional research includes a national survey of Villages and NORCs, two community-based programs that aim to help older adults remain in their homes and communities; an examination of the effects of service coordination on the ability to age in place in low-income senior housing in Detroit; and a mixed methods study of cooperative senior housing as a site for aging in place.