# State of the Huffington Center on Aging

Fall/Winter 2016

Baylor College of Medicine

HUFFINGTON CENTER ON AGING

## Huffington Center on Aging: History

#### The Roy M. & Phyllis Gough Huffington Center on Aging

- Established in 1988 through the geriatric leadership of founding director Dr. Robert Luchi and a generous donation from the Huffington family
- Acquired research space in 1998
- HCOA directors shown below with Ms. Terry Huffington, daughter of benefactors Roy and Phyllis Gough Huffington

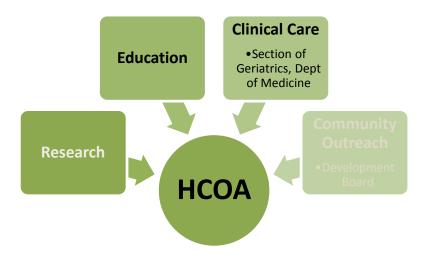


1988-1998: Robert Luchi, M.D.

1998-2008: Roy Smith, Ph.D. 2008-2009: Gretchen Darlington, Ph.D.

2010 to present: Hui Zheng, Ph.D.

## Huffington Center on Aging: Overview



- Graduate Program in Integrative Molecular and Biomedical Sciences
  - Biology of Aging track
- Biology of aging and age-related disease elective
- Biology of Aging seminar
  - Clinical and Translational Geriatric Medicine Lecture
- Geriatric Medicine
  - Six first year geriatric fellows per year
  - Geriatric medicine grand rounds

### HCOA Faculty, Trainees & Staff

#### Tenured/Tenure-track

Meng Wang, Ph.D. Andre Catic, M.D., Ph.D. Weiwei Dang, Ph.D. Fred Pereira, Ph.D. Ergun Sahin, M.D., Ph.D. Melanie Samuel, Ph.D. George Taffet, M.D. Hui Zheng, Ph.D.

#### **Research-track**

Wei Cao, Ph.D. Baiping Wang, Ph.D.

### **Faculty Associates**

18

#### **Postdocs**

12

**Graduate Students/Interns** 20/3

#### **Technical Staff**

13

### **Education Staff**

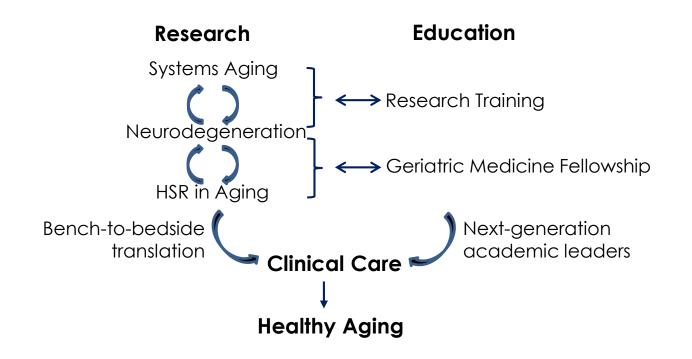
Angela Catic, MD Robert Roush, EdD, MPH

#### **Administrative Staff**

Maria Pesantez Diana Fincher Julian Oolut Paige Prince

## HCOA Strategic Plan 2016-2021

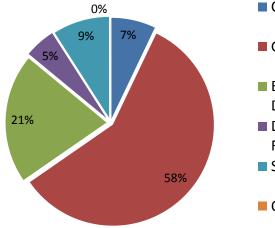
- Build Center-initiated and College-wide aging programs
- Build basic and translational programs combining brain aging with neurodegenerative diseases
- Build clinical research infrastructure through partnership with Health Services Research in aging



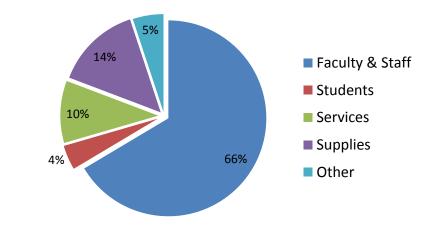
### **FY16** Financials

#### **Operating Income: \$5.8 Million**

#### Operating Expenses: \$5.1 Million







# FY16 Key Accomplishments

#### Awards

- Meng Wang: NIH Director's Pioneer Award

Howard Hughes Medical Institute Faculty Scholars Award

- Melanie Samuel: NIH Director's New Innovator Award
- Major Grants
  - Weiwei Dang: R56 AG049714 High Priority, Short Term Project Award (Development of a Microfluidic Platform for High-Throughput Assays of Aging in Yeast)
  - Ergun Sahin: R01 AG047924 Research Project Grant (Role of Sirtuins in Mediating Telomere and P53-Dependent Aging and Disease)

R21 AG047924 – Exploratory/Developmental Grants (Establishing a Conditional Telomerase

Knock-in-Allele in a Haploid Cancer Cell Line to Identify Regulators of Alt Through Genetic Forward Screens)

- Melanie Samuel: DP2 EY027984 NIH Director's New Innovator Awards (Synaptic Reprogramming of Adult Neurons)
- Meng Wang: R01 AT009050 Research Project Grant (Prebiotic Regulation of Longevity)

**R21 EB022302** – Exploratory/Developmental Grants (Delineate the Regulatory Network of Lipid Metabolism via SRS Imaging-Sorting)

**DP1** – NIH Director's Pioneer Award (NDPA) (Decode the Chemical Language that Orchestrates Cellular and Organismal Homeostasis)

HHMI – Howard Hughes Medical Institute Faculty Scholars Award

Hui Zheng: R01 NS093652 – Research Project Grant (Role of TFEB in Tauopathy)

**RF1 AG054111** – Multi-Year Funded Research Project Grant (Decoding the Role of Diverse Astrocyte Populations in Aging and AD)

### **Upcoming HCOA Scientific & Social Activities**

- Huffington Distinguished Lecture and Symposium
  - April 26, 2017
  - John Hardy, Ph.D.
  - Estela E. Medrano Award for Excellence in Research on Aging
- HCOA Holiday Party
- Wellness 5K
  - HCOA Ageless Wonders
- Walk to End Alzheimer's
  - Baylor Memory Walkers Team

