

DIABETES AND METABOLISM SEMINAR SERIES



FGF21 Links Dietary Protein to Behavior and Metabolism

Christopher Morrison, PhD

Associate Professor
Neurosignaling Laboratory
Pennington Biomedical Research Center

**Wednesday
October 22, 2014**

4:00 - 5:00pm

**Orin Smith Auditorium
SLU Campus
850 Republican Street**

Dr. Morrison's research focuses on whole animal neuroendocrinology and physiology, especially as applied to the neuronal regulation of feeding behavior and body weight homeostasis. Dr. Morrison's work has recently focused on dietary protein content and its effects on food intake and body weight. Dietary protein restriction significantly alters body composition, metabolism and food intake, but the mechanisms through which protein intake is detected and regulated are largely unknown. Recent work in the Morrison lab has discovered novel pathways contributing to the detection of protein restriction, and in particular has identified the circulating hormone FGF21 as the first known endocrine signal of protein restriction. Ongoing work is focusing on both the mechanism through which dietary protein regulates FGF21 and the mechanisms through which FGF21 coordinates adaptive changes in food intake and metabolism in response to protein restriction. In addition, separate experiments seek to identify novel pathways connecting dietary protein intake to metabolism, feeding behavior and longevity.

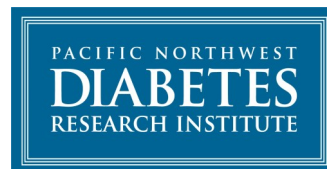


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*The Diabetes Research Center gratefully acknowledges the generous support of
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