UTHealth
The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston
School of Public Health

Center for Infectious Diseases

cordially invite you to attend the

30th James H. Steele, DVM Annual Lecture

Leishmaniasis: Intersection of clinical and basic sciences in endemic settings

featuring

Mary Wilson, MD

University of Iowa

Professor of Global Health

Department of Microbiology & Immunology and Internal Medicine

Thursday, April 7, 2022

12 noon – 1pm (CST)

SPH Auditorium

Join remotely via this Webex link:
https://uthealth.webex.com/uthealth/j.php?MTID=me63b3d83cdc33bb1e5bc824593a4d3a4

FREE LUNCH for first 50 attendees

Dr. Wilson is Professor of Global Health in the Departments of Microbiology & Immunology and Internal Medicine. Her research addresses the immune and molecular biology of the pathogenic Leishmania species protozoa. Her studies approach the disease through both laboratory and field-based studies in endemic countries. Goals are to determine the host and parasite factors leading to chronic symptomatic infection in humans and in animal models.

Dr. Wilson's research studies address the molecular, cellular and immunobiology of infection with the *Leishmania* species protozoa. Human infection with these parasites leads to a wide spectrum of clinical syndromes. Both human immunogenetic and parasite-encoded virulence factors lead to divergent disease manifestations. Dr. Wilson's studies focus on the contributions of both host and parasite molecular characteristics that determine the outcome of leishmaniasis.

Dr. Wilson works on collaborative studies with faculty members in low- or middle-income countries with endemic leishmaniasis (India, Brazil and Ghana), investigating the epidemiological, insect and host factors differentiating whether people will develop asymptomatic or symptomatic infection. Many of these studies are extensions of work done in the laboratory. The Wilson lab works toward application of molecular techniques to understand both human genetic and molecular parasitic determinants leading to the diverse forms of human leishmaniasis. Genotyping has identified different HLA alleles that associate with susceptibility, and have provided the basis for transgenic mouse studies in the lab. Additional studies of parasite genomes, and polymorphisms within genomes, are revealing contributions of parasite strain to the pathologic changes observed in leishmaniasis.

In Memory of James H. Steele, DMV 1913-2013

For more information about Dr. Steele click here

For more information, please contact **Carolyn Wade** at Carolyn.S.Wade@uth.tmc.edu