Distinguished Speaker

Dr. Bruce Watkins, PhD
Professor, Nutrition Department
University of CA at Davis

Metabolomics approach to nutrition for identifying characteristic metabolite features that support healthy aging

Monday 09/12/2016; 12:00-12:50 pm; Human Sciences Bldg. Room 216
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Professor Bruce A. Watkins is a Purdue University Emeritus Professor of Nutrition and adjunct Professor of Anatomy and Cell Biology in the Department of Anatomy and Cell Biology at Indiana University School of Medicine. He is the Editor-in-Chief of Nutrition Research and currently in the Department of Nutrition at the University of California, Davis. He is affiliated with the Center on Aging at the University of Connecticut Health Center. His research emphasis is on endocannabinoids and their actions on cannabinoid receptors. The goal of the research is to understand the functions of the endocannabinoid system in muscle biology, systemic energy metabolism, and aging. These investigations are directed on ligands that may avert dysregulation of the endocannabinoid system to reduce activation of receptors that are associated with obesity and insulin resistance. The paradigm is the study of fatty acids that serve as substrate for ligands and their levels on endocannabinoid signaling. Another area is his work is the study of dietary n-3 polyunsaturated fatty acids (PUFA) in kidney disease. The purpose of this research is to understand the health risks associated with low intakes of n-3 PUFA in hemodialysis patients. Dr. Watkins seminar will describe recent findings on endocannabinoids and glucose sensitivity in muscle, and oxylipin and metabolite analyses in myoblasts, mice, and older adults.