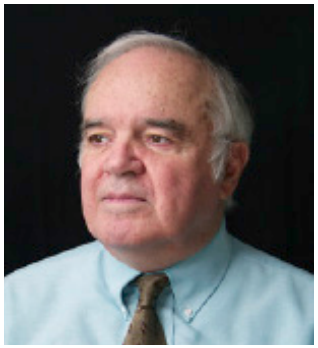

James C. Smith, Ph.D.

After earning his Ph.D. in psychology from Florida State University in 1959, James Smith joined the faculty in the Department of Psychology. Since that time, he has received every award the university has to offer. In 1992, Smith was named a Robert O. Lawton Distinguished Professor, the highest honor faculty members can bestow upon a colleague. The following year, Smith received the University Distinguished Teacher Award honoring his lifetime of teaching excellence. In 2005, the College of Arts and Sciences honored Smith as its Graduate of Distinction.

Smith has also received international recognition for his scientific achievements including the Distinguished Career Award from the Society for the Study of Ingestive Behavior, a National Sigma Xi Lectureship, and the Mozell Award for Outstanding Achievement in the Chemical Senses from the Association for Chemoreception Sciences. In 2011, following 52 years on the Department of Psychology faculty, Smith retired. He is currently a professor emeritus at Florida State University.

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The 14th Annual

JAMES C. SMITH LECTURESHIP SERIES

Presented by the Department of Psychology,
the Program in Neuroscience,
and the College of Arts and Sciences

Friday March 8, 2024

FSU Psychology Building Auditorium

COLLEGE OF
ARTS & SCIENCES

Welcome and
Introductory Remarks . . . . . James J. Clark
Provost and Executive Vice President
for Academic Affairs
Florida State University

Introduction of Speaker . . . . . Alan C. Spector, Ph.D.
Distinguished Research Professor
of Psychology and Neuroscience
Florida State University

The Mesolimbic Dopamine System: Sugar, Spice, and Everything Nice?

Mitchell F. Roitman, Ph.D.
Professor, Department of Psychology
Director, Laboratory of Integrative Neuroscience
Director, Graduate Program in Neuroscience
University of Illinois at Chicago

Dr. Mitchell F. Roitman holds the rank of Professor in the Department of Psychology at the University of Illinois, Chicago. Mitch has been a student of motivated behavior for over 30 years with a focus on taste, reward, ingestive behavior, and mesolimbic circuitry. He applies state-of-the-art techniques to measure and manipulate dopamine processes in the rodent brain and, importantly, links them to behavioral readouts. He is recognized as a world-renowned leader in this research domain. In addition to the funding Mitch has received from various private foundations, his research program has been continuously supported by the National Institutes of Health since he was a postdoctoral fellow. Mitch has received awards for his teaching and has assumed leadership roles in his department, university, and discipline. He currently directs both the undergraduate (through the Laboratory of Integrative Neuroscience) and graduate (through the Graduate Program in Neuroscience) neuroscience programs at UIC. Mitch routinely serves on NIH study sections and served as a member of the program committee for the Society for Neuroscience. He particularly values his affiliation with the Society for the Study of Ingestive Behavior – for which he has previously served as a member of the Board, program chair, and is currently serving as president-elect.

In reflecting on the evolution of his science, Mitch writes: "My interest in the biological basis of behavior was ignited during an undergraduate course in Biological Psychology. That interest grew dramatically when I had the great fortune to knock on the right door and was invited to get involved in the research of Dr. Barbara Strupp (Cornell University). I became sold on learning through doing. A senior year course in Obesity and Body Weight Regulation taught by Dr. David Levitsky led me to seek job opportunities in this subfield. Fortune favored me again when I was hired as a lab tech by Dr. Harvey Grill (University of Pennsylvania). Mentorship from Harvey and Dr. Joel Kaplan felt like I earned my first Ph.D. During those three years I also began a life-long personal and scientific collaboration with another Grill Lab tech – Jamie Donahey. I pursued a doctoral degree at the University of Washington. There, I was introduced to the mesolimbic dopamine system by my dissertation advisor – Dr. Ilene Bernstein. I will be forever grateful to Ilene for supporting my multiple interests in the biological basis of motivated behavior. During my graduate studies, I was heavily influenced by the work of Ann Kelley and Wolfram Schultz and decided that I needed to be able to measure mesolimbic activity in 'real-time'. I adopted this approach to establishing brain-behavior relationships during post-doctoral studies with Drs. Regina Carelli and Mark Wightman (Univ. of North Carolina).

In 2006, I began my independent laboratory at UIC. We continue to pursue an understanding of the mesolimbic dopamine system in adaptive (eating, drinking) and maladaptive (over-eating, drug-taking) motivated behavior – borrowing classic paradigms pioneered by my mentors and other luminaries in the field – especially including Dr. James C. Smith. We layer on state-of-the-art measurements of brain AND behavior to understand real-time processes that are part and parcel of motivation and we also hope that our studies help inform targeted therapeutic strategies. I have had outstanding help from lab members that include undergraduate and graduate students, lab techs, and post-docs.

In addition to building and sustaining programs of research, Jamie and I have built and sustain a family. We are enormously proud of our four (now adult) children. Whenever possible, we enjoy traveling and especially hiking. When travel is not possible, a bottle of wine on our back porch suffices."

The James C. Smith Lectureship Series

Established by a generous gift from Mr. Stan and Mrs. Paula Warmath, long-time friends and associates of James C. Smith, Ph.D., this annual lecture features an invited internationally renowned speaker who is conducting behaviorally oriented research on scientific problems in neuroscience. The Warmaths' gift, combined with continuing donations from other friends, former students, and colleagues, as well as support from the Department of Psychology, the Program in Neuroscience, and the College of Arts and Sciences, provides the opportunity for FSU faculty and students to interact with these distinguished scholars during their visits to campus.

Please consider making a gift so that we can continue honoring Jim properly with this event. The annual lecture series has grown significantly, and as you can imagine, the costs have increased as well. Our goal is to make the James C. Smith Endowment completely self-sustaining. Making a gift to the James C. Smith Lecture Endowment is as easy as a few mouse clicks. Visit https;//artsandsciences.fsu.edu/give, click the "Make a Gift" button, and then search for the James C. Smith Lecture Endowment Fund, code F00397. If you have questions or prefer to send a check, please email Nancy Smilowitz, Assistant Dean of Development at nsmilowi@fsu.edu