



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER™

School of Medicine

Announcement of Executive Director and Chief Scientific Officer – Garrison Institute on Aging Dr. Volker Neugebauer

It is my pleasure to announce the appointment of Volker Neugebauer, M.D., Ph.D. as the new Executive Director and Chief Scientific Officer of the Garrison Institute on Aging, effective immediately. Dr. Neugebauer will continue to serve as Chair of the Department of Pharmacology and Neuroscience.



Dr. Neugebauer earned both a medical doctorate and doctorate of philosophy from the University of Würzburg, Würzburg, Germany, where he went on to complete an internship in neurology and a post-doctoral fellowship in physiology. He completed a second post-doctoral fellowship in pharmacology from the University of Texas Medical Branch (UTMB) in Galveston where he joined the faculty of the medical school. At UTMB he also became a member of the Marine Biomedical Institute and the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences. He earned the rank of Professor with tenure and served as the Director of the Neuroscience Graduate Program and the Vice Chair for the Department of Neuroscience and Cell Biology.

After moving to TTUHSC in 2014, Dr. Neugebauer established a new Center of Excellence for Translational Neuroscience and Therapeutics to bridge basic science and clinical disciplines through scholarly activities. As the Chair of the Department of Pharmacology and Neuroscience he created a pain-alcohol neuroplasticity research group, successfully recruiting several new faculty with emphasis on brain dysfunction in opioid/substance abuse disorders and cross-linked areas of neuroplasticity in epileptogenesis and neurodegenerative disorders.

Dr. Neugebauer's research program, continuously funded by NIH for the past two decades, is focused on synaptic and cellular neuroplastic changes in higher brain functions and dysfunctions. The analysis of emotional-affective and cognitive brain mechanisms of pain centered on the amygdala and cortico-limbic interactions is a key contribution of his work to the field of pain research and neuroscience. Collaborative research projects explore brain mechanisms of neuropsychiatric disorders, alcohol abuse and addiction disorders, comorbidities with depression and anxiety disorders, neurodegenerative disorders, and epileptogenesis. Dr. Neugebauer's team uses state-of-the-art multidisciplinary research approaches. While his own work is dedicated to better treatment strategies for chronic pain conditions to improve quality of life and healthy aging, his expertise in brain research has resulted in collaborative research projects and publications on neurodegenerative disorders including Alzheimer's and Parkinson's. He has been lecturing, mentoring students, and facilitating the development of research and grant applications in the field of neurodegenerative disorders.

Dr. Neugebauer has a proven track record of leading his teams in a positive, nurturing manner consistent with TTUHSC's culture. He will do an excellent job of advancing the mission of the GIA established in 2005 with the generosity of the Garrison family – creation and application of new knowledge about healthy aging through research, innovative interdisciplinary education, and collaborative community outreach efforts. Please join me in congratulating and supporting Dr. Neugebauer in his new role as Executive Director and Chief Scientific Officer of the Garrison Institute on Aging.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Steven Berk M.D.".

Steven L. Berk, M.D.
Executive Vice President and Provost
Dean, School of Medicine