

# 2007-2008 Speaker Series

The Center for Women in Science & Mathematics Speaker Series

## *Potential and Power: Adult Stem Cells in the Human Brain*



**Cathy Levenson, Ph.D.**

Hazel K. Stiebeling Professor  
Nutrition, Food and Exercise Science, and Neuroscience  
Florida State University

**12:45-1:50 p.m.**  
**KRESGE Auditorium**  
**February 12, 2008**

**Abstract:** We now know that the human brain has the capacity to make new neurons, not just in development, as we once thought, but throughout the lifespan. The potential of adult neurogenesis in the fight against neurodegenerative disorders like Alzheimer's and Parkinson's diseases, as well as traumatic brain injury, and psychiatric disorders, is enormous. But how do we unlock this potential? In this presentation, Dr. Cathy Levenson will discuss recent data from her lab showing how diet and genes interact to regulate adult stem cells in the brain and show applications to two important conditions - the development of depression and anxiety, and the recovery from brain injury. Dr. Levenson will also weave a discussion of why one would consider graduate school and women in science into the discussion of some actual research from the lab.

**\*Counts for a  
convocation  
requirement\***



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