

Center for Advanced Study
Thirty-Second Annual Lecture

Building “STRONGer” Kids Through Early Life Nutrition



Sharon Donovan
Center for Advanced Study
Professor of Food Science & Human Nutrition
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Director, Personalized Nutrition Initiative

Wednesday, October 16, 2024
7:00pm

Knight Auditorium, Spurlock Museum
600 South Gregory, Urbana

Dietary intake and environmental exposures in early life are key to establishing trajectories for lifelong health. Childhood overweight and obesity, which affect nearly a third of 2 to 19-year-olds in the U.S., result from a complex interaction of genetic, microbial, nutritional, and physical and social environmental factors. In this presentation, Professor Donovan will discuss insights gathered from the Synergistic Theory and Research on Nutrition and Obesity Group (STRONG) Kids 2 cohort study. STRONG Kids 2 is a transdisciplinary study of 450 families that uses a cells-to-society approach and provides unique insights into how individual biology interacts with the family environment to promote healthy eating habits and growth in young children.

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