Please join us on Thursday, June 25th from 12:00-1:00 pm ET to discuss "Sex/Gender Differences in COVID-19." Dr. Sabra Klein will give us a look at the COVID-19 pandemic as characterized by sex and gender. Dr. Monika Stojek, an Emory SCORE Pilot Awardee, will serve as the moderator.

Dr. Sabra Klein is a Professor of Molecular Microbiology and Immunology at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health. Dr. Klein is currently President of the Organization for the Study of Sex Differences, which is the only scientific society dedicated to uncovering how males and females differ in health and disease. She is also the PI of the Johns Hopkins Specialized Center for Research Excellence (SCORE) in sex and age differences in immunity to influenza. Dr. Klein is a leading expert on sex differences in immune responses and susceptibility to infection and currently has over 100 peer-reviewed publications, authored several book chapters, and edited two books on the broad topics of sex differences in response to infection and treatments for infectious diseases. During the 2009 influenza pandemic, she was commissioned by the WHO to evaluate and publish a report on the impact of sex, gender, and pregnancy on the outcome of influenza virus infection.

The overarching goal of Dr. Klein’s research program is to uncover the mechanisms mediating how males and females differ in their immune responses to viral infection and vaccination. She hypothesizes that genes as well as sex steroids and signaling through sex steroid receptors are critical pathways modulating immune responses to viruses. Her work considers how immunological, hormonal, and genetic differences between males and females affect sex differences in susceptibility to viruses, including influenza viruses.

Dr. Monika Stojek is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at Emory University and a practicing clinical psychologist at the Emory Healthcare Veterans Program. Dr. Stojek’s research interests focus on the influence of broadly defined stress (including trauma) and impulsivity on emotional and physical health.