



**FASEB**

Federation of American Societies  
for Experimental Biology

Science  
Research  
Conferences

## The Mobile DNA Conference: Evolution, Diversity, and Impact

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### Organizer Bio: Steven N. Austad, PhD

*Distinguished Professor and Chair of the Department of Biology, University of Alabama at Birmingham, USA*

Dr. Austad's multiple-award-winning research uses a variety of traditional and nontraditional animal species to discover underlying causes of aging with a long-term goal of developing medical interventions that slow the age-related decay in human health. He directs the University of Alabama at Birmingham's Nathan Shock Center of Excellence in the Basic Biology of Aging and co-directs the Nathan Shock Centers Coordinating Center.

Dr. Austad is the author of five books and more than 200 scientific papers covering nearly every aspect of the biological aging process. He serves as Scientific Director of the American Federation for Aging Research, a New York City-based national nonprofit foundation dedicated to supporting and advancing healthy aging through biomedical research. Additionally, he serves on the External Advisory Committee of the Mayo Clinic's Center on Aging.

Dr. Austad maintains a keen interest in communicating science to the general public. He writes a biweekly science column for *AL.com* and previously served on the Science Advisory Board of National Public Radio and wrote a regular newspaper column for the *San Antonio Express-News* (On Aging). He has consulted with the Oregon Museum of Science and Industry (Portland), the Perot Museum of Nature and Science (Dallas), and the American Museum of Natural History (New York City) for their exhibitions on aging.

Dr. Austad has written popular science articles for numerous publications including *Natural History* magazine, *Scientific American*, *National Wildlife*, and *International Wildlife*. His trade book, *Why We Age* (1997, 1999), has been translated into eight languages. He is currently working on a trade book, *Methuselah's Zoo: the Natural History of Exceptional Longevity* (MIT Press).