In this talk Dr. Rutherford will provide an overview of her work on the human and non-human primate placenta as mechanistic site of intergenerational processes suggested by the Developmental Origins of Health and Disease paradigm. She will outline her longitudinal and intergenerational Womb to Womb program of research in the marmoset monkey, research in a human birth cohort from the Philippines, and other projects that have shaped her view of developmental connectivity across generations.

Dr. Julienne Rutherford (PhD, Indiana Univ.) is associate professor and associate department head in the Department of Women, Children, and Family Health Sciences at the University of Illinois at Chicago College of Nursing. She is a biological anthropologist and comparative placentologist. She studies the role of the placenta in the developmental origins of health and disease in non-human primates and humans as well as evolutionary causes and consequences of human birth complications. She is also part of a four-woman team of bioanthropologists that wrote the foundational SAFE studies, investigating sexual harassment and gender discrimination in field-based sciences.