Dr. Jeffrey Hausdorff  
Director, Center for the Study of Movement, Cognition, and Mobility, Tel Aviv Sourasky Medical Center; Professor, Department of Physical Therapy, Sackler Faculty of Medicine, and Sagol School of Neuroscience, Tel Aviv University; Professor, Rush Alzheimer’s Disease Center and Department of Orthopaedic Surgery at Rush University  

Professor Jeffrey M. Hausdorff (BSE, MSME, PhD) completed his undergraduate degree in engineering at The Cooper Union, graduate degrees at MIT and Boston University, and post-doctoral training at Harvard Medical School. Currently, he directs the Center for the Study of Movement, Cognition, and Mobility at the Tel Aviv Sourasky Medical Center. He is also an associate editor for the Journal of Gerontology Medical Sciences and the Journal of NeuroEngineering and Rehabilitation. Building on his background in biomechanics, biomedical engineering and gerontology, he and his lab have lead pioneering studies on gait variability and the inter-relationships between cognitive function and gait in normal aging and neurodegeneration.

Dr. Karl M. Newell, Barry T. Bates, Honorary Keynote Speaker  
Department of Kinesiology  
University of Georgia  

Dr. Newell was born and raised in Brighton, England. He completed undergraduate studies at the former Loughborough College of Education and graduate degrees in Physical Education at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (UIUC). He was Professor and Head of Kinesiology at UIUC and then Professor and the Marie Underhill Noll Chair in the Department of Kinesiology at The Pennsylvania State University, USA. He is now professor of Kinesiology at the University of Georgia.

His research focuses on the coordination, control and skill of normal and abnormal human movement across the lifespan. One emphasis is the information for and dynamics of change in motor learning and development. The other major research theme is the study of variability in human movement and posture. He has over 400 publications in a range of journal articles, book chapters and books and essentially a career of external funding from primarily NIH and NSF.

Dr. Janet Dufek, Guest Speaker  
School of Allied Health Sciences  
Department of Kinesiology and Nutrition Sciences  

Dr. Janet Dufek received a B.S. in Physical Education and Health Education along with accredited K-12 teaching certifications from the University of Wisconsin-Superior. She obtained a Master’s Degree in Scientific Foundations of
Kinesiology from Illinois State University, and a Ph.D. in Biomechanics from the University of Oregon. She is presently Associate Dean in the School of Allied Health Sciences and Professor in the Department of Kinesiology and Nutrition Sciences at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Dr. Dufek is also Graduate Coordinator for the Ph.D. programs in Kinesiology and Interdisciplinary Health Sciences, and is a Graduate Faculty Fellow in UNLV’s Graduate College. She also holds Associate Graduate Faculty Status in the Department of Mechanical Engineering at UNLV and is an Adjunct Professor in UNLV’s School of Medicine and at the University of Nebraska at Omaha.

Dr. Jesse Dean, Guest Speaker
Division of Physical Therapy
Medical University of South Carolina

Jesse Dean is an Associate Professor in the Division of Physical Therapy at the Medical University of South Carolina, with a research agenda investigating the improvement of functional mobility among individuals with neurological injuries. His current research is primarily focused on post-stroke deficits in gait stability, ranging from the identification of underlying mechanisms to the development of potential therapeutic interventions. Jesse’s work in these areas is based on the combination of his doctoral education in Biomedical Engineering from the University of Michigan, and his post-doctoral work at the Centre for Neuroscience at the University of Alberta.

Dr. Evangelos Christou
Department of Applied Physiology & Kinesiology
University of Florida

Evangelos A Christou, Ph.D. is currently a Professor in the Department of Applied Physiology and Kinesiology at the University of Florida. Dr. Christou directs the Neuromuscular Physiology Laboratory at UF and teaches courses on neuromuscular control and learning. Dr. Christou’s research, focuses on the following basic questions: 1) What are the neural mechanisms that exacerbate motor output variability? 2) What are the functional implications of exacerbated motor output variability? 3) How can we reduce motor output variability and enhance function? Dr. Christou’s research has been funded from the National Institute of Health since 2004. He is currently an associate editor for Frontiers in Physiology, on the Editorial Board of the European Journal of Applied Physiology and Journal of Motor Behavior, and an ad-hoc reviewer for over 20 journals.