

## Speaker Biographies

### **Keynote Speaker**

**Dr. Federico Rodriguez-Porcel, Assistant Professor of Neurology, MUSC  
Movement Disorders Program**

**“I have Parkinson’s Disease: What are my treatment options”**

Federico Rodriguez-Porcel, M.D., is an assistant professor of neurology in the Movement Disorders and Behavioral Neurology Divisions at the Medical University of South Carolina. He obtained his medical degree from Universidad del Salvador in Buenos Aires, Argentina. He completed his internship, and neurology residency at Loyola University Medical Center Chicago, Illinois, where he served as chief resident in his last year. Subsequently, Dr. Rodriguez-Porcel completed separate fellowships in movement disorders and behavioral neurology and neuropsychiatry at the University of Cincinnati. He is board certified by the American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology and board certified for Behavioral Neurology and Neuropsychiatry by the United Council for Neurologic Subspecialties. His areas of interest include cognitive aspects of movement disorders and genetics of neurodegenerative conditions.

**Dr. Travis Turner, Ph.D, Director, Neuropsychology Division, MUSC**

**“I’d rather not go – I don’t think I will enjoy myself enough to make it worth the effort.” Understanding reward prediction errors in Parkinson’s disease and how to address this troublesome phenomenon.**

Travis H. Turner, Ph.D., is Director of the Neuropsychology Division at the Medical University of South Carolina and the Senior Clinical Director of Movement Disorders for VeraSci, Inc. He studied psychology and neuroscience at the University of Pittsburgh and earned his doctorate in clinical psychology through San Diego State University and the University of California, San Diego. He completed clinical internship and postdoctoral training at MUSC and the VAMC in Charleston. He has been working closely with the MUSC Movement Disorders program for over 10 years in both clinical and research settings. He provides neuropsychological evaluations for patients with Parkinson’s disease and related disorders to assist with differential diagnosis, track changes, and provide recommendations for pharmacologic and surgical interventions. His research

program is focused on developing new ways to measure and treat cognitive deficits in Parkinson's disease. In his work for VeraSci, he designs multicenter clinical trials of novel therapeutic and disease modifying agents for Parkinson's disease. He is an active member of the Parkinson's Foundation, Parkinson's Study Group, and the Movement Disorders Society. When he's not working, he enjoys fishing, building furniture, traveling, and spending time with his family.

**Bill Furlow, Furlow Communications**  
**"Caregiving 101"**

In his working days, Bill Furlow had 2 ¼ careers. The first career was as a journalist and newspaper executive, primarily with the Los Angeles Times. After leaving the Times in 1995, he operated a crisis and strategic communications consulting business for 25 years. The one-quarter career came about when Bill and his wife Davilynn, in 2005, decided to leave California after 28 years and move to the historic river town of Natchez, Mississippi and while there opened a coffee bar. When Davilynn began having symptoms that appeared to be Parkinson's Disease in 2012, the Furlows moved to Greensboro, NC for better health care. Soon thereafter Davilynn's diagnosis was changed to PSP (progressive supranuclear palsy), a rare and debilitating neurological disorder. She died in May 2019. Along the way, Bill decided that when this time of his life came, he wanted to use his experience as a caregiver and as a writer and public speaker to help ease the way of others who are called upon to take care of loved ones. He tries to help caregivers see their roles as critically important callings and shares insights into handling the everyday challenges of learning patience, setting priorities, and building a support team.