David I. Watkins, PhD, To Present Special Seminar on March 7

David I. Watkins, PhD, professor and vice chair for research in the Department of Pathology at the University of Miami Leonard M. Miller School of Medicine, will deliver a special seminar, “Vaccines and Treatments for HIV, Dengue, and Zika,” at noon on Monday, March 7, in Scaife Hall, Lecture Room 6. The seminar is sponsored by the Center for Vaccine Research and the Department of Microbiology and Molecular Genetics, School of Medicine, and cohosted by Thomas Smithgall, PhD, William S. McEllroy Professor of Biochemistry and chair of microbiology and molecular genetics; and Patrick Moore, MD, MPH, Pittsburgh Foundation Professor of Innovative Cancer Research and Distinguished Professor of Microbiology and Molecular Genetics.

Dr. Watkins, who has a secondary appointment in cell biology, seeks to further our understanding of the relationship between the immune system and pathogens. He is exploring the use of yellow fever, rDNA, and other mechanisms as vectors for HIV vaccine development and is researching if vaccine-induced CD8 T cells prevent chronic phase HIV replication, among other topics.

Dr. Watkins received his bachelor’s degree in botany and zoology from the University of Durham, England, and his PhD in immunology in 1985 from the University of Rochester, where he completed a postdoctoral fellowship. He then completed a research fellowship in medicine at Harvard Medical School. Dr. Watkins became a fellow of the American Academy of Microbiology in 2015.