The Obesity Forum: 
What’s the Big Idea? 
VRA Award, Cycle 2015

What We Do:
• Bring together a transdisciplinary group of experts across all the Vanderbilt campuses addressing obesity to identify novel ideas to advance the field of obesity discovery and improve health in populations.

Why We Do It:
• Two out of three adults are overweight or obese, and many go on to have common chronic complications such as Type 2 Diabetes, cardiovascular disease and cancer.
• Obesity is a heterogeneous condition, with some people who exhibit the chronic conditions and others who do not. Understanding how obesity affects health and functioning in society as well as how to intervene and evaluate our effectiveness is critical.

Who’s Involved?

School of Medicine
Shari Barkin (PI), Professor of Pediatrics

College of Arts & Science
David Schlundt, Associate Professor of Psychology

Peabody College
Carol Nixon, Research Assistant Professor, Department of Human & Organizational Development
Sharon Shields, Associate Dean for Professional Education

Law School
Jennifer Shinall, Assistant Professor of Law

Owen School of Management
Kelly Haws, Associate Professor of Marketing