Abstract:
Dr. Willer uses and develops a variety of genomic technologies and statistical and bioinformatics approaches to identify genetic variants that play a role in human health, with a focus on cardiometabolic diseases. Dr. Willer is a co-Principal Investigator of the Global Lipids Genetics Consortium, a global partnership of hundreds of participating studies totaling over 1m study subjects. She will describe the results, with a focus on clinical implications, of two recent exome-wide studies in 300,000 Europeans and 48,000 East Asian individuals. She has also recently identified variants near GATA4 associated with a congenital heart defect, bicuspid aortic valve. She will also describe efforts to map variants for atrial fibrillation and the impact on our understanding of how atrial fibrillation develops.