

# Speaker's Biosketch

ICoLA 2024

## **Helen Collins (University of Louisville, USA)**

Dr. Helen E. Collins received both her BSc (Hons) degree in Biological Sciences in 2006 and her PhD focused on diurnal variation in cardiac excitation-contraction coupling in 2011 from the University of Leicester in England. In 2012, she joined the laboratory of Dr. John Chatham at the University of Alabama in Birmingham (UAB) as a postdoctoral fellow to elucidate the role of STIM1 in the adult heart. While there, she collaborated on studies on the circadian clock in the cardiomyocyte with Drs. Jianhua Zhang and Martin Young. In 2019, Dr. Collins joined the University of Louisville as an Assistant Professor in the Division of Environmental Medicine in the Center for Cardiometabolic Science. Dr. Collins' laboratory focuses on understanding the mechanisms contributing to female cardiovascular health and resilience in the setting of physiological and pathological stressors, such as during pregnancy and in the setting of myocardial infarction. Currently, NIH-funded studies in the Collins lab focus on understanding the metabolic mechanisms contributing to pregnancy-induced cardiac growth and its reversal. As a faculty member, Dr. Collins has received several awards, including a New Investigator award from the Cardiovascular Section of the American Physiological Society, an AHA Live fierce award, and became a fellow of the American Heart Association. She is also active with many scientific societies, such as the Society for Heart and Vascular Metabolism, where she was an executive board member between 2019–2023. In 2024, she joined the Early Career Committee of the International Society for Heart Research. She also is currently serving on the Editorial Board of the *American Journal of Physiology-Heart and Circulatory* and is an Early Career Editorial Board member for *Circulation Research*.