TOPIC:
Parasites and Poverty
Monday, Jan. 27, 2020 • 12:00 – 1:00 pm
Location: First Floor New Guyton Library (G151-01)

Objectives:
1. Learners will be able to describe the risks factors associated with parasitic diseases of poverty
2. Learners will be able to discuss history of these diseases in Mississippi
3. Learners will cite current projects to identify and source remediate these diseases

Dr. Charlotte Hobbs is a pediatrician and malariologist who joined University of Mississippi Medical Center in 2015 from the Laboratory of Malaria Immunology and Vaccinology at the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID). Dr. Hobbs completed her fellowship in Pediatric Infectious Disease at New York University/Langone Medical Center and Bellevue Hospital in New York, NY. During her fellowship, interest in parasitology and global health led her to work in a lab at Cornell University on a malaria vaccine candidate. After fellowship, continued on at NYU as junior faculty in Pediatrics and Medical Parasitology at which point she undertook researching the antimalarial activity of HIV drugs on liver stage malaria through a Center for AIDS Research (CFAR) award. Dr. Hobbs was then awarded a position in NIAID’s Transition Program in Clinical Research as an Assistant Clinical Investigator in the Laboratory for Malaria Immunology and Vaccinology. During her 5 years at the NIH, she established a truly translational research program, having investigated the immunological and pharmacological effects of HIV drugs in animal and in vitro models of malaria infection as well as through clinical studies in Lilongwe, Malawi and Rakai District, Uganda.

Currently, she continues work in this vein in an effort to elucidate the mechanism of HIV PI malaria parasite killing with collaborators at NIH. In parallel to this work, Dr. Hobbs has been working in Mississippi with CDC funding, surveying children for soil-transmitted helminth infections. Dr. Hobbs continues her work with the desire to improve the health of the world’s most disadvantaged children, from Africa to our own backyard.