Dr. Gary W. Arendash received his doctoral training at the University of California, San Francisco Medical Center, specializing in Physiology and Neuroscience. He then went to the UCLA Brain Research Institute, where he resided for a 3-year post-doctoral fellowship. Thereafter, he joined the USF Department of Biology faculty, where he eventually became a Full Professor. Several years ago, Dr. Arendash became a Research Professor at USF and the FADRC. As such, he has been able to devote 100% of his effort to research. Dr. Arendash serves on the editorial board for several journals, including the Journal of Alzheimer’s Disease.

As Director of the FADRC’s Mouse Core, Dr. Arendash oversees a Core that has established itself as pre-eminent in the field of behavioral assessment of transgenic mouse models for Alzheimer’s Disease (AD). Since its inception with the FADRC in April, 2005, the Core has published over 20 peer-reviewed papers involving behavioral characterization of various AD mouse models and their use in developing therapeutics to protect against and/or treat AD. In analyzing behavioral data from multiple cognitive-based tasks, the Core has pioneered both higher levels statistical analysis and data mining approaches (e.g., artificial neural nets) —all of which provide a very sensitive assessment of behavioral performance in AD transgenic mice.

Dr. Arendash’s primary goal is to develop effective, safe, and readily available therapeutics in his AD mouse models that can be quickly advanced to clinical trials. This “translational” goal of bridging the gap between basic and clinical AD research offers the best hope of finding an effective therapeutic against AD. Dr. Arendash’s research efforts involve extensive collaborations with researchers throughout USF, Florida, the United States, and the world. As a research enterprise without walls, the FADRC Mouse Core, Dr. Arendash’s laboratory, and associated expert collaborators provide the scope of multi-disciplinary research that could be key to unlocking the mysteries of AD and finding an effective therapeutic.