Dr. Jonsson is a Professor and is the Harriet Van Vleet Chair of Excellence in Virology, Director of the Regional Biocontainment Laboratory (RBL), and Director of the Institute for the Study of Host-Pathogen Systems at the University of Tennessee Health Sciences Center (UTHSC) in Memphis. She is the program director for the NIH awarded Center of Excellence for Encephalitic Alphavirus Therapeutics. She has over 30 years of experience in the study of highly pathogenic human viruses represented in more than 167 publications and 6 patents. Her research program focuses on basic and translational research targeting respiratory, encephalitic, and hemorrhagic fever viruses. She brings a unique blend of professional experience and leadership skills gained from her positions over the past 35 years in industry, academics, and not-for-profit institutes. She has led several cross-institutional, multi-disciplinary research programs, which have included international partners in eastern Europe, Central and South American funded by PAHO, NIH, DoD, DTRA and NSF.