

# 20 Genetics & Epigenetics 22 Career Symposium

Genetics and Epigenetics Graduate Program  
MD Anderson UTHealth Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences  
Cooley Center, Houston • May 20, 2022

- 8:30 – 9:00a **Registration**
- 9:00 – 9:10a **Welcome**, G&E Co-Director, Francesca Cole, PhD and Symposium Co-Chair, Mabel Perez-Oquendo
- 9:10 – 10:10a **Keynote Lecture #1**  
**“Single-cell technologies and cell atlas construction for major human organs”**  
*Kun Zhang, PhD, Professor of Bioengineering, University of California, San Diego and Co-Founder & Scientific Advisor, Singlera Genomics, La Jolla, CA*
- 10:20 – 11:20a **Breakout Session I**
- #1: Fellowships and Training Grants: What is Out There and How Do I Get One?**  
*Raquel Ybanez Salinas<sup>1</sup>, PhD, Director Student Affairs & Career Development, Andrea Stavoe<sup>2</sup>, PhD, Assistant Professor and Rhiannon Morrissey<sup>3</sup>, GSBS Graduate Student*
- #2: Job Skills: Preparing for Interviews & Negotiation Skills**  
*Brittany C. Parker Kerrigan<sup>3</sup>, PhD, Associate Director, Research Planning & Development and Ryan Udan<sup>3</sup>, PhD, Director of Office of Postdoctoral Affairs*
- #3: Using a Postdoc as a Launchpad for Your Career**  
*Samantha Fix<sup>3</sup>, PhD, Scientist-Cell Therapy Manufacturing Facility, Lisandra Vila-Ellis<sup>3</sup>, PhD, Research Scientist, and Evelin Young<sup>4</sup>, PhD, Director of the Office of Postdoctoral Affairs*
- #4: Coffee with Dr. Kun Zhang**, morning keynote speaker
- 11:30 – 12:30p **Workshop #1: Making Effective Figures for Publications**  
Presentation and hands-on activity in small groups  
*Jeanie F. Woodruff, BS, ELS, Senior Scientific Medical Editor/Writer, Scientific Publications, Texas Heart Institute, Houston*
- 12:30 – 1:30p **Lunch**
- 1:30 – 2:30p **Breakout Session II**
- #1: Career Exploration** [Panel and small group discussions with individual panelists]  
*Debabrata Das<sup>3</sup>, PhD, Research Instructor, Anadulce Hernández<sup>4</sup>, PhD, Scientific Project Manager, Rhea Kang<sup>5</sup>, PhD, Scientist III and Amber Thomas-Gordon<sup>6</sup>, MS, Clinical Research Manager*
- #2: Maximizing Your Social Media Network**  
*Molly Adams<sup>3</sup>, Sr. Communications Specialist, Carolina García García<sup>3</sup>, GSBS Graduate Student, Rachel Miller<sup>2</sup>, PhD, Associate Professor*
- #3: Academic Lectures: How to Teach a Subject Rather Than Just Present Your Data**  
*Awdesh Kalia<sup>3</sup>, PhD, Professor, School for Health Professions, Lindsey Minter<sup>4</sup>, PhD, Principal-Career Services and Matt Blank<sup>7</sup>, PhD, Assistant Dean & Assistant Professor*
- 2:45 – 3:45p **Workshop #2: Elevating Your Oral Presentation Skills**  
Presentation and interactive group activities. Choose one of three topics:
- **Chalk Talks:** Swathi Arur<sup>3</sup>, PhD, Associate Professor, Genetics
  - **Platform Talks:** Michael Galko<sup>3</sup>, PhD, Professor, Genetics
  - **Flash Talks:** Tamara Laskowski<sup>8</sup>, PhD, Senior Director & Head of Clinical Development
- 4:00 – 5:00p **Keynote Lecture #2**  
**“Wnt signaling, neural A/P-patterning, and an accidental Developmental Biologist”**  
*Arne C. Lekven, PhD, Professor, Department of Biology and Biochemistry, University of Houston*
- 5:00 – 6:00p **Closing Remarks & Reception**  
*Symposium Co-Chairs, Celine Kong and Jace Aloway*

<sup>1</sup> GSBS

<sup>2</sup> McGovern Medical School

<sup>3</sup> MD Anderson

<sup>4</sup> Baylor College of Medicine

<sup>5</sup> Luminex

<sup>6</sup> WCG ThreeWire

<sup>7</sup> Houston Baptist University

<sup>8</sup> Lonza Global