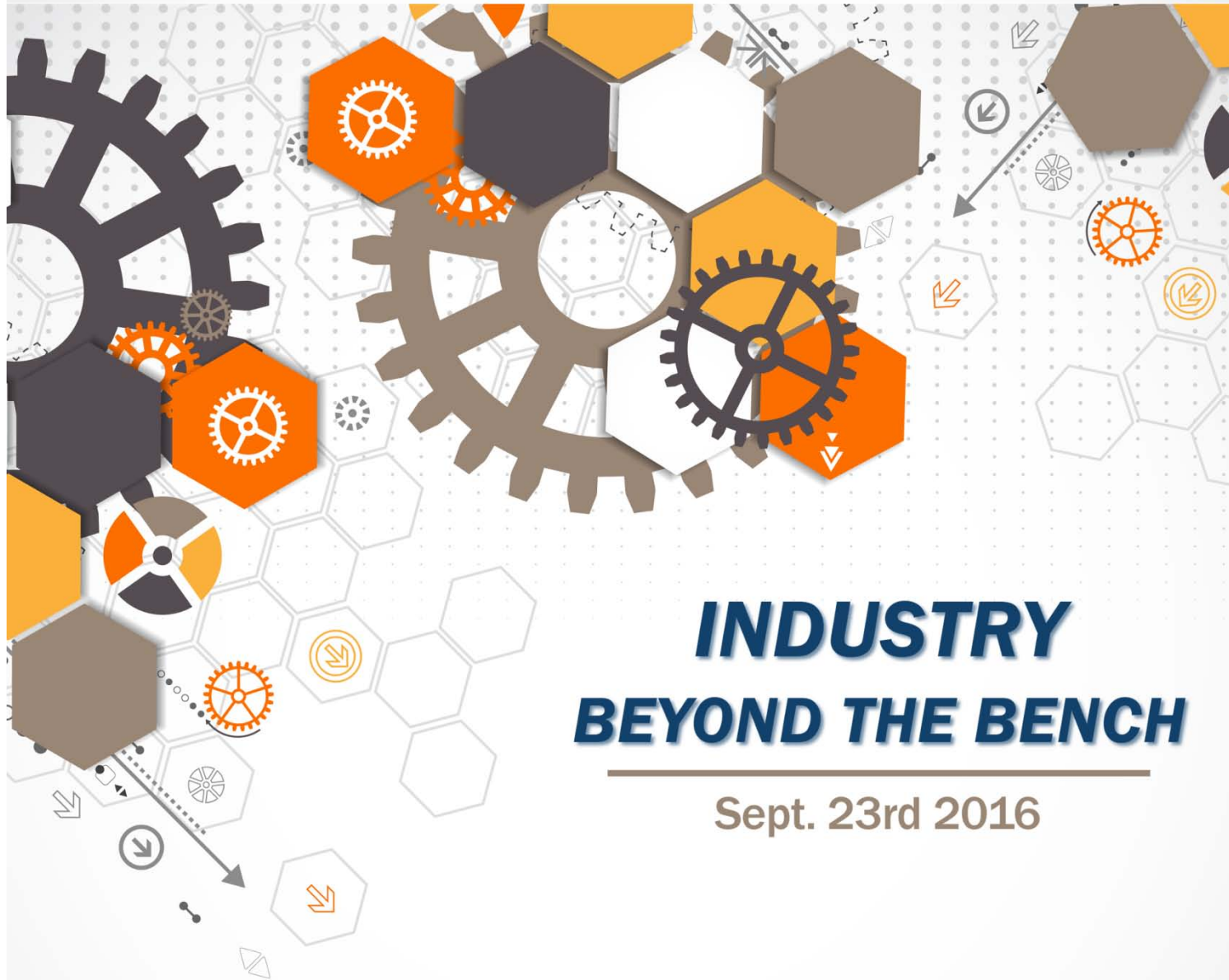


ISMMS
7th Annual

Postdoc Symposium



INDUSTRY BEYOND THE BENCH

Sept. 23rd 2016

Keynote Speaker: Dr. Lana Skirboll

*Vice President of Science Policy at Sanofi
and former Director of Science Policy at the NIH*

Plenary Speaker: Dr. Joanne Kamens

Executive Director of Addgene



[Register Now!](#)

7th Annual ISMMS Postdoctoral Symposium

Theme: *Industry: Beyond the Bench*

Date: Friday, September 23

**Venue: Davis Auditorium, Leon and Norma Hess Center for Science and Medicine,
1470 Madison Ave, New York, NY 10029**

Morning Session:

- 8:30-9:25am *Registration and breakfast*
- 9:25-9:30am Introduction
- 9:30-10:30am Plenary lecture
Dr. Joanne Kamens, PhD, Executive Director, Addgene
Title: “Grab the Bull by the Horns – First steps to a fulfilling career in science”
- 10:30-11:00am Robin Chemers Neustein Fellowship awardee presentations
Dr. Lara Manganaro, PhD, and Dr. Helene Salmon, PhD
- 11:00-11:30am *Coffee break*
- 11:30am-12:00pm Data blitz presentations
- 12:00-1:00pm Keynote lecture
Dr. Lana Skirboll, PhD, Vice President of Science Policy at Sanofi,
Former Director of Science Policy at National Institutes of Health
Title: “The Road Not Taken”

Afternoon Session:

- 4:00-5:00pm Industry Panel Discussion
Dr. Robert DeVita, PhD, Professor and Director of Medicinal Chemistry (ISMMS), Previous Director of Medicinal Chemistry at Merck
Dr. Erin Girard, PhD, Director of Engineering for Robotic Imaging and Therapy at Siemens Healthcare
Dr. Nina Tandon, PhD, CEO and Co-founder of EpiBone
Dr. Vesna Todorovic, PhD, Associate Editor at Nature Communications
- 5:00-7:00pm: *Networking Reception*



Want to Improve Your Networking Skills?

Join us for a networking workshop “*Networking: Conquering Your Fear and Making the Most of it*” on **Wednesday, September 21 from 12:00-1:00pm** in Annenberg 20-01. The workshop, given by Dr. Ellie Schmelzer (Director of ISMMS Career Services & Strategy), will aim to provide definitions and tips on networking. It will also prepare the audience for a networking event by providing exercises of analyzing a networking environment and practicing introductions.

[RSVP for the Postdoc Day Networking Prep](#)

Dr. Schmelzer will also have (15 minute/slot) walk-in hours (Annenberg 5-206J):

- Tuesday, September 20th from 11am until noon
- Wednesday, September 21st from 2pm until 3pm
- Thursday, September 22nd from 10am until 11am

ISMMS 2016 Postdoc Symposium Speaker Bios (alphabetical)



Dr. Robert J. DeVita, PhD, is a Professor at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mt. Sinai in the Departments of Pharmacology and Systems Therapeutics and Structural and Chemical Biology. He is also the Director of Medicinal Chemistry for the Experimental Therapeutics Institute (ETI). Prior to joining Mt. Sinai in 2014, Dr. DeVita gained expertise managing multi-disciplinary teams that delivered on key program objectives for complex molecular targets. He has over 25 years' experience working in biotech (VP of Chemistry at Agios) and the pharmaceutical industry at Merck Research Laboratories, where he was a Director of Medicinal Chemistry from 2004-2012. He was trained as an organic synthetic chemist, earning his Ph.D. at the University of Rochester followed by a National Science Foundation postdoctoral fellowship at the University of Geneva. He started his professional career at Merck in 1990.

Dr. DeVita has been an active member of the Medicinal Chemistry Division of the American Chemical Society serving on the Long Range Planning Committee and on the organizing committees for National and International Medicinal Chemistry Meetings. He has served as an Ad Hoc Reviewer for the National



Institutes of Health Study Section for Synthetic and Biological Chemistry (Section B) and National Institute of Diabetes, Digestive and Kidney Diseases. He also consults for academic, biotech, legal, and venture capital clients.



Dr. Erin Girard, PhD, is newly positioned as the Director of Engineering for Robotic Imaging and Therapy at Siemens Healthcare in Princeton, NJ. She is charged with building the exciting Robotic Imaging and Therapy team in collaboration with the expert teams in computer vision and artificial intelligence at Siemens. Erin has been with Siemens for 5 years as a research collaboration manager in the Angiography and Therapy division. She has brought many prototypes to clinical use, such as Coronary Total Occlusion, Aortic Valve Guidance, EP (electrophysiology) Suite, and most recently, Echo X-ray Fusion, and in doing so has built many key relationships with clinicians across the country. Before Siemens, Erin completed her PhD at Stanford with Rebecca Fahrig, where she worked on image quality and cardiac applications for C-arm CT. At the University of Virginia, she completed her BS and MS with a thesis on automated image segmentation and detection of sleep apnea using ultrasound. During her graduate work, Erin dabbled in a startup developing a therapeutic ultrasound system to zap cellulite. She has also worked at the Riverside Research Institute in NYC, Vital Images Inc., and had an NSF research fellowship to work with Dr. Joachim Hornegger at the University of Erlangen in Germany. Most off path, she taught 1st grade at the Munich International School for a year after completing her MS, because engineers are qualified to teach first graders (maybe).



Dr. Joanne Kamens, PhD, is the Executive Director of Addgene, a mission driven, nonprofit dedicated to helping scientists around the world share useful research reagents and data. Dr. Kamens received her PhD in Genetics from Harvard Medical School then spent 15 years as a researcher and manager in Pharma at BASF/Abbott working on both small molecule and antibody therapies for immune disease. In 2007, she joined RXi Pharmaceuticals as Senior Director of Research Collaborations. Dr. Kamens founded the current Boston chapter of the Association for Women in Science. In 2010, Dr. Kamens received the Catalyst Award from the Science Club for Girls for longstanding dedication to empowering women in STEM. In



2013, she was named one of PharmaVoice's 100 Most Inspiring Commanders & Chiefs. Dr. Kamens serves on a number of other nonprofit boards and speaks widely on open science, diversity and science career development topics.



Dr. Lana Skirboll, PhD, is Vice President of Academic and Scientific Affairs at Sanofi, where she works on building academic relationships and science and regulatory policy issues of importance to innovation, including biosimilars, data sharing/transparency, big data/ real world evidence, informed consent, human samples, expanded access, biomarkers, public-private partnerships. Dr. Skirboll is also exploring relationships between academic institutions and industry, including areas of policy convergence and training. She formerly served as Director of Science Policy at the National Institutes of Health (NIH), where she and her team were responsible for identifying policy issues relevant to the support and conduct of research, and analyzing, recommending, and creating new policies that advanced the interest of the NIH. These included human subject protections, the privacy and confidentiality of research records, conflicts of interest, human embryo research, cloning and fetal tissue research, genetics, health, and society, dual use research, gene therapy and nanotechnology, comparative effectiveness research, and personalized medicine. Dr. Skirboll was trained in Pharmacology and Neuroscience. She completed her Ph.D. at Georgetown University Medical School (Washington, DC), followed by postdoctoral work and research positions at Yale University (New Haven, CT), the Karolinska Institute (Stockholm, Sweden), and the National Institute of Mental Health (Bethesda, MD). She is the author of more than 70 peer reviewed scientific publications. Lana is married to Leonard Taylor and has two children. She was born in Baltimore and just returned to the city after 40 years wandering in distant lands – from DC to Stockholm.





Dr. Nina Tandon, PhD, is CEO and co-founder of EpiBone, the world's first company growing living human bones for skeletal reconstruction. She is the co-author of *Super Cells: Building with Biology*, a book that explores the new frontier of biotech. She is a TED Senior Fellow, Adjunct Professor of Electrical Engineering at the Cooper Union, and a former Staff Associate Postdoctoral Researcher in the Laboratory for Stem Cells and Tissue Engineering at Columbia University. She has a Bachelor's in Electrical Engineering from the Cooper Union, a Master's in Bioelectrical Engineering from MIT, a Ph.D. in Biomedical Engineering, and an MBA from Columbia University. Her Ph.D. research focused on studying electrical signaling in the context of tissue engineering, and she has worked with cardiac, skin, bone, and neural tissue.



Dr. Vesna Todorovic, PhD, has been an Associate Editor at Nature Communications since April 2014. She handles research manuscripts on cardiovascular development, regeneration, and disease. Dr. Todorovic earned her PhD in molecular biology from the University of Belgrade, Serbia, and the International Centre for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology in Trieste, Italy, for work on human origins of DNA replication. In 2001, Dr. Todorovic moved to New York University School of Medicine where she worked first as a postdoctoral fellow and subsequently as a faculty member of the Department of Cell Biology. While at NYU, Dr. Todorovic's research interests included studies of TGF β bioavailability and activity during mouse development and in disease. In 2012, Dr. Todorovic moved to the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai where she studied novel molecular pathways involved in the development and progression of aortic aneurysm in mouse models of Marfan syndrome.

