

2021 BME ALUMNI CONNECT

NOVEMBER 1-5
12-1 PM EACH DAY



Join us for an exciting week of speakers from a variety of professional sectors including medicine, industry, academia, and more!

UF | UNIVERSITY of FLORIDA

J. Crayton Pruitt Family Department of Biomedical Engineering

ENGINEERS *for* LIFE.

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

Monday: David A. Santamaria President/CEO of MSHS Group



David A. Santamaria graduated from the University of Florida's Biomedical Engineering program in 1999, with a B.Sc. in Engineering Science. After graduating from UF, he pursued roles in Sales and Marketing with Arrow Electronics (NYSE: ARW), a global electronics distributor. During his tenure at Arrow Electronics, he led sales, marketing, and supply chain teams in the US and Mexico. Upon returning to the US, he entered the energy and marine sector leading a privately held business that served marine vessels and power plants serving reciprocating and rotating equipment. Over the last ten years, he has worked in public-traded companies Wartsila (NYSE: WRTBY) and EnPro Industries (NYSE: NPO) in senior and executive roles and in functional and business corporate roles. David is currently serving as President and CEO of a mid-market, private equity-backed company serving marine and energy sectors - Motor Services Hugo Stamp, Inc. (MSHS). Over the last ten years, he has focused in leading strategy and transformational change.



Friday: Dr. Chelsea Magin Assistant Professor in Bioengineering- UC Denver

Dr. Magin is the Principal Investigator of the Bio-inspired Pulmonary Engineering Laboratory at the University of Colorado, Denver | Anschutz Medical Campus. Her team develops bio-inspired, engineered cell culture platforms that precisely and consistently recapitulate the dynamic extracellular microenvironment and complex 3D micro-architecture of lung tissue. These bioengineered models enable her team to study lung disease and regeneration. Dr. Magin has extensive experience in the conception, development and translation of medical devices into commercial products. As the Director of Product Development for Sharklet Technologies, Inc. she led a research and development team that designed medical devices that use the Sharklet surface texture to control biological adhesion. Dr. Magin earned her BS with highest distinction in Materials Science and Engineering from the University of Florida in 2006 with internship experience at Kimberly-Clark Corporation. This was followed by an MS and PhD in Biomedical Engineering from the University of Florida with Dr. Anthony Brennan in 2008 and 2010, respectively. Her doctoral research focused on developing biomaterials to control adhesion of both marine fouling organisms and mammalian cells. During her graduate work Dr. Magin was both a University of Florida Alumni Fellow and a Clare-Booth Luce Graduate Fellow. She also completed a NIH Postdoctoral Fellowship at the University of Colorado, Boulder in the Anseth Research Group where she developed user-controlled, dynamically tunable biomaterials to study mesenchymal stem cell differentiation, and the progression of heart disease in a valvular interstitial cell model.

PANELISTS

TUESDAY

Emily Mills & Nik Agarwal



Dr. Mills has a diverse background including work in medical devices, preclinical and government research, system evaluations, and project management. Since completing her doctorate at the University of Florida, she has led numerous research projects supporting the U.S. Air Force School of Aerospace Medicine, Air Force Research Laboratory's 711th Human Performance Wing, and the Naval Medical Research Unit Dayton. Her work focuses on military human performance including post-injury training programs, causal mechanisms of aviator neck and back pain, biomechanical effects of cognitive workload, and evaluating new biomechanical systems for military use. Dr. Mills looks forward to sharing her experiences and knowledge gained working as a biomedical engineer in a government setting.

Nik completed his MS in Biomedical Engineering at UF, conducting his thesis work under Dr. Keselowsky's guidance. His master's research was focused on high throughput screening of dendritic cell responses using drug-loaded PLGA microparticles for type 1 diabetes. Dr. Keselowsky's lab was instrumental in his choice to continue his education and pursue a PhD, joining Dr. Schmidt's lab for his Ph.D. program. His doctoral research was focused on controlled, localized, and sustained delivery of therapeutics using novel biomaterial systems for nerve regeneration following spinal cord injury. While pursuing his PhD, Nik accepted an opportunity to gain industry experience with Axogen, accepting a position with them after graduating. At Axogen, Nik has been involved in multiple projects which include new product development, process improvements, and providing support for the existing line of products.



WEDNESDAY

Monique Goldsmith & Brian Nazareth



Monique is a Research & Development Engineer at Cordis in Miami, Florida. She works on the design and development of cardiovascular and endovascular devices. Prior to moving to Miami she lived in North Carolina working for a Biotechnology Consulting company which involved a lot of travel and working with companies of various sizes and disciplines. Before working in industry she graduated from the University of Florida with a Bachelors of Science in Biomedical Engineering and from Duke with a Masters of Science in Biomedical Engineering. While in school her research was focused on biomechanics.

Brian graduated with a BS in BME from UF in 2018 and is currently a medical student at Boston University School of Medicine. His biomedical engineering background is focused on neural and cellular engineering and he has translational research experience in neuro-oncology and immunology. He plans to work as a clinician-researcher to care for patients and address impactful research problems.



THURSDAY

Nicholas Morrell & Michaela McCrary



Nick Morrell is an engineer passionate about improving our healthcare system. Since graduating from UF BME with his Master's in 2014, he has worked with teams building software to address challenges for clinicians and patients in inpatient therapy, home health, chronic conditions management, and medication benefits. Currently, Nick is building a software platform for empowering parents to better understand their children on the autism spectrum. Nick lives in Virginia with his wife and 4 children.

Michaela McCrary, Ph.D., is a technology transfer manager at the National Cancer Institute's Technology Transfer Center (TTC). The TTC enables and guides collaboration, invention development and licensing for NCI and nine other NIH institutes and centers to advance today's discoveries into tomorrow's medical care. In this role, Michaela negotiates technology transfer agreements, aids in invention reporting and analysis, licenses NCI technologies, and facilitates research collaborations between NCI and national/international partners. Since starting at TTC in 2020, she has gained valuable experience in federal technology transfer and a unique viewpoint on the biotechnology field. Prior to joining TTC, Michaela received a B.S. in biomedical engineering from the University of Arkansas in 2015 and a Ph.D. in biomedical engineering from the University of Florida in 2020. After receiving her Ph.D., Michaela chose to pursue a career in technology transfer to play an active role in translation of life-changing research and technologies from the bench to their end goal of improving human health.

