

# BIOENGINEERING

PRESENTS

## **ImmuNOtherapy Engineered**



THURSDAY, MAY 12, 2016

1:00 PM – 2:00 PM

2101 ENGINEERING V

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### **ABSTRACT:**

It is assumed that immunotherapy aims to harness the body's own immune system to fight diseases (e.g., therapeutic or prophylactic vaccines, passive immunotherapy, etc.). We are currently witnessing a fascinating process of history-in-the-making with the successful application of immunology-based therapy against cancer. However, these events are not just the result of our capacity of harnessing the body's own immune system per se. Instead, this is the product of our better understanding of the complex dynamic of the immune system and the creative engineering capabilities imposed to molecular and/or cellular components of the immune system. We are going from the discovery of novel disease-altering immune-related targets and effector molecules to the sophisticated engineering process of them in order to truly harness the potential of the immune system with increased specificity and minimal undesired complications for the patients.

### **BIOGRAPHY:**

**Dr. Hermes J. Garbán** is a Venezuelan born Physician-Scientist who earned his Medical Doctor degree from the Central University of Venezuela in 1992 and his Ph.D. from the Department of Microbiology, Immunology and Molecular Genetics at the University of California, Los Angeles in 2000. He joined the laboratory of Dr. Louis Ignarro (Nobel Prize for Physiology and Medicine, 1998) as a post-Doctoral fellow and later as an Assistant Professor. Dr. Garbán was recruited as Assistant Professor in the Department of Surgery, Division of Surgical Oncology and the Department of Medicine, Division of Dermatology at Harbor-UCLA Medical Center and then as Associate Professor at the Department of Medicine, Division of Dermatology at the UCLA School of Medicine. Currently, Dr. Garbán is the Head of Therapeutic Antibody Discovery at NantBioscience, Inc./NantWorks, LLC, Principal Investigator at the California Nanosystems Institute (CnSI) at UCLA and the Clinical and Translational Science Institute at UCLA (CTSI-UCLA).