



Press Release

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J. Keith Joung to Keynote:

Advancing Drug Discovery Through Genome Engineering:
Technologies & Applications in Stem Cells & Other Model Systems
May 20, 2015, Merck Research Laboratories, Boston

(Tinton Falls, NJ) Dr. J. Keith Joung, a leader in the explosive growth of CRISPR/Cas genome editing tools, keynotes the upcoming conference Advancing Drug Discovery through Genome Engineering on Wednesday, May 20, 2015, hosted by Merck Research Laboratories in Boston.

The agenda includes thought leaders from industry and academia and will be chaired by Dr. Michele Cleary, Executive Director of Genetics and Pharmacogenomics at Merck. It is an opportunity for researchers to stimulate collaborations and partnerships.

"Emerging tools for genome editing are opening many exciting pathways to understanding biological mechanisms, learning how to address disease phenotypes, and creating models for new therapies," says Dr. Cleary.

"Our hope with this conference," she continues, "is that potential partners and colleagues from across the entire biomedical research community will come and share their knowledge and goals. By building relationships with other companies and academic organizations, we aim to achieve progress that will enable all of us and accelerate the process of addressing unmet medical needs."

In addition to Dr. Joung, presenters include Dr. Chad Cowan, Ph.D., Associate Professor at the Harvard University Department of Stem Cell & Regenerative Biology, and Winston X. Yan, the Paul & Daisy Soros Fellow in the research group of Feng Zhang at Broad Institute/MIT. Suzanne Hibbs, Senior R & D Scientist at Sigma-Aldrich, will present work that is already helping researchers in pharmaceutical and academic labs.

The BioPharma Research Council (BRC) offers this symposium as part of its mission to foster partnerships throughout the many silos of biomedical research. Founded in 2009, the BRC is a nonprofit association for scientists in industry, academic, nonprofit, government, and supplier labs and their teams.
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