2015 NJ SYMPOSIUM
ON BIOMATERIALS SCIENCE
"THE PROMISE AND CHALLENGE OF BIOACTIVE MATERIALS"

Featured Speaker Series

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Christopher S. Chen, MD, PhD,
Boston University,
Department of Biomedical Engineering

Bioactive Materials to Engineer Mechanotransduction

The adhesion of cells to materials is the result of both the integrin receptors binding to a scaffold's specific protein chain and the stress generated via the cellular cytoskeleton. The adhesive interactions assist in the regulation of many cellular functions and changes in adhesion may have adverse effects on the cell-matrix environment.

By attending the ***NJ Symposium on Biomaterials Science*** on **November 9, 2015**, you will learn of Dr. Chen's efforts to increase understanding of the structural and mechanical interactions between cells and their surroundings, and how such interactions affect cell function. He will detail the rationale behind the methods his laboratory has developed to control these interactions.

Dr. Chen is a Professor of Biomedical Engineering at Boston University and the Harvard Wyss Institute for Biologically Inspired Engineering. He founded the Biological Design Center and heads the Tissue Microfabrication Lab at Boston University. He and his team are focusing on the integration of innovative devices, methods, and materials with modern technology to gather deeper insight into the regulation of how cells organized to form tissues.

Christopher Chen received his A.B. in Biochemistry from Harvard University. He continued his education by completing an M.S. in Mechanical Engineering at MIT and a Ph.D. in Medical Engineering and Medical Physics at the Harvard-MIT Health Sciences and Technology Program. After obtaining his M.D. from Harvard Medical School, he became an Assistant Professor of Biomedical Engineering and Oncology at Johns Hopkins University, and was the Skirkanich Professor of Innovation and the founding director of the Center for Engineering Cells and Regeneration at the University of Pennsylvania before his current appointment.

He is a fellow for the American Institute for Medical and Biological Engineering. He is a member of the Faculty of 1000, and of the editorial boards for the journals Science Translational Medicine, Annual Review of Cell and Developmental Biology, Developmental Cell, Technology, and Journal of Cell Science.

Christopher Chen has been instrumental in the development of engineered cellular microenvironments to increase the knowledge of how cells build tissues. By attending this year's symposium, you will gain a deeper understanding of the mechanical aspects of cell function and how this may impact the future of regenerative medicine.

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