Wednesday, March 20, 2024 at 12:00 noon
Wayne R. Widener Auditorium at HudsonAlpha

Karmella A. Haynes, PhD
Assistant Professor of Biomedical Engineering, Emory University and Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta, GA

“Combining 'omics with synthetic biology to investigate epigenetic control in human cells”

Dr. Karmella Haynes is an Assistant Professor of Biomedical Engineering at Emory University. She earned her Ph.D. studying epigenetics and chromatin in Drosophila at Washington University, St. Louis. Postdoctoral fellowships at Davidson College and Harvard Medical School introduced her to synthetic biology. Her Davidson HHMI postdoc fellowship project on bacterial computers was recognized as “Publication of the Year” in 2008 by the Journal of Biological Engineering. Today, her research aims to apply the intrinsic properties of chromatin, the DNA-protein structure that packages eukaryotic genes, to engineer proteins and nucleic acids that control cell development. After Dr. Haynes joined the faculty at the Emory School of Medicine in 2019, she received an NIH R21 grant (2019) to develop new protein engineering and computational tools for cancer epigenetics, and launched the annual NSF-funded AfroBiotech conference series (2019). She is a founder and instructor of the Cold Spring Harbor Summer Course on Synthetic Biology (2013 – present), a member of the national Engineering Biology Research Consortium (EBRC, 2014 – present), past advisor and current Judge Emeritus for the annual International Genetically Engineered Machines (iGEM) competition (2007 – present), and a member of the NIH National Scientific Advisory Board for Biosecurity (2021). She was named one of 1000 Inspiring Black Scientists by Cell Mentor (Cell Press 2020), was a featured guest on PBS NOVA (2020) and PRI’s Science Friday (2016), was profiled in Forbes magazine (2020), received Color Magazine’s Women of Color: Innovator in STEM award (2021), and was elected into the 2023 American Institute for Medical and Biological Engineering (AIMBE) College of Fellows.

Host: Brianne Rodgers, PhD / brodgers@hudsonalpha.org

Next Seminar: Wednesday, March 27, 12:00 pm featuring Bruce R. Korf, MD, PhD, Associate Dean for Genomic Medicine, Distinguished Professor of Genetics, UAH Heersink School of Medicine, The University of Alabama at Birmingham, Birmingham, AL

More information on HudsonAlpha Research Seminars can be found at http://hudsonalpha.org/seminars

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