Stem Cell Awareness Day Science Symposium

Stem Cells: Translational Opportunities and Challenges
Thursday, October 9, 2014
Gross Hall, Room 4000

Morning Session
Moderator: Aileen Anderson, PhD

8:30 a.m. Continental Breakfast

9:00 a.m. Philip J. Horner, PhD, University of Washington
“Cell reprogramming: a powerful tool with translational challenges for repairing the injured spinal cord”

10:00 a.m. Coffee Break

10:15 a.m. Leslie M. Thompson, PhD, University of California, Irvine
“Stem cells and Huntington’s disease: new opportunities for treatment”

11:00 a.m. Steven C. Cramer, MD, University of California, Irvine
“Treatment of patients with stroke using mesenchymal stem cells”

12:00 p.m. Lunch

Afternoon Session
Moderator: Rick van Etten, MD, PhD

1:00 p.m. Donald B. Kohn, MD, University of California, Los Angeles
“Gene Therapy Using Hematopoietic Stem Cells”

2:00 p.m. Angela Fleischman, MD, PhD, University of California, Irvine
“Inflammation as a driver of clonal evolution in myeloproliferative neoplasms”

2:45 p.m. Matthew A. Inlay, PhD, University of California, Irvine
“The embryonic origins of hematopoietic stem cells”

3:30 p.m. Coffee Break

3:50 p.m. Poster Session

5:00 p.m. Science Symposium Concludes
C. Randal Mills, Ph.D. is the President and Chief Executive Officer of the California Institute for Regenerative Medicine (CIRM), the state’s $3 billion stem cell agency. With nearly 300 programs in its portfolio, including over a dozen in or entering clinical trials, the agency is the world’s largest entity dedicated to the advancement of stem cell therapies and regenerative medicines. As a strong advocate for patients throughout his career, Dr. Mills’ mission at CIRM is to speed up the development of new treatments and cures by finding real-time solutions for the regulatory, clinical, manufacturing, and business problems that often slow down novel therapies.

Previously, Dr. Mills served as the CEO of Osiris Therapeutics, the world’s first profitable stem cell company. In 2005 Osiris launched the first commercial stem cell product, Osteocel®, and in 2012, received the world’s first approval for a stem cell drug Prochymal®, to treat children suffering from graft vs. host disease, an often fatal side effect of a bone marrow transplant. Under his leadership Osiris developed and commercialized five cell therapy products responsible for more than #1 billion in cumulative sales.

Prior to joining Osiris, Dr. Mills was a co-founder and Vice President of Regeneration Technologies. Dr. Mills invented the company’s core technology, BioCleanse®, the first system accepted by the FDA for the sterilization of human tissue for transplantation. BioCleanse products have been used in over three million surgical procedures without a single case of disease transmission.

Dr. Mills currently serves as the Chairman of Tissue Banks International (TBI), the largest provider of ocular tissue for vision restoration. He also serves on the Board of the Alliance for Regenerative Medicine and the Wake Forest Institute of Regenerative Medicine Advisory Board.

He holds a Ph.D. in drug development from the University of Florida, where he also earned his bachelor’s degree in microbiology and cell science and completed an internship in clinical pathology. He is married with two children.