

# Keck School of Medicine of USC

## Translational Biotechnology Seminar and Discussion

### Establishing an SBIR funded Research Project



#### **Kimberly Payne, PhD**

Director, Translational Research  
School of Medicine and Cancer Center  
Loma Linda University

**Wednesday, February 21, 2018**

1:00 – 2:50 pm

West Conference Room

Norris Medical Library, Health Science Campus

#### **Talk Summary:**

Dr. Kimberly Payne's laboratory studies Acute lymphoblastic leukemia (ALL), one of the most common cancers in children. The majority of ALL cases in children and adults are the B cell type (B ALL), while those with the poorest outcome are characterized by overexpression of the CRLF gene (CRLF B ALL).

In 2017, Dr. Payne and her collaborators were awarded a National Institutes of Health Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) grant to develop a biologic that selectively targets the signaling pathway that produces CRLF B ALL while sparing normal immune cells. She will discuss the challenges and opportunities of SBIR funded research:

1. The process of establishing an SBIR funded company for targeted drug development
2. Challenges of early-stage development using patient-derived xenograft models
3. Evaluating formulation and planning for small-scale manufacturing of biologics
4. Translating new therapies from pre-clinical testing to human clinical trials

#### **Speaker Bio:**

Dr. Kimberly Payne is an Associate Professor at Loma Linda University and serves as the Director for Translational Research for the School of Medicine and Cancer Center. As a professor at LLU, she developed an NIH-funded research program focused on B cell acute lymphoblastic leukemia. In 2016, she formed a company that is funded by an NIH small business grant to develop a biologic for the treatment of pediatric leukemia.

**Sponsored by MS Program in Translational Biotechnology  
Department of Translational Genomics**