

Keck School of Medicine of USC

Department of Translational Genomics
Translational Biotechnology Seminar

An Unexpected Journey from Internship to Entrepreneurship: Pursuit of the Digitalization of 3D Life through High-Density DNA Chips



Wei Zhou, PhD

Founder and CEO

Centrillion Technology

Wednesday, March 29, 2023

2:00 pm - 3:00 pm

Zoom [Registration](#)

by 03/29 noon with USC email address

Wei Zhou is the co-founder and CEO of Centrillion Technologies (<https://www.centrilliontech.com/>), a company specializing in large-scale synthetic biology and genomics. Centrillion focuses on the development and fabrication of very accurate high-density DNA chips, which have found applications in high-definition spatial biology, genotyping, chip-based sequencing, and more. Before establishing Centrillion, Dr. Zhou was a partner at Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati (WSGR), a prominent venture capital and startup law firm. He also held the position of SVP for Advanced Technology and Intellectual Property at Affymetrix, Inc., a pioneer in DNA chips and large-scale genomics. In addition to founding Centrillion, Dr. Zhou co-founded Sentieon, Inc., which creates highly optimized algorithms for bioinformatics applications, and ChimeraTX, Inc., where he serves as chairman. ChimeraTX focuses on the development of curative immunotherapeutic treatments. Dr. Zhou earned his JD from Stanford University, where he was an associate editor for the Stanford Law Review, and his Ph.D. from Virginia Tech. He completed his postdoctoral training in molecular oncology at Emory School of Medicine.

In this seminar, Dr. Zhou will discuss how an internship at a life science startup ignited his passion for digitalizing three-dimensional life using High-Density DNA chips. These revolutionary chips have accelerated large-scale genomics and are now propelling the next phase of digitalization through spatial biology. In addition, they hold the key to advancing synthetic biology and DNA computing. Dr. Zhou will also share his personal experiences in the world of life science entrepreneurship.

