

Outstanding Distinguished Scientist
Lecture

Potential Therapeutics for Fibrosing Diseases

Friday, October 26, 2018, 4:00 p.m.
Biological Sciences Building East (BSBE) Room 115



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Richard Gomer, the 2017 *Sigma Xi* Outstanding Distinguished Scientist, conducts research in three areas of biomedicine: tissue size regulation, tissue cell composition, and fibrosing diseases. He is a fellow of the American Academy of Microbiology and a National Academies Education Fellow in the Life Sciences. He holds a doctoral degree from the California Institute of Technology. Dr. Gomer's lecture "Potential Therapeutics for Fibrosing Diseases" will be followed by a reception.

Fibrosing diseases such as pulmonary fibrosis, end-stage kidney disease, and cardiac fibrosis involve the inappropriate formation of scar tissue in internal organs. These diseases are generally untreatable and are associated with 30-45 percent of deaths in the US. This lecture will describe work which indicates that a human blood protein could be a possible therapeutic for fibrosing diseases. Injections of this protein recently showed good efficacy and safety in a Phase 2-117-patient clinical trial for pulmonary fibrosis. Dr. Gomer will describe his work to understand fibrosis, which then led to second and third-generation potential therapeutics.