



School of Natural Sciences

UCMERCED

Quantitative Systems Biology Seminar Series

## From Crystallography to In-Vitro Diagnostics, How Innovative Technology Development Fuels Scientific Discovery

**Date:**

Friday,

11/04/16

**Time:**

1:30pm

**Location:**

COB 267

For More  
Information  
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**By Kara Juneau**

Head of Diagnostic R&D  
Drawbridge Health



**Abstract:**

Are we asking scientific questions because kits and protocols are available to address those questions? Shouldn't we instead ask questions based on scientific importance then, build the tools that are required? In this seminar, I will use my career path, which bridges both academia and industry, to underpin a larger discussion around technology development and the skills required to be a successful research scientist.

**Bio:**

Dr. Kara Juneau is the head of the Diagnostic R&D group at Drawbridge Health. Dr. Juneau has over 15 years of experience building technologies for improving diagnosis and treatment of human diseases and disorders. She also served as Associate Director of Operations and Development at Ariosa Diagnostics, a subsidiary of Roche, where she led teams that developed array-based detection platforms for non-invasive prenatal tests (NIPT) and headed the automation effort for a liquid-biopsy in-vitro diagnostic (IVD). Prior to working in industry, she was an independent researcher at Stanford University for nine years from 2004-2013 where she developed novel assays to investigate RNA expression and alternative splicing in humans and yeast. Dr. Juneau graduated magna cum laude with honors from Brown University with a B.S. in Chemistry. She received a Ph.D. in Biochemistry from the University of Colorado for research conducted in Dr. Thomas Cech's laboratory.