

**2016-17**

# **ECpE DISTINGUISHED LECTURE SERIES**

**FRIDAY, APRIL 14, 2017 1:10 p.m. 3043 ECpE Addition**



## **EVAN DALE ABEL & JAMES ANKRUM**

**University of Iowa**

***“The Diabetes Research Center at the University of Iowa – Leveraging Interdisciplinary Collaboration to Catalyze Discovery”***

**Abstract:** Launched in 2012, the mission of the Fraternal Order of Eagles Diabetes Research Center (FOEDRC) at the University of Iowa is to advance knowledge of the pathophysiology of diabetes and its complications through cutting edge research, delineating new and effective strategies to

reduce the impact of this disease. The FOEDRC is a highly interdisciplinary program, whose 100 faculty represent 7 separate colleges and 26 departments from across the University, unified by their involvement in diabetes research. The FOEDRC provides a physical, intellectual, and financial infrastructure to support interdisciplinary basic, translational, and clinical diabetes research by partnering with various campus-wide departments, programs, and initiatives. The presentation will provide an overview of the research programs in place at the FOEDRC and will provide specific examples of collaborations between investigators with a biological and/or an engineering background.

**Evan Dale Abel** is the Chair and DEO of the Department of Internal Medicine, Director of the Fraternal Order of Eagles Diabetes Research Center, Director of the Division of Endocrinology & Metabolism in the Department of Internal Medicine at the University of Iowa and Head of the Interdisciplinary Diabetes Clinic at Iowa River Landing/UIHC. He is a Professor of Medicine and Biochemistry and currently holds the John B. Stokes III Chair in Diabetes Research. He received his medical degree from the University of the West Indies, then went to Oxford University as a Rhodes Scholar, where he obtained his Ph. D. After his doctoral studies, he completed internal medicine residency training at Northwestern University in Chicago.

**James Ankrum** is Assistant Professor in Biomedical Engineering at the University of Iowa. He is also Researcher at the Fraternal Order of Eagles Diabetes Research Center. He earned a Bachelor of Science in Biomedical Engineering from the University of Iowa, a Master of Philosophy in Engineering Design from the University of Cambridge and a Doctor of Philosophy in Medical Engineering and Medical Physics from Harvard-MIT Division of Health Sciences & Technology. His current research interests include cell-based therapies, microenvironmental control of cell phenotype and pancreatic beta cell therapy; he also specializes in mesenchymal stem cells, drug delivery and biomimicry.

**IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY**

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