

## Adjunct faculty – School of Bio & Chemical Engineering

**Dr. Jason Blackard, Harvard T.H Chan School of Public Health,  
Harvard University.**



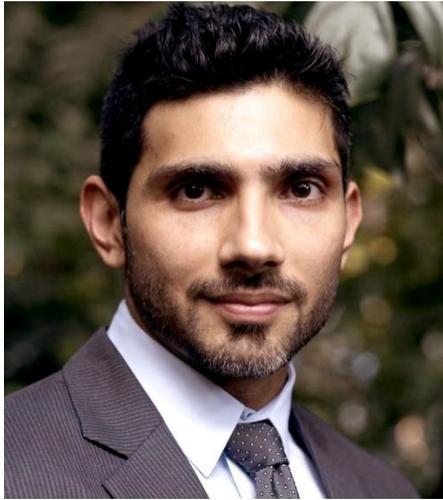
Dr. Jason Blackard is an Associate Professor of Medicine (Digestive Diseases) and also the Director of Medical Student Research Initiatives. He currently directs a translational research laboratory that focuses on human and mechanistic studies to understand the interactions between various viral pathogens. Using a variety of cell culture systems, molecular virology techniques, and patient-derived samples, he investigates the pathogenic and evolutionary mechanisms by which viruses interact with the host and cause disease. At present, laboratory studies involve hepatitis B virus (HBV), hepatitis C virus (HCV), hepatitis E virus (HEV), pegiviruses (HPgV; GBV-C), and HIV and include international collaborations in South Africa, Botswana, India, Nigeria, and Ghana. In addition to research responsibilities, he served as the program director for the pathobiology & molecular medicine graduate program from 2011 to 2014. In 2014, he was appointed as the Director of the newly formed office of Global Health. He currently serves as the co-chair of the Consortium of Universities for Global Health Research Committee. Recently, he was named as the Associate Program Director for the NIH-funded KL2 scholars program that is responsible for mentoring junior faculty and facilitating their transition to independent research careers.

## Dr Rowland Travis, University of Nottingham, UK.



Dr Rowland Travis, Associate Professor and Director of Postgraduate Experience, University of Nottingham, UK. He completed his MA in mathematics at the University of Cambridge in the year 1987 before moving on to university college London for his PhD in mechanical engineering. He was a scholar at the Imperial College, London in the mechanical engineering department research interests in the mechanical integrity of fuel cell systems and computer-aided design. He has since then worked for Rolls-Royce following with his appointment as Head of Business and Programme Management responsible for a team of approximately 30 people and an annual budget of £5M. Dr. Rowland's area of expertise is Computer-Aided Design (CAD) in particular free-form surfaces, often called Computer-Aided Geometric Design, mechanical integrity of fuel cell systems, ceramic materials and ion-conducting structures, design, operation and planning of fuel cell systems.

**Dr. Sunil Suhas Solomon,  
Johns Hopkins University, School of Medicine, USA**



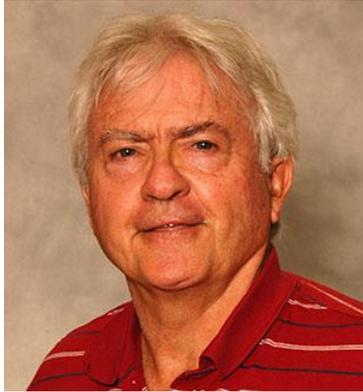
Dr. Sunil Suhas Solomon, MBBS PhD MPH is an Associate Professor of Medicine, in the Division of Infectious Diseases, at the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine. He is also the chairman of the YR Gaitonde Medical Educational and Research Foundation, Chennai, India. He completed his medical training at the Sri Ramachandra Medical University in Chennai, India and received a Masters in public health and a doctorate in epidemiology (PhD) from the Johns Hopkins University, USA. Dr. Solomon has been elected into the Phi Beta Kappa honors society for academic excellence and the Delta Omega Public Health honors society. His research is focused on the epidemiology, clinical management and access to HIV and HCV care among vulnerable Indian populations such as people who inject drugs and men who have sex with men. He has over 100 peer-reviewed publications in several highly ranked journals such as the Lancet ID, PLOS Medicine, Lancet HIV, Clinical Infectious Diseases, American Journal of Epidemiology, Addiction and AIDS. In 2015, he was one of the first recipients of the Avenir award, a Director's award from the National Institutes of Health, USA aimed at identifying individuals who propose high impact research and who show promise of being tomorrow's leaders in the field of drug abuse and HIV.

**Dr. Nagamani Bora, Director School of Biotechnology  
University of Nottingham, UK.**



Dr Nagamani Bora, Director for Biotechnology, Degree Programs, Faculty of Sciences, University of Nottingham, United Kingdom started her career by graduating with a genetics and biochemistry degree from India and has since obtained her MSc and PhD in the field of Industrial safety at the University of Newcastle, UK. Her research expertise and interests include Sustainability and waste management, Search and discovery strategies for novel bioactive compounds, bacteriocins and novel enzymes – from a group of gram-positive microbes- namely- Actinomycetes. Dr. Bora has also worked on understanding the diversity, dynamics and synergies of microbes in European smear ripened cheeses. Optimization and development of therapeutic drugs is a part of her industrial research project that consists of several strategies to increase yield of proteins. What also stands out is her expertise in developing International Teaching Partnerships and collaborations with various universities across the globe.

## Dr. Barry Rouse, University of Tennessee, USA



Dr. Barry T Rouse is a Professor of College of Veterinary Medicine, University of Tennessee. He completed his PhD in University of Guelph, Canada. His main research interests are in the field of infectious disease with special focus on viral immunology and immunopathology. He has mainly studied on herpes simplex virus (HSV) infection in mice both with a view to devising successful vaccines and more particularly to determine how HSV causes tissue damage in critical tissues such as the eye and nervous system. He has number of publications in various national and international journals.

**Dr.Edwin Antony, Saint Louis University, School of Medicine,  
USA**



Dr.Edwin Antony is an Associate Professor at Saint Louis University School of Medicine. He completed his PhD in Wesleyen university on biochemitry, biophysics and molecular biology from 2000 to 2005. Later, he moved onto work in Washington University in St.louis until 2010 and to Marquette Univeristy for 4 and half years before his current position. His main research aim is to understand the mechanism of action of enzymes using various techniques, such as pre-steady state kinetics, single molecule methods, and structural and biophysical approaches, to build quantitative models of enzyme activity to understand how they function in the cell. They focus on two main areas: 1.DNA Repair & Recombination. We are exploring how enzymes that orchestrate specific DNA repair and recombination processes recognize damage in DNA and coordinate with the cell cycle and replication machinery to correct these damages. 2. Electron Transfer. We are studying how ATP is utilized by two oxidoreductases, Nitrogenase and DPOR, to orchestrate substrate reduction, which is associated with large conformational changes in protein complexes.

## Dr.Sona Vasudevan, Georgetown University Medical Center, USA



*GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY*  
Georgetown University Medical Center

Sona Vasudevan is a professor of biochemistry and molecular and cellular biology at the Georgetown University Medical Center. She is also the director of the dual-degree (M.D. /M.S.) program in systems medicine, an adjunct senior bioinformatics scientist, and a protein information resource. Among her many positions, she is also a member of the India Initiative Faculty Advisory Committee. Her research interests include comparative genomics, protein classification, protein homology modelling, and molecular dynamics simulations to look at the effect of single nucleotide polymorphisms in breast cancer, evolutionary analysis, systems biology, and translational informatics. She has contributed to the development of several well-known bioinformatics tools for doing sequence and structure analysis. She has developed a drug-discovery database. Her research record includes several research papers, invited lectures, and book chapters. She serves on the Editorial Board of, and reviewer for several journals. She teaches biochemistry, structural biology, and several courses in Informatics. She has mentored over 20 students. She has created the MD/MS dual-degree program in Systems Medicine, and a free-standing MS degree program in Systems Medicine. She has received several academic awards, and excellence-in-teaching awards.

**Professor Dr. Balam Chowbay, National Cancer Centre of Singapore, Singapore.**



Prof Balam is Clinical Pharmacologist and a basic science researcher at National Cancer Center Singapore (NCCS). As one of the leading researchers in pharmacogenomics in Singapore, his research focuses on understanding pharmacogenomics influences on the pharmacokinetics (PK) and pharmacodynamics (PD) of drugs especially in Asian ethnic groups. He is also the Director of Sing Health Clinical Pharmacology core platform which offers therapeutic drug monitoring, bioanalytical, pharmacokinetics and genotyping services to local healthcare institutions, pharmaceutical companies and academic research laboratories. He has co-authored over 90 publications and is also an editorial board member for numerous drug metabolism and pharmacology-based journals. Prof Balam holds multiple academic appointments at Duke-NUS Graduate Medical School and Nanyang Technological University, Singapore (NTU) and currently serves on advisory committees, grant review boards and research councils at national level.

**Dr. Rajesh Sani**

**Professor**

**Department of Chemical and Biological Engineering &  
Chemistry, Biology, and Health Sciences  
South Dakota School of Mines and Technology**



Prof. Rajesh focuses on a multidisciplinary, working on diverse areas such as Extremophilic Bioprocessing, Biocatalysis, Biomaterials, Gas to liquid fuels, Genome editing of bacteria, Homo/heterologous expression of genes, Metabolic engineering, Space biology, and Bioelectrochemical systems.

**Dr. V. Gopalakrishnan,  
Associate Professor in Microbiology,  
University Kuala Lumpur Royal College of Medicine,  
Perak, Malaysia.**



Dr. V. Gopalakrishnan is a medical microbiologist and biotechnologist working in the areas of human parasitism and genomic approach to identify susceptibility and identification of drugs against them. His current work and his academic status has brought him many accolades and currently heading the academic research at the Royal College of Medicine, Malaysia.

**Prof. S. Sendhil Velan**

Head, Metabolic Imaging Group (MIG), SBIC

Principal Investigator, Singapore Institute for Clinical Sciences (SICS); Adjunct

Associate Professor, Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine & Department of

Physiology, National University of Singapore



Singapore  
Bioimaging  
Consortium

Dr. Velan received his Ph.D. in Chemical Physics – Biophysics (Interdisciplinary) with a research focus in Magnetic Resonance from University of Madras, India (1997), and his Post-doctoral fellowship in MR methodologies at the NIH (1997-98). He then joined as a senior scientist in Biological Imaging Center at the Beckman Institute of California Institute of Technology, California where he worked on high field Magnetic Resonance Microscopy (1999-2003). From 2003-2009 he was an Assistant Professor at the Center for Advanced Imaging & Department of Radiology of West Virginia University, United States. During this period he worked on simultaneous MR-PET technology and also developed several localized MRS techniques for clinical applications. In June 2009 he joined the laboratory of molecular imaging, Singapore Bioimaging Consortium as the Head of Magnetic Resonance Spectroscopy and Metabolic Imaging group. He currently serves as a reviewer for several scientific journals and funding agencies. He is also involved in several clinical trials where the knowledge gained through pre-clinical imaging is being translated to clinical practice.

**Prof. Dr. Ranjith Mehenderkar**

Professor and Deputy Dean,  
Faculty of Medicine  
Quest International University, Malaysia



**Research Interest**

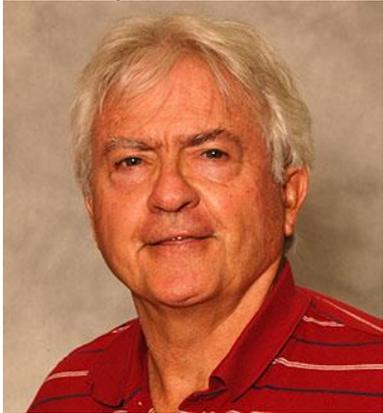
Epidemiology of Melioidosis in Malaysia

Immunomodulation from plant sources

- Program Coordinator – Bachelor of Biomedical Sciences
- Examinations Coordinator – Faculty of Medicine
- Course Coordinator – Response to Stimulus, Year 1 MBBS
- Member in curriculum development committee
- Member in Faculty management committee

## Adjunct Faculty – Centre for Drug Discovery and Development

S.No	Name of the Professor	Name of the Institute and designation	Expertise
1	<p><b>Dr. Sadhana Ravishankar</b></p> 	<p>Associate Professor School of Animal and Comparative Biomedical Sciences University of Arizona 1117 E. Lowell Street Rm 218, Tucson, AZ 85721-0090 Email: <a href="mailto:sadhravi@email.arizona.edu">sadhravi@email.arizona.edu</a></p>	<p>Her research interests include the following: Control of foodborne pathogenic bacteria including antibiotic resistant strains using various technologies and multiple hurdle approach; Natural antimicrobials and their applications in organic foods, plant antimicrobial washes for fresh produce, antimicrobial and anti-oxidative activities of plant compounds; Bacterial attachment and biofilm formation in food production environments</p>
2	<p><b>Dr. Ravishankar Palanivelu</b></p> 	<p>Associate Professor, Dept of Plant Science, University of Arizona 1117 E. Lowell Street Rm 218, Tucson, AZ 85721-0090 Email: <a href="mailto:rpalaniv@email.arizona.edu">rpalaniv@email.arizona.edu</a></p>	<p>Ravishankar Palanivelu, PhD, possesses a long-term goal to understand the molecular basis of how cells communicate with each other. His lab employs pollen tube guidance during Arabidopsis thaliana reproduction as a model system to achieve this goal. Currently, the focus remains to understand the molecular mechanisms that underlie pollen tube functions in A. thaliana.</p>

3	<p><b>Dr. Govindaraj Dev Kumar</b></p> 	<p>Assistant Professor Center for food safety Griffin, CAES Campus 0185 Melton Building, 1109 Experiment St, Griffin, GA 30223 Email: gd03883@uga.edu</p>	<p>Bacterial adaptations to stressors (environment, plant, sanitizers, packaging) through cellular responses (biofilms, filaments, slow growing states), produce safety, sanitizer development, imaging and vehicles of foodborne pathogen cross contamination such as soil, compost, manures, water, dust, aerosols, particulates and food contact surfaces.</p>
4	<p><b>Dr. Sanjib Bhakta</b></p> 	<p>Professor of Molecular Microbiology and Biochemistry Department of Biological Sciences, Birkbeck, University of London, Malet Street, Bloomsbury London WC1E 7HX Email: s.bhakta@bbk.ac.uk, sanjib.bhakta@ucl.ac.uk</p>	<p>Our research interest is primarily focused on characterising the physiology of the different metabolic states of Mycobacterium spp., tackling antimicrobial resistance through validating novel therapeutic targets, from identifying hits to optimising novel leads and repurposing existing immunomodulatory drugs to cure TB. Our lab is specialised in molecular microbiology and biochemistry techniques to manipulate DNA, RNA, proteins and lipids to characterise therapeutic targets and elucidate their structure, function, regulation and inhibition.</p>
5	<p><b>Dr. Barry T. Rouse</b></p> 	<p>Distinguished Professor, Genome Science &amp; Technology College of Arts &amp; Sciences, UT-ORNL Graduate School of Genome Science and Technology 309 Ken and Blaire Mossman University of Tennessee Knoxville, TN 37996-0840 E-mail: btr@utk.edu</p>	<p>My research is in the field of infectious disease and has focused on viral immunology and immunopathology. We have mainly studied herpes simplex virus (HSV) infection in mice both with a view to devising successful vaccines and more particularly to determine how HSV causes tissue damage in critical tissues such as the eye and nervous system. We have worked on both host innate and adaptive immune mechanisms, particularly the T cells responsible for immunity as well as those involved in orchestrating tissue damage. We have defined the role of several subtypes of proinflammatory T cells as well as numerous cytokines and</p>

			chemokines. Our group was the first to show a role of regulatory T cells (Treg) in the host response to a virus infection.
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## Dental College –Adjunct faculty



**Dr. Tord Lundgren,**  
Professor and Chairman  
Department of Periodontics  
School of Dentistry  
Loma Linda University  
Loma Linda, USA



**Dr. Nikola Angelov**  
Dean  
School of Dental Medicine  
University of Texas, Houston. USA



**Dr. Mathew Katadiyil**  
Professor & Director  
Institute of Restorative Dentistry  
School of Dentistry  
Loma Linda University  
USA



**Dr. Sam Dason**

Professor

Department of Oral Health and Hygiene

School of Dentistry

Loma Linda University

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