



Genetics, Bioinformatics, & Systems Biology Colloquium

presents

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 **THURSDAY**
OCT 19TH

 **12PM**

 **LEICHTAG AUDITORIUM**

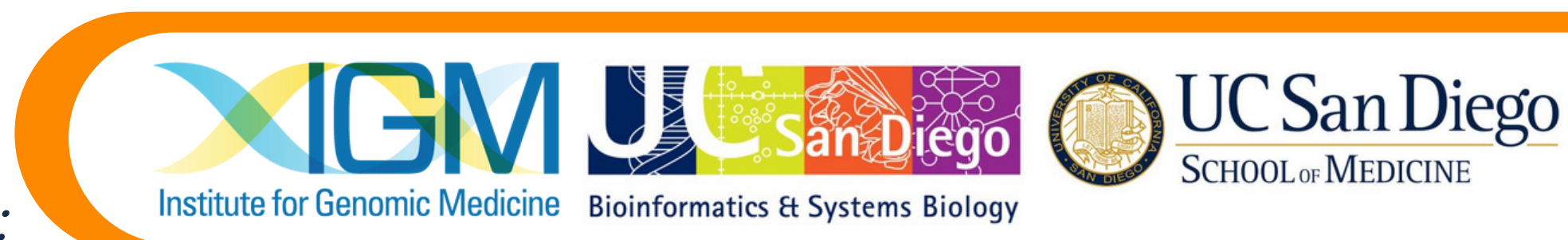
 **ZOOM**



HOW HERITABLE LAB VALUES CAUSE HEALTH DISPARITIES (AND HOW WE CAN FIX IT)

Physicians think of laboratory values as dynamic measures of disease risk and progression, but almost 75% of labs ordered on a monthly basis are significantly heritable and about 30% of labs are highly heritable ($H^2 > 0.5$). About half of all heritable labs show significant differences across continental genetic ancestries in means and/or variances. Because reference ranges for most labs were established decades ago in what we would now consider to be quite small samples of white men, we have inadvertently created a whole host of institutionalized health disparities that disproportionately burden diverse populations but also reduce the utility and confuse the understanding of some laboratory values across all populations. I will provide examples to illustrate these points and outline possible solutions that I hope will generate broader discussions of ways to use genetics to improve health and increase health equity.

PRESENTED BY:



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