Through the generous support of the Wallace H. Coulter Foundation, the Department of Biomedical Engineering will be presenting a program celebrating the First Cuban Biomedical Engineer DR. DOMINGO GOMEZ DE GIMERANEZ on Friday, May 7 from 8:45 AM to 4:00 PM. Students, researchers, and scientists from universities, industries, clinics, and other venues across the United States and abroad are invited to join us for the day and learn about The Forgotten Work of the eminent First Cuban Biomedical Engineer.

**THE FORGOTTEN WORK OF THE FIRST CUBAN BIOMEDICAL ENGINEER**

*Celebrating the Life and Work of Dr. Domingo Gomez de Gimeranez*

**KEYNOTE**

**DR. GORDANA VUNJAK-NOVAKOVIC**

Mikati Foundation Professor of Biomedical Engineering and Medical Sciences
Columbia University

5/7/21

**ENGINEERING HUMAN LUNGS FOR MEDICAL IMPACT**

**ABSTRACT:** Research on lung physiology and engineering has made great strides over the last several decades, from the time when Dr Domingo Gomez, to whom this symposium is dedicated, was publishing his seminal papers on assessing the architecture of human lung. More recently, the needs of lung transplantation that remains the only curative option for end-stage lung disease patients have prompted the development of novel technologies for treating injured and diseased human lungs, and for recovering donor lungs rejected for transplant. These new bioengineering approaches are enabling increasingly personalized and targeted approaches to treating human lungs, in situ and ex vivo. One promising methodology involves the ex vivo replacement of diseased lung epithelial cells in low quality donor lungs with healthy progenitor stem cells. Another methodology involves treatment of lung epithelium in situ, in the context of acute lung injury and some genetic diseases. This talk will discuss the current accomplishments and challenges, as well as the overall potential for regenerative engineering of human lung.

**AGENDA**

**MORNING SESSIONS**

- 8:45-9:00 AM Welcome Remarks with Dr. Jorge Riera & Dr. Ranu Jung
- 9:00-10:00 AM Keynote speaker Dr. Gordana Vunjak-Novakovic from Columbia University
- 10:00-11:30 AM BME Heart and Circulation Program with Dr. Hutcheson, Dr. Ramaswamy, and Dr. Tsoukas
- 11:30 AM-12:30 PM Forum about the life of Dr. Gimeranez (Moderator: Daniel Smith, with Sita Gomez and family members)

**AFTERNOON SESSIONS**

- 12:30-1:30 PM Lunch break
- 1:30-2:30 PM Interview of Ewald R. Weibel, MD
- 2:30-3:30 PM Review of the work and legacy of Dr. Gomez Gimeranez by Dr. Jorge Riera
- 3:30-4:00 PM Conclusion with Dr. Jorge Riera

**FRIDAY, MAY 7 / 8:45AM ET / VIA ZOOM**

Registration [https://bme.fiu.edu/celebrating-biomedical-engineers](https://bme.fiu.edu/celebrating-biomedical-engineers)

Through the generous support of the Wallace H. Coulter Foundation, the Department of Biomedical Engineering facilitates weekly lectures each year during academic terms. Experts in all areas of Biomedical Engineering are invited to provide a research seminar and to meet with faculty and students to discuss the latest developments and research in Biomedical Engineering.