

2025-2026 Seminar Series



NAVIGATING THE JOURNEY FROM GRADUATE RESEARCH TO MEDICAL DEVICE ENTREPRENEURSHIP



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Friday, April 3, 2026 | 11:00 a.m.

Gallogly Hall, Room 126



ABSTRACT

This seminar presents a journey from PhD training to co-founding a medical device startup, highlighting how graduate education can translate into meaningful real-world impact. Drawing on the experience of an alumnus of the program, the talk will explore the transition from academia to industry, including early exposure to startup environments and the pathway toward entrepreneurship.

The seminar will emphasize how skills developed during graduate studies—such as problem-solving, technical depth, and resilience—can be applied in industry settings. It will also provide an overview of the medical device landscape, illustrating how unmet clinical needs, engineering innovation, and market considerations come together to shape new technologies. Using a real-world company case, the talk will cover key aspects of building a startup, including technology development, team formation, and advancing products through clinical trials in China while preparing for expansion into the U.S.

Throughout the seminar, practical insights and lessons learned will be shared to help graduate students better understand potential career paths in industry and entrepreneurship, and how to prepare for them. The session will conclude with an open Q&A to encourage discussion on career decisions, industry trends, and opportunities at the intersection of engineering and healthcare.

BIO

Dr. Min Zhu is a technology innovator and entrepreneur who has built her career translating academic knowledge and Ph.D. training into transformative medical technologies. A Ph.D. graduate in Electrical and Computer Engineering from the University of Oklahoma, she developed a strong foundation in computational mathematics, inverse algorithms, and engineering problem-solving skills that have continued to shape her career in industry.

With 13 years of industry experience in cardiac mapping technologies, Dr. Zhu previously served as Director of Algorithm at Acutus Medical Inc., where she led the algorithm development of the AcQMap® Mapping System and AcQBlate™ Ablation System. She pioneered Dipole/Charge Density noncontact mapping and SuperMap™ algorithm for highly automated, precise mapping of complex atrial arrhythmias.

Dr. Zhu has authored more than 20 peer-reviewed publications and holds 12 major patents. As Co-Founder and CTO of EnChannel Medical Ltd., she continues advancing next-generation electrophysiology technologies by applying deep academic knowledge to solve real-world clinical challenges.