



# Meet a Scientist Series

## Friday, May 3rd

12:00pm to 1:00pm

CTSI Research Training Center

1120 NW 14th Street, #710-R

### William Silverman, PhD, MBA

Executive Director, Coulter Program & New Ventures  
Wallace H. Coulter Center for Translational Research  
University of Miami School of Medicine



Dr. William Silverman is an ion channels biophysicist by training, with over a decade of experience supporting startup companies. His graduate work focused on the molecular mechanisms of activation in voltage-gated potassium channels involved in cardiac repolarization. As a post-doc, he studied cyclic nucleotide-gated channels in synthetic liposomes and in planer lipid bilayers. This work led to the first atomic structure of a cyclic nucleotide binding domain from an ion channel, and the first experimentally derived gating mechanism in this class of channels. Subsequent post-doctoral research led to the discovery that the Pannexin 1 channel contributes to activating the inflammasome complex in neurons and astrocytes after traumatic brain injury. After earning his MBA, he began a second career supporting entrepreneurs and advising startup companies at The Launch Pad. While there, he advised on the launch of nearly 300 companies, and trained staff at 17 universities across the US to open their own entrepreneurship centers. In 2018, Will joined U Innovation at the UM Miller School of Medicine where he now works with promising biomedical technologies and medical innovators, managing the Coulter Program and advising medical school faculty on translational research projects. In addition, Will is the co-founder of Accredify, Inc., which has raised \$400,000 in angel capital. He holds a BS from UC San Diego, a PhD from UCLA and an MBA from Miami Business School.