SYMPOSIUM I, June 13, 2017: Gene editing & therapeutics

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Matthew Porteus MD, PhD is an Associate Professor in the Department of Pediatrics and Institute of Stem Cell Biology and Regenerative Medicine at Stanford. His primary research focus is on developing genome editing as an approach to cure disease, particularly those of the blood but also of other organ systems as well. His research program has made important discoveries in advancing the field of genome editing including the first use of genome editing using engineered nucleases in human cells and optimizing the use of the CRISPR/Cas9 system in primary human stem cells. He also works as an attending physician on the Pediatric Hematopoietic Stem Cell Transplant service at Lucile Packard Children's Hospital where he cares for children under going bone marrow transplantation for both malignant and non-malignant diseases. His goal is to combine his research and clinical interests to bring innovative curative therapies to patients. He served on the National Academy Study Committee of Human Genome Editing and as a History and Science major at Harvard he wrote his undergraduate thesis on the social interpretation of the recombinant DNA controversy in the early 1970s.

DR. SIDONG HUANG
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Huang, Sidong PhD, is an Assistant Professor, Department of Biochemistry, McGill University. He is also a Member of the Goodman Cancer Research Centre, and holds a Canada Research Chair in Functional Genomics. He uses functional genomic tools to study cancer-relevant pathways and to guide targeted cancer therapy. His laboratory aims to identify novel genes and networks that modulate response to cancer drugs, and to uncover genetic dependencies between the major signaling pathways in cancer that can be exploited therapeutically. One of his works has identified the potential combination therapy targeting both BRAF and EGFR for BRAF mutant colon cancer patients, which has been validated in clinical trials. He is also managing several functional genetics platforms, which have enhanced the research capacity of the community and initiated new projects and collaborations.