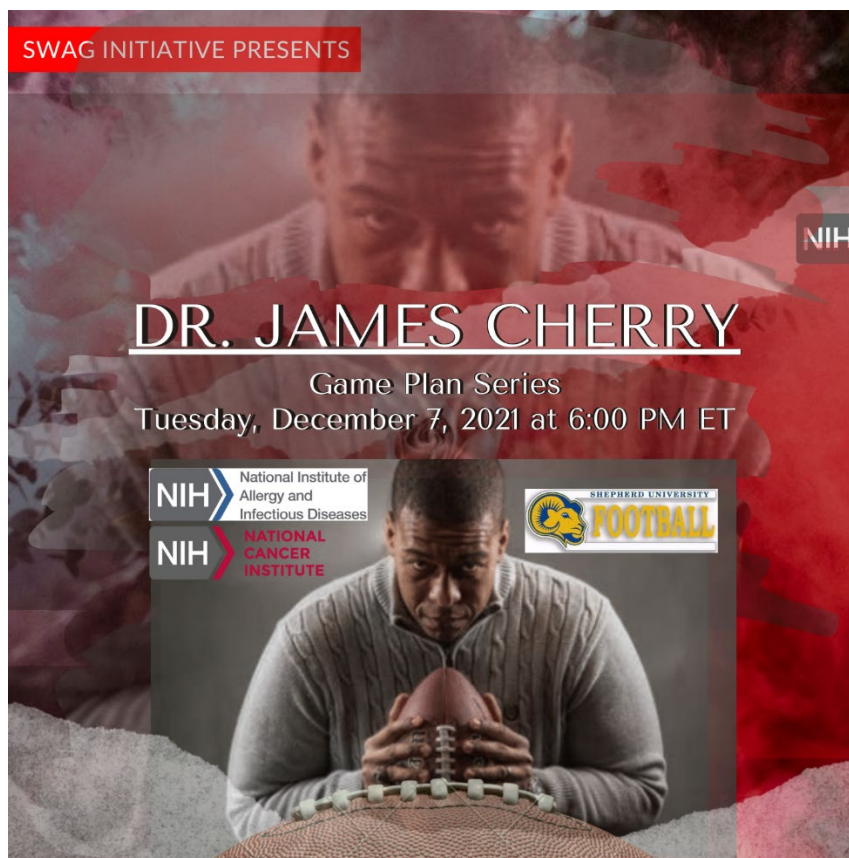


Dear Game Plan Participants,

We want to invite you to participate in our next "Game Plan" series meeting on Wednesday, December 7, 2021, from 6:00 pm – 7:00 pm (virtual format: ZOOM). As we previously mentioned, the idea is that you must have a “game plan” to win in sports, and the same applies to success in academics. Our series will allow you to hear the game plans from former (collegiate and professional) athletes to aid you in your preparation.

Our guest speaker is Dr. James M. Cherry, Associate Director/ Chief of Research Technologies at the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Disease.



Dr. Cherry received his doctorate in Biology with a concentration in Biomedical Science from The Catholic University of America in 2008 and his Masters of Science in Biotechnology from The Johns Hopkins University in 2000. In his dissertation research, Dr. Cherry studied molecular changes in ovarian tumor progression and identified several biomarkers that could prove useful in the early diagnosis of this disease that often eludes detection until it has reached a very advanced stage. He joined QIAGEN Inc. in 2008 as a research fellow in their Gene Expression Laboratory, where he studied the role of miRNAs in various disease states and identified novel miRNA targets in phosphodiesterases.

Following his fellowship, he was promoted to a research scientist in QIAGEN's research and development laboratory. He proceeded to work on QIAGEN's SYBR-Green chemistry platform, miScript,

for miRNA detection, low and high-throughput miRNA molecular profiling platform. In addition, he developed automated applications for Q-PCR gene expression miRNA/mRNA molecular profiling kit and marketed it to the biomedical research community. This new product generated \$5.8 million net sales in year one for QIAGEN Inc. in 2010.

Dr. Cherry was then recruited back to the NIH/NCI in 2010 to become a Scientific Program Director/ Assistant Project Officer of the Advanced Technology Program (ATP), and the Contracting Officer's Representative, COR III, for the Operational Technical Support Contract for the National Cancer Institute's (NCI) Division of Intramural Research.

The ATP (now CRTP) is currently a \$17 million program that provides state-of-the-art technologies to the NCI's principal investigators, postdoctoral and clinical fellows at NIH/NCI, and other federally funded research institutes. In 2011, Dr. Cherry co-developed a \$4 million technology development arm for the ATP/CRTP. This program was established to promote a collaborative environment with the NCI intramural community to develop innovative technologies in all areas of biomedical research, including genetics and genomics, protein expression, proteomics, imaging (subcellular, cellular, and whole-animal), nanotechnology, genetically-engineered animals, veterinary histology/pathology and bioinformatics.

In 2013 his responsibilities pivoted from the ATP/CRTP to the Laboratory of Animal Science Program (LASP). During his government oversight of the LASP, he has successfully implemented the NCI's Gnotobiotic operations, Genomic Modification Core, and the HIV reservoir laboratory and continued the development of the LASP technology development effort. Dr. Cherry also serves as the scientific advisor for all high school, undergraduate, graduate, and capstone students at the NCI at Frederick campus/FNLCR. In recognition of the outstanding work of Dr. Cherry and others at NCI, Frederick County Public Schools named NCI as the 2017 Maryland State Department of Education Outstanding Business Partner Award in recognition of the NCI Werner H. Kirsten student intern program for high school students. Dr. Cherry has been appointed to several scientific advisory boards representing the NCI for various universities in Maryland and currently serves on the Shepherd University Board of Governors. Dr. Cherry is an assistant professor at Hood College and an adjunct professor at Mount St. Mary's University and The National Institute Health FAES program, where he teaches Biomedical Ethics, Introduction to Cancer Biology, Cell Biology, Protein Biochemistry, and Advanced Technologies Genomics and Proteomics applications.