

Dr. Kara Spiller is an Assistant Professor in Drexel University's School of Biomedical Engineering, Science, and Health Systems. Kara received bachelor's and master's degrees in biomedical engineering from Drexel University in 2007, and a PhD also from Drexel in 2010. As an NSF Graduate Research Fellow, Kara initiated a new collaboration with Dr. Wei Liu of the Shanghai Key Tissue Engineering Laboratory of Shanghai Jiao Tong University. To facilitate this collaborative work, which formed the final aim of Kara's dissertation, she traveled to Shanghai 3 times for 3-4 months each over a period of about 2 years (2008-2010). This work was supported by a grant from the NSF Doctoral Dissertation Enhancement Program. After completing her PhD in 2010, she won a Fulbright fellowship to conduct research for 8 months under the advisement of Dr. Rui L. Reis at the University of Minho in Guimaraes, Portugal. She then conducted postdoctoral studies at Columbia University from 2011-2013, before returning to Drexel in 2013 as an assistant professor. Currently, Kara's graduate students at Drexel have conducted research for varying periods of time in the UK, Australia, Israel, Portugal, and China.