

# DSV Seminars 2016



UNIVERSITÀ  
DEGLI STUDI DI TRIESTE

DIPARTIMENTO DI  
SCIENZE DELLA VITA

## *PhD Program in Molecular Biomedicine*

**Monday, 19 September 2016 - 9:30**

Aula Magna, M Building – Via Giorgieri, 10

### **Fulvia VASCOTTO**

Deputy Head Vaccines & Cellular Immunotherapy  
TRON – Translational Oncology at the University  
Medical Center of the Johannes Gutenberg  
Mainz - Germany

*Plenary lecture opening the students  
mid-term presentations event*

### **Systemic mRNA vaccine and tumor environment study for the design of cancer immunotherapies**

Immunotherapeutic approaches have evolved as promising and valid alternatives to available conventional cancer treatments. Amongst others, vaccination with tumor antigen-encoding RNAs by local administration is currently successfully employed in various clinical trials. To allow for a more efficient targeting of antigen-presenting cells (APCs), we have developed a novel RNA immunotherapeutic for systemic application which exhibited strong immunostimulatory properties and anti-tumoral effect in various preclinical models. The clinical translation of this pioneering therapeutic concept is currently being realized in a multi-center, first-in-human phase I trial in patients with malignant melanoma.

