



**PAULA CANNON, PhD** is an Associate Professor of Microbiology at the Keck School of Medicine of the University of Southern California in Los Angeles. She obtained her PhD studying mobile genetic elements in bacteria from the University of Liverpool in the UK, which is also her home town. She then received post-doctoral training in HIV biology at both Oxford and Harvard Universities, where she became interested in the use of viruses as gene delivery agents. Her current research remains focused on pathogenic viruses where, in addition to HIV-1, her group studies highly pathogenic hemorrhagic fever viruses such as Lassa fever and Ebola virus. Most recently, she has been developing a gene knock-out technology to modify the genomes of hematopoietic stem cells and thereby produce HIV-resistant T cells. Dr. Cannon is funded to work on this combination gene and stem cell therapy as part of the state of California's stem cell "Disease Teams", with the goal of bringing this therapy to a clinical trial.