



**Laura A. Smith Callahan, PhD**  
**Assistant Professor**  
**Neurosurgery**

*Improving Nervous System Regeneration Using Deliverable  
Peptide-Modified Matrices*

Dr. Laura Smith Callahan obtained her B.S. in Bioengineering at the University of Toledo and her M.S. and Ph.D. in Biomedical Engineering with a focus in biotechnology and tissue engineering, respectively, from the University of Michigan. During this time, Dr. Smith Callahan received a NSF graduate student fellowship and a NIH pre-doctoral tissue engineering and regeneration training position. Following a one year post-doctoral regenerative sciences training position, Dr. Smith Callahan moved to a post-doctoral training position in the department of Polymer Science at the University of Akron. Her work at both the University of Michigan and Akron has focused on effects of emulating the size scale, surface chemistry and modulus of the extracellular matrix. In 2013, she moved to the University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston where she holds appointments Department of Neurosurgery, Center for Stem Cell and Regenerative Medicine and the Department of Nanomedicine and Biomedical Engineering.