

MMI 291 Seminar Series

Current Theme: Interdisciplinary Research
Winter Quarter 2026 – CRN 29995

**Friday Seminar at 12:10-1 p.m.
GBSF Auditorium 1005**

**“Enhancing pancreatic cancer
immunotherapy through pharmacological
and nutritional interventions”**

Research Bio

Gerardo Mackenzie is Professor and Chair of the Department of Nutrition at UC Davis. He received his B.S (Biochemistry) and Ph.D. (Cell Biology) from the University of Buenos Aires, Argentina and did postdoctoral work at the University of California, Davis prior to joining the Division of Cancer Prevention at Stony Brook University in October 2007. At Stony Brook University, he raised on the ranks from Senior Postdoctoral Associate to Instructor of Medicine and in 2013 Assistant professor in the Department of Family, Population and Preventive Medicine and an independent Investigator at the Stony Brook Cancer Center. In 2016, he was recruited to the Department of Nutrition at the University of California, Davis, and in 2019, he was promoted to Associate Professor, and in 2024 to full professor. His main area of research focuses on the evaluation of novel targets and mechanism-based pharmacological and natural agents for the prevention and treatment of cancer, in particular pancreatic cancer. Throughout his career, his research has been funded by multiple NIH awards.

Besides research, Mackenzie has a strong interest in mentoring. One example is that he is the program director of the Nutritional Biology Graduate Admissions Pathways (NUTGAP) program (<https://nutgap.ucdavis.edu/>). The NUTGAP program is an initiative funded by the University of California office of the President seeking to improve diversity and strengthen UC graduate programs by investing in relationships between UC faculty and Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs).

Publications

Guorgui J, Wang R, Mattheolabakis G, **Mackenzie GG**. “Curcumin formulated in solid lipid nanoparticles has enhanced efficacy in Hodgkin's lymphoma in mice”. PubMed. 2018 June DOI: [10.1016/j.abb.2018.04.012](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.abb.2018.04.012)

Mallangada NA, Vargas JM, Thomas S, DiGiovanni MG, Vaeth BM, Nemesure MD, Wang R, LaComb JF, Williams JL, Golub LM, Johnson F, **Mackenzie GG**. “A novel tricarbonylmethane agent (CMC2.24) reduces human pancreatic tumor growth in mice by targeting Ras”. PubMed. 2018 April DOI: [10.1002/mc.22830](https://doi.org/10.1002/mc.22830)

Jan.
16



Gerardo G. Mackenzie, Ph.D.
Professor and Department Chair
Nutritionist in AES
Corinne L. Rustici Endowed Chair in
Human Nutrition
University of California, Davis

**Jan. 16, 2026
12:10 – 1 p.m.
GBSF Auditorium
1005
In-person presentation**

Medical Microbiology and
Immunology
School of Medicine

Seminar Contact:
Autumn Vega
advega@health.ucdavis.edu

We hope to see you there!