

2023 MIPS Seminar Program

 03 May 2023  12:00 to 1:00 pm  LT3

ENABLING DIVERSE INNOVATION & ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Prof. Roy Zwahlen Assistant Dean Innovation and Strategy, UNC Pharmacy



Roy Zwahlen, J.D., is the Assistant Dean for Innovation and Strategy at the University of North Carolina Eshelman School of Pharmacy. He has been in higher education administration since 2016 at UNC Chapel Hill School of Pharmacy focused on building an innovation ecosystem around therapeutics and digital health. Dean Zwahlen is the Chief Strategy Officer of the Eshelman Institute for Innovation. Prior to joining UNC, he spent almost six years at the Biotechnology Innovation Organization as associate counsel focusing on legal and policy issues surrounding intellectual property, technology transfer, public health and economic development. He also served as the director of technology transfer, during which time he developed and implemented a university/industry collaboration strategy at BIO, which produced a range of high-level policy discussions and partnerships.

More recently, Dean Zwahlen has been building the PowerUp program at UNC working directly with Historically Black Colleges and Universities in North Carolina to launch a digital health venture studio platform that sources ideas from underrepresented communities, identifies underrepresented founders, and provides all of the capital and back office support needed to create advantaged startups.

Dean Zwahlen has been awarded a Fulbright Award to undertake a project in Australia, *Enabling Diverse Innovation & Entrepreneurship*. He provides a unique opportunity to learn from each other and think differently about our approach to diversity, equity, and inclusion as it relates to innovation and entrepreneurship.