

**Title: Approaches for Understanding Human Behavior in the Designed Environment**

**Abstract:**

Basing design decisions on credible evidence demands that those in the design disciplines contribute to the creation of rigorous evidence. The SimTigrate Design Lab in the College of Design at the Georgia Institute of Technology is a leader in building that evidence base by expanding the techniques for research and evaluation of built environments. This presentation will provide an introduction to some of the tools that SimTigrate researchers have been developing and methods to clarify the connections between design strategies and key outcomes in healthcare spaces. One of these approaches is what the team calls 'functional scenarios' whereby critical user needs are translated into spatial requirements using quantitative metrics. This presentation will also include a discussion a behavior mapping software tool in development, the MOV tool, that UF Interior Design faculty recently used in a grant-funded research project supported by the American Society of Interior Designers.

**Presented by**

**Jennifer Dubose, MS, EDAC**

Jennifer R. DuBose is the associate director of the SimTigrate Design Lab and a senior research associate with the College of Design at the Georgia Institute of Technology. She is responsible for the operations of the Lab as well project development and research. Her research focuses on evidence-based and sustainable design for healthcare facilities projects. Current projects include a rigorous literature review on the impacts of and solutions to sleep disruption in hospitals. She is also conducting original research on the design of integrated care team spaces for outpatient clinics and is leading a large project on this topic for the U.S. Army. She recently completed an analysis of nurses' perceptions and needs regarding lighting on the inpatient unit. She has authored numerous peer-reviewed journal articles, several book chapters, and has been an invited speaker at national and international meetings.