Igor L. Medintz earned his B.Sc. in forensic science (1990) and, after working for several years in an analytical laboratory, his M.Sc. in biology (1996), both from the City University of New York. He received his Ph.D. in molecular, cellular and developmental biology from the City University in 1999 working on the molecular genetics of *Saccharomyces*. After a National Cancer Institute post-doctoral fellowship with Prof. Richard Mathies at the College of Chemistry, University of California Berkeley, he worked in industry for a pharmaceutical company. He joined the Center for Bio/Molecular Science and Engineering of the U.S. Naval Research Laboratory in Washington D.C. as a National Research Council Fellow in 2002 and then became a research biologist in 2004 where he later became the Head of the Laboratory for Bio/Nano Science and Technology. He is currently the Navy's Senior Scientist for Biosensors and Biomaterials. He received a 2007 Top Navy Scientist and Engineering Emerging Investigator Award and the 2013 Arthur S. Flemming Award in Basic Sciences. His research focuses on controllably interfacing nanomaterials with biological molecules, understanding how nanoparticles engage in energy transfer and how biological molecules function at a nanoparticle interface. He has coauthored more than 200 peer-reviewed articles along with receiving 17 patents.