RESI SAN DIEGO 2026

June 22: JULEP Venue San Diego | June 23-24, 29-30: Virtual Partnering



PRESENTED BY LIFE SCIENCE NATION
Connecting Products, Services & Capital

ONSITE GUIDE

Capital investors, licensing partners, fundraising CEOs, and service providers Make a Compelling Connection

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RESIConference.com | Julep Venue
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RESI

2026-27 CONFERENCE SERIES



RESI BOSTON 2026

SEPT 22-23: THE WESTIN COPLEY PLACE
SEPT 25, 28-29: VIRTUAL PARTNERING



RESI JPM 2027

JAN 11-12: SAN FRANCISCO MARRIOTT MARQUIS
JAN 13, 18-19: VIRTUAL PARTNERING

Take $100 off with discount code **RESI100** for future RESIs.

For more information about our future events,

visit our website RESIConference.com or contact us at RESI@lifesciencenation.com.

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WELCOME TO RESI



Welcome to RESI San Diego – Redefining Every Stage of Investment

Thank you for joining us at RESI San Diego, taking place at the Julep Venue. Life Science Nation (LSN) is proud to host this dynamic gathering of global investors, licensing partners, and innovators representing every stage of the healthcare investment landscape.

RESI San Diego offers a full day of programming designed to maximize exposure, engagement, and strategic opportunity. Each hour features investor panels, two concurrent tracks of the Innovator's Pitch Challenge (IPC), and two concurrent tracks of interactive workshops. The IPC highlights a diverse group of presenting companies across biotech, medtech, diagnostics, and digital health, who pitch live to investor judges. Attendees can participate by voting for their favorite companies with RESI cash, adding an interactive element to the experience. Be sure to explore the exhibit hall in the ballroom to connect with these innovators and learn more about their technologies.

Throughout the day, RESI attendees will also have the opportunity to engage with tech hubs and service providers that play an essential role in supporting company growth and fundraising efforts. These organizations are available through exhibits, panel discussions, and educational sessions. Our networking receptions provide additional space for fostering new relationships and expanding professional networks.

Life Science Nation also extends sincere thanks to the sponsors supporting RESI San Diego 2026. Title Sponsors **Innopolis Jeonbuk Innovation Cluster, Biometas**, and **KBIC Kobe Biomedical Innovation Cluster,** along with Gold Sponsors **Medmarc**, **RSM**, and **One Nucleus**, Silver Sponsors **Biocytogen, Polsinelli,** and **Foley Hoag,** and Bronze Sponsors **BSR Korea, Jeonbuk Advanced Bio Boost Platform (JABI), JEONGEUP-SI, JEONBUK STATE, Ministry of Science and ICT, Inertia, Alithia Life Sciences,** and **OPIS**, play an instrumental role in creating the connections and collaborative environment that define RESI.

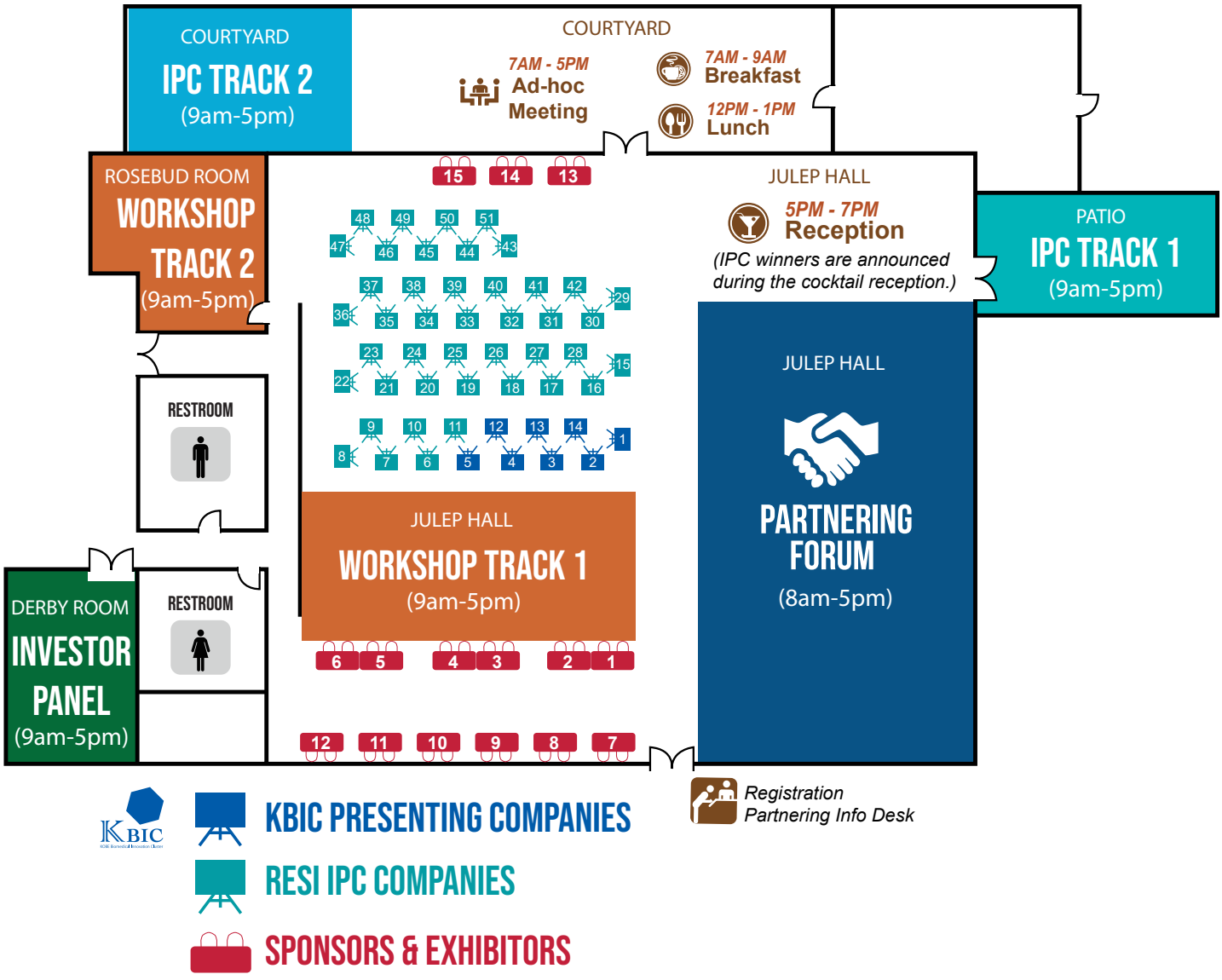
RESI's partnering platform continues to serve as the foundation of the conference, connecting early-stage life science companies with investors, licensing partners, and strategic collaborators through curated 1:1 meetings. In-person partnering takes place today, followed by four days of virtual partnering on June 23–24 and June 29–30. The additional virtual partnering days provide attendees with an opportunity to extend their Convention Week networking and continue meaningful discussions with participants from around the world.

Life Science Nation looks forward to a productive and impactful week of innovation, investment, and collaboration at RESI San Diego 2026.

Sougato Das
President and Chief Operating Officer
Life Science Nation

LIFE SCIENCE NATION
Connecting Products, Services & Capital

JULEP VENUE SAN DIEGO



7:00 AM - 8:00 AM: Breakfast Buffet (COURTYARD)

8:00 AM - 5:00 PM: Partnering Meetings (JULEP HALL)

9:00 AM - 5:00 PM: Investor Panels (DERBY ROOM)

9:00 AM - 5:00 PM: Innovator's Pitch Challenge Tracks 1 (PATIO)

9:00 AM - 5:00 PM: Innovator's Pitch Challenge Tracks 2 (COURTYARD)

9:00 AM - 5:00 PM: Sponsor Workshop Track 1 (JULEP HALL)

9:00 AM - 5:00 PM: Sponsor Workshop Track 2 (ROSEBUD ROOM)

12:00 PM - 1:00 PM: Lunch (COURTYARD)

5:00 PM - 7:00 PM: Cocktail Reception (JULEP HALL)

EXHIBIT TABLES

LIFE SCIENCE NATION
Connecting Products, Services & Capital

Table 1&2

KBIC
KOBE Biomedical Innovation Cluster

Table 3&4

INNOPOLIS
JEONBUK INNOVATION CLUSTER

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Advancing your discovery

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inertia

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TMC
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Table 15

INNOVATOR'S PITCH CHALLENGE

ANT5

Easel 1

Radio Nano Therapeutics

Easel 2

UNITED IMMUNITY

Easel 3

FELIQS

Easel 4

CELL THERAPY

Easel 5

Aavogen

Easel 6

HEPHAISTOS

Easel 7

nanotrace

Easel 8

ONCOVITA

Easel 9

Immunis

Easel 10

INNOVATOR'S PITCH CHALLENGE

Sebastian BioPharma	HIUCHI PHARMA	CellFold	JUNTENDO UNIVERSITY TOKYO 1838	PICTOR
Easel 11	Easel 12	Easel 13	Easel 14	Easel 15
Quantdetect	GLIOMIC Therapeutics	ALPHYN	ALLANDER BIOTECHNOLOGIES	You2Yourself Health monitoring services
Easel 16	Easel 17	Easel 18	Easel 19	Easel 20
Repair Biotechnologies	Pinion	KILELE HEALTH	EGRET THERAPEUTICS	Lenoss Medical
Easel 21	Easel 22	Easel 23	Easel 24	Easel 25
PICO IV	Numiera Therapeutics	abionic Early Sepsis Detection	ELASTRO	3Helix
Easel 26	Easel 27	Easel 28	Easel 29	Easel 30
REJUVENATION TECHNOLOGIES	Haema LogiX	NEW VIEW MEDICAL	ID4Pharma	Brainalyze
Easel 31	Easel 32	Easel 33	Easel 34	Easel 35
BOOST PHARMA	ENDEANOR ORTHOPAEDICS	4D BIOMED Hitting targets.	AAD Ad Astra Diagnostics Information that counts™	WAVEGATE
Easel 36	Easel 37	Easel 38	Easel 39	Easel 40
inovodel	ReEngage Therapeutics	CAPTURA BIOPHARMA	DIOTREE	argeron herapeutics LLC
Easel 41	Easel 42	Easel 43	Easel 44	Easel 45
BCN	VECTIOPEP	MindLab	æther THERAPEUTICS	TesoRx
Easel 46	Easel 47	Easel 48	Easel 49	Easel 50
BIOCOPY				
Easel 51				

AGENDA

8:00 AM – 5:00 PM: Onsite Partnering (JULEP HALL)
7:00 AM – 8:00 AM: Breakfast Buffet (COURTYARD)

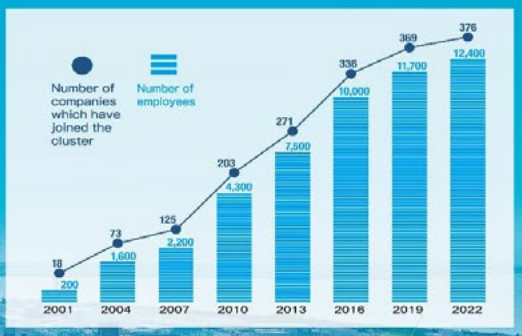
	Innovator's Pitch Challenge		Sponsor Workshops	
Investor Panels (DERBY ROOM)	**Track 1 (PATIO)**	**Track 2 (COURTYARD)**	**Track 1 (JULEP HALL)**	**Track 2 (ROSEBUD ROOM)**
9:00 - 9:50AM				
INSIDE PHARMA PARTNERING *How Early-Stage Companies Can Engage Pharma*	**SESSION #1** **MEDICAL DEVICE**	**SESSION #2** **DIAGNOSTICS**	POLSINELLI **NEGOTIATING EARLY STAGE FINANCING TERM SHEETS**	**BEYOND BORDERS: THE REAL INVESTMENT MANDATES OF JAPANESE VCS AND CVCS**
10:00 - 10:50AM				
STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS & INVESTMENTS IN MEDTECH *What the Next Generation of Device Companies Must Deliver*	**SESSION #3** **THERAPEUTICS**	**SESSION #4** **THERAPEUTICS**	INNOPOLIS JEONBUK INNOVATION CLUSTER **JEONBUK ADVANCED BIO BOOST-UP INNOVATION SHOWCASE**	BIOCYTOGEN **RENSUPER WORKSTATION** *An AI-Driven Antibody Discovery Platform From Target to Antibody Leads in Click*
11:00 - 11:50AM				
STRATEGIC CAPITAL: THE ROLE OF CVCS *Investing Where Innovation Meets Industry*	**SESSION #5** **MEDICAL DEVICE**	**SESSION #6** **THERAPEUTICS**		**LIFE SCIENCES STRATEGIC MANAGED SERVICES LEADER** RSM
12:00 - 1:00 PM: Lunch Break (COURTYARD)				
1:00 - 1:50PM				
NEW FRONTIERS IN DIAGNOSTICS *Investing in Technologies Enabling Earlier Disease Detection*	**SESSION #7** **THERAPEUTICS**	**SESSION #8** **THERAPEUTICS**	KBIC **JAPAN LIFE SCIENCE SHOWCASE**	LIFE SCIENCE NATION **FROM SCIENCE TO SIGNAL**
2:00 - 2:50PM				
EMERGING APPROACHES IN CANCER THERAPIES *How New Modalities Are Standing Out in a Competitive Market*	**SESSION #9** **THERAPEUTICS**	**SESSION #10** **THERAPEUTICS**		**NIH SMALL BUSINESS FUNDING: OPEN FOR BUSINESS**
3:00 - 3:50PM				
AI AT THE FRONTLINES OF HEALTHCARE *Innovation Building Scalable Companies at the Intersection of Data and Medicine*	**SESSION #11** **THERAPEUTICS**	**SESSION #12** **THERAPEUTICS**	KYOTO-iCAP **TRANSLATING KYOTO SCIENCE INTO GLOBAL BIOTECH VENTURES**	**TALES FROM THE ROAD** *Biotech and MedTech Innovators on their Fundraising Journey*
4:00 - 4:50PM				
CROSSING THE VENTURE GAP *Moving from Seed Funding to Venture Rounds*	**SESSION #13** **DIAGNOSTICS / DIGITAL HEALTH**	**SESSION #14** **THERAPEUTICS**	**NEW MODEL FOR EVALUATING AND INVESTING IN EARLY-STAGE ASSETS**	**TIPS AND TRAPS FOR FINDING EARLY-STAGE INVESTORS** FOLEY HOAG
5:00 - 7:00 PM: Cocktail Reception - IPC Winners Announced (JULEP HALL)				

Kobe Biomedical Innovation Cluster

Japan's Leading Life Science Hub

KBIC project started as one of the earthquake disaster reconstruction projects in the aftermath of Great Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake in 1995. KBIC took on the task of forging a foundation for the healthcare industry and has grown to be a leading biomedical hub in Japan.

350+
Companies / Organization





3 Subclusters to Facilitate Healthcare Innovation



Medical Cluster — 8 highly specialized medical institutions


Kobe City Medical Center General Hospital

Bio Cluster — RIKEN and prominent research institutions


RIKEN Center for Biosystems Dynamics Research (BDR)

Simulation Cluster — Supercomputer FUGAKU and related institutions


Supercomputer Fugaku

Companies in KBIC

Join us at KBIC Session @ RESI San Diego 2026!

June 22, 1:00 – 4:00pm PST

KBIC
KOBE Biomedical Innovation Cluster

MEDISO
Medical Innovation Support Office

KYOTO-iCAP
KYOTO UNIVERSITY INNOVATION CAPITAL Co.,Ltd.

CELL THERAPY

ANT5

UNITED IMMUNITY

RadioNano Therapeutics

HIUCHI PHARMA

JUNTENDO UNIVERSITY TOKYO 1838

CellFold

FELIQS



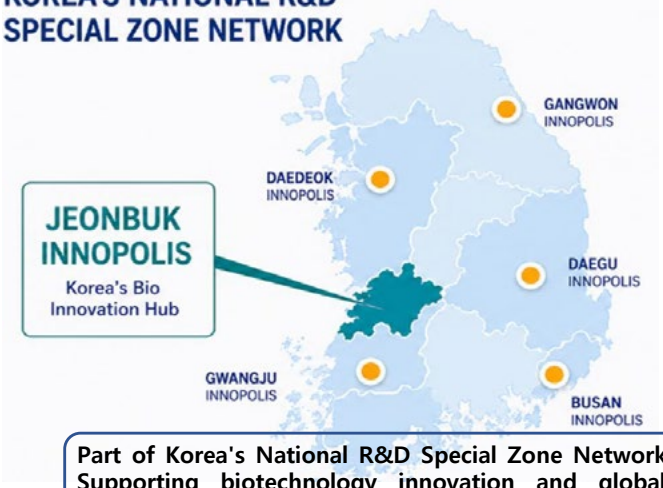
Jeonbuk Advanced Bio boost-up platform (JABI)
전북 바이오기업 집중육성 사업

JEONBUK ADVANCED BIO BOOST-UP INNOVATION SHOWCASE

Connecting Korean Bio Companies with Global Investors and Partners

Supporting innovative life science companies through nonclinical development, commercialization, and global partnership opportunities.

KOREA'S NATIONAL R&D SPECIAL ZONE NETWORK



Part of Korea's National R&D Special Zone Network
Supporting biotechnology innovation and global commercialization

JEONBUK BIO ECOSYSTEM

- ADVANCED BIOTECHNOLOGY
- REGENERATIVE MEDICINE
- NONCLINICAL DEVELOPMENT INFRASTRUCTURE
- TECHNOLOGY COMMERCIALIZATION
- GLOBAL PARTNERSHIPS & MARKET EXPANSION

780+ BIO-RELATED COMPANIES

221 RESEARCH-BASED STARTUPS

22 PUBLIC RESEARCH INSTITUTES

WittGen · C&B (주)셀레브레인 CELLeBRAIN · ViEL-T Virus Elimination Technologies · YBG YOUTH BIO GLOBAL · Erudio Bio · basgenbio

JOIN US AT

RESI SAN DIEGO 2026



June 22, 2026 (Monday)

10:00 AM – 12:00 PM

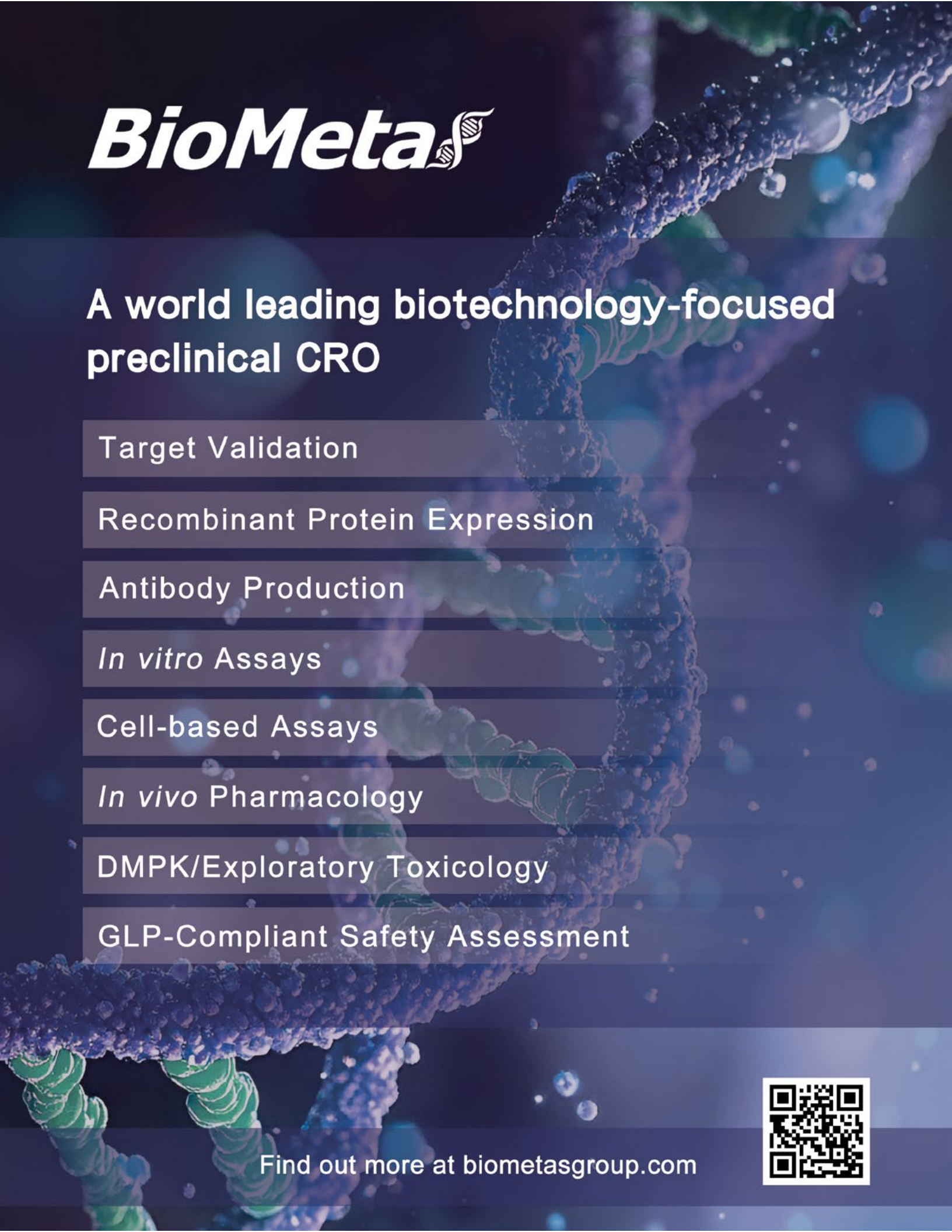
JULEP Venue
San Diego, California

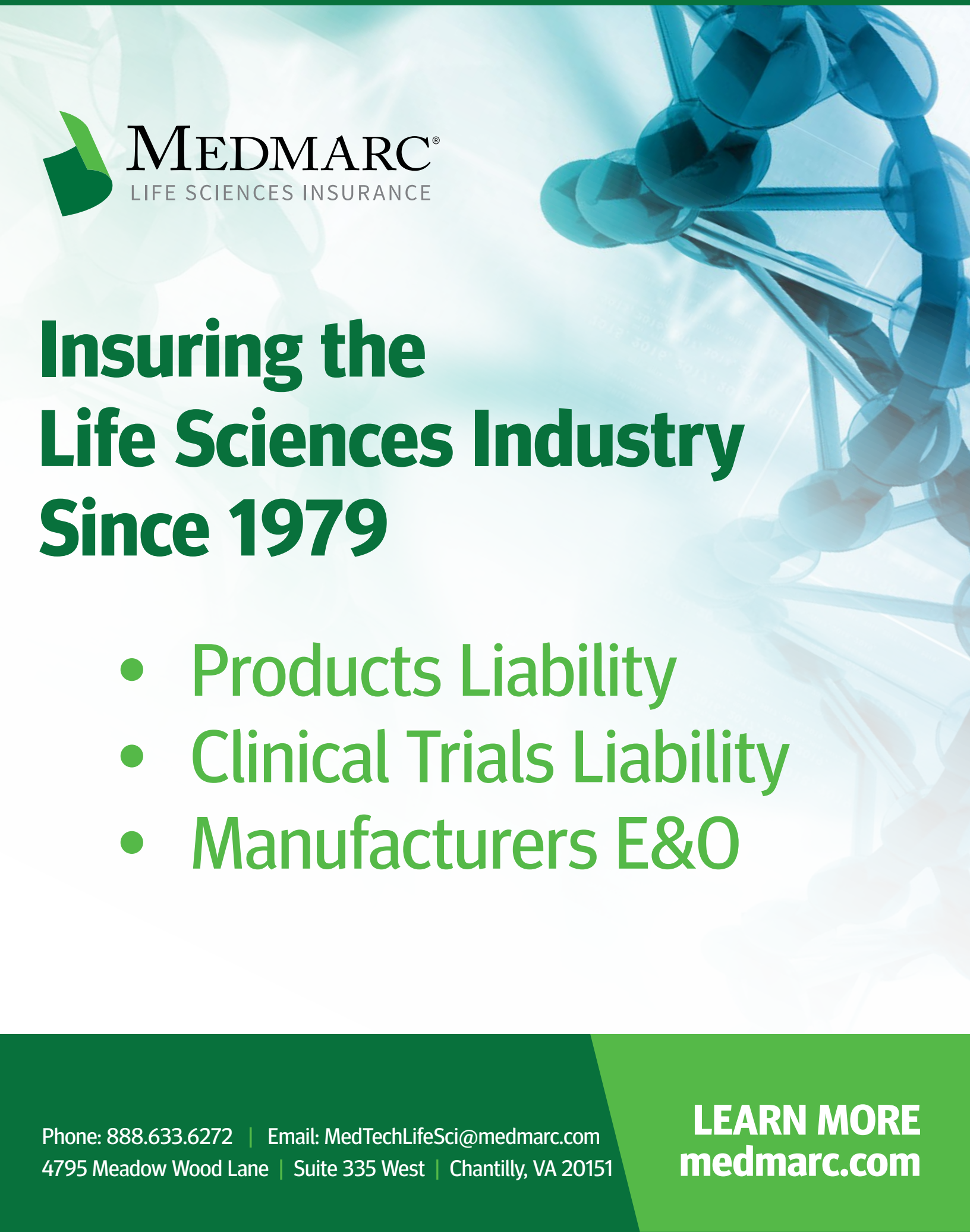
PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- Introduction to the Jeonbuk Advanced Bio Boost-Up Platform (JABI)
- Keynote Presentation
- Startup Pitch Presentations
- Investor Q&A & Panel Discussion
- Networking with Global Investors & Partners

CONTACT US | BSR KOREA | bsr@bsrkorea.com

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- **Partnerships**
  150+ assets licensing agreement
  50+ target-nominated RenMice® licensing projects

Our Global Sites

1000+ employees



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WORKSHOP AT RESI SAN DIEGO

RenSuper Workstation: An AI-Driven Antibody Discovery Platform From Target to Antibody Leads in *Click*

Discover how Biocytogen's RenSuper Workstation combines RenMice immunization, NGS, AI-powered screening, and validation to rapidly deliver development-ready, fully human antibody candidates with data-driven insights, reduced discovery risk, and accelerated timelines.



ICY NIU
Executive Director
Global BD & Marketing Head
icy.niu@biocytogen.com

Event Information

Monday
June 22nd

10:00 - 10:50 am

Location:
JULEP Venue, 1735 Hancock St, San Diego, CA 92101
Room: Derby Room

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Who are we?

Alithia Life Sciences is an Australian owned full capability, boutique, clinical research organisation (CRO) launched to support and assist pharmaceutical, biotechnology, device companies and institutional research groups undertaking their project in the Australian region and beyond.

What do we do?

- Comprehensive project and clinical strategy management for local and global Sponsors, from concept through close-out
- Support for biotech executive teams, including local directorship
- Access to a broad network of KOLs, vendors, labs, IP depots, and R&D tax specialists
- Full-service clinical research support

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Polsinelli's nationally recognized multidisciplinary team provides life sciences and health care clients with a full-service approach through every stage of the corporate lifecycle, from start-up to growth to liquidity. We counsel clients on entity formation, pre-seed/seed/venture stage financings, patent prosecution and strategy (including Freedom to Operate opinions), in-licensing and out-licensing, FDA compliance, healthcare reimbursement and litigation (including Hatch-Waxman and ITC), collaborations, mergers and acquisitions and public offerings/SEC compliance. We have deep industry experience in all of the life science verticals — including biotech, medical devices, pharmaceuticals, digital health, food and agriculture — as well as health care — including hospitals and health systems, pharmacies, behavioral health, home health and hospice, infusion therapy, and long-term care/assisted living facilities.

We look forward to the opportunity to connect!

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Fundable is not the same as buildable.

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One integrated path.
From concept through launch and scale.

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Ministry of Science and ICT

전북특별자치도
JEONBUK STATE

JEONGEUP-SI

Jeonbuk Advanced BIo boost-up platform (JABI)
전북 바이오기업 집중육성 사업

inertia

lithia

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EXHIBITORS

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GLOBAL DATABASE

TMC
Tailored Solutions.
Proven Results.

RESI CONFERENCE SERIES PRESENTED BY LIFE SCIENCE NATION

LIFE SCIENCE NATION
Connecting Products, Services & Capital

Table 1, 2

Life Science Nation (LSN)

Life Science Nation has built a global partnering backbone that links early stage healthcare companies with capital investors and licensing partners. Our resources combine data, technology, education, and curated events to help innovators prepare for and execute global fundraising and partnering campaigns.

Key Resources

- GPC Platform + RESI Conference Series: Match with investors and partners by product, stage, and allocation needs across Drugs, Devices, Diagnostics, and Digital Health.
- Partner Network: Includes service providers, tech hubs, and agencies that power early-stage life sciences.
- Three Components: Investor & Licensing Partner Database integrated with Salesforce CRM, RESI Partnering Events, and Entrepreneurial Education.

GPC Global Partnering Campaign

Global Partnering Campaign (GPC)

The GPC combines LSN's investor/licensing database with Salesforce CRM. Subscribers receive a vetted Global Target List (GTL) of likely partners organized into priority tiers:

- Tier 1: Exact mandate fit
- Tier 2: Opportunistic investors seeking compelling assets
- Tier 3: Potential fits based on recent activity

Profiles update daily and integrate with CRM to track outreach, materials shared, notes, and investor pipeline reporting.

LSN BD ASSIST

LSN BD Assist

BD Assist is LSN's managed global outreach program. We build and refine your global target list, integrate it into Salesforce CRM, develop messaging, launch coordinated outreach, and manage meeting scheduling. This enables founders to focus on development while we manage the time consuming work of investor engagement.

What BD Assist Delivers

- AI-optimized messaging for outreach
- Prioritized partner targeting
- Coordinated outreach campaigns
- Confirmed investor meetings synced to your CRM

With over a decade of experience teaching startups how to craft their story and secure funding, LSN combines trusted methodology with hands-on execution. Results speak for themselves: 90% of companies in our Australian accelerator cohort secured funding or partnerships.

If you're raising capital or licensing in the next 12 months, BD Assist is your turnkey solution for launching a global campaign without building an in-house BD team.

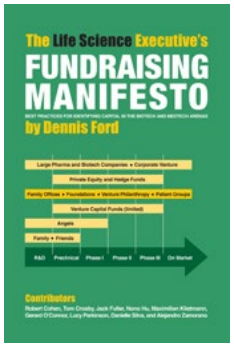
Contact us at salescore@lifesciencenation.com to get started.

LIFE SCIENCE NATION PUBLICATIONS

LSN Publications

LSN publishes educational content and market insights to support early stage companies as they prepare for global fundraising. These publications highlight investor trends, partnering strategies, and best practices for telling a clear and compelling story.

NEXT PHASE»



SPONSORS & EXHIBITORS

KBIC
KOBE Biomedical Innovation Cluster

Table 3,4

The Kobe Biomedical Innovation Cluster (KBIC) is the largest biomedical cluster in Japan, offering a highly integrated platform that promotes networking and innovative collaboration among businesses, academic institutions, and medical organizations. KBIC brings together a concentrated community of nearly 350 companies, universities, research institutes, and specialized hospitals, all dedicated to advancing cutting-edge medical technologies and pioneering scientific discoveries through close collaboration. FBRI is also home to the Foundation for Biomedical Research and Innovation at Kobe (FBRI), the core organization supporting this cluster. KBIC actively promotes biomedical innovation through advanced clinical research and translational medicine, with a particular focus on biomanufacturing as well as cell and gene–based technologies. In addition, KBIC fosters cross-border collaboration and open innovation among cutting-edge startups through its international networks.KBIC provides an ideal environment for organizations seeking to establish a presence in Japan, invest in life sciences, or identify strategic partners across academia, healthcare, and industry.

INNOPOLIS
JEONBUK INNOVATION CLUSTER

Table 5,6

INNOPOLIS Jeonbuk is a research and innovation hub located in Jeonbuk State, South Korea. As part of Korea's national innovation network under the Ministry of Science and ICT, it supports the growth of technology-driven companies through commercialization programs, industry partnerships, investment connections, and global collaboration initiatives.

INNOPOLIS Jeonbuk works closely with startups, research institutes, universities, hospitals, and industry partners to help innovative technologies reach the market and expand internationally, with a growing focus on biotechnology and life sciences.

BioMetas
Advancing your discovery

Table 8

BioMetas is a trusted partner for early-stage biotech innovators, providing a comprehensive suite of preclinical research services. With expertise spanning target validation, recombinant protein expression, antibody production, in vitro assays, in vivo pharmacology, DMPK/exploratory toxicology, and GLP-compliant safety assessment, BioMetas enables startups to progress their drug discovery and development programs efficiently, from a concept to an IND-ready candidate. By streamlining the preclinical process and providing milestone-driven support, BioMetas helps biotech companies de-risk their assets and position them for successful global partnering opportunities.

MEDMARC®
LIFE SCIENCES INSURANCE

Table 9

Created in 1979 by the healthcare technology industry, Medmarc's mission is to be the superior provider of liability insurance protection and related risk management solutions to the medical technology industry. We support the research and development, manufacturing, and delivery of medical products that save lives and improve the quality of life. Through collaboration with our parent company, ProAssurance, and our strategic alliance carriers in the U.S. and abroad, we provide a single source of innovative healthcare liability insurance solutions to the life sciences companies we serve. From ideas and prototypes to the reality of commercialization and success – We Can Meet Your Changing Needs. Contact us to discuss the cost of insurance coverage and what coverages are needed for your business plan. (703) 652-1360

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RSM is the leading provider of assurance, tax and consulting services focused on the middle market, empowering growth-oriented organizations to take charge of change with confidence. As the U.S. member firm of a global network spanning more than 120 countries, RSM delivers the scale, insights and continuity organizations need to navigate an increasingly complex and evolving business environment.

For the Life Sciences industry, RSM helps Biopharma, Medtech and Life Sciences Services organizations scale from development through commercialization with an integrated, industry-led approach. By aligning commercialization and market access, finance and managed services, digital and data, and risk and compliance, we help organizations navigate complexity and accelerate growth with confidence.

Table 7

One Nucleus is a not-for-profit Life Sciences & Healthcare membership organisation headquartered in Cambridge. We support institutions, companies and individuals in the Life Sciences sector providing local, UK-wide and international connectivity. Through providing the local, UK-wide and international connectivity, One Nucleus seeks to enable our members to maximise their performance. This support helps them achieve, or better still exceed, the goals they have set for themselves. Biomedical and Healthcare R&D have always been impactful in driving social and economic progress. In an increasingly outsourced, collaborative and multi-disciplinary sector, bringing the best people together is key to translating great innovation into great products that markedly improve patient outcomes and drive economic development. Attracting and enabling the best people to engage with is at the heart of the One Nucleus team ethos and what we continually strive to deliver.

Table 10

Biocytogen is a global biotech company that drives the discovery of fully human monoclonal, bispecific, multispecific, ADC, VHH, and TCR-mimic antibodies across 1,000+ druggable targets, providing 1M+ authentic antibody sequences through its RenBiologics™ sub-brand for partnerships.

Biocytogen is advancing antibody drug development through innovative technologies. Leveraging gene-editing expertise, it pioneered drug target knock-in humanized models and offers 4,000+ models via BioMice™, along with in vivo, ex vivo, and in vitro pharmacology and custom gene-editing services.

Table 11

Foley Hoag is a leading international law firm with a primary focus on the life sciences industry. We offer a full range of services and our international client base includes companies in all stages of development, from startups to Fortune 50 companies. We have substantial experience in all areas of the life sciences industry, including biotechnology, pharmaceuticals, medical devices, and healthcare (including hospitals). By drawing on the talents of a wide variety of professionals, many of whom have had previous careers as scientists and high-ranking government officials, we help companies and investors navigate the complexity of research, development, approval, commercialization, reimbursement and coverage of innovative medical products and services.

SPONSORS & EXHIBITORS

과학기술정보통신부
Ministry of Science and ICT

Table 5,6

The Ministry of Science and ICT (MSIT) is the Korean government agency responsible for science, technology, research, and innovation policy. Through national R&D programs and strategic investments, MSIT supports the growth of key industries including biotechnology, healthcare, artificial intelligence, and advanced manufacturing. The Ministry works to strengthen Korea's innovation ecosystem and expand global collaboration in science and technology.

Jeonbuk Advanced Bio boost-up platform (JABI)
전북 바이오기업 집중육성 사업

Table 5,6

The Jeonbuk Advanced Bio Boost-Up Platform (JABI) is a regional initiative created to support the growth of advanced biotechnology companies in Jeonbuk, South Korea. The program brings together research institutes, hospitals, industry experts, investors, and global partners to help companies move from research to commercialization.

JABI provides support in technology development, non-clinical testing, investment preparation, business development, and international market expansion. By connecting companies with the resources and partners they need, the platform helps build a stronger bio-industry ecosystem and supports the global growth of Korean life science companies.

As a key partner of JABI, JBTP supports biotechnology companies through tailored growth programs, networking opportunities, and commercialization support.

전북특별자치도
JEONBUK STATE

Table 5,6

Jeonbuk State (Jeonbuk Special Self-Governing Province) is actively developing its bio-industry as one of its future growth sectors. The region is home to national research institutes, universities, hospitals, and specialized bio-industry infrastructure that support research, commercialization, and industrial growth.

Through continued investment in biotechnology, regenerative medicine, digital healthcare, and related fields, Jeonbuk is working to create a strong environment for innovation and global collaboration.

JEONGEUP-SI

Table 5,6

Jeongeup-si is one of the leading biotechnology centers in Jeonbuk State. The city is home to several national research institutes and specialized facilities that support biotechnology research, technology development, and commercialization.

Jeongeup continues to invest in research infrastructure and industry support programs while working with local and global partners to help life science companies grow and expand into new markets.

SPONSORS & EXHIBITORS

BSR KOREA
BEYOND THE SPECIALISM AND RELIABILITY

Table 5,6

BSRKorea is a global business consulting and technology commercialization company that helps Korean startups, SMEs, research institutions, and public organizations connect with international markets. The company supports global business development, investment attraction, technology commercialization, and cross-border partnerships.

Through its network across the United States and Asia, BSR Korea helps companies identify market opportunities, connect with investors and strategic partners, and build pathways for international growth and commercialization.

POLSINELLI®
What a law firm *should* be.™

Polsinelli is an Am Law 100 firm with more than 1,200 attorneys in over 25 offices nationwide. Recognized as one of the top firms for excellent client service and client relationships, Polsinelli is committed to meeting our clients' expectations of what a law firm should be. Our attorneys provide value through practical legal counsel infused with business insight, offering comprehensive corporate, transactional, litigation and regulatory services with a focus on life sciences, health care, real estate, finance, technology, and private equity.

inertia

Table 14

Inertia is a trusted partner for startups and innovators looking to bring bold product ideas to life. We support clients through every stage of hardware development—from concept to manufacturing—offering expertise in design, prototyping, engineering, and supply chain management. Beyond the creative spark, we handle the critical details that ensure success, like design for manufacturing and logistics. For us, innovation begins with a blank page and the belief that 'nothingness' can become something impactful. We're inspired by the genius of our clients and team, driven to turn visionary ideas into real-world solutions. With curiosity as our compass and execution as our strength, Inertia is committed to building not just what's new, but what's needed—solutions that make life easier, better, and more joyful. With the right vision, we know we can go anywhere.



Table 13

Alithia Life Sciences is an Australian owned clinical research consultancy launched to support and assist pharmaceutical, biotechnology, device companies and institutional research groups undertaking their project in the Australian region and beyond.

We have over 150 years of operational expertise and industry experience in various therapeutic areas including, first in human studies, devices, endocrinology, oncology, neurology, gastroenterology, rare and pediatric diseases and vaccines.

Our breadth of expertise in the academic, commercial and biotechnology settings can support your project from Phase I through to Phase III.

Our experience includes developing products successfully through to FDA approval and executive management and establishment of a successful Contract Research Organization (CRO).

SPONSORS & EXHIBITORS

OPIS is a full-service clinical research organization providing end-to-end support for pharmaceutical, biotechnology, and medical device clinical trials, including clinical operations, regulatory support, data management, biostatistics, and medical monitoring. The company also offers OPIS Clinical.net, an integrated digital platform designed to streamline trial management, enhance patient engagement, and support efficient and compliant clinical research.

Biotechgate is a leading business development and licensing database for the entire life science industry, offering a wealth of information on over 69,000 life science company profiles. Thanks to its unique data sourcing process, the profiles include company descriptions, contact information, product pipeline information, financing rounds, and management details, making it an invaluable resource for life sciences start-ups, pharma companies, investors, and other industry professionals. Biotechgate also features 30,000 licensing deals and a clinical trials database containing over 800,000 records from registries around the world.

Table 12

TMC is a global pharma services company, partnering with small to mid-sized biotech and pharma companies to accelerate drug development timelines and maximise value across the full product lifecycle. We provide end-to-end support - from early stage clinical development to clinical execution, market access and drug commercialisation. Our integrated pharma services are delivered by cross-functional experts with extensive knowledge across regulatory, clinical development, medical services, pharmacovigilance and quality specialities. Whether you're advancing a rare disease treatment, pioneering an advanced therapeutic modality or preparing for market entry in the EU and UK, TMC is the pharma services company with the agility, insight and infrastructure to make it happen.

Table 15

INVESTOR PANELS

9:00 AM | INSIDE PHARMA PARTNERING

How Early-Stage Companies Can Engage Pharma

As pharma increasingly turns to external innovation, early-stage startups have new opportunities to partner before clinical proof-of-concept. This panel explores current partnering trends, what attracts pharma interest, and how startups can position their technologies, data, and strategy to secure collaborations that support long-term growth and value creation.

10:00 AM | STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS & INVESTMENTS IN MEDTECH

What the Next Generation of Device Companies Must Deliver

Strategic corporations and investors play a key role in advancing medtech innovation from development to commercialization. This panel will explore how leading medtech partners evaluate investments, collaborations, and acquisitions, the milestones that drive decisions, and how startups can align their products, evidence, and commercial strategies to attract capital and strategic partnerships.

11:00 AM | STRATEGIC CAPITAL: THE ROLE OF CVCS

Investing Where Innovation Meets Industry

Corporate venture capital plays an increasingly important role in healthcare innovation, providing both funding and strategic value. This panel will examine how CVCs evaluate startups, collaborate with investors, and support growth through partnerships. Attendees will learn how to attract strategic capital while balancing corporate alignment with long-term independence.

1:00 PM | NEW FRONTIERS IN DIAGNOSTICS

Investing in Technologies Enabling Earlier Disease Detection

Innovations in diagnostics are enabling earlier detection, personalized care, and improved health outcomes. This panel will explore emerging opportunities across molecular diagnostics, AI-driven tools, and disease monitoring, while examining how investors assess clinical utility, regulatory strategy, reimbursement potential, and partnerships that support successful commercialization and adoption.

2:00 PM | EMERGING APPROACHES IN CANCER THERAPIES

How New Modalities Are Standing Out in a Competitive Market

Oncology remains a leading area of life science innovation, with new modalities transforming cancer treatment. This panel will examine current investment and partnering trends, how investors assess differentiation and risk, and which clinical and translational milestones matter most. Attendees will gain practical insights into positioning oncology programs for funding and growth.

3:00 PM | AI AT THE FRONTLINES OF HEALTHCARE

Innovation Building Scalable Companies at the Intersection of Data and Medicine

AI is transforming healthcare across drug development, diagnostics, and clinical operations. This panel will explore where investors see the most compelling opportunities, how companies can build defensible AI platforms and evidence, and what is required to drive adoption through successful partnerships, regulatory readiness, and clear clinical and commercial value.

4:00 PM | CROSSING THE VENTURE GAP

Moving from Seed Funding to Venture Rounds

Raising a first institutional venture round is a critical milestone for startups. This panel will explore what investors expect at this stage, including evidence, team development, and capital strategy. Attendees will gain insight into how to build an investable story that connects near-term milestones with long-term growth and value creation.

9:00 AM | INSIDE PHARMA PARTNERING

How Early-Stage Companies Can Engage Pharma

Large pharmaceutical companies are relying more than ever on external innovation to build future pipelines, especially as they face looming patent cliffs and funding pressure. Increasingly, pharma is engaging with startups before clinical proof-of-concept, often through discovery collaborations, option-to-license agreements, and platform deals that share risk and tie value to clear development milestones.

This panel will look at how pharma teams actually scout new technologies today and what specific signals trigger early partnering interest. Panelists will discuss current dealmaking trends, structured milestone-heavy "biobucks" deals with modest upfronts, and focused interest in areas such as oncology, immunology, metabolic disease, and more.

For early-stage companies seeking strategic partnerships, this session will offer practical, candid guidance on how to approach pharma, what level of data or validation is needed to get on the radar, and how early collaborations can support long-term growth rather than constrain it.

Divya Yerraguntla, Investor, Life Science Angels (Moderator)



Divya Yerraguntla is an Investor at Life Science Angels with over 25 years of experience across pharmaceutical, biotech, and digital health industries. She has held leadership roles at Johnson & Johnson, Novo Nordisk, Sun Pharma, and Syneos Health, and has contributed to more than 30 global product launches. Divya specializes in strategy development, clinical and commercial execution, and strategic partnerships. She is also a speaker, advisor to biotech startups, board member, and host of the "Woman to Woman" podcast, focused on leadership, innovation, and mentoring women in life sciences.

Eva Dahlén, Global Evaluation Director, Search & Evaluation, Global BD, Novo Nordisk



Dr. Eva Dahlén is Global Evaluation Director, Search & Evaluation at Novo Nordisk, where she leads partnering activities in diabetes and contributes to strategic evaluation across emerging technologies. She has extensive experience in search and evaluation across RNA and gene therapy, novel biologics delivery, and AI/ML-enabled drug discovery. Eva has led multiple due diligences resulting in partnerships with companies including Ascendis Pharma and Valo Health. Prior to Novo Nordisk, she held business development and R&D roles at Alligator Bioscience. She holds a PhD in immunology with a background in immunology and oncology.

Claudia Generaux, Director, S&E, Strategy & Business Development, Bristol Myers Squibb



Claudia Generaux is a Director of Search & Evaluation at Bristol Myers Squibb, where she leads the scientific and strategic assessment of external opportunities in the cardiovascular therapeutic area, including in-licensing, partnerships, and M&A. She combines the rigor of a pharmaceutical scientist with a dealmaker's perspective to identify assets that drive value. Before transitioning to business development, Claudia spent nearly a decade in drug discovery, gaining firsthand experience in how assets are built long before they reach the clinic or the deal table. This background informs her perspective on what pharma looks for and how early-stage companies can become partner-ready. She holds a PhD from UNC Chapel Hill and an MBA from Cornell University.

Friedemann Janus, SVP, Head of Regional BD & Licensing, Bayer Co.Lab and Divestitures, Bayer



Friedemann Janus, PhD, is Senior Vice President and Head of Business Development & Licensing at Bayer. With more than 20 years of experience in business development, licensing, strategy, and commercial operations, he leads regional innovation initiatives, Bayer's global Co.Lab incubator network, and pharmaceutical out-licensing and divestitures. Previously, he led the global launch of Xarelto's chronic indications and was a Partner at McKinsey & Company. Dr. Janus holds a PhD in Molecular Biology from Hamburg University.

Shiv Krishnan, VP, Search & Evaluation - Research & Technologies, Global BD, Daiichi Sankyo Co., Ltd.



Shiv Krishnan is Vice President, Search & Evaluation – Research & Technologies, Global Business Development at Daiichi Sankyo. With more than 20 years of experience across biotechnology, pharmaceuticals, vaccines, gene therapy, monoclonal antibodies, and drug discovery, he specializes in identifying and advancing external innovation opportunities. His expertise spans scouting, evaluation, negotiation, and alliance management, with a strong track record of leading complex collaborations. Shiv is recognized for his strategic leadership, cross-functional team management, and ability to build productive partnerships across industry and academia.

Mankit Law, Senior Director, Business Development, GlaxoSmithKline (GSK)



Mankit Law is Senior Director, Business Development, Search & Evaluation at GSK, where he helps shape and execute partnering strategies across Pharmaceuticals and Vaccines R&D. He leads the sourcing, evaluation, and execution of strategic partnerships and transactions. Prior to joining GSK in 2020, he was a Principal at Pappas Capital, contributing to successful life sciences investments. Earlier, he led technology transfer and startup support initiatives at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, bringing extensive experience across innovation, investing, and business development.

10:00 AM | STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS & INVESTMENTS IN MEDTECH

What the Next Generation of Device Companies Must Deliver

For many medtech startups, strategic corporations and venture investors are critical partners in the path from development to commercialization. As innovation accelerates across the medtech sector, both major device companies and healthcare investors are increasingly seeking earlier engagement with emerging technologies shaping the future of care.

This panel will explore how leading medtech strategics and investors evaluate partnerships, investments, and acquisition opportunities, and what they expect from early-stage device and digital health companies. Panelists will discuss the milestones that matter most across technical validation, clinical evidence, regulatory and reimbursement strategy, and commercialization readiness, as well as how evolving healthcare delivery models are influencing investment priorities and strategic roadmaps.

Startups will gain practical insight into how to position their companies for strategic collaboration and institutional investment, including how to build products, evidence plans, and commercial strategies that align with what investors and strategic partners need to see before committing capital or pursuing partnerships.

Nick Mourlas, Investment Partner, ReefHaven Ventures (Moderator)



Nick is Senior Director, New Ventures at Johnson & Johnson Innovation, California, where he focuses on identifying and advancing medical device opportunities aligned with the company's general surgery, orthopedics, and cardiology businesses. He builds partnerships with entrepreneurs, venture investors, and KOLs to drive licensing, collaboration, and investment strategies. Previously, he led global healthcare innovation at PARC and Xerox. A seasoned entrepreneur, he has founded multiple medtech companies, including Tarsus Medical and Acumen Medical, both acquired by major strategics. He holds a PhD in Electrical Engineering from Stanford University.

Sam Gussman-Toh, Lead Program Specialist, ARPA-H



Sam manages the ARPA-H Small Business Program (SBP), where he coordinates and oversees the agency's SBIR/STTR awards and commercialization support services for participating small businesses. Sam joined ARPA-H in 2022 and wrote the agency's first SBIR/STTR solicitation. He has held various positions in the Office of Commercialization, and has worked closely with Program Managers to develop the agency's commercialization infrastructure and commercialization strategy for programs. Previously, Sam designed and managed rapid prototyping programs at various agencies in the Department of War. Sam's technical background is in computer science, with interests in computer vision, autonomous robotic systems, and computational pathology.

Don Lin, Co-Founder, Managing Director, Guoqian Venture Capital Investment



Don Lin, PhD, is a founding partner of Guoqian Venture Capital and a medtech investor, scientist, inventor, and entrepreneur focused on helping innovative healthcare technologies enter Asian markets. He currently serves as CEO of Telesair, Inc., an early commercial-stage medtech company. Previously, he held senior leadership roles at Mindray Bio-Medical and Cardiac Science, where he led product development, IP strategy, and technical innovation. His work has contributed to multiple successful exits, over 10 patents, and 20+ publications. He holds a PhD in computer engineering from the University of Michigan.

Ralph Morales III, Venture Partner / Executive-in-Residence, Aquillius Ventures



Ralph Morales III is a strategic innovator and commercialization expert at the intersection of medical devices, AI, and predictive health, with over 15 years of experience in wearable technologies and machine learning for early detection, chronic disease management, and behavioral health. He previously led healthcare partnerships and AI strategy at Oura, scaling biometric insights into clinical-grade applications. His work spans sleep technologies, signal processing, and multi-modal health sensing. He now advises medtech companies and startups on AI-driven diagnostics, personalized health, and data-enabled innovation in healthcare.

Varun Turlapati, Managing Director, Chaanakya Capital



Varun holds a Master's degree in Electrical and Computer Engineering and brings nearly 20 years of experience across startups, growth-stage companies, and established enterprises. He has built expertise in scaling transformative technologies, serving as a Venture Analyst, Venture Partner, and Fractional CTO. Varun has advised MedTech startups, supported innovative founders through venture investing, and serves on the board of a nonprofit venture organization. His experience spans both technology leadership and commercialization, providing a practical perspective on innovation and growth. Outside of technology, he is active in regenerative farming and operates two small businesses focused on sustainable impact.

11:00 AM | STRATEGIC CAPITAL: THE ROLE OF CVCS

Investing Where Innovation Meets Industry

Corporate venture capital has become a central force in healthcare investing, often investing alongside traditional VCs while also shaping pilots, commercial partnerships, and future M&A. Beyond capital, CVCs can open doors to market insight, development resources, and global distribution channels that are difficult for startups to access on their own.

This panel will explore how corporate venture groups source deals, evaluate early-stage companies, and collaborate with financial investors across the cap table. Panelists will also discuss how startups can position themselves for strategic capital, what CVCs look for that traditional funds may not, and how to manage the balance between strategic alignment and entrepreneurial independence.

Andrew J. Merken, Senior Partner, Polsinelli (Moderator)



Andrew (Andy) advises companies and investors across the full business lifecycle, from formation and seed funding through growth-stage financings, strategic collaborations, M&A, and IPO exits. He frequently serves as outside general counsel, supporting day-to-day corporate needs including governance, employment, contracting, IP, privacy, cybersecurity, tax, cross-border transactions, and dispute resolution. Andy represents life sciences and high-tech companies, as well as VC funds, angel investors, family offices, and private foundations. He also advises investment banks on public offerings, private placements, and M&A transactions, with a strong focus on biotech, pharma, digital health, and healthcare sectors.

Gunes Bozkurt, Director of Venture Investments, Beiersdorf



Gunes Bozkurt is Director of Venture Investments on the CVC Team at Beiersdorf Venture Capital. Gunes's primary responsibilities include identifying compelling opportunities for investments in early-stage companies, as well as advising portfolio companies. Before her role at Beiersdorf Venture Capital, she spent 4+ years at RA Capital. Gunes holds a PhD in Biology from University of Heidelberg. Following her PhD, Gunes completed two postdoctoral fellowships at Whitehead Institute and Boston Children's Hospital.

Lana Ghanem, Managing Director, Hikma Ventures



Lana Ghanem Photo.jpgLana is the Managing Director of Hikma Ventures (the corporate VC arm of Hikma Pharmaceuticals PLC) which she helped establish in 2015. Lana started her career at Hikma Pharmaceuticals PLC in 2012 as the Assistant to the CEO and Director of Corporate Strategy & Development where she worked on strategic projects across the company's various functions including strategy, M&A, operations and finance. Prior to joining Hikma, Lana worked as a Financial Analyst in the Mergers and Acquisitions department at Dresdner Kleinwort Investment Bank in London where she worked on transactions for clients across multiple industries. Lana co-founded the Innovation & Leadership Advisory Board (ILAB) at Hikma which consists of young Hikma employees whom share a dedication to advancing Hikma and ensuring it is at the frontier of innovation. Lana holds an MBA from Harvard Business School (HBS) and a Bachelors of Commerce degree from McGill University.

Zane Starkewolfe, Director of Corporate Development & Investment, WuXi Biologics Healthcares Venture



Biotech Investment and Corporate Development Professional with over 15 years of expertise in effectively closing equity investments, acquisitions, and forming strategic partnerships. Proficient in leading the launch of successful new ventures, demonstrating a deep understanding of market dynamics relating to scientific innovation. Robust track record in driving significant growth and value creation through strategic deal-making and innovative venture initiatives, complemented by a collaborative leadership style that fosters cross-functional team success.

1:00 PM | NEW FRONTIERS IN DIAGNOSTICS

Investing in Technologies Enabling Earlier Disease Detection

Advances in diagnostic technologies are changing how diseases are detected, monitored, and managed. From liquid biopsies and molecular diagnostics to AI-enabled imaging and point-of-care testing, new tools are making earlier detection and more personalized care increasingly feasible, with meaningful implications for outcomes and cost of care.

This panel will explore where investors and strategics see the most promising opportunities in diagnostics, including oncology screening, cardiometabolic risk, and chronic disease monitoring. Panelists will discuss how early-stage companies can demonstrate clinical utility, navigate evolving regulatory and reimbursement pathways, and build compelling value stories in a market where many tests compete for attention and budgets.

For startups developing diagnostic solutions, the discussion will offer practical insight into how investors evaluate this rapidly shifting sector, what milestones and study designs help companies stand out, and how to think about partnerships with providers, labs, and pharma.



Priya Balachandran, Member, Life Science Angels (Moderator)

Priya Balachandran is a product and platform leader in molecular diagnostics and life sciences with experience spanning genomics, diagnostics, and integrated healthcare technologies. She has led product strategy and commercialization across assays, software, instrumentation, and connected workflows at companies including Thermo Fisher Scientific and Tecan, as well as venture-backed startups. Priya currently serves as a fractional executive, board member, and advisor to early-stage healthcare companies and is an Executive in Residence at UCSF Innovation Ventures. She is also an angel investor and member of Life Science Angels, supporting evaluation and due diligence of emerging life sciences companies.



Randy Berholtz, Senior Advisor, Mesa Verde Venture Partners

Randy Berholtz, MBA/JD is a Senior Advisor to Mesa Verde Venture Partner, a San Diego-based life sciences venture fund. He is also a co-founder of Orbit Genomics, Inc., a precision medicines company. He was previously a business executive with Nanogen, Inc., a genetics analysis company, ACON Labs, an immunoassay company, Apricus Biosciences and Innovus Pharmaceuticals. He currently serves on the boards of Rora Biologics, Ambulero and Eysz.



Yaron Daniely, General Partner, aMoon Fund

Dr. Yaron Daniely is a General Partner at aMoon Fund, where he co-leads Velocity, aMoon's early-stage investment fund. Prior to aMoon, Yaron was the President and CEO of Yissum, Hebrew University's Technology Transfer Company, and Co-Chairperson of the Israel Technology Transfer Network. Before leading Yissum, he spent 14 years as a senior executive of private and NASDAQ-traded Biotech companies. Yaron earned his PhD from NYU, served as a Visiting Fellow at the NIH, and as an American Cancer Society Postdoctoral Fellow at The Weizmann Institute for Science in Israel. He also holds an MBA from the Technion.



Debbie Lin, Venture Partner, T.Rx Capital

Dr. Debbie Lin is Vice President of Strategic Collaborations at Caris Life Sciences, a precision oncology company, and a Venture Partner at T.Rx Capital, where she helps build and incubate early-stage biotech companies. She brings over 20 years of experience in life sciences, including 15 years at Boehringer Ingelheim in corporate development, global strategy, and venture investing roles. She also serves as adjunct faculty at UCLA Anderson School of Management. Dr. Lin holds advanced degrees from Pomona College, Stanford University, UCLA, and a PhD from UCSF in Pharmacology and Bioinformatics.



Soyoung Park, General Partner, 1004 Venture Partners

Soyoung is a visionary leader who aims to keep people healthy through transformative longevity technologies and healthcare infrastructures. With 15+ years of extensive experience in entrepreneurship and investment, Soyoung has invested in 20+ emerging life sciences companies and contributed to the exits of 3 companies through acquisitions with 3-5x cash-on-cash return multiples. Soyoung holds a Master of Business Administration from the Fuqua School of Business at Duke University.

2:00 PM | EMERGING APPROACHES IN CANCER THERAPIES

How New Modalities Are Standing Out in a Competitive Market

Oncology remains one of the most active and competitive areas in life science innovation. New modalities – from next-generation immunotherapies and cell and gene therapies to targeted radiopharmaceuticals and novel combinations – are reshaping treatment options but also raising the bar for differentiation.

This panel will explore current trends in cancer therapy development and how investors judge new approaches in oncology and immuno-oncology. Panelists will discuss which modalities and indications are generating real enthusiasm, how startups can position their science in crowded settings, and what early clinical and translational milestones build confidence that a program can break through.

For startups developing oncology therapeutics, this session will provide actionable perspective on how to communicate differentiation, frame risk, and secure funding in one of the most dynamic but scrutinized segments of the market.

Ray Jordan, Manager, Elmstead Holdings (Moderator)



Ray Jordan is a corporate affairs and communications leader at Elmstead Holdings with extensive experience driving reputational strategy across healthcare, biotechnology, technology, and industrial sectors. He has held senior global roles at Amgen, Johnson & Johnson, Moderna, Pfizer, and other life sciences and technology companies, where he led corporate communications, public affairs, and stakeholder engagement initiatives. His work spans corporate reputation, crisis communications, investor relations, and public policy. Recognized by leading industry organizations, Ray has contributed to award-winning reputational performance across multiple organizations consistently ranked among top global employers and most admired companies.

Andrew Strong, General Counsel, Cancer Focus Fund



Andrew Strong is a trusted advisor to life sciences, pharmaceutical, and emerging technology companies on corporate formation, financings, mergers and acquisitions, licensing, joint ventures, employment matters, and intellectual property strategy. He represents both public and private companies, as well as academic and research institutions. Andrew brings firsthand entrepreneurial experience, having helped build and successfully exit a biotech company that grew to more than 600 employees. He has served as general counsel, board member, and executive leader for private and public companies, providing practical guidance informed by extensive C-suite and legal leadership experience.

Damian Carvajal Ibanez, Associate Director Strategic Partnering - S&E Oncology, Debiopharm



Damian Carvajal is a Partnering Manager at Debiopharm with extensive S&E experience in the field of oncology, including a recently closed AI-driven alliance focused on developing dual-payload ADCs. Damian focuses on the strategic licensing of innovative, first-in-class preclinical programs to expand Debiopharm's therapeutic pipeline. He holds a solid oncology and neurobiology background from his PhD at the German Cancer Research Center (DKFZ), as well as an MSc from Heidelberg University and a BSc from the University of Barcelona.

Mohsin Khan, VP & Head, BD, Fortress Biotech



Mohsin Khan, PhD, is Head and Vice President of Business Development at Fortress Biotech, where he leads the company's hub-and-spoke growth strategy through asset sourcing, deal execution, and newco creation. He oversees end-to-end asset development, from identifying differentiated opportunities to pipeline maturation and value creation, across oncology, immunology, dermatology, metabolic disorders, and rare diseases. He also drives AI integration into asset sourcing and portfolio strategy. Previously, he held strategy consulting roles at Booz Allen and Deloitte Life Sciences, advising on clinical development, regulatory strategy, and commercialization across early-stage and established biotech companies.

3:00 PM | AI AT THE FRONTLINES OF HEALTHCARE

Innovation Building Scalable Companies at the Intersection of Data and Medicine

Artificial intelligence is now embedded across healthcare, from drug discovery and trial design to diagnostics, workflow automation, and decision support. As AI capabilities advance and regulatory frameworks mature, investors are concentrating on companies that pair distinctive data assets with clinically meaningful use cases and realistic go-to-market strategies.

This panel will look at how AI is reshaping healthcare innovation and where investors see durable opportunity rather than hype. Panelists will discuss lessons from recent AI–pharma partnerships and early clinical readouts, how to build defensible platforms and evidence, and what it takes for AI-driven products to be adopted inside health systems and by life science partners.



Stephanie Oestreich, Managing Director, Myeloma Investment Fund (Moderator)

Stephanie Oestreich is Managing Director of the Myeloma Investment Fund (MIF) and holds multiple advisory and investment roles across biotech and venture capital, including Springboard Ventures, grIP Venture Studio, Biognosys (a Bruker company), Invitris, CelineTx, and OrangeGrove Bio. She also serves on the MIT faculty. Previously, she was Chief Business Officer at Galecto, Vice President at Mnemo Therapeutics, a Venture Partner at RA Capital, and Executive Vice President at Evotec, where she built its North American investment arm and incubator initiatives. She has also held leadership roles at Roche and Novartis. She holds a PhD in Biochemistry from Harvard Medical School and an MPA from Harvard Kennedy School.



Han Dai, Chief Innovation Officer, Head of Investment, Viva BioInnovator

Han is a life sciences executive with ~20 years of experience in pharma and biotech, spanning small molecule and biologics drug discovery and development. He previously served as Senior Director of New Ventures at Johnson & Johnson Innovation, where he led innovation strategy, external opportunity identification, and academic and industry collaborations supporting J&J's global portfolio. Prior to that, he held scientific leadership roles at GlaxoSmithKline as a Fellow in the Protein Degradation DPU/Future Pipeline Discovery team. He earned his PhD in Molecular Biophysics from UT Southwestern Medical Center and completed postdoctoral training at Harvard Medical School and HHMI.



Luca Giani, Senior Principal, Alumni Ventures

Luca Giani is a Senior Principal, investor, and serial entrepreneur focused on building mission-driven biotech and life sciences ventures at the intersection of science, strategy, and capital. He was Founder & CEO of Ilios Therapeutics, a neuroscience company developing a novel chemistry platform for ALS, Parkinson's, and Alzheimer's disease, where he advanced a preclinical pipeline and strategic partnerships. He is a Termeer Fellow and previously a Blavatnik Fellow at Harvard Business School and a Technology and Public Purpose Fellow at Harvard's Belfer Center. Earlier, he co-founded Innbiotec Pharma and Somnifix and held roles in M&A at Credit Suisse and strategy consulting at Bain & Company.



Rohit Jain, CIO, HBS Alumni Angels of Northern California

Rohit is Vice President of Technology, Applications and Analytics at iRhythm (NASDAQ: IRTC), where he helps advance AI and wearable biosensing technologies for cardiac arrhythmia diagnosis. He also serves as CIO for the Harvard Business School Alumni Association (NC) and contributes as an advisor and mentor across Harvard initiatives, including HBS Angels, the New Venture Contest, and the Innovation Lab. Previously, he held leadership roles at IBM, Stanford University, and Upwork, supporting its IPO, and co-founded an early social media startup. He is an alumnus of Harvard Business School and an active advisor and investor in technology and healthcare ventures.



Cheryl Kuai, Managing Director, Sixty Degree Capital

Cheryl Kuai is a Managing Director at Sixty Degree Capital, a Toronto-based venture capital firm focused on healthcare investments. She invests in biotech companies addressing significant unmet medical needs and healthcare technology innovators improving patient outcomes. Cheryl has led investments in companies including GlycoEra, Seawolf, Nested Therapeutics, and CinCor Pharma, which was acquired by AstraZeneca. She combines strong scientific and financial expertise as a CFA charterholder with a PhD in Biotechnology, enabling her to evaluate and support impactful life sciences and biotech innovation.

4:00 PM | CROSSING THE VENTURE GAP

Moving from Seed Funding to Venture Rounds

For many startups, the move from seed funding to a first institutional venture round is a key inflection point. At this stage, companies must show not only strong science or technology, but also a credible path to value-creating clinical, regulatory, or commercial milestones in a tougher funding environment.

This panel will explore what investors now expect from companies preparing to raise their first major venture round. Panelists will discuss evidence and traction by stage, team and board-building, capital strategy, and how founders can tell a coherent story that connects their near-term plan to an investable long-term vision.



Nicolas Cindric, Partner, Yahara Ventures

Nicolas Cindric is a Partner at Yahara Ventures, an accelerator providing software development services to life science startups in exchange for equity. He also serves as a sell-side advisor at Elevate Mergers & Acquisitions, supporting lower middle-market transactions. Previously, he managed investments for The Cavill family office, overseeing the acquisition, growth, and divestiture of healthcare companies. Nicolas is an active angel investor and board member across multiple healthcare ventures. He holds degrees from the University of Notre Dame, Purdue University, and the University of Wisconsin in biotechnology and management.



Ole Henrik Bang Andreasen, Principal, Avant Bio

Ole is a Principal at Avant Bio playing a key role in investment research and strategy, thesis development, and European relations. He previously led public investments in Life Sciences Tools and Technologies, Diagnostics, Medical Devices, and other non-healthcare verticals at Tower House Partners. Ole started his career as an investor for Game Creek Capital in Boston, and moved back to Europe as sell-side analyst and lead ABG Sundal Collier's Danish coverage of listed Medical Devices including IPO work, before joining Tower House Partners as a Long/Short Healthcare Investment Analyst. He is a decorated athlete, having both rowed and cycled professionally, participating in World Championships and training for the 2016 Rio Olympics.



Mahesh Narayanan, Managing Partner, Neuvation Ventures

Mahesh Narayanan is a founder, investor, and accelerator director with over 15 years of experience across biotechnology, life sciences, and technology ventures. He is Managing Partner of Neuvation Ventures, where he leads early-stage investments in brain health, medical devices, and digital health. He is also co-founder of MatchPlay Group, a venture platform supporting founders with diligence, capital readiness, and investor connections. Mahesh has founded and scaled multiple companies, achieving two successful exits, and has mentored over 100 startups globally, focusing on deep tech and healthcare innovation that bridges science, technology, and venture capital.



Preetha Ram, Managing Partner, Pier 70 Ventures

Preetha Ram is Managing Partner at Pier 70 Ventures and co-leads the INpact Fund, investing in early-stage companies with diverse leadership teams focused on the future of health, including AI-driven innovation. She is a serial entrepreneur, investor, and educational thought leader, and previously founded and served as CEO of OpenStudy, a global peer-to-peer learning platform that scaled to over 60 million users and achieved a successful exit. She has held senior academic leadership roles at Emory University, Alliant University, and Harrisburg University. Preetha holds a PhD from Yale, an MS from IIT Delhi, and an MBA from Emory University.



Bob Sweeney, Partner, Global Health Impact Fund

Bob Sweeney is a national expert in structuring and managing agreements between healthcare organizations and physicians, with deep experience across emergency medicine, neurological rehabilitation, home health care, managed care, and clinical information systems. He brings broad leadership expertise in general and financial management, fundraising, sales strategy, negotiations, and public relations. Bob also has significant experience in the commercialization of academic intellectual property and the development of advisory boards, supporting the translation of innovation from academic settings into market-ready healthcare solutions.

INNOVATOR'S PITCH CHALLENGE TRACK 1

	PITCH COMPANY			
9:00 - 9:50 AM SESSION #1 MEDICAL DEVICES	Elastro	Lenoss Medical	Wavegate	
10:00 - 10:50 AM SESSION #3 THERAPEUTICS	BCN Biosciences	ID4Pharma	Sebastian Biopharma	Vectiopep
11:00 - 11:50 AM SESSION #5 MEDICAL DEVICE	BioCopy AG	Endeavor Orthopaedics	iNOvodel	New View Medical
1:00 - 1:50 PM SESSION #7 THERAPEUTICS	Oncovita	Pinion Immunotherapeutics	United Immunity	
2:00 - 2:50 PM SESSION #9 THERAPEUTICS	aether Therapeutics	Allander Biotechnologies	Alphyn Biologics	Egret Therapeutics
3:00 - 3:50 PM SESSION #11 THERAPEUTICS	Aavogen	BOOST Pharma	VC Cell Therapy	
4:00 - 4:50 PM SESSION #13 DIAGNOSTICS / DIGITAL HEALTH	Kilele Health	Pictor Holdings	Quantdetect	You2Yourself

9:00 AM | SESSION 1 - MEDICAL DEVICES

Elastro

Elastro is developing a high-density, flexible SEEG (stereoelectroencephalography) platform that removes the evaluation bottleneck in epilepsy and enables a scalable pathway to chronic neural therapies. Our initial product (FlexMind) is a 510(k)-pathway, Class II neural probe compatible with existing surgical workflows and monitoring systems, enabling immediate adoption without capital replacement. The target market includes ~175 US Level 4 epilepsy centers for initial entry, expanding to a much larger ambulatory and chronic neuro market as evaluation moves outside the hospital. Current competitors (Ad-Tech, DIXI, PMT) provide rigid, low-channel probes. No company offers a flexible, high-density macro-micro system or a path to ambulatory SEEG—creating a structural gap Elastro is designed to fill.

Lenoss Medical

Lenoss Medical, Inc. founded and led by Dom Messerli, a 25+ year medical device executive and former director within Synthes Spine and J&J, with his medical device expert team, has developed and commercialized the OsteoPearl® implant which has been successfully used in over 400 cases for the treatment of vertebral compression fractures. Lenoss Medical is raising Series B capital in response to strong market demand and to accelerate sales growth with its differentiated, first and only biological product offered for the treatment of these spinal fractures, a $1B global market growing at a 7.5% CAGR.

Wavegate

Wavegate introduces Ellipse™ - a novel optical sensing architecture set to revolutionize the spinal cord stimulation market. Ellipse™ is a transformative system defined by its proprietary Optical Adaptive Stimulation for chronic pain relief. Ellipse™ adaptively regulates electrical dose to the spinal cord by measuring spinal cord position using optical sensing as patients move, change posture, and sleep. It operates across all stimulation paradigms, positioning Ellipse™ as both a best-in-class standalone product and a universal sensing technology capable of enhancing any neuromodulation platform on the market.

10:00 AM | SESSION 3 - THERAPEUTICS

BCN Biosciences

BCN Biosciences is a preclinical pharmaceutical company focused on discovering and developing innovative cancer therapies. Leveraging deep expertise in oncology and small-molecule drug development, the company is advancing novel treatments for cancers driven by KRAS and BRAF mutations, particularly the KRAS G12D and G12V variants commonly found in colorectal, pancreatic, lung, breast, and head and neck cancers. BCN's lead approach targets the oncogenic RAS pathway by restoring PTEN expression, a novel mechanism that may reduce the likelihood of drug resistance compared with existing therapies. In parallel, the company is developing a PD-1 regulation program featuring small-molecule inhibitors designed to reduce T-cell PD-1 expression within the tumor microenvironment, offering a differentiated approach to cancer immunotherapy.

ID4Pharma

First-in-Class RRMM Small Molecule with FDA IND Clearance Entering First-in-Human Studies
ID4Pharma is a clinical-stage precision oncology company advancing a first-in-class small molecule therapy for relapsed/refractory multiple myeloma (RRMM), addressing a critical unmet need following CAR-T and bispecific therapies. Supported by a strong global IP portfolio, its proprietary discovery platform integrates AI-enabled computational chemistry, structure-based design, and translational pharmacology to generate highly selective, differentiated oncology assets. The lead program has achieved FDA IND clearance and is advancing into first-in-human Phase I clinical trials, targeting a well-validated pathway with strong translational relevance and reduced development risk. Originating from the University of Pittsburgh and supported by NCI SBIR Fast-Track funding, ID4Pharma is seeking strategic pharma partnerships, co-development, regional/global licensing, and Series A financing to accelerate clinical development and expand its pipeline (Sean@ID4Pharma.com).

Sebastian Biopharma

Sebastian BioPharma is a preclinical oncology company developing next-generation Antibody–Oligonucleotide Conjugates (AOCs) to address resistance in solid tumors. Its proprietary platform enables the simultaneous delivery of dual siRNA payloads from a single antibody, allowing precise, tissue-targeted modulation of multiple intracellular pathways. This approach is designed to overcome the limitations of single-payload therapies and improve efficacy while reducing systemic toxicity. The company's lead program, SBP-001, targets immunotherapy-resistant colorectal cancer by addressing key mechanisms of tumor immune evasion. Backed by validated biology, in vitro and in vivo data, and a growing intellectual property portfolio, Sebastian BioPharma is advancing toward drug candidate nomination. Founded by experienced leaders in RNA therapeutics and immuno-oncology, the company operates with a capital-efficient model and is positioned at the intersection of antibody-drug conjugates, RNA therapeutics, and immunotherapy innovation.

Vectiopep

Vectiopep is a privately held biotechnology company developing peptide-based nucleic acid delivery technologies to enhance the effectiveness of mRNA therapeutics and cancer immunotherapy. Founded by researchers with more than a decade of expertise in nucleic acid delivery and built on over 20 years of drug delivery research, the company focuses on overcoming one of the key challenges in mRNA medicine: targeted delivery to specific cells and tissues. Vectiopep's proprietary precision delivery platform is designed to harness the body's immune system to fight cancer, enabling next-generation immunotherapies with the potential to improve patient outcomes. By combining advances in biologics, mRNA therapeutics, and delivery science, the company aims to expand the curative potential of immunotherapy and transform cancer treatment.

11:00 AM | SESSION 5 - MEDICAL DEVICE

BioCopy AG

We are revolutionizing drug discovery and development. With our unique AI-powered platform, we develop next-generation drug candidates that target peptide-HLA (pHLA) complexes - a new frontier in cancer therapy. These biotherapeutics combine enhanced safety with superior efficacy, and can be advanced faster and for more patients than ever before. Our platform is redefining how the pharmaceutical industry creates biotherapeutics with lasting, unprecedented therapeutic impact.

Endeavor Orthopaedics

Endeavor Orthopaedics is a medical device company transforming the treatment of avulsion fractures—complex injuries involving both bone and soft tissue. Our patented implant system uniquely integrates rigid fixation with soft tissue repair in a single-use, sterile kit, simplifying surgery and significantly improving outcomes. We are the only company offering this combined approach, addressing a major clinical gap in orthopedic trauma.

iNOvodel

iNOvodel is a medical technology company commercializing a novel system for delivering inhaled nitric oxide (iNO) therapy. Nitric Oxide is a critical endogenous signaling molecule in cardiovascular health and disease acting as a potent inducer of relaxation in the smooth muscle of blood vessels by regulating vascular tone and blood flow. Inhaled nitric oxide has gained significant prominence in treating highly debilitating hypoxic lung failure in newborns, pulmonary arterial hypertension and pulmonary hypertension associated with pulmonary diseases. However, the market for iNO is limited due to the cost, complexity, and safety of the dominant tank-based delivery systems. Groundbreaking discoveries by iNOvodel founders offer a simpler, safer, compact, portable and more versatile means of generating and delivering iNO, offering the promise of lower cost and better treatment for existing iNO therapy, and the potential for a significant expansion of the patient population who can safely and effectively benefit from iNO therapy.

New View Medical

New View Medical is a medical technology company pioneering surgeon-controlled visualization in minimally invasive surgery through its VisionPort™ platform. VisionPort™ is a single-use integrated laparoscopic port that combines visualization, illumination, and access into one device — consolidating what traditionally required separate camera and access systems into a streamlined surgeon-controlled platform at the point of entry. The technology is designed to simplify OR workflow, reduce set-up and turnover time, free clinical staff from camera-holding duties, and potentially reduce the number of ports required during surgery. Following FDA clearance of its first-generation device and successful in-vivo validation, the company is advancing its next-generation system focused on enhanced imaging performance, improved economics, and broader procedural applicability within the growing laparoscopic surgery market.

1:00 PM | SESSION 7 - THERAPEUTICS

Oncovita

Oncovita is a pre-IND/CTA-stage biotech company based in Paris and a spin-off from the Institut Pasteur. We are developing MVdeltaC, a next-generation oncolytic immunotherapy lead product based on genetically modified measles vaccine strains. This approach offers a strong safety profile and targeted immune-mediated tumor destruction. MVdeltaC, is expected to enter a First-in-Human Phase I trial in 2026, both as monotherapy and in combination with an immune checkpoint inhibitor. A Phase IIa study will follow, targeting Pleural Mesothelioma (for which we received in June the Orphan Drug Designation from the FDA) and Triple-Negative Breast Cancer. We have generated robust preclinical data, a promising case report, and benefit from scientific backing from the Institut Pasteur—all of which reinforce the potential of our platform and its favorable risk profile.

Pinion Immunotherapeutics

Pinion Immunotherapeutics is a Maryland-based biotechnology company focused on developing novel immunotherapies for chronic viral infections and virus-driven cancers. Its proprietary AI-driven mRNA platform generates immunotherapies targeting HPV-related precancer, AML, EBV, and HSV, designed to activate $CD8^+$ T cells while inducing virus-neutralizing antibodies to achieve durable immune control. Pinion operates as a lean, high-impact virtual company, deploying capital directly to science and clinical trials, not overhead. Our leadership team brings deep expertise across mRNA platform development, FDA regulatory strategy, clinical trial design, and immunology. Our programs target indications with large addressable populations, no curative standard of care, and high economic burden, where mRNA immunotherapy offers a genuine path to functional cure.

United Immunity

United Immunity is a clinical-stage biotechnology company developing next-generation immunotherapies through its proprietary Myeloid Targeting Platform™. The company selectively delivers therapeutic payloads to macrophages and dendritic cells, enabling innovative approaches in oncology, autoimmune diseases, and fibrosis. Its pipeline includes a clinical-stage TLR7/8 agonist program (UI-102) and an in vivo CAR-macrophage platform, supported by strategic collaborations and strong non-dilutive funding.

2:00 PM | SESSION 9 - THERAPEUTICS

aether Therapeutics

Aether is addressing the opioid epidemic with a novel neuromodulator. Target markets are Pain (~$30B), Opioid Use Disorder (OUD -- $5B), and Neonatal Opioid Withdrawal Syndrome (NOWS -- $1.5B plus PRV value). Human safety demonstrated and complete toxicology in two species. Funds will be used to conduct two studies in Australia in patients on chronic opioid therapy to demonstrate opioid-equivalent analgesia without risk of dependence. Such Phase 2 outcome benchmarks conservatively at 10X return based on pre-money valuation. We have a lead investor for a $10M convertible note. The novel, daily oral compound works by modulating MOR to depress dependence signals while preserving analgesic signals from opioid therapy. The commercial formulation for the pain market is ATX-1209 co-formulated with an opioid. IP coverage out to 2042.

Allander Biotechnologies

Allander is a clinical stage company starting its first-in-patient clinical trial in H2 2026 for the treatment of oral mucositis, a severe side-effect of head and neck cancer therapy, with a $1.85B global market in 2024 and a 7% CAGR. Allander's therapeutic, AllaThera™, is formulated as an oral "rinse" that patients gently swirl in their mouths to coat the inside of the oral cavity. The therapeutic is a protein engineered to rapidly penetrate injured tissues and immediately enter cells where it inhibits multiple pathways known to cause oral mucositis and inflammatory and NETosis-driven skin indications (e.g. pyoderma granulosum, radiation dermatitis, atopic dermatitis, fibrotic scar) while increasing tissue healing and minimizing systemic side effects. Allander's success has been supported by >$11M non-dilutive grants (primarily NIH SBIR funding) and $5M of investment funding. Allander is raising a Series A round to support a Phase 2 clinical trial.

Alphyn Biologics

Alphyn is a clinical-stage pharma company commercializing a patented new class of drugs through its proprietary Zabalafin Drug Platform. Zabalafin-based drugs are Multi-Target Therapeutics® because they have multiple bioactive compounds that provide multiple mechanisms of action that allows them to treat individual diseases in multiple ways, to be more effective, andto treat multiple diseases, with strong safety, side effect, and patient tolerability profiles and faster, less costly drug approval process.

Egret Therapeutics

Egret Therapeutics is redefining how we protect patients from devastating outcomes after injury. When a patient suffers a stroke, heart attack, TBI, or orthopedic trauma, a stereotyped immune response is triggered. Immune cells surge from bone marrow into circulation, infiltrating damaged tissue and driving secondary inflammation, which leads to permanent damage or death. Previous attempts to block infiltration failed by also hindering natural repair. We identified a molecular switch on these immune cells that reprograms them from a destructive state to a protective one. Activating this switch with a natural protein reduces secondary damage and improves outcomes. Our solution is EGT-101, a next-generation version of this protein engineered for clinical use. EGT-101 has successfully completed a Phase 1a trial with no DLTs or SAEs. We are raising $7.5M to launch a Phase 1b proof-of-principle trial targeting a massive unmet need while de-risking our platform for pipeline expansion and strategic partnerships.

3:00 PM | SESSION 11 - THERAPEUTICS

Aavogen

Aavogen is a preclinical stage biotech startup that develops adeno-associated viral (AAV) gene therapeutics for muscle wasting diseases, including AVGN7 and AVGND. The former restores muscle mass and function and is being developed to treat inclusion body myositis (IBM), a rare disease and lead indication, as well as heart failure. It is also used in combination with AVGND, a "micro-dystrophin" gene therapeutic for Duchenne muscular dystrophy (DMD). This combinatorial is industry's only "one-two punch" to both prevent muscle degeneration and to build mass and strength. Aavogen is positioned to initiate clinical development for IBM 18 months after program funding. Future development, however, is anchored on a platform approach to treating multiple indications with AVGN7 as it is broadly applicable to different muscle and neuromuscular diseases and is compatible with several developing approaches.

BOOST PHARMA

BOOST Pharma

BOOST's lead, off-the-shelf cell therapy BT-101 for osteogenesis imperfecta, has shown unprecedented clinical effect on fracture rate in a previous clinical study, with a strong safety profile and no pretreatment of the patient required. The program is phase 3–ready, with positive FDA feedback on the development path, and is supported by established manufacturing – so this clearly is a scalable product and not a bespoke procedure.BOOST is now raising €50 million to complete the planned phase 3 study and make the program BLA ready. Sound Bioventures (Johan Kördel) who joined our investor syndicate late last year has provided a term sheet to lead or co-lead the planned round.

CELL THERAPY

VC Cell Therapy

VCCT is a seed/growth-stage biotechnology company developing a portfolio of ex vivo and in vivo cell therapy solutions for ocular diseases. We are a proud member of the Kobe Eye Center Initiative, a consortium of organizations that unifies research, clinical practice, and patient care, for the benefit of patients suffering from ocular diseases. Under the guiding principle of "Total solutions for every patient", we challenge ourselves to think of every possible way to improve the lives of visually impaired people.

4:00 PM | SESSION 13 - DIAGNOSTICS / DIGITAL HEALTH

Kilele Health

Kilele's wearable biosensor platform unlocks the biochemical data layer, enabling precision medicine by bringing real-time molecular insights into everyday care. Applications include chronic disease management, therapeutic drug monitoring, and continuous hormone monitoring. Our focus is chronic cardiometabolic disease beginning with a phenylalanine sensor for phenylketonuria (PKU) and GLP-1 associated sarcopenia management, to be followed by heart failure, diabetes, chronic kidney disease, and functional medicine. We begin human testing in PKU 2Q26. Sensor form factor and UI/UX mimic proven continuous glucose monitoring devices. We've raised $3.9M in non-dilutive to achieve first-in-world 10 days' aptamer sensor life in an animal, and we have locked down the aptamer biosensing field with a bevy of first-to-file patents. Kilele wrapped up a $2M preferred equity Seed I 4Q25 to fund an initial human pilot study. Our preferred equity Seed II will open later in 2026 based on the human data generated in our upcoming pilot.

Pictor Holdings

Pictor® is a decision-grade targeted proteomics platform that enables partners to turn the right small set of proteins into deployable, scalable tests. Built for deployment rather than discovery, Pictor combines a customizable multiplex assay format (PictArray®), dedicated imaging (PictImager®), and automated analysis software (Pictorial®) into a familiar ELISA-style workflow that improves productivity, turnaround time, and cost for diagnostic, life-science, and animal health partners. The company operates a partner-first, capital-efficient revenue model: partners fund assay development upfront, while Pictor earns high-margin recurring revenue from consumables and per-test economics as assays move into routine use. To date, Pictor has signed and advanced multiple partner programs, moved assays into real laboratory workflows, and demonstrated repeatable expansion within partners—validating both the technical platform and the scalability of its partner-driven business model.

Quantdetect

Quantdetect is developing a digital PCR (dPCR)-based longitudinal ctDNA monitoring platform built on its proprietary OTS-Probes library, a curated collection of pre-validated dPCR assays that can be immediately deployed for tumor-informed monitoring. Unlike approaches requiring de novo assay design, OTS-Probes enables rapid selection of appropriate assays from an established library, allowing immediate implementation of ctDNA monitoring in clinical settings. This library-based architecture supports consistent analytical performance across instruments and laboratories while reducing turnaround time and operational complexity. By integrating initial NGS-based mutation identification with standardized assay selection, Quantdetect provides a bridge between genomic profiling and routine longitudinal monitoring. The platform enables frequent, cost-efficient testing, offering quantitative insights into tumor burden dynamics for earlier relapse detection and more precise treatment evaluation. Supported by clinical studies, including a prospective interventional study demonstrating ctDNA-guided treatment impact on outcomes, Quantdetect is establishing a scalable infrastructure for continuous molecular monitoring in real-world oncology practice.

You2Yourself

You2Yourself (Y2Y) develops a personalized early disease warning system based on urine, called URIMON. More precisely, Y2Y develops methods and algorithms to monitor biomarker profiles in periodic urine samples of individuals, to enable the early detection of life-threatening diseases and enhance chances of cure. To validate its technology, Y2Y has built (since 2019) a unique biobank of sample series that capture the onset of disease, by collecting periodic samples from 5.000 initially healthy individuals. URIMON 1.0 will be market ready in 2027 and will initially be sold as a subscription based model to health conscious individuals. Our end goal is broad application through reimbursement and population screening. Y2Y's ambition is to free the world from late-stage diagnoses, to enable healthy aging at lower costs.

INNOVATOR'S PITCH CHALLENGE TRACK 2

	PITCH COMPANY			
9:00 - 9:50 AM SESSION #2 DIAGNOSTICS	Abionic	Ad Astra Diagnostics	ANT5	Brainalyze
10:00 - 10:50 AM SESSION #4 THERAPEUTICS	Captura BioPharma	Gliomic Therapeutics	Nanotrace	RadioNano Therapeuticstics
11:00 - 11:50 AM SESSION #6 THERAPEUTICS	4CBiomed	HaemaLogix	HEPHAISTOS	Targeron Therapeutics
1:00 - 1:50 PM SESSION #8 THERAPEUTICS	3HELIX	Feliqs	Mindlab	PICO IV
2:00 - 2:50 PM SESSION #10 THERAPEUTICS	Cellfold	Hiuchi Pharma	Repair Biotechnologies	TesoRx
3:00 - 3:50 PM SESSION #12 THERAPEUTICS	Dio Tree	Numiera Therapeutics	ReEngage Therapeuticspeutics	
4:00 - 4:50 PM SESSION #14 THERAPEUTICS	Immunis	Juntendo University	Rejuvenation Technologies	

9:00 AM | SESSION 2 - DIAGNOSTICS

Abionic

Abionic is a Swiss BioMedTech company developing rapid point-of-care technologies designed to accelerate the detection of life-threatening conditions such as sepsis. The company's PSP assay has received 510(k) clearance from the FDA. At the core of the platform is abioSCOPE®, an award-winning desktop diagnostic system leveraging proprietary nanofluidic technology to deliver quantitative results within minutes from just 50 µL of blood. The platform is designed for use in emergency and acute care settings, enabling faster clinical decision-making and earlier intervention for critically ill patients.

Ad Astra Diagnostics

Ad Astra Diagnostics was founded to transform healthcare by moving testing from central labs to where patients and providers are to enable fast health decisions that save time, money and lives. Its QScout AI-driven mobile diagnostics platform gives results patient-side including a 2-minute complete blood count in QScout CBC, the fastest need-to-result complete blood count (the most ordered test and first line of triage). Backed by a $12+M BARDA government contract, QScout also reports a 6-part white blood cell differential including an early marker for infection including sepsis. Its high-margin, recurring revenue business model is designed to provide central lab quality results at a low cost.

ANT5

ANT5 is a medical technology company developing the world's first multimodal brain monitoring platform for patients with severe brain injury. Its proprietary system integrates EEG, intracranial pressure, cerebral oxygenation, blood flow, and brain temperature monitoring into a single device, enabling continuous real-time assessment of brain status and early detection of secondary brain injury. Built on decades of neuroscience and neurocritical care research, ANT5 is addressing a critical unmet need in the management of traumatic brain injury, stroke, and other acute neurological conditions, where timely intervention can significantly impact patient outcomes. Through advanced monitoring technologies and future AI-driven analytics, the company aims to support clinical decision-making, improve neurological recovery, and establish a new standard of care in neurocritical medicine worldwide.

Brainalyze

Brainalyze is building a category defining platform for dementia diagnostics (DementiaDx) with the first rapid, AI powered, reagent free liquid biopsy capable of detecting and distinguishing multiple dementias at early and pre symptomatic stages. Built on over 12 years of research with $5M+ public funding, its patented MX Raman™ technology combines optical fingerprinting with machine learning providing a result from a tiny drop of blood in under five minutes and at a fraction of current diagnostic costs. Tested across 500+ patient samples it has delivered 93%+ accuracy. Unlike biomarker based tests limited to Alzheimer's, Brainalyze enables broad, multi dementia detection in a one-click, scalable workflow, unlocking applications across screening, triage, diagnosis, treatment monitoring, and clinical trials. Targeting a $50B US market, the company is launching through a CLIA based LDT with diagnostic labs and pharma partners, supported by strong clinical traction, proprietary data assets, and a clear FDA pathway.

10:00 AM | SESSION 4 - THERAPEUTICS

Captura BioPharma

Captura's C2E2 is an orally bioavailable DTPA ester designed as a universal sequestrant for radioligand therapy (RLT). By design, C2E2 acts on circulating therapeutic radiometals and their radioactive daughters—reducing off-target accumulation in salivary glands, kidneys, and marrow while sparing intact tumor-targeted complexes, with confirmatory in vitro non-interference data expected Q2 2026. Built on DTPA's decades of demonstrated human safety, it addresses the dose-limiting toxicity constraining the entire RLT category. The opportunity is materially de-risked: prior IND with an FDA safe-to-proceed letter, a potential 505(b)(2) pathway, and non-dilutive NIAID SBIR funding allow Captura to advance into Phase Ib/II with or without a partner. Like Neulasta and dexrazoxane, C2E2 is dose-enabling technology—we raise the ceiling on deliverable dose, the variable driving RLT efficacy and population eligibility. It is positioned to improve the adverse-event profile of leading RLT developers amid a coming cascade of FDA approvals. Captura seeks licensing, co-development, and partnership discussions.

Gliomic Therapeutics

Highly potent, brain penetrant and well tolerated DHODH inhibitor pursuing synthetic lethality in genetic populations of brain tumors, based on groundbreaking research from cofounders Bill Kaelin (Harvard - Nobel Prize 2019) and Sam McBrayer (UT Southwestern). Initial indication is IDH mutant tumors ($3B peak revenue potential), with strong activity also seen in mutliple childhood tumors. Lead molecule selected, with highly potent cytotoxicity limited to mutant tumor cells. Consistent improvements in overall survival in multiple patient-derived xenograft models. Expected to begin clinical trials in 2027 with pivotal data in 2032. Unique competitive position, with composition-of-matter protection expected to persist until mid 2040's. Lead molecule invented by experts in DHODH inhibition with decades of drug development experience. Sister molecule (not approximate for neuro-oncology) has been tested in 3400 patients so far, many with over 5 years of continuous exposure, with remarkable safety and tolerability.

Nanotrace

Nanotrace combined the best attributes of chemotherapy, nanoparticle delivery mechanisms, and the latest advancements in gene therapeutics to build a revolutionary oncology platform. Based on our team's decades of research in these fields, and the maturation of nanomedicine, our product is a novel targeting platform which recognizes cancer cells by its very blueprint – gene expression. In part by using AI, that highly specific recognition is programmed to release a chemotherapeutic payload inside a cancer cell while leaving healthy cells unaffected. Our platform will transform how we treat not only cancer but a whole spectrum of genetic disorders. Nanotrace is founded by Dr. Will Briley, PhD Molecular Biology from Northwestern; Dr. Paul Weiss, renowned nanoscientist, distinguished UCLA professor, and a UC Presidential Chair; David Spector, an experienced founder and formerly of Sequoia Capital, Google, and MIT; and, Chief Medical Advisor, Dr. Krishna Komanduri, Department Chief & Head of Hematology & Oncology, UCSF.

RadioNano Therapeuticstics

RadioNano Therapeutics is a Kyoto University spinout developing next-generation nanomedicines for Boron Neutron Capture Therapy (BNCT). Its lead program, RN-501, is designed to overcome key limitations of current BNCT agents through superior tumor accumulation and retention, enabling the treatment of deep-seated, recurrent, metastatic, and diffuse cancers that remain challenging to address with existing therapies. Built on world-leading expertise in BNCT and nanotechnology, RadioNano Therapeutics is advancing a novel precision radiotherapy platform with the potential to expand the clinical utility of BNCT beyond its current applications. The company is progressing RN-501 toward clinical development and global commercialization to address significant unmet medical needs and unlock substantial opportunities across large oncology markets, with the goal of improving outcomes for patients with difficult-to-treat cancers worldwide.

11:00 AM | SESSION 6 - THERAPEUTICS

4CBiomed

4CBiomed is a UK/Israeli biotechnology company that is developing a platform of genuinely novel immunotherapeutics based on targeting the HVEM/BTLA axis, a unique immune checkpoint which, when blocked enables highly specific tumour killing. The lead compound, anti-4CB targets HVEM, and is active in PDX models from tumours that are resistant to PD-1 inhibitors, that are insensitive to PD-1 inhibitors, and in combination with them. The compound is well tolerated in primate GLP toxicology studies, with a wide therapeutic index, and is ready to enter clinical studies in early 2027. Initial studies will focus on PD-1-failed disease, and 'cold' tumours such as colorectal cancer. 4CBio has an experienced international leadership team lead by Dr Alan Barge, a medical oncologist and former Head of Oncology at AstraZeneca.

HaemaLogix

HaemaLogiX Ltd. is a clinical-stage immunotherapy company developing therapies for multiple myeloma and B-cell disorders. Lead asset KappaMab™ is a humanised monoclonal antibody targeting Kappa Myeloma Antigen (KMA) — a tumour-specific antigen expressed on cancerous plasma cells but absent on normal plasma cells. This first-in-class mechanism delivers targeted efficacy, preserves immune function, and has shown a clean safety profile across three completed human trials, with durable responses in combination with lenalidomide/dexamethasone. KappaMab™ is advancing into a higher-dose Phase 2b trial with pomalidomide/dexamethasone, positioning the asset for a US Phase 3 pivotal study. A second program, KMCAR™ T-cell, is entering Phase 1 with Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre. Backed by 40+ granted patents, world-class manufacturing (Lonza, Cell Therapies), and an expert Scientific Advisory Board, HaemaLogiX is addressing the US$25 billion+ myeloma market and actively pursuing investments and strategic partnerships that will drive our clinical programs forward.

HEPHAISTOS

HEPHAISTOS is a preclinical biotech developing a 3rd generation innate immune booster. The objective is to offer an option to optimize responses to current immunotherapies by overcoming myeloid-driven tumor immunosuppression. HEPHA-440, boosts antitumor efficacy by:

- Recruiting immune-effector cells into the TME
- Reverting macrophage polarization
- Activating dendritic cells and antigen presentation
- Triggering CD8 T-cell-mediated cytotoxicity

HEPHA-440, has demonstrated:

- 30x to 400x better safety and 2x better efficacy compared to previous generation in clinical phases
- Compatibility with intravenous injection
- Single agent efficacy with complete tumor regressions and systemic effect against metastases
- Synergies with aPD1 and aCD20 antibodies with up to 100% complete tumor regressions
- Significant increase of PD1 & PDL1 expression in the TME

HEPHAISTOS is laureate of the EIC Accelerator and France 2030 program.
It is recognized by Sanofi and Amgen with Golden Tickets.

Targeron Therapeutics

Targeron Therapeutics, LLC (Targeron), an early-stage start-up biotechnology company aims to advance the development of immunomodulators that stimulate host immunity at sites of disease. Targeron was co-founded by two Rutgers University Professors Dr. Sergei Kotenko and Dr. Raymond Birge, and entrepreneur Dr. Rohinton Toddywala, a team that brings unique skills and expertise to the biotech space. Targeron has a proprietary technology (patents issued in US and Japan and pending in EU) and currently has developed a pipeline of first-in-class biologics that combine a targeting modality with an immune stimulatory Interferon modality into a single stable recombinant polypeptide. Our technology outlines a first-in-class IFN platform to enhance immuno-oncology and checkpoint therapeutics.

1:00 PM | SESSION 8 - THERAPEUTICS

3HELIX

3Helix is a preclinical biotechnology company pioneering first-in-class targeted therapies for chronic diseases through our proprietary bioACTIVE Collagen Hybridizing Peptide (CHP) platform. Unlike standard biologics that systemically suppress immune function, our engineered CHPs specifically target and bind to damaged extracellular matrix collagen. This mechanism enables highly localized tissue retention and actively modulates resident immune cells, resolving disease directly at the root source without broad, off-target toxicity. As a business, 3Helix is uniquely de-risked by a global cosmetic partnership with BASF. This collaboration provides early human structural validation for the platform and generates a guaranteed, non-dilutive revenue stream that supports our broader therapeutic development. Our lead therapeutic pipeline focuses on inflammatory dermatology, with first-in-human clinical dosing anticipated in Q1 2027.

Feliqs

Feliqs is a clinical-stage ophthalmology company developing innovative therapies for retinal and corneal diseases with significant unmet medical needs. The company is advancing a diversified pipeline targeting conditions including retinopathy of prematurity (ROP), pterygium, and dry age-related macular degeneration (Dry AMD), addressing diseases that currently have limited or no effective treatment options.Leveraging novel mechanisms targeting oxidative stress, fibrosis, and angiogenesis, FELIQS is developing patient-friendly therapies designed to reduce dependence on invasive procedures while improving long-term visual outcomes. Through its innovative ophthalmology pipeline, FELIQS aims to preserve vision, prevent blindness, and improve quality of life for patients worldwide.

Mindlab

MindLab is a clinical-stage pain biotechnology company building a next-generation opioid platform starting with MLB-001, a morphine-based, patent-protected analgesic candidate. MLB-001 is designed to deliver morphine-level pain relief while improving the risk–benefit trade-off that has limited traditional morphine use, including the reward and drug-liking dynamics that contribute to misuse risk and the dose-limiting safety burden. MindLab's strategy is capital-efficient development through value-inflection clinical milestones, followed by partnering and out-licensing or strategic transactions.

PICO IV

PICO Holdings, Inc. is a clinical-stage biopharmaceutical syndicate executing a 505(b)(2) IND pathway targeting Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) and Severe Sepsis. Our lead investigational asset, PIV-850, is a patented dual-API (CBDA/CBGA) sub-nanometer (850-picometer) intravenous emulsion. Functioning as a Host-Directed Immunomodulatory Adjuvant, PIV-850 threads 1.5nm bacterial porin channels to shatter pathogenic biofilms while neutralizing lethal cytokine storms via the Endocannabinoid System. This mechanism restores the bactericidal efficacy of failing frontline antibiotics (e.g., Tobramycin), presenting a lucrative 'Salvage Therapy' acquisition target for Big Pharma. Defended by an issued U.S. patent (12,569,504), our IND submission is uniquely de-risked by 49,000 Real-World Evidence (RWE) human safety exposures and ongoing GLP porcine models at UIUC. We are currently syndicating an $8,000,000 primary bridge via an SPV (at a $400M valuation cap) to secure FDA IND clearance, staging a $100M Series A and subsequent M&A buyout.

2:00 PM | SESSION 10 - THERAPEUTICS

Cellfold

Cellford is a regenerative medicine company developing the Injectable Cell Scaffold (ICS), a novel platform designed to overcome one of the most significant limitations of cell therapy: poor cell retention and survival at the target site. The technology is initially being developed for patients with critical limb ischemia (CLI), a severe vascular disease that can lead to limb amputation and has limited treatment options. By enabling long-term retention of therapeutic cells and sustained release of angiogenic factors, ICS promotes robust blood vessel formation and enhanced tissue regeneration. Developed as a medical device compatible with culture-free autologous cell therapies, the platform offers a scalable and cost-effective approach to regenerative medicine. CellFold aims to improve outcomes for patients with ischemic diseases while expanding the potential of cell-based therapies across multiple clinical applications.

Hiuchi Pharma

Hiuchi Pharma is a biotechnology company developing first-in-class therapeutics targeting TRPC3/C6 channels for pulmonary arterial hypertension (PAH) and other cardiovascular and renal diseases. Its lead program, L862, is an orally available small molecule designed to inhibit pathological vascular remodeling, a fundamental driver of disease progression that remains inadequately addressed by current therapies. Built on pioneering research that established the critical role of TRPC3/C6 in cardiovascular remodeling, Hiuchi Pharma is advancing a novel disease-modifying approach for patients with serious and life-threatening chronic conditions. Beyond PAH, the company sees broad potential for TRPC3/C6-targeted therapies across multiple indications, including heart failure and kidney diseases. Through its innovative pipeline, Hiuchi Pharma aims to improve long-term outcomes while addressing significant unmet medical needs.

Repair Biotechnologies

Repair Biotechnologies develops the first potentially curative therapy for atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease, the largest cause of human mortality via heart attack, stroke, and heart failure. In preclinical studies our lead drug has rapidly and sizably improved exercise performance, improved liver health, and most importantly reduced the size and number of existing arterial plaques. Process development for GMP manufacture of the drug has commenced, and a clinical trial is planned to start in 2027.

TesoRx

TesoRx Pharma, LLC is a pioneering clinical-stage biopharmaceutical company leveraging its proprietary Neoliposomal™ delivery system to create breakthrough therapies. By overcoming critical pharmacological barriers—such as poor solubility, low permeability, and systemic toxicity—TesoRx delivers highly effective, novel treatments for both oral and intracavitary applications. Our lead clinical programs target transformative oral Testosterone Replacement Therapy (TRT) and difficult-to-treat carcinomas. TesoRx's TRT optimizes healthy aging and longevity by bypassing the liver via lymphatic absorption. This yields a >30% enhanced bioavailability compared to approved oral formulations, minimizing side effects while offering convenient, potential once-daily dosing. In oncology, our intracavitary paclitaxel formulation, LiPax™, directly treats Non-Muscle Invasive Bladder Cancer (NMIBC), demonstrating an exceptional 63% Complete Response and 83% Disease-Free Survival. TesoRx is actively advancing localized intracavitary treatments for Malignant Pleural Effusion (MPE) and Stage 2-3 Peritoneal/Ovarian cancers. To accelerate the development and global commercialization of our innovative pipeline, TesoRx is actively seeking strategic partnerships.

3:00 PM | SESSION 12 - THERAPEUTICS

Dio Tree

Dio Tree is a pioneering biotech startup focused on developing a transformative therapy for ovarian cancer by targeting the enzyme DIO3, a novel approach with significant therapeutic potential. Leveraging cutting edge research and pre clinical expertise, Dio Tree aims to address a critical unmet medical need with a solution that offers both innovation and specificity.

Numiera Therapeutics

Numiera Therapeutics is developing small-molecule drugs for oncology indications, with a novel target in cancer cell metabolism. Our orphan-designated lead asset has a full IND-enabling dataset, plus Phase I clinical data in 226 human subjects, indicating our drug is safer than standard-of-care in our primary disease indication, glioblastoma. We also have independently-replicated preclinical efficacy data from five different laboratories, demonstrating this drug halts tumor growth in animal models of glioblastoma. Our next step is a dose-escalation and window-of-opportunity study conducted with world-class clinical partners. With the recent FDA approvals and billion-dollar deals for Modeyso and Voranigo, it is clear that mitochondrial-targeting small-molecule drugs are a game-changer in neuro-oncology, and we expect to make an even broader impact in this space. Our goal is to reach a $2B US/EU brain tumor market with urgent unmet need, while building a pipeline of follow-on products to reach a broader $50B global oncology market.

ReEngage Therapeuticspeutics

ReEngage Therapeutics is developing therapeutics that treat refractory solid tumors. We developed a novel small molecule inhibitor MTB-9655 to a metabolic target, acetyl co-A synthetase (ACSS2), which is the key to resistance in cancer. We showed it was safe in humans already in a Phase 1 study. Through our collaboration with MD Anderson, including Dr. Eyal Gottlieb (colorectal cancer) and Dr. Rugang Zhang (ovarian cancer), we showed that MTB-9655 is the key to reversing resistance, allowing treatments for refractory solid tumors. In colorectal cancer (CRC) patient-derived xenograft models, we were able to extend median survival by 50% over chemo-alone. Furthermore, we have collaborations to expand into chemorefractory ovarian and pancreatic cancer.

4:00 PM | SESSION 14 - THERAPEUTICS

Immunis

Immunis is a clinical-stage biotech developing a clinically advanced, first-in-class stem cell-derived secretome product targeting the underlying factors of aging that drive muscle and metabolic disease. IMM01-STEM is an investigational therapy, a complex biologic comprised of regenerative factors that impact multiple signaling pathways. Immunis is dedicated to maximizing healthspan and to minimizing disease through the advancement of transformative medicine.

Juntendo University

Juntendo University is developing a first-in-class in vivo direct reprogramming gene therapy for Type 1 Diabetes, with the goal of replacing lifelong insulin dependence through a single disease-modifying treatment.Its proprietary OKAP platform utilizes patented K-Factor technology to directly convert liver cells into functional insulin-producing cells in vivo, eliminating the need for cell transplantation. Delivered through AAV- or LNP-based gene therapy, the approach is designed to restore physiological glucose regulation, reduce the burden of daily insulin management, and potentially achieve long-term insulin independence.Supported by compelling preclinical data, the platform has the potential to transform diabetes treatment and may be expanded to additional indications, including insulin-dependent Type 2 Diabetes and other diseases addressable through in vivo cellular reprogramming.

Rejuvenation Technologies

Rejuvenation Technologies is entering the clinic with a transient TERT mRNA/LNP platform developed over eight years to support telomere restoration and tissue regeneration without permanent DNA modification. Through three Mayo Clinic collaborations, we are advancing first-in-human programs across hematology, hepatology, pulmonology, and longevity-related degeneration, using biomarker-rich studies designed to generate early safety, target-engagement, and proof-of-mechanism signals. This creates a capital-efficient path to near-term value inflection points: CMC completion, IND-enabling studies, first-in-human dosing, early biomarker readouts, strategic pharma partnering, and staged global expansion across major indications. Our platform sits at the convergence of RNA medicine, genetic medicine, and regenerative longevity, where preclinical-to-clinical transitions can unlock billion-dollar-scale upside when human data de-risks delivery and biology. We are seeking Seed/Series A financing to reach first-patient dosing and early biomarker proof-of-mechanism within 18 months, and to engage pharma partners for indication-specific development.

SPONSOR WORKSHOP TRACK 1

Location: Julep Hall

9 AM | NEGOTIATING EARLY STAGE FINANCING TERM SHEETS

10 AM | JEONBUK ADVANCED BIO BOOST-UP INNOVATION SHOWCASE

1 PM | KBIC SESSION JAPAN LIFE SCIENCE SHOWCASE

3 PM | TRANSLATING KYOTO SCIENCE INTO GLOBAL BIOTECH VENTURES

4 PM | NEW MODEL FOR EVALUATING AND INVESTING IN EARLY-STAGE ASSETS

9AM | NEGOTIATING EARLY STAGE FINANCING TERM SHEETS

POLSINELLI
What a law firm *should* be.™

Navigating early-stage financing can be complex for both founders and investors. This session breaks down the key elements of early-stage term sheets, including SAFEs, convertible notes, Series Seed, and Series A rounds.

Andrew J. Merken, Senior Partner, Polsinelli (Moderator)



Andrew (Andy) advises companies and investors across the full business lifecycle, from formation and seed funding through growth-stage financings, strategic collaborations, M&A, and IPO exits. He frequently serves as outside general counsel, supporting day-to-day corporate needs including governance, employment, contracting, IP, privacy, cybersecurity, tax, cross-border transactions, and dispute resolution. Andy represents life sciences and high-tech companies, as well as VC funds, angel investors, family offices, and private foundations. He also advises investment banks on public offerings, private placements, and M&A transactions, with a strong focus on biotech, pharma, digital health, and healthcare sectors.

10AM | JEONBUK ADVANCED BIO BOOST-UP INNOVATION SHOWCASE

INNOPOLIS
JEONBUK INNOVATION CLUSTER

Presented by INNOPOLIS Jeonbuk at RESI San Diego 2026, the Jeonbuk Advanced Bio Boost-Up Innovation Showcase highlights innovative biotechnology and healthcare companies from South Korea's Jeonbuk region. The showcase brings together emerging companies, global investors, pharmaceutical and healthcare partners, and industry experts to explore investment, licensing, collaboration, and commercialization opportunities.

As part of the Jeonbuk Advanced Bio Boost-Up Platform (JABI), the program supports companies developing technologies in therapeutics, regenerative medicine, AI-enabled healthcare, diagnostics, and advanced biomanufacturing. The showcase reflects Jeonbuk's growing role as a center for biotechnology innovation and its commitment to building stronger connections between Korean life science companies and the global market.

Participating companies include:

WittGen

WittGen Biotechnologies – developer of a GenAI-based single-cell multi-omics simulation platform focused on oncology, immunology, and rare diseases.

C&B (주)셀레브레인 CELLeBRAIN

Cellebrain – advancing MSC-based gene delivery technologies for oncology, fibrosis, and rare disease applications.

Y B G
YOUTH BIO GLOBAL

Youth Bio Global – developing allogeneic ECFC-based regenerative cell therapy platforms targeting vascular regeneration and ischemic diseases.

Erudio Bio

Erudio Bio Korea – developer of semiconductor-based multiplex diagnostic and AI molecular analysis technologies for preventive screening and oncology applications.

basgenbio

BASGENBIO Co., Ltd. – an AI-driven drug discovery company focused on target discovery and preclinical decision-support technologies.

ViEL-T
Virus Elimination Technologies

VIEL-T Co., Ltd. – developing programmable RNA therapeutics platforms for next-generation precision medicine applications.

1 PM | KBIC SESSION JAPAN LIFE SCIENCE SHOWCASE

KBIC is Japan's largest leading biomedical cluster, bringing together approximately 350 companies, medical institutions, and research organizations.

Within this ecosystem, many startups are actively advancing R&D activities and working diligently toward commercialization on a daily basis.

As part of this exciting network, KBIC will host pitches from eight startups that are particularly eager to engage with overseas investors and licensing partners, and that are well prepared for such international collaboration.

In addition, leading venture capital firms in Japan and the representative of Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry will speak about the current investment landscape as well as their perspectives on the future of the Japanese startup ecosystem.

Presenting Companies:

UNITED IMMUNITY

FELIQS

CELL THERAPY

CellFold

RadioNano Therapeutics

Juntendo University Tokyo 1838

HIUCHI PHARMA

ANT5

3 PM | TRANSLATING KYOTO SCIENCE INTO GLOBAL BIOTECH VENTURES

Kyoto iCAP and Kyoto University will introduce Kyoto's growing biotech innovation ecosystem and showcase emerging life science ventures developing transformative technologies in regenerative medicine, cell therapy, nephrology, pain treatment and radiopharmaceuticals. The session is designed to foster connections between global investors, strategic partners, and leading Kyoto University-originated startups.

Presenting Companies:

SHINOBI THERAPEUTICS

Rege Nephro

BTB Therapeutics

Center for iPS Cell Research and Application, Kyoto University CiRA

ORIZURU THERAPEUTICS

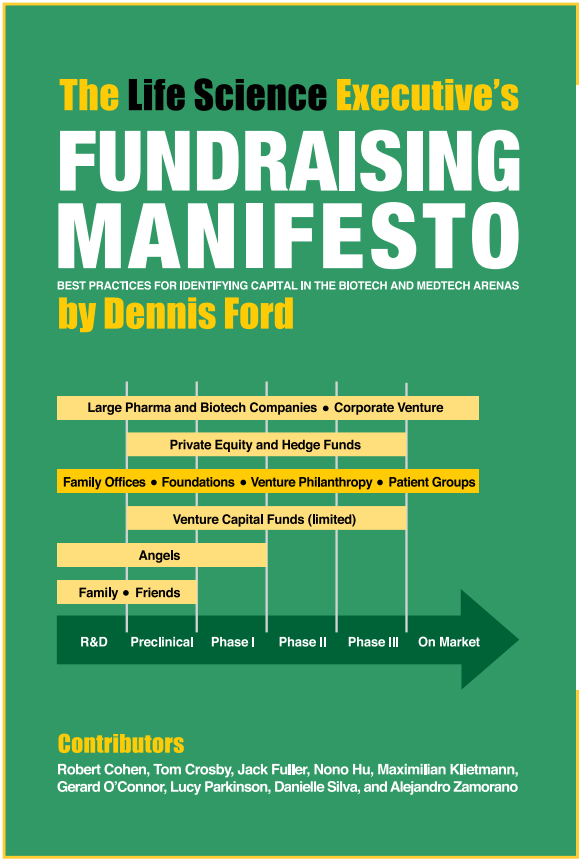
4 PM | NEW MODEL FOR EVALUATING AND INVESTING IN EARLY-STAGE ASSETS

Rick Berenson, Managing Director of Venzyme Catalyst, introduces a revolutionary way to evaluate early-stage biotech and medtech ventures. Too often, investors rely on "gut" decisions about risk and valuation, while entrepreneurs struggle to communicate their company's true merit—leading to optimistic expectations and missed opportunities. This workshop unveils a powerful framework for improving returns by mapping and managing the entire risk stack, offering investors a clearer, more systematic approach to evaluating strengths, weaknesses, and drivers of success. Whether you are seeking to sharpen your own decision-making or help your team align more effectively, this session will provide insights that immediately change how you view early-stage opportunities. Join us to discover why this breakthrough model is reshaping the rules of life science investing.



Rick Berenson, Executive Committee Member, Mass Medical Angels (MA2), Managing Director of Venzme Catalyst

Rick Berenson will present a practical approach for how family offices can assess early-stage biotech without building a whole internal diligence team. As a 15-year leader at Mass Medical Angels (MA2)—a Boston-based life science group made up entirely of industry veterans—Rick has helped refine a model that quantifies risk and potential return by leveraging the "wisdom of an expert crowd." He'll explain how MA2 has used targeted micro-investments to derisk promising projects and turn them into investable biotech companies and how family offices can take advantage of this model to build a capital-efficient, scalable biotech investment pipeline.



ABOUT THE BOOK

A primary objective for life science executives is raising capital. Very often, however, a lack of marketing and sales skills impedes their efforts. Focusing regionally, rather than globally, only compounds the challenge.

The Life Science Executive's Fundraising Manifesto helps scientists understand the fundamental skills needed to brand and market their companies, using a consistent message to achieve compelling results from a fundraising campaign. It teaches you how to aggregate a list of potential global investors that are a fit for your company's products and services. Then it explains how to efficiently and effectively reach out to potential investor targets, start a dialogue that fosters a relationship, and ultimately secure capital allocations.

Raising capital is not a one-time event. It must be an ongoing part of your business strategy. ***The Life Science Executive's Fundraising Manifesto*** reveals the expertise required to continually fundraise and bring your ideas to market.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Visit www.FundraisingManifesto.com
or visit the Life Science Nation table in the exhibit hall

SPONSOR WORKSHOP TRACK 2

Location: ROSEBUD ROOM

9 AM | BEYOND BORDERS: THE REAL INVESTMENT MANDATES OF JAPANESE VCS AND CVCS

10 AM | RENSUPER WORKSTATION: AN AI-DRIVEN ANTIBODY DISCOVERY PLATFORM FROM TARGET TO ANTIBODY LEADS IN CLICK

11 AM | FOCUS ON SCIENCE, BUILD FOR SCALE DE-RISKING THE FIRST 18 MONTHS

1 PM | FROM SCIENCE TO SIGNAL

2 PM | NIH SMALL BUSINESS FUNDING: OPEN FOR BUSINESS

3 PM | TALES FROM THE ROAD

4 PM | TIPS AND TRAPS FOR FINDING EARLY-STAGE INVESTORS

9 AM | BEYOND BORDERS: THE REAL INVESTMENT MANDATES OF JAPANESE VCS AND CVCS

Japanese VCs and CVCs have quietly become significant players in global early-stage life sciences, and their appetite for cross-border investment continues to grow. Yet for many Western founders and investors alike, their mandates remain opaque.

In this session, leading Japanese VCs and CVCs speak candidly about what they fund, what they pass on, and how they think about long-term partnerships. This is essential listening for founders seeking capital, Western investors exploring syndication or co-investment, and institutions eyeing Japan's evolving venture ecosystem.

Tetsu Yung, Founder & CEO, TETSUNAGI Consulting, Inc.



Tetsu Yung is Founder and CEO of TETSUNAGI Consulting, Inc., bringing more than 20 years of experience across the pharmaceutical, CRO, and academic sectors in Japan. Fluent in five languages and holding a PhD in molecular biology and an MBA in Finance and International Management, he combines scientific expertise with business leadership. During 12 years at Covance, Labcorp, and Fortrea, he led clinical studies, mentored project leaders, and served as a key expert on integrating Japan into global clinical operations. Previously at Eisai, he contributed to regulatory strategy, licensing evaluations, and global pipeline oversight, helping drive significant commercial value.

Toshiyasu Shimomura, President / Managing Partner, Taiho Innovations



Dr. Shimomura has served as President and Managing Partner of Taiho Innovations since July 2023. He began his career in 1999 at a global pharmaceutical company, working on the creation of oncology drug candidates. After joining Taiho Pharmaceutical in 2009, he focused on oncology drug discovery and early-stage clinical development. From 2016, he spent several years at Taiho Ventures, LLC, Taiho's corporate venture capital arm in the U.S., where he was involved in investments in biotech startups and supported spinouts from Taiho's internal pipeline. Since returning to Japan in 2019, he has held leadership roles in drug discovery and corporate planning, promoting collaborations with academia and industry and contributing to portfolio strategy. Dr. Shimomura holds a Ph.D. in Science from Nagoya University.

Daisuke Nakayama, Vice President, Ono Venture Investment, Inc.



Daisuke Nakayama, Ph.D. (Daisuke) joined OVI in Oct 2025. Prior to joining OVI, Daisuke served as the Senior Director of Discovery Research Alliance at Ono Pharma, and was responsible for planning and managing research collaborations with academia, as well as overseeing drug discovery partnerships and licensing activities with biotech companies at Ono Pharma and Ono Pharma USA. Daisuke earned a Ph.D. from Kumamoto University. He is based in the Cambridge office.

Natalie Roy D'Amore, Venture Partner, Fast Track Initiative, Inc.



Natalie Roy D'Amore joined FTI in 2024 as a Venture Partner to build out our US team, focusing on Newco creation and support for our early-stage startups. Natalie brings over 20 years of experience in drug discovery across academia, biotech and the pharmaceutical industry. Most recently she was Head of External Innovation at Seres Therapeutics, developing partnerships to advance microbiome therapeutics. Previously she spent 13 years at Takeda Pharmaceuticals where she held different roles. As Head of Oncology Partnerships she was responsible for building the portfolio through strategic collaborations with a network of biopharma companies, academic institutes as well as through collaboration with the venture arm to seed early stage companies. Natalie led an Incubator to drive innovative new concepts and a Research team to bring programs from conception to IND. At Millennium Pharmaceuticals she was a project leader progressing projects into development.

Yusuke Wada, Sr Associate, Saisei Ventures



Yusuke Wada is a Senior Associate at Saisei Ventures, based in Tokyo, where he focuses on deal sourcing, scientific due diligence, and new company creation. Prior to joining Saisei, he was a Senior Scientist at Universal Cells, an Astellas company, leading teams developing gene-edited iPSC-derived immune cell therapies for cancer and autoimmune diseases. Earlier, during a 15-year career at Astellas Pharma, he led more than 15 drug discovery programs across multiple therapeutic areas, advancing projects from early research through preclinical development. His expertise spans cell and gene therapies, small molecules, antibodies, protein degraders, and regenerative medicine. Dr. Wada holds B.S., M.S., and Ph.D. degrees in Pharmaceutical Sciences from the University of Shizuoka.

10 AM | RENSUPER WORKSTATION: AN AI-DRIVEN ANTIBODY DISCOVERY PLATFORM FROM TARGET TO ANTIBODY LEADS IN CLICK

What if you could move from target to candidate in a single click?

In this workshop, discover how Biocytogen's RenSuper Workstation seamlessly integrates large-scale in vivo RenMice immunization, NGS, AI-powered high-throughput screening, and experimental validation to deliver high-quality, development-ready antibody sequences.

Learn how this platform unlocks access to a rich library of experimentally validated, fully human antibodies—complete with data packages to support faster, more confident decision-making. Explore how it enables rapid candidate identification, flexible antibody design, and data-driven workflows, reducing early discovery risk and compressing timelines from years to months.



Icy Niu, Executive Director, Global BD & Marketing Head, Biocytogen

Icy Niu is Executive Director, Global Business Development & Marketing Head at Biocytogen, with extensive experience driving growth across the pharmaceutical and biotechnology sectors. Beginning her career at a marketing agency serving biotech and pharma clients, she developed expertise in strategic marketing, business development, and commercial growth. Icy specializes in building data-driven strategies that span the entire customer journey, from brand positioning and market awareness to lead generation and revenue conversion. Passionate about connecting innovation with market opportunities, she helps organizations maximize the impact of breakthrough technologies and accelerate commercial success in an increasingly competitive global life sciences landscape.

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11 AM | FOCUS ON SCIENCE, BUILD FOR SCALE DE-RISKING THE FIRST 18 MONTHS

VCs invest in groundbreaking science, but long-term success demands a foundational business platform. This session walks early-stage life sciences leaders and investors through the most common back-office pitfalls and lays out a practical "minimum viable back office" framework that protects downside risk without slowing the science. We'll connect operational discipline to VC diligence, board confidence, and long-term value creation, and share how a right-sized, integrated platform helps founders keep burn directed toward R&D.



Keith DePhillips, Life Sciences Strategic Managed Services Leader, RSM US LLP

With over 20 years of experience in IT and cloud infrastructure, I specialize in helping life sciences organizations optimize their technology to drive innovation and growth. My journey has taken me from hands-on IT operations to leading strategic advisory initiatives, where I've successfully integrated cutting-edge solutions that support research excellence and operational efficiency. I'm passionate about enabling life sciences teams to focus on the science by providing them with secure, scalable, and compliant IT systems. Whether it's enhancing cybersecurity, optimizing data management, or driving digital transformation, I'm committed to delivering technology solutions that empower organizations to achieve their goals and make a difference in the world.

1 PM | FROM SCIENCE TO SIGNAL

Strong science alone is rarely enough to attract investor attention. Early-stage companies must also communicate clear investment signal that investors and strategic partners can quickly evaluate and understand.

This workshop will introduce the Science to Signal operating system, including the curriculum, and framework designed to help startups better communicate investability and align development strategy with how capital providers assess risk and opportunity.

The session will also explore how Science to Signal is being implemented through enterprise licensing models for tech hubs, incubators, and regional development organizations seeking to strengthen startup readiness and improve capital formation outcomes.

Karen Deyo, VP of Product, Israel Business Development, Life Science Nation



Karen Deyo is the VP of Product at Life Science Nation, responsible for new product development and LSN's educational content. In addition to her role as VP of Product, she is actively involved in Israel BD, utilizing her professional and personal connections to connect LSN to the Israeli life sciences startup community. She started out at LSN as part of the investor research team, speaking to investors and learning their investment mandates. Karen utilizes her experience speaking with investors as well as her scientific background to help startups translate their science and prepare for their global partnering campaigns. Karen has a Masters of Engineering in Biomedical Engineering as well as a Certificate in Graduate Business Study from Worcester Polytechnic Institute and a Bachelor of Science degree in Engineering with a concentration in Bioengineering from Olin College of Engineering.



Max Braht, VP of Business Development, Life Science Nation

At Life Science Nation (LSN), Max leads the Global Business Development team and directly oversees the U.S. East Coast region, where he is based. He is responsible for assisting early-stage companies across the life sciences — including therapeutics, devices, diagnostics, and digital health — in expanding beyond their local regions and connecting with global investors through participation in LSN's Redefining Early Stage Investments (RESI) conference and the use of LSN's curated Investor Platform. Max holds an MBA from Oklahoma State University, as well as an MiM and an MSc in Artificial Intelligence & Digital Technology Management from the Burgundy School of Business in Lyon, France.

2 PM | NIH SMALL BUSINESS FUNDING: OPEN FOR BUSINESS

The NIH Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) and Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) programs are officially reauthorized and actively supporting the next generation of biomedical and health innovations. This session will provide attendees with the latest updates on the NIH SBIR/STTR landscape, including upcoming funding opportunities, recent policy changes, and what applicants need to know to successfully engage with the program. Participants will gain insight into NIH priorities, new and continuing initiatives, application timelines, and program requirements following reauthorization. The session will also highlight resources available to entrepreneurs, startups, academic collaborators, and small businesses seeking non-dilutive funding to advance innovative technologies and commercialize health-related solutions. Whether you are new to NIH SBIR/STTR or preparing your next submission, this session will help you navigate the current funding ecosystem and position your organization for success.

Dr. Emily Caporello, Director of the Small Business Program at the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke (NINDS)



Dr. Emily Caporello is the Director of the Small Business Program at the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke (NINDS). Dr. Caporello joined NINDS in 2019, leveraging her background in translational neuroscience and entrepreneurship. Prior to joining NINDS, Dr. Caporello was the Vice President of Research and co-founder of MindX Corporation, a small business focused on brain computer interface technology, where she led research collaborations with academic labs and oversaw investigational approval of a novel neural interface device. Dr. Caporello previously worked as a Senior Neuroscientist supporting neurotechnology development within the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA), and co-founded CleverPet, a startup company focused on automated behavioral training technology. Dr. Caporello received her Ph.D. in Neuroscience from the University of California San Diego, where her research focused on neural mechanisms of auditory processing and selective attention.

3 PM | TALES FROM THE ROAD

The industry has quickly adapted to a "new normal" – entrepreneurs and investors meet virtually over digital platforms to discuss potential investment opportunities, and it is not uncommon to see entrepreneurs raise capital from investors they have never met before in person. That said, there is no doubt that the fundraising journey continues to be challenging for many. In this panel, you will be able to hear fellow entrepreneurs share their experiences, from successes to challenges. This panel will discuss the following topics and more:

- What are some of the greatest challenges entrepreneurs have faced, especially during the pandemic, and how were they overcome?
- How did entrepreneurs identify investors that fit their technology?
- What are some misconceptions entrepreneurs had about the early-stage investment landscape?

Furthermore, entrepreneurs will share unique tips and insights they have gained from their fundraising experiences, and how others can work their way towards a more successful campaign.

Greg Mannix, VP of International Business Development, Life Science Nation



Greg Mannix is Vice President of International Business Development at Life Science Nation. After graduating from the University of California, he moved to Europe where he began a career in the life sciences and obtained a Master's degree from IE Business School in Madrid. He has extensive experience in sales and marketing management in large medical device corporations and small start-ups alike, giving Greg a well-rounded international experience in the healthcare field. He has worked extensively in Europe, North America and Latin America and he speaks English, Spanish and French. Greg relocated to Boston 6 years ago to set up the US affiliate for an early-stage Med-tech company from Spain and he immediately took to the vibrant startup community there. Working for LSN is a great way to stay involved in that exciting space.

Neal Koller, CEO, Alphyn Biologics



A founder of Alphyn, Mr. Koller has served as the company's CEO and Chairman of the Board since the company started in November 2019. He has been President & CEO, and Director for six life science businesses, guiding them to milestone achievement or exit. Before Alphyn, Mr. Koller was President & CEO and board member of Perthera, Inc., preceded by the same positions at PluroGen Therapeutics, Inc. Mr. Koller established Plurogen's manufacturing, research and development, and operations facility and launched products into U.S. & international markets, exiting to a multi-national. Additionally, Mr. Koller held positions as President of PDA, CEO of Sound Diagnostics Inc., President & CEO of Dovetail Technologies Inc., and President of WellCare International Corp. He began his career at Wyeth Pharmaceuticals, where he achieved notable successes in both large division and early stage business roles. He has a B.S. in biology from the University of Richmond.

Frederic Caroff, CEO, Hephaistos-Pharma



Frédéric Caroff is Co-Founder and CEO of HEPHAISTOS-Pharma, a France- and Belgium-based biotechnology company developing innovative cancer immunotherapies. An engineer and entrepreneur, he leads the company's mission to address one of oncology's greatest challenges: treating "cold" tumors that are resistant to immune responses and account for the majority of patients who do not benefit from current immunotherapies. Prior to founding HEPHAISTOS-Pharma, Frédéric held roles at LPS-BioSciences and PSA Peugeot Citroën. He holds a Specialized Master's degree in Entrepreneurship from CentraleSupélec and ESSEC Business School and is focused on advancing Innate Immune Engagers to transform difficult-to-treat and metastatic cancers.

Celia Belline, CEO, Cilcare



Celia has over 15 years' experience in the pharmaceutical industry. She worked as the global head of clinical trial logistics and supply chains in Sanofi R&D, was a permanent member of clinical strategic committees, and the Director of projects dealing with major chronic diseases associated with aging, where she developed her interest and expertise in hearing disorders. She trained at ESSEC and London Business Schools, in addition to holding several masters degrees in project management, industrial strategy and health environment.

Patrick Pestalozzi, CEO, Abionic



Patrick Pestalozzi is Chief Executive Officer of Abionic SA, a Swiss company pioneering nanofluidic point-of-care diagnostic solutions. Appointed CEO in 2024, he brings more than 30 years of international leadership experience spanning healthcare, digital health, and deep-tech innovation. Prior to Abionic, Patrick served as Vice President of Global Strategic Accounts at MindMaze and CEO of GaitUp, where he led business growth and international expansion initiatives. A former management consultant, Silicon Valley executive, and entrepreneur, he has extensive experience building, financing, and scaling science-based ventures. His expertise includes growth strategy, product management, organizational development, and commercial leadership across global healthcare markets.

4 PM | TIPS AND TRAPS FOR FINDING EARLY-STAGE INVESTORS

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A panel of entrepreneurs and advisors will provide practical advice and tactics for finding suitable investors and avoiding mistakes with long term consequences. Panelists will share real-world lessons on evaluating investor fit, structuring early deals, and navigating the legal pitfalls of early-stage fundraising.

Jeff Quillen, Partner, Foley Hoag



Jeffrey Quillen is a partner at Foley Hoag and a member of the firm's Executive Committee. His practice focuses on advising emerging biotechnology, software, and technology companies, often serving as outside general counsel. Jeffrey has extensive experience negotiating intellectual property, licensing, and strategic collaboration agreements, including partnerships with leading research institutions and pharmaceutical companies. He also represents venture capital funds and growth-stage companies in financing transactions and advises clients on mergers and acquisitions, including cross-border deals and international expansion. As a firm leader, he helps guide Foley Hoag's strategic initiatives related to client service, culture, diversity, and growth.

Brendan Burke, Partner, Foley Hoag



Richard is a seasoned biotech entrepreneur and CEO of Reglagene, a company pioneering therapies for brain diseases. With over 30 years in the pharmaceutical industry, he brings deep expertise in drug development, R&D operations, and business strategy. Richard has led both startups and multinational firms, consistently driving innovation and growth. At Reglagene, he guides a dedicated team advancing treatments for brain cancers and actively seeks partnerships to accelerate impact. He's also an angel investor with Desert Angels and a member of the Southern Arizona Leadership Council, supporting regional biotech innovation. Richard's vision, leadership, and commitment to transforming healthcare make him a key force in advancing novel brain disease therapies.

John Tagliamonte, SVP, Business Development, Tract Bio



John Tagliamonte is Senior Vice President of Business Development at Tract Bio and a seasoned biopharma executive with expertise spanning business development, corporate strategy, financing, and operational growth. Trained as a cancer biologist, he has helped raise more than $250 million in seed and venture financing and has guided companies through significant growth, scaling organizations from early-stage startups to Series B and C enterprises. His experience includes licensing transactions, strategic partnerships, alliance management, portfolio strategy, valuation, market development, and commercialization planning. Prior to Tract Bio, John held leadership roles at Adecto Pharmaceuticals, PhagePro, Harbour BioMed, and Axonis Therapeutics. He earned a B.S. in Molecular Biology from Tufts University.

José Estabil, Strategic Advisor – Biotech and Life Sciences, Atoll Financial Group



José Estabil is a life sciences innovator, entrepreneur, and advisor with extensive experience translating advanced technologies into commercial healthcare solutions. His leadership roles have focused on AI-assisted precision medicine, genomics, molecular diagnostics, and semiconductor technologies, driving innovations that improve patient outcomes and manufacturing efficiency. José is Co-Founder and Board Chair of Latinos in Bio, a nonprofit organization dedicated to advancing education and opportunities in the life sciences. He serves on multiple company and nonprofit boards and is an active mentor with programs at Harvard Business School and MIT. Recognized for his contributions to pharmacogenomics and precision medicine, José brings deep expertise in product development, commercialization, strategic growth, and healthcare innovation.

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