AusBiotech Australia's life sciences conference '23

Advancing Biotech
It's in our DNA

1-3 November 2023 ● Brisbane Australia

Proudly sponsored by

DRAFT CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

Wednesday 1 November 2023	
PLENARY	
9:00am– 9:30am	**Welcome to AusBiotech 2023** **Welcome to Country** **Queensland Government** representative **Lorraine Chiroiu**, Chief Executive Officer, AusBiotech
9:30am-10:00am	**KEYNOTE** Plenary Room
	Global IP Trends **Chair:** to be confirmed **Dr Francis Gurry,** Strategic Director, IPH Group & Ex-Director General, World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO) *Business models in biotechnology depend on strong IP protection. There are a number of challenges that arise from IP protection for biotechnology of a legal, regulatory, social and environmental nature. These challenges are not unlike those generally affecting IP protection internationally, but there are also some notable differences.* *While biotechnology is rapidly becoming a horizontal or platform technology, applicable across an increasing number of sectors of the economy, in Australia healthcare dominates other fields for the volume of standard patent applications received each year, with pharma patents and overall filings on a growth trajectory since 2016.*

	Hear from a global IP expert and understand the trends that are shaping IP strategy internationally and how these may have significant impact on your organisation's ability to protect inventions, attract investment, and grow the business locally and abroad.
10:00am- 10.30am	**KEYNOTE** Plenary room
	15-year journey to building an mRNA platform: how Sanofi is harnessing mRNA as a therapeutic modality **Chair:** to be confirmed **Dr Frank DeRosa,** Chief Technical Officer & Site Head, mRNA Centre of Excellence, Sanofi *mRNA has become a globally recognised modality for vaccine development with potential applications across a broad spectrum of therapeutics. This presentation will provide a personal perspective of Dr. DeRosa's journey of building an mRNA platform over the last 15 years as it progressed from Shire to Translate Bio to Sanofi and what is "in his DNA" that has driven his motivation and inspiration throughout. An overview of mRNA technology including current and future applications as well as current challenges across the field will be discussed. The presentation will conclude with how Sanofi is embracing this technology and employing it for the development of future medicines.*
10.30am-11:00am	**Morning tea and networking break** Bioindustry exhibition
11:00am- 12:30pm	**PLENARY SESSION** Plenary room
	Partnering across Australia and beyond with global pharma Chair: **Lorraine Chiroiu,** Chief Executive Officer, AusBiotech *A partnering strategy is essential for any biotech looking to take an innovation to market, with big pharma able to provide the resources, experience, and infrastructure necessary to support R&D, clinical development, manufacturing, and distribution.* *This plenary session provides an invaluable opportunity to hear from heads of pharma search, evaluation and venture investment leads on challenges and trends facing both global and medium-sized pharmaceutical companies on the global stage.* **Panel:** • **Jessica Droge,** VP External R&D, Amgen • **Michelle Booden,** Director Business Development & Licensing, MSD • **Frank DeRosa,** Chief Technology Officer & Global Head of Research, mRNA Centre of Excellence, Sanofi • **Donmienne Leung,** Director, AbbVie Ventures • **Dr Richard Woodfield,** Country Medical Director, Roche

12.30pm – 1.00pm	**KEYNOTE** Plenary room		
	Further details to be confirmed		
1.00pm – 2.00pm	**Lunch and networking break** Bioindustry exhibition		
2.00pm – 3.30pm	**CONCURRENT SESSION 1A** Plenary Room	**CONCURRENT SESSION 1B** Breakout Room 1	**CONCURRENT SESSION 1C** Breakout Room 2
	Finding the right investment partner – doing your own due diligence *When biotech companies partner with an investor, it's a long-term relationship often spanning more than a decade through the company's commercialisation journey.* *It's common for an investor to do due diligence on a potential investment, however it's just as paramount that a biotech does its own due diligence on a potential investor.* *This session will see selected sophisticated investors and pharma partners discuss what they offer alongside investment, how they factor 'environment, social and governance' (ESG) into investments, and reverse-pitch to companies, explaining why they should be a partner of choice and how to assess which partner is right for you.* **Chair:** to be confirmed **Panel:** • **Dr Kanishka Pothula**, Partner, Nextech • **Domnienne Leung,** Director**,** AbbVie Ventures	PART 1: 2:00pm - 2:45pm **Working with defence - engagement and collaboration** *The face of Defence is changing, as are the pathways and opportunities to work on Defence-related problems. Recently announced missions, including those under the Defence Strategic Review (DSR) and Advanced Strategic Capabilities Accelerator (ASCA), as well as other government and university initiatives have highlighted the need for greater engagement across the industry. This panel session will explore collaborative avenues for biotechnology and biosecurity, as Defence seeks to leverage the immense potential of existing and developing capabilities to ensure national protection. Gain insights into the realm of opportunities for academia and medtech firms, as senior authorities and experts shed light on potential markets, hurdles, and prospects within this sector.* **Chair:** to be confirmed **Panel** • *To be confirmed*	**Australia leading the way: next-generation mental health treatments** *With eight Australians lost to suicide every day, one in 20 suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), and one in five experiencing a mental health condition of 12-months duration, the current mental health landscape is extremely challenging. Providing a new level of hope to those with difficult-to-treat mental health conditions has been a long time coming.* *In a world first, from 1 July 2023, the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) permitted the prescribing of MDMA for the treatment of PTSD and psilocybin for treatment-resistant depression, and now, all eyes are on Australia to get it right.* *With this opportunity, and the enormity of the problem within our community, this panel will discuss why Australia is poised ready and well-positioned to break a 50-year drought in the development of new medicinal treatments for a range of hard-to-treat mental health conditions.* *In this session, the panel will discuss and consider:* • *The research horizon and next-generation treatments;* • *Clinical trials;*

	• *Further speakers to be confirmed*	PART 2: 2:45pm - 3:30pm **The innovation pipeline - building sovereign capability** *Critical to ensuring national resilience in safeguarding Australia is a focus on innovation and sector growth. Building sovereign capabilities requires a dynamic interplay between Defence, academia, and industry, not exclusively through the prism of one sector alone. This panel session aims to discuss the strategies behind fostering innovation within these sectors and learn how collaboration can lead to a robust sovereign capability. Hear valuable insights into the innovation pipeline's role in advancing Defence technologies while strengthening national autonomy. Join experts as they unravel the approach of partnerships driving progress in partnership with Defence, unveiling the keys to successful outcomes.* **Chair:** to be confirmed **Panel** • *To be confirmed*	• *Ethics, risks and best practice protocols* • *Lessons learnt so far;* • *Why Australia is best placed to take the lead globally;* • *Why there must be the proper funding for new medical solutions to treat mental health;* • *conditions - or face the subsequent economic and health consequences;* • *Pricing and accessibility;* • *Importance of the lived experience voice in shaping policy and improvements*. **Chair: Sharon McGowan,** Chief Executive Officer, RANZCP **Panel:** • **Professor Robyn Langham,** Chief Medical Adviser, Health Products Regulation Group, Australian Government Department of Health • **Professor Chris Langmead,** Chief Executive Officer, Phremix Therapeutics • *Further speakers to be confirmed*
3.30pm – 4.00pm	**Afternoon tea and networking break** Bioindustry exhibition		

4.00pm – 4.45pm	**CONCURRENT SESSION 2A** Plenary Room	**CONCURRENT SESSION 2B** Breakout Room 1	**CONCURRENT SESSION 2C** Breakout Room 2
	The why and how of ESG: embedding reporting and action within business strategy *The expectations of stakeholders, investors, employees, and communities on organisations to report their Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) impact has never been greater.* *As the world increasingly feels the impacts of the triple planetary crisis and questions of equality and equity deepen, executives and boards across all industries are being called upon to act. For Australia's life sciences sector, the time is now to begin reporting and move toward tangible action.* *This discussion will bring together the views of life sciences leadership, investor considerations and those of government, with practical insights on how life science companies can begin their ESG journey.* **Chair:** t*o be confirmed* **Panel:** • **Natalie Simmons**, Managing Director – ESG, Purpose and Sustainability, Prime Financial Group • *Further speakers to be confirmed*	**The future of the health technology sector is digital** *Patient-centred digital healthcare, brought to life through remote health monitoring, wearable devices and other connected health initiatives, has the potential to fundamentally re-shape the way Australian healthcare as we know it, is delivered by clinicians and health professionals.* *Off the back of the record global growth of digital health in recent years, the long-term prognosis remains positive for the Australian digital health and technology companies that will help shape this transformation, with digital health SMEs continuing to mature and grow, despite a brewing global economic storm that threatens to dampen the economy.* *As SMEs take a more conservative approach to decision-making in the short-term, showing increased caution, and they seek out fresh revenue sources and partnerships, on the horizon sits an opportunity for Australian companies to expand and take advantage of the lucrative global digital health market, which is predicted to reach US$1004 billion by 2031, up from US$216.7 billion in 2022.* *In this session, the panel will discuss and consider:* • *What role will the health technology sector play in global healthcare as the rise of digital health continues at pace?* • *What barriers exist to Australian health technology companies taking the next step?* • *And how do we influence policymakers and incentivise healthcare professionals to move beyond medical records and telehealth, toward a deeper understanding and utilisation of modern health technologies and solutions?*	**GMP manufacturing in Australia: status and outlook** *In the life sciences industry, a strong GMP system is fundamental to ensuring the safety and quality of manufactured drugs, vaccines, and medical devices.* *Join this high-profile panel in a dynamic exploration of GMP manufacturing in Australia, both its current status as well as where it is headed.* • *What are the advantages of manufacturing in Australia?* • *What is possible in Australia?* • *What are the manufacturing gaps in Australia, and what should be done about it?* **Chair**: **Dr Anne Collins,** Chief Operating Officer, Sementis **Panel:** • **Mark Womack**, Chief Executive Officer, BioCina • **Russell Harris**, Mayne Pharma • **Professor Susie Nilsson**, Research Director, Biomedical Manufacturing, CSIRO • **Professor Jon Iredell,** Director, Centre for Infectious Diseases and Microbiology, Westmead Institute for Medical Research

		Find out how preventative and personalised medicine, connected point-of-care diagnostics, medication management and adherence, patient engagement, remote rehabilitation and remote patient monitoring is the future of the health technology sector. **Chair**: **Bronwyn Le Grice,** Chief Executive Officer & Managing Director, ANDHealth **Panel:** • **Adjunct Professor Elizabeth Koff**, Managing Director, Telstra Health • **Sue MacLeman,** Advisor and Non-Executive Director MTP Sector • *Further speakers to be confirmed*	
4.45pm – 5.30pm	**CONCURRENT SESSION 3A** Plenary Room	**CONCURRENT SESSION 3B** Breakout Room 1	**CONCURRENT SESSION 3C** Breakout Room 2
	SynBio to the rescue – harnessing the power of microorganisms to solve big problems ranging from human disease to carbon pollution *The viability of our planet depends on us transitioning quickly to a post-petroleum, non-extractive, decarbonized future. Synthetic biology (SynBio) is an emerging field with seemingly limitless applications from therapeutics to textiles to jet fuel.* *In this session, hear from Synbio experts applying an engineering mindset to harness the power of biology and produce novel biomaterials, fuels and tackle waste.* **Introduction: Emma Ball,** Head of Ecosystem Development, Illumina	*Sponsored session by:* CHUBB® *Further session details to be confirmed*	**"Who's running this show?" A guide to boards and shareholder agreements** *With a focus on early-stage companies to IPO and beyond, this session will feature a panel of experienced directors as they cover elements of building and operating as an effective board and managing shareholder relationships, including:* • *How do you build a board that is right for your current stage of growth, and lay a path to the next stage?* • *The role of the Chair and the relationship between Chair and CEO.* • *Doing business as a board.* • *Managing relationships with Shareholders, including the place of Shareholders' Agreements* • *Changing the line-up as the Company's needs change.* **Chair: Lis Boyce,** Partner, Piper Alderman

	Moderator: *to be confirmed* **Speakers:** • *To be confirmed*		**Panel:** • **Sue MacLeman,** Advisor and Non-Executive Director MTP Sector • **Lusia Guthrie**, Chair, Neo-Bionica • *Further speakers to be confirmed*
5.30pm – 7.30pm	**Welcome Reception** Bioindustry exhibition, Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre **Hon. Steve Miles MP,** Deputy Premier, Queensland, **Lorraine Chiroiu**, Chief Executive Officer, AusBiotech **CSIRO representative** *Sponsored by:* 		

Thursday 2 November 2023

9:00am-9:30am	**MILLIS ORATION** Plenary Room	**AGRIBIOTECH SUMMIT** **9.00am – 5.00pm** Breakout Room 2
	Navigating the future: predictions and potentials of Australian biotechnology **Chair: Dr Andrew Nash,** Chief Scientific Officer, CSL **Speaker: Emeritus Professor Ian Frazer AC FRS,** Frazer Institute, The University of Queensland; Director, Microba *The significant global impact of Professor Ian Frazer's transformative research led to the Gardasil® vaccine, thereby crystallising him as a household name for Australian biotechnology and beyond. Gaining FDA approval in 2006, Gardasil® set*	**9.00am – 9.15am** **Opening & welcome** **Rosanne Hyland,** Chief Operating Officer, AusBiotech **9.15am – 9.45am** Breakout Room 2

	a relentless pace and dominated the global HPV vaccine market: it is now available in more than 120 countries with more than 100 million doses having been distributed around the world. *In the wake of a global pandemic, Australia's immediate focus is on sovereign vaccine manufacturing capacity expansion. In broadening the nation's agenda, it will require talent, and bolstered capacity along the entire bench to bedside pathway. This is necessary not only to ensure Australia's future health, but also to contribute to our national prosperity.* *With unwavering determination and endless passion, 2023's Millis Orator Prof. Frazer delves into what part of this agenda we meet currently, and what are the challenges that hinder our progress towards the rest, as Australia paves the way for more, revolutionary global health advancements.* *The Millis Oration is named in honour of Emeritus Professor Nancy Millis's contribution to the industry and is a focal point of the annual industry gathering, appropriately named after this pioneer of Australia's biotechnology industry. It is held annually at the conference together with continuous support from CSL.* *Sponsored by:* CSL	**NZ's approach to adding value to food through nutrition research** **Chair:** to be confirmed **Joanne Todd,** Challenge Director, High Value Nutrition *With the aim of tackling the biggest science-based issues and opportunities facing New Zealand, the NZ Government established the National Science Challenges in 2014 encompassing 11 Challenges. One of these challenges, High-Value Nutrition, is focused on developing high-value foods with validated health benefits to drive economic growth.* *In this session, hear from Challenge Director Joanne Todd on the learnings over the past nine years, and how the High-Value Nutrition Challenge brings together the country's top scientists to work collaboratively across disciplines, institutions, and with New Zealand's food and beverage industry to achieve their objectives.*
9:30am-10:00am	**First-in-class donor-derived microbiome therapy informing drug discovery** **Chair:** to be confirmed **Speaker: Dr Sam Costello,** Chief Executive Officer & Co-Founder BiomeBank *BiomeBank's BIOMICTRA™ was the first microbiome-based therapy approved world-wide when it was listed on the Australian Register of Therapeutic Goods (ARTG) in November 2022. BIOMICTRA is donor-derived and is approved for use in C. difficile infection. It has been supplied to patients in over 40 hospital networks around Australia.* *In this keynote, discover how BiomeBank is using BIOMICTRA in other diseases to inform drug discovery of second-generation cultured microbiome-based therapies.*	**9.45am – 10.30am** Breakout Room 2 **Biosecurity** *Queensland's biosecurity system faces increasing numbers of new plant disease and/or pest threats along with a shifting risk profile as a result of climate change and external drivers like global people and commodity movements.* *Accurate, timely and comprehensive diagnostic tools are critical for building and sustaining the system's*

10.00am - 10.30am	**PLENARY** Plenary Room	*capacity to rapidly identify and address these biosecurity threats. These tools require more than an ability to quickly confirm identification of the threat and its associated characteristics; they also need to support the system's capacity to understand the risk associated with these species and model that risk in order to build its evidence base on targeted and general interventions.* *This session adopts a multi-disciplinary panel approach to discuss how scientific/technology and practice areas can come together to ensure Queensland, and more broadly Australia, will sustain its biosecurity status in the face of increasing and shifting biosecurity threats, many of which hold the capacity to significantly impact environments, community health, market access and food security.* **Chair:** *to be confirmed* **Speakers** • *To be confirmed*
	Dancing with patents **Chair:** to be confirmed **Dr Lisa Haile,** Partner, DLA Piper US *Additional keynote speaker to be confirmed* *If you're looking to step into the US market with a new therapeutic or medical device, it is critical to survey the "dancefloor" that has already been laid down with respect to competitor patents. Understanding potential blocking positions sooner than later will allow you to plan your launch in the US without concerns about freedom to operate issues.* *Join this dynamic duo as they cross the dancefloor to discuss the 'patent dance' – the consequences and risks of not surveying the patent landscape well in advance, using others' data within your own patent applications and tips on how to manage your company's IP risks as part of your overall business strategy. Learn how to don the 'right shoes' and set yourself up for success as you step onto the global stage of life sciences intellectual property protection and enforcement.*	
10.30am- 11.00am	**Morning tea and networking break** Bioindustry exhibition	

11.00am - 11.45am	**CONCURRENT SESSION 4A** Plenary Room	**CONCURRENT SESSION 4B** Breakout Room 1	**AgriBiotech Summit** 11.00am – 11.45am Breakout Room 2
	Product development: a team sport *Product development is a team sport, demanding a clear game plan to deliver a product that provides value to users. A successful approach almost invariably includes starting with the end in mind and engaging early with potential customers to define product requirements and use cases.* *This expert panel will discuss best-practice due diligence activities used to develop user requirements and a critical path for the development of pharmaceuticals, vaccines and medical devices, including case studies and insights on how they work with innovators to guide them to develop products that matter. The panel will also provide guidance on how to navigate pathways for engaging with Defence and national security agencies.* **Chair: Dr Felicia Pradera**, General Manager, Health Security Systems Australia ***Speakers:*** • **Jenny Herz**, Co-Founder, Biointelect • **Dr Anand Gautam,** Executive Director & Emerging Science Lead, Pfizer • **Dr Flavia Huygens,** Chief Scientific Officer, Founder and Executive Director, Microbio • **Dr Craig Rayner,** Director, Regional Centre for Respiratory Medicines and Tropical Disease, Moderna	*Sponsored session by:* evrima *Further details to be confirmed*	**Utilising biotechnology to power the future: the role of biotech in renewable energy production** *Historically in Australia, energy use has been an input cost to agriculture and providing feedstock to a biofuels sector was something seen in subsidised international economies. Since 2006, there have been significant changes in the pricing of key inputs into agriculture, starting with electricity and, latterly, fossil fuel-dependent fertilisers.* *There has also been a shift in how customers, and increasingly policy makers, put responsibility on the food production sector to consciously manage its environmental footprint.* *Reducing input costs, decarbonising production and developing lower emission-omitting energy solutions for the supply chain provide both challenges and opportunities for the agriculture sector.* *This panel session will discuss the challenges and opportunities that arise from decarbonising the agricultural supply chain and the role biofuels play in supporting Australia's transition to a low carbon future.* **Chair:** *to be confirmed* **Speakers** • *To be confirmed*
11.45am – 12.30pm	**Concurrent Session 5A** Plenary Room	**Concurrent Session 5B** Breakout Room 1	**AgriBiotech Summit** **11.45am – 12.30pm** Breakout Room 2

	Revolutionising medicine: exploring the potential of RNA therapy in the evolving biotech landscape *RNA therapy, a cutting-edge approach to treat or prevent diseases using RNA-based molecules, has sparked immense interest and investment in the United States. Over the last four years, non-vaccine RNA-based medicines have attracted a staggering US$16 billion in funding. These pioneering companies are not only focused on addressing diseases that were previously untreatable by conventional drug groups, but they are also exploring how RNA medicine can drive down the costs of traditional medicines like biologics. Additionally, the potential of RNA to facilitate gene editing, potentially negating the need for viral vectors, has opened up exciting new possibilities.* *While Australia has been actively involved in RNA science for over four decades, it is now on the brink of an industrial expansion in this transformative field. This session will delve into the unparalleled potential of RNA therapy and how the Australian biotech landscape is rapidly evolving to harness its power and allure significant investment.* *Join us for this session as we uncover the groundbreaking advancements in RNA therapy and explore how Australia is positioning itself to lead the charge in this revolution of modern medicine. Together, we will witness how RNA-driven innovation has the potential to reshape the future of healthcare and improve the lives of millions worldwide.* **Chair: Daniel Getts,** Chief Executive Officer & Co-Founder, Myeloid Therapeutics	**Roadmap to manufacturing success: What does it take to create successful manufacturing in Australia** *In the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, governments around the world are reviewing their sovereign capabilities in critical areas such as medicines and vaccines. Australia ranks last on OECD rankings for manufacturing self-sufficiency. There is an enormous task in rebuilding our domestic manufacturing capacity. Australia has a highly skilled workforce and high standard regulatory environment. What policy settings could assist Australia become a powerhouse of innovative pharmaceutical manufacturing? What lessons have been learned from COVID?* **Chair: Julie Phillips,** Chief Executive Officer & Director, BioDiem **Speakers** • *To be confirmed*	**Harnessing First Nations knowledge in biotechnology and natural product discovery** *Earlier this year, Uniseed and Bulugudu Ltd (owned by the Indjalandji-Dhidhanu people) invested $2.6 million into Trioda Wilingi, a University of Queensland/UniQuest spin out company developing innovative medical gels from cellulose nanofibres extracted from spinifex harvested in north-west Queensland.* *Trioda Wilingi has the exclusive global rights to develop novel injectable spinifex medical gels, which have many potential applications including osteoarthritis, drug delivery and cosmetic treatments. Under the agreement, a percentage of all royalties will go into an Indigenous education fund at UQ, to enhance training and education opportunities for Indigenous Australians.* *This panel session will discuss Trioda Wilingi's journey to date, the role of Indigenous knowledge and practices in science, and how to develop effective and meaningful partnerships between scientists and Indigenous communities to translate First Nations knowledge into commercial medical products.* **Chair:** to be confirmed **Speakers** • *To be confirmed*

	Speakers: • **Darren Saunders,** Deputy Chief Scientist & Engineer, NSW • **Professor Pall Thordarson,** Director, University of New South Wales RNA Institute • **Matthew Hewitt,** Vice President, Cell and Gene Therapy, Charles River Laboratories		
12.30pm - 1.20pm	**AusBiotech Annual General Meeting**		
12.30pm – 1.30pm	**Networking lunch and networking break** Bioindustry exhibition		
1.30pm - 2.15pm	**Concurrent Session 6A** Plenary Room	**Concurrent Session 6B** Breakout Room 1	**AgriBiotech Summit** **1.30pm – 2.15pm** Breakout Room 2
	From quantum technology to bio-innovation: the future of biotechnology *As the field of biotechnology and medical technology continues to advance, new frontiers emerge, and one such frontier is the fascinating world of quantum. Quantum technologies have the potential to revolutionise various aspects of biotech and medtech, from drug discovery and development to diagnostics and imaging.* *This panel discussion will discuss the fundamental principles of quantum, its potential impact and applications in the life sciences. Panellists will explore the transformative potential of quantum technologies, discussing how these advancements can accelerate research, optimise treatment development, and improve patient outcomes.* *The discussion promises to be an eye-opening exploration of how quantum technology can revolutionise the life sciences and reshape the future of*	**Navigating the path to commercial viability: unlocking success for early-stage technology developers** *In the dynamic realm of technology development, early-stage innovators often face the critical challenge of balancing technical excellence with commercial viability. This engaging panel session aims to explore why it is imperative for early-stage technology developers to think about and prioritise the commercial aspects of their products from the outset.* *Join us as we bring together distinguished experts representing the pharmaceutical industry, venture capitalists, and successful inventors-turned-entrepreneurs. Their diverse perspectives will shed light on what stakeholders seek when evaluating investments and navigating the complex journey of bringing a product to market. The panel discussion will dive into essential topics, beginning with the importance of quantitative approaches to determine commercial viability. Attendees will gain valuable insights into the financial considerations that underpin successful commercialisation strategies. Moreover, the session will delve into the realm of market access and uptake. The panellists will*	**Leveraging open-source information and patent analytics to drive agritech / foodtech innovation** *Discover how open-source data and patent insights can be leveraged to ignite agrifood tech in Australia towards key targets like sustainability, novel ingredients, and agricultural / manufacturing efficiencies. Hear first-hand how Australian organisations are using these powerful tools to discover game-changing trends, develop new collaboration opportunities, and help launch new innovation.* **Chair: Dr Peter Brown,** Principal, Patents: Life Sciences, Spruson & Ferguson **Speakers** • *To be confirmed*

	healthcare. Attendees will gain valuable insights into this cutting-edge field and how to leverage its potential for transformative impact and strategies for embracing quantum to stay competitive. **Chair:** *to be confirmed* **Speakers:** • *To be confirmed*	*explore the challenges and opportunities associated with accessing specific markets, including distribution channels, reimbursement mechanisms, and the crucial perspective of end-users—the patients.* *By emphasising the need for early-stage technology developers to adopt a holistic approach that considers the target patient populations and identifies the potential payers, this session will highlight the reasons why commercial viability should be at the forefront of their thinking. Attendees will gain invaluable insights into the challenges and rewards of taking a technology all the way, including the significant financial investment required throughout the development and commercialisation process. Don't miss this thought-provoking session, where we will uncover the secrets to navigating the path to commercial viability.* **Chair: Dr Patricia Vietheer,** Senior Director R&D Strategy & Planning, Biointelect **Speakers:** • **Bruce Goodwin,** Director, Omico • **Melissa McBurnie**, Partner & Head of Impact – Adelaide, Brandon Capital • **Professor John Skerrit** • *Further speakers to be confirmed* *Sponsored by:* Biointelect	

2.15pm - 3.00pm	**CONCURRENT SESSION 7A** Plenary Room	**CONCURRENT SESSION 7B** Breakout Room 1	**AgriBiotech Summit** **2.15pm – 3.00pm** Breakout Room 2
	Further session details to be confirmed	**Curbing AMR: beyond the drugs** *Antibiotics and other medicines used to treat infectious diseases are the cornerstone of modern medicine. Now they are failing due to the rising rate of antimicrobial resistance (AMR), with The WHO declaring AMR as one of the top 10 global public health threats. Although new drugs are essential, microbes are expert at thwarting our efforts to kill them, which is why we need to place a greater focus on preventive and alternative strategies while considering the role of the environment in the evolution and spread of AMR.* *With less than two per cent of the Australian health budget being spent on prevention, how might we support the shift to a preventive AMR mindset by governments and healthcare providers? What types of policies and regulatory approaches could be used? What is needed to create collective and focused action on AMR when the number of possible responses is so vast and varied?* **Chair: Dr Branwen Morgan,** Minimising AMR Mission Lead, CSIRO **Speakers:** • **Professor Trevor Lithgow,** Director, Centre to Impact AMR, Monash University • **Katrina Lapham,** Director Strategic Market Access & Policy, Biointelect • **Dr Teresa Wozniak**, Research Group Leader, Health and Biosecurity, CSIRO *Sponsored by:* CSIRO	**Hitchhiking along the long and winding investment road: who will the investors pick up and how to avoid being left behind** *The attraction of capital will be a critical factor in the food and agribusiness sector realising its full growth potential. Technology that can deliver efficiencies and greater output in the sector is being developed here in Australia, however, those technology developers lack access to traditional funding sources and will increasingly rely on capital from investors including venture capital.* *This session will discuss the array of investment types available to agritech companies, tried and true methods and pitfalls that companies face when seeking growth capital, and how to attract investment in the current capital raising environment.* **Chair:** *to be confirmed* **Speakers:** • *To be confirmed*

3.00pm - 3.30pm	**Afternoon Tea** Bioindustry exhibition		
3:30pm – 4.15pm	**CONCURRENT SESSION 8A** Plenary Room	**CONCURRENT SESSION 8B** Breakout Room 1	**AgriBiotech Summit** **3.30pm – 4.15pm** Breakout Room 2
	What does AI and machine learning mean for our innovators' IP? *Machine learning (ML) and artificial intelligence (AI) have the potential to support commercialisation by accelerating the discovery process, such as identifying novel antibody designs or optimising the selection of potential candidates, optimising clinical trial patient recruitment, and improving patient outcomes.* *As AI and ML become more prevalent in biotech development, there may be opportunities to patent new algorithms and technologies, thereby creating new opportunities for innovation in a globally-competitive field.* *Around 80 per cent of Australia's life science's industry are SMEs and pre-revenue, and so the opportunity to use AI and ML tools that help to get through low-resource periods can be a tempting light. However, what are the impacts on your inventorship and for your IP ownership?* *Join this panel to discuss the legal pitfalls to look out for as these tools accelerate biotech discoveries – whether your own, or those you may collaborate with. It's important for our innovators to consider the issues and develop appropriate strategies for managing them; public discussion will be encouraged.*	**Biopreparedness: supporting global health through a productive vaccine development pipeline** *Never has there been greater recognition of the need for rapid development and delivery of safe and effective vaccines to control or even eliminate new and emerging diseases. Hosted by NSW Health, this panel session will allow attendees to engage with some of Australia's leading experts covering the entire vaccine pipeline – from discovery, design and testing through to small-scale production, clinical trials, and patient treatment. Panel members will discuss how large-scale, cross-jurisdictional partnerships can accelerate the development, commercialisation, and uptake of vaccines.* *This session is a must for anyone with a stake in the end-to-end commercial development of vaccines - from universities, medical research institutes, consumer organisations, industry, government and beyond!* **Chair: Anne O'Neill,** Acting Executive Director, Office for Health and Medical Research, NSW Ministry of Health **Speakers:** • *To be confirmed* *Sponsored session by:* NSW GOVERNMENT Health	**Food for thought: sustainability and emission reduction in the alternative protein industries.** *Earlier this year, the world's population passed 8 billion people. With an expected further 500 million mouths to feed by 2030, the demand for protein will only increase.* *Queensland and wider Australia are leading providers of food protein to the world through its seafood, livestock, grains and pulses industry, however but these activities alone will not be sufficient to meet demand.* *Increasingly industrialised countries are moving away from meat and dairy consumption towards alternative sources of protein and foods, which rely on plants, microorganisms, and cell cultures.* *Biotechnology, and technology in general, offers the potential to increase protein production in a sustainable manner. This is not simply a matter of plant protein displacing animal protein in the world's diet: we will need to explore all avenues to meet demand from the use of gene technology to enhance the climactic range of existing plants, to new plant and animal food sources, to the use of rapidly developing precision fermentation.* *In this session, panel speakers will cover a range of technologies and options for sustainable protein production and discuss how we integrate new proteins*

	Chair: *to be confirmed* **Speakers:** • **Dr David Cardoso**, Vice President Business Development, Pending.AI • **Michael Schwager,** Director General, IP Australia • **Ken Seidenman,** Senior Associate, FB Rice		*into our food system, export supply chains, and markets.* **Chair:** *to be confirmed* **Speakers:** • *To be confirmed*
	CONCURRENT SESSION 9A **(4.15pm – 6.00pm)** Plenary Room	**CONCURRENT SESSION 9B** **(4.15pm – 5.00pm)** Breakout Session 1	**AgriBiotech Summit** **4.15pm – 5.00pm** Breakout Room 2
	Biotech careers beyond the bench *The 2-hour session is pitched at PhD, postgraduates and undergraduates students alike and will bring together industry leaders from a broad range of roles to share their valuable insights and experiences, shedding light on different career paths and opportunities within life science.*	**Sponsored session by SEOUL BIOHUB** *Further session details to be confirmed*	**You are what you eat - harnessing AI to power the Agribiotech value chain** *The use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) products and services has rapidly increased with the rise of the digital age and computing power. We now see AI applied broadly in many everyday situations at work, home and across the community. Advances in both AI and biotechnology offers the potential solutions to global social, environmental, and economic problems at a scale and speed not seen before. New opportunities will continue to arise as the technology evolves and society becomes more comfortable with its broad practical application. These advancements are predicted to transform our agrisystem and the way we work to collaboratively tackle issues such as of climate change, global food shortages and nutrition* **Chair:** *to be confirmed* **Speakers:** • *To be confirmed*
6.30pm– 10.00pm	**Conference Dinner** Plaza Ballroom, Brisbane Convention & Exhibition Centre		

AusBiotech Australia's life sciences conference '23 | Advancing Biotech It's in our DNA

1-3 November 2023 ● Brisbane Australia

Proudly sponsored by Queensland Government

Friday 3 November 2023

09.00am - 09.45am	**Concurrent Session 10A** Plenary Room	**Concurrent Session 10B** Breakout Room 1	**EARLY-STAGE INNOVATION FORUM** Breakout Room 2
	Animal model alternatives: the future of drug screening is driven by human biology *We stand at the dawn of a new era in drug development, powered by innovative New Approach Methods (NAMs) and Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) advocacy.* *These powerful advances have triggered significant changes in regulatory requirements worldwide, including the removal of the animal-testing mandate during drug discovery in the US through the FDA Modernization Act 2.0.* *This bill allows FDA to consider information from sources other than animal studies to facilitate and support all clinical trial stages. These sources encompass cell-based approaches such as human pluripotent stem cells (iPSC), organotypic in-vitro cultures (micro-tissues, spheroids, organoids), microphysiological systems, as well as in-silico*	**Boosting cell therapy innovation in Australia** *Cell therapies are a worldwide fast-growing therapeutic modality and the US' FDA is expecting to approve an increasing number of new cell therapy products each year.* *Only very few cell therapy products are currently licensed in Australia, but Australian innovation is filling the pipeline. In North America, clusters of cell and gene therapy communities consisting of academia, biotechs, technology providers, pre-clinical and clinical research organisations, VCs, manufacturers, and consultants are emerging around the country, providing innovators with a bespoke environment to deliver innovative cell therapies. In Australia, similar clusters are beginning to form around academic originators and their institutes while foreign entities are multiplying their expressions of interest in Australia as an alternative to existing hubs in Singapore and China, buoyed by the growing*	*The Early-Stage Innovation Forum enables early-stage projects and technologies from research institutes, universities, hospitals and pre-series A companies in the area of human therapeutics and enabling technologies to pitch to a panel of industry experts, corporate VCs and early-stage investors to continue their commercialisation journey.* *Sponsored by:* sanofi

	computer-based modelling, artificial intelligence (AI) and machine-learning. *This panel will explore how the role of NAMs and animal tests will evolve as the industry strives to identify the most accurate methods for predicting patient responses to new therapeutic candidates and pave the way for a new era of more reliable and effective therapies that will bring benefits to a larger number of patients.* **Chair: Associate Professor Tam Nguyen,** Deputy Director of Research, St Vincent's Hospital Melbourne **Speakers:** • **Dr Christos Papadimitriou,** Chief Executive Officer, Tessara Therapeutics • **Greg Williams,** Associate Director, CSIRO Futures • *Further speakers to be confirmed*	*recognition of Australia as an attractive clinical trial destination and fast-to-proof-of-concept environment.* *Success factors include research funding which is meaningful enough to advance Australian-originated products into clinical development, access to sufficient venture capital, a well-developed hospital network and clinical trial infrastructure which embrace innovation, efficient workforce training of technical and manufacturing staff, and Government support in the form of streamlined approval processes, a favourable tax environment including for the manufacture of products destined for export, and a developed domestic market with established and efficient pathways for approval and reimbursement.* *The session will discuss how Australia compares to its global competitors, which areas need more support and investment, and how this could be achieved.* **Chair: Dr Mathias Kroll**, Chief Commercial Officer, QIMR Berghofer Medical Research Institute · **Speakers:** • *To be confirmed*	
09.45am - 10.30am	**Concurrent Session 11A** Plenary Room	**Concurrent Session 11B** Breakout Room 1	
	Latest global insight and data - competitive and sustainable executive remuneration models *Aimed at executives, chairs, VC & PE from Australian Biotech & MedTech companies at the A, B & C stage, seeking the latest insights & data to plan/ review their competitive and sustainable remuneration & benefits models for their executive talent in Australian, the USA & Europe.* • *A leading USA compensation company, with insights and analysis to make educated*	**A national plan for leading APAC's cell and gene manufacturing** *The global cell and gene industry has developed apace in recent years and is only accelerating. While the initial scientific challenges of C&G products have been overcome, the manufacturing and delivery requirements remain complex and diverse, with the increasing number of therapies pushing global manufacturing capabilities and capacity to the limit. Australia has an opportunity to position itself as an APAC regional leader in C&G manufacturing. By working together to*	

	compensation related decisions. Over 2,000 private company survey participants and 2,000 investment firm participants which covers the entire compensation ecosystem. • *Australian based Global Talent Acquisition Director 15 plus years' experience - T/Over > $200M plus* • *CEO of USA based search MedTech /Life Sciences, with 30 years in C-Suite for early and mid-sized companies* **Chair: Catherine O'Mahony**, Managing Director, On Q Recruitment **Speakers:** • *To be confirmed*	*promote its strengths and fill the current gaps, it can provide world-leading manufacturing capabilities, research, clinical trials, and translational know-how.* *This panel will discuss Australia's role in the global C&G ecosystem, the objectives and tactics outlined in Australia's National Cell and Gene Manufacturing Blueprint, and how we can foster the development of the Australian ecosystem to a self-sustaining state and position Australia as a leader in the APAC region.* **Chair: Karen Parr**, Director, Communications & Policy, AusBiotech **Speakers:** • **Dr Zlatibor Velickovic,** Facility Director, Cell & Tissue Therapies WA, Royal Perth Hospital • **Cheryl Maley**, Interim Chief Executive Officer, BioIntelect • **Dr Heather Donaghy**, Scientific Engagement Officer, Therapeutic Innovation Australia	
10.30am - 11.00am	**Morning tea and networking break** Bioindustry exhibition		
11.00am - 11.45am	**Concurrent Session 12A** Plenary Room (11.00am – 12.30pm)	**Concurrent Session 12B** Breakout Room 1	**EARLY-STAGE INVESTMENT FORUM** Breakout Room 2
	Building the national mRNA eccosystem – major projects and infrastructure mRNA and RNA technology promises to be a new frontier in medical research, providing pathways to treat previously 'undruggable' diseases. Across the globe many countries are racing to establish themselves at the forefront of the emerging RNA sector and Australia is building on a strong	*Further session details to be confirmed*	*The Early-Stage Innovation Forum enables early-stage projects and technologies from research institutes, universities, hospitals and pre-series A companies in the area of human therapeutics and enabling technologies to pitch to a panel of industry experts, corporate VCs and early-stage investors to continue their commercialisation journey.*

11.45am - 12.30pm	history of medical research and pharmaceutical manufacturing to grow its own world-leading RNA ecosystem. This session will provide insight into major projects underway across Victoria, Queensland and New South Wales that aim to build national mRNA capability of global significance. The session will also include presenters from Federal Government organisations to speak to efforts being undertaken by government to understand Australia's full RNA ecosystem and develop advice for government on the potential of Australia's RNA sector. The session will focus on the complementary nature of the capabilities under development in each state, the collaborative relationship between government and industry and how these combined capabilities will serve to grow an end-to-end research, manufacturing and clinical mRNA ecosystem in Australia that is globally connected and competitive. **Chair:** To be confirmed **Speakers:** • *To be confirmed*	**Concurrent Session 13B** Breakout Room 1 *Further session details to be confirmed*	*Sponsored by:* sanofi
12.30pm – 1.15pm	**Lunch and networking break** Bioindustry exhibition		
1.15pm – 1.45pm	**PLENARY** Plenary Room		
	Further details to be confirmed		
1.45pm – 2.15pm	**PLENARY** Plenary Room		
	Further details to be confirmed		
2.15pm – 3.00pm	**Closing Ceremony** Bioindustry exhibition **Rosanne Hyland**, Chief Operating Officer		