

**Accelerating Drug Discovery and  
Development with AI and New Modalities**

# 2026

## 24th SAPA-GP Annual Conference

Friday, March 20 &  
Saturday, March 21, 2026

Sheraton Valley Forge Hotel  
480 N Gulph Rd  
King of Prussia, PA 19406



# SAPA-GP

Sino-American Pharmaceutical Professionals Association – Greater Philadelphia

## *Vision*

**To make lasting impact in the life science community in the Greater Philadelphia area by becoming a go-to organization for professional networking and leadership development bringing key stakeholders together and supporting regional initiatives**

## *Mission*

**To promote pharmaceutical sciences and biotechnology  
To contribute to public health education by raising public awareness  
To facilitate scientific and business cooperation  
To foster the career development of pharmaceutical professionals**



# App Instruction



## Conference App: Step-by-step guide (Download → Network → Program → Connect)

- **Scan the QR code**
  - Use your phone camera (or any QR scanner) to scan the conference app QR code.
  - Tap the link that pops up to download/install the app.
- **Open the app + register/log in**
  - Launch the app after installation.
  - Select Register / Sign Up to create your account, then Log In.
- **Go to the Networking tab to start connecting**
  - Tap Networking to join the attendee network.
  - Start browsing attendees and message/connect with others directly in the app.
- **Use the Program tab to review the agenda + speakers**
  - Tap Program to view the full schedule.
  - Click into sessions to see speaker details, including bios and related info.
- **Connect in person using QR codes (scan theirs / share yours)**
  - When you meet someone, scan their personal QR code in the app to connect instantly.
  - To share your info, tap the QR code icon in the lower-right corner to generate your QR code—others can scan it to get your contact details and connect.

# Indoor Map



# Welcome From Presidents' Office



Dear SAPA-GP Members, Volunteers, Partners, Sponsors, and Friends,

Welcome to the 24th Annual Conference of the Sino-American Pharmaceutical Professionals Association – Greater Philadelphia (SAPA-GP). We are delighted to gather with you—an outstanding community of scientists, clinicians, regulators, entrepreneurs, and leaders united by a shared purpose: to accelerate innovation, strengthen collaboration, and advance excellence across the biopharmaceutical industry.

Over more than two decades, SAPA-GP has grown into a leading nonprofit organization and a trusted connector within the Greater Philadelphia life sciences ecosystem. Through our Annual Conference, the flagship @Philly Cell and Gene Therapy Annual Conference, and an expanding portfolio of programs, we convene professionals to exchange knowledge, spark ideas, and build collaborations that last – supporting both regional leadership in drug discovery and development and career growth across all stages.

Our engagement extends well beyond the conference. We share timely business insights and industry perspectives through the monthly Bioverse webinar series (partnered with ISWT) and strengthen our community through career development, mentorship, and member events that foster meaningful relationships. We also work with local organizations to advance scientific innovation and support regional pharmaceutical development. Service and talent development remain central to our mission. The SAPA-GP Song Li Scholarship supports students from middle school through graduate study, recognizing research excellence, innovation, and sustained volunteer service—helping cultivate the next generation of scientific leaders.

This year's theme, "Accelerating Drug Discovery and Development with AI and New Modalities," arrives at a defining moment. AI, emerging therapeutic platforms, and data-driven development are reshaping how we discover, design, and deliver medicines. We hope the sessions you join, the questions you ask, and the connections you make will inspire fresh thinking and new partnerships that drive scientific progress and sustainable growth.

We extend our sincere appreciation to our leadership team, volunteers, speakers, sponsors, and partners for your dedication and unwavering support. Thank you for being part of SAPA-GP. We wish you an inspiring, engaging, and rewarding conference.

Warm regards,

Lu Wang, President (2025–2026)

Xinjun Zhang, President-Elect

Yufeng Li, Immediate-Past President

<b>Fri (Mar 20)</b>	<b>PM</b>	12:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.		
		2:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.	<b>Workshop: Fr</b>  Presenters: Andrew Tsourkas, Ph.D., AlphaThera, Inc.	
<b>Saturday (March 21)</b>	<b>AM</b>	8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.		
		8:30 a.m. - 8:45 a.m.	<b>SAPA-GP Welcome and</b>	
		8:45 a.m. - 9:55 a.m.	<b>Ph</b>  Keynote 1: Discovery and Development of the First FDA Ap Keynote 2: Development of Ligands for PET Imaging in Parkin	
		9:55 a.m. - 10:15 a.m.		
		Track & Room	<b>New Modality and Platforms in Drug Discovery and Development</b> (Academic, CMC, Bio new modality, discovery) <b>Scientific Track (Room: Centennial I)</b> Track Lead: Jake Dong, Ph.D., Frontage	<b>Clinical Frontiers: Accelerating Drug Development and Appro</b> (Clinical development, Clinical pharmacology, Bioanalysis, Regulatory, Safety, Medical Affairs) <b>Clinical &amp; Regulatory Track (Room: Grand Ballroom)</b> Track Lead: Yali Liang, M.D., M.S. Jazz Pharmaceuticals
		10:15 a.m. - 11:45 a.m.	<b>New Modalities and Platforms</b> Session Moderator: Sherry Gao, Ph.D., University of Pennsylvania <b>From Research to Real-World: Mass Spectrometry in Academia and Industry</b> Shelly Gao, Ph.D., University of Pennsylvania <b>Engaging Patient Communities in Drug Discovery and Development: Strategies and Best Practices</b> Chari Cohen, DrPH, MPH, Hepatitis B Foundation <b>Academia/Industry Collaboration in Action: The Invention of MK-7602, a New Clinical Antimalarial</b> Manuel de Lera Ruiz, Ph.D., Merck & Co., Inc.	<b>Innovation in Action: Beyond AI in Clinical Drug Development</b> Session Moderator: Yali Liang, M.D., M.S. Jazz Pharmaceuticals <b>Clinical Development of Zanidatamab</b> Kevin Bellew, M.S., Jazz Pharmaceuticals <b>Foundational Concepts and Applications of Automation and AI in Drug Safe Monitoring</b> Mina Ebeid, M.D., Nicole Schmid David, PA-C, MPH, Genmab <b>Beyond Bidimensional RANO 2.0: How Volumetric AI is Redefining Speed ar Precision in Neuro-Oncology Trials</b> Gene Kim, PharmD. MERIT CRO
	<b>Lunch</b>	11:45 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.		
		12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.		<b>Lunch Seminar (Room: Malvern)</b> <b>Nonclinical in vivo testing and bioanalysis of Antibody Drug Conjugate (A</b> Presenter: Guodong Zhang, Ph.D., VP of BD, TriApex Laboratories Host: Jingwen Niu, Ph.D., Head of R&D, AlphaThera
	<b>PM</b>	1:00 p.m. - 2:10 p.m.		Host: <b>Keynote 3: AI &amp; Agents in the Pharma Value Chain</b> <b>Keynote 4: Advancing Drug Discovery</b>
		2:10 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.		
		2:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.	<b>Advanced Drug Discovery and Processing Development</b> Session Moderator: Peng Wang, Ph.D., Lonza <b>Uncovering Cancer Metabolism Across Scales</b> Yihui Shen, Ph.D., University of Pennsylvania <b>From Integration to Actionable Target: The HBV-miR-2/HBV-SITE Axis as a Predictive Biomarker and Therapeutic Avenue for HCC</b> Wenqiang Yu, Ph.D., Fudan University <b>The Use of Artificial Intelligence/Machine Learning in Oncology Drug Discovery</b> Dowdy Jackson, Ph.D., Jackson Consulting Group	<b>Medical Evolution: Breakthroughs Reshaping Clinical Landscapes</b> Session Moderator: Lei He, M.D., Ph.D., Exelixis <b>Paving the Way for Novel Therapies for Patients with Cancer - the 'Right' Dose Innovative Development</b> Stacie Peacock Shepherd, M.D., Ph.D., Fore Biotherapeutics <b>The Journey from Bench to Bedside to Drug Development: Navigating Science, Patients, and Strategy</b> Nageatte Ibrahim, M.D., Arc Nouvel Clinical Development Consulting <b>Rare Disease Clinical Development</b> Haichen Yang, M.D., M.B.A., Amicus Therapeutics
		4:00 p.m. - 4:15 p.m.		
4:15 p.m. - 5:45 p.m.		<b>Opportunities/Challenges in Drug Discovery</b> Session Moderator: Tong-yuan Yang, Ph.D., Johnson & Johnson <b>Panel Discussion (4:15 p.m. - 5:15 p.m.)</b> Hao Chen, Ph.D., GSK Chari Cohen, DrPH, MPH, Baruch S. Blumberg Institute Dowdy Jackson, Ph.D., Jackson Consulting Group Michael Kalos, Ph.D., Next Pillar Consulting Baofa Yu, M.D., Immune Oncology Systems, Inc. Rui Liao, Ph.D., Johnson & Johnson Innovative Medicine	<b>Optimizing Efficiency: Leveraging PBPK to Bypass Traditional Trials</b> Session Moderator: Gaohua Lu, Ph.D., BMS <b>PBPK Implementation in Big Pharma vs Small Biotech - Opportunities and Challenges</b> Valeriu Damian, Ph.D., BioCryst Pharmaceuticals <b>Real-world Implementation of PBPK Approaches in Supporting Biowaivers: Dissolution Specifications and SUPAC Changes</b> Nikunj Kumar Patel, Ph.D., Teva Pharmaceuticals <b>Next-Generation PBPK: Real-World Implementation and Novel Application</b> Gaohua Lu, Ph.D., BMS	
5:45 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.			<b>Reward</b>	
6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.				

# and Development with AI and New Modalities

Registration Open

## om Scientist to Entrepreneur (Room: Centennial I)

Host: Lixia Yao Ph.D., Polygon Health Analytics LLC

; Lake Paul, Ph.D., BioAnalysis LLC; Lixia Yao, Ph.D., Polygon Health Analytics LLC; Frank Li, Ph.D., Sidocel, Inc.

Registration Open

## nd President-Elect Announcement Host: Lu Wang (SAPA-GP President)

## enary Session 1 (Room: Grand Ballroom)

Host: Lu Wang, Ph.D., M.B.A., Genentech/Roche

proved Drug for Diffuse Midline Gliomas: A Collaborative Story Presenter: Joshua Allen, Ph.D., Jazz Pharmaceuticals

son's Disease and Related Neurodegenerative Disorders Presenter: James Petersson, Ph.D., University of Pennsylvania

Coffee Break

Parallel Sessions

<p>als</p>	<p><b>Pushing the Boundaries of AI and Data Science for Drug Discovery and Development</b>  <b>AI and Data Science (Room: Centennial III)</b>                  Track Lead: Lixia Yao, Ph.D., Polygon Health Analytics LLC</p>	<p><b>Multiple Tracks (Room: Centennial II)</b>                  Track Lead: Bill Lu (Business), Patricia Tsao (Career), Evelyn Guo (Health/Wealth)</p>	<p><b>Roundtable Discussion</b></p>
<p>ty nd</p>	<p><b>Harnessing Data at Scale: Integrative Analytics Across the Drug Lifecycle</b>                  Session Moderator: Lixia Yao, Ph.D., Polygon Health Analytics LLC</p> <p><b>Data Science For Pharmaceutical Industry</b>                  Zhiyong Xie, Ph.D., Fosun Pharmaceutical Development (Shenzhen) Co. Ltd</p> <p><b>Understanding Lung Cancer Biology for Forward and Reverse Translation</b>                  Barzin Nabet, Ph.D., Genetech</p> <p><b>Clinical Trials 2.0: How AI is Reshaping Clinical Development</b>                  Feng Liu, Ph.D., Immunocore</p>	<p><b>Business</b>  <b>Innovation, Access, and Partnership: How Global Pharma Selects Biotech Collaborators in The Current Environment</b>                  Session Host: Jeff He, M.B.A., MA, Genmab</p> <p><b>Panel Discussion</b>                  Hui Liu, Ph.D., M.B.A., Sandoz                  Nehal Solanki Patel, Ph.D., M.B.A., Legend Biotech                  Jack Wu, Ph.D., M.B.A., Takeda                  Sam Ye, Ph.D., Daiichi Sankyo, Inc.</p>	<p><b>Parallel Session 1 (Room: Frazer)</b>                  10:15 a.m. - 11:45 a.m.  <b>Women in Investment</b>                  Session Host: Bill Lu, M.B.A., Forerun Advantage</p> <p><b>Roundtable Discussion</b>                  Lori Gough, Ph.D., Partner, Epidarex Capital                  Kathie Jordan, Ph.D., Managing Director, Healthcare Investment Group                  Michele Washko, M.B.A., CEO, Life Science Greenhouse Investments                  Saima Farooq, M.B.A., Assoc. Innovation Manager, Center for Medical Innovation, PSU</p>

Lunch Break and Seminars

<p>ADC)</p>	<p><b>Lunch Seminar (Room: Paoli)</b>  <b>Apeloa CDMO Introduction</b>                  Presenter: Lilit Elmore, M.S., BD, Apeloa Pharmaceutical                  Host: Ying Zhou, Ph.D., Associate Director, Teva Pharmaceuticals</p>	<p><b>Lunch Seminar (Room: Haverford)</b>  <b>Tackling Difficult Targets: Innovative Platforms for TCR-CD3 and KLK Proteins</b>                  Presenter: Sarah Rains, M.S., BD Manager, KACTUS                  Host: Zhiyi Cui, Ph.D., Associate Director, GSK</p>	
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## Plenary Session 2 (Room: Grand Ballroom)

Xinjun Zhang Ph.D., Merck & Co., Inc. (SAPA-GP President-Elect)

n: State of Affairs and Hype vs. Reality Presenter: Ron Kim, M.B.A., Former Fortune 100 Pharmaceutical CTO

and Development with AI and New Modalities Presenter: Siyuan Chen, M.B.A., BMS/RayzeBio

Coffee Break

<p>and ce,</p>	<p><b>Evolving Biostatistics: From Traditional Models to Translational Impact</b>                  Session Moderator: Sterling Wu, Ph.D., Merck &amp; Co., Inc.</p> <p><b>Monitoring Overall Survival as Safety Endpoint in Oncology Clinical Trials</b>                  Zhiheng Xu, Ph.D., FDA</p> <p><b>Optimizing Dose Selection in Oncology</b>                  Fang Liu, Ph.D., Merck &amp; Co., Inc.</p> <p><b>Statistical Principle for AIML Modeling in Clinical Research Developments</b>                  Helen Zhou, Ph.D., GSK</p>	<p><b>Career</b>  <b>Insider Perspectives on Qualities that Employers Value</b>                  Session Moderator: Patricia Tsao, M.D., Ph.D. CytoEX Inc.</p> <p><b>Beyond Doing the Job: How STEM Professionals Earn Growth and Promotion</b>                  Michelle Ottey, Ph.D., CIC Campuses and Labs</p> <p><b>The Human Edge: Essential Skills for Life Sciences Careers in an AI-Driven Era</b>                  Marcia Zaruba O'Connor, M.S., The O'connor Group</p> <p><b>Science, Startups and Serendipity: How People Shape Success</b>                  Sharon H Willis, Ph.D., Integral Molecular</p>	<p><b>Parallel Session 3 (Room: Frazer)</b>                  4:15 p.m. - 5:45 p.m.  <b>From Data to ROI: How AI Impacts the Bottom Line of Drug Development</b>                  Session Moderator: Bill Lu, M.B.A., Forerun Advantage</p> <p><b>Roundtable Discussion</b>                  Dominique Demolle, Ph.D., CEO, Cognivia                  Haichen Yang, M.D., M.B.A., VP of Clinical Research, Amicus Therapeutics                  Tifani McCann, Ph.D., Chief Data &amp; Analytics Officer, Otsuka</p>
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Coffee Break

<p>enges y, s</p>	<p><b>From Algorithms to Medicines: The AI revolution in Pharma R&amp;D</b>                  Session Moderator: Yunlong Wang, Ph.D., M.B.A., IQVIA</p> <p><b>Creating a Fully Agentic Clinical Development Future</b>                  Lucas Glass, Ph.D., IQVIA</p> <p><b>AI based QA/QC in Life Science</b>                  Tiaohao Wu, Ph.D., OpAIDA</p> <p><b>Multi-Modal Integration of Histology and Spatial Transcriptomics Data - A Topology- and Morphology-Driven Approach</b>                  Chao Chen, Ph.D., Stony Brook University</p>	<p><b>Health &amp; Wealthb</b>  <b>Fit &amp; Financially Free: The Dual-Engine Life</b>                  Session Moderator: Evelyn Guo, M.D., M.B.A., Genmab</p> <p><b>Equity Investing</b>                  Douglas Roman, CFA, CMT, M.S., Gamma Internation Bank</p> <p><b>Growth Opportunities in the Life Science Supply Chain</b>                  Dan Leonard, M.B.A., UBS</p>	<p><b>Parallel Session 3 (Room: Haverford)</b>                  4:15 p.m. - 5:45 p.m.  <b>Career: Ask an Expert</b>                  Session Moderator: Patricia Tsao, M.D., Ph.D. CytoEX Inc.</p> <p><b>Roundtable Discussion</b>                  Yufeng Li, Ph.D., Vvace Therapeutics                  Haichen Yang, Ph.D., Teva Pharmaceuticals                  Helen (Hui) Sun, MHRM, SPHR, PCC, Zambon                  Patricia Tsao, M.D., Ph.D., CytoEX Inc.                  Lu Wang, Ph.D., GENENTECH/Roche</p>
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ling Ceremony and Closing Remarks (5min Raffle drawing) (Room: Grand Ballroom)

Dinner (Invitation Only) (Room: Centennial I)

# Partner



# DIA

<https://www.diaglobal.org/>

**Excited to partner with DIA alongside SAPA-GP to amplify both organizations' impact across the Greater Philadelphia life-science community.**

# Friday March 20

12:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

**Registration Open**

2:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

**Workshop: From Scientist to Entrepreneur**

**Room: Centennial I**

**Host: Lixia Yao, Ph.D., Polygon Health Analytics LLC**

**Presenter:**

**Andrew Tsourkas, Ph.D., AlphaThera, Inc.**

**Lake Paul, Ph.D., BioAnalysis LLC**

**Lixia Yao, Ph.D., Polygon Health Analytics LLC**

**Frank Li, Ph.D., Sidocel, Inc.**

# Saturday March 21

8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

**Registration Open**

8:30 a.m. - 8:45 p.m.

**SAPA-GP Welcome and President-Elect Announcement** Host: Lu Wang (SAPA-GP President)

8:45 a.m. - 9:55 a.m.

**Plenary Session 1 (Room: Grand Ballroom)**

Host: Lu Wang, Ph.D., Genentech/Roche

**Discovery and Development of the First FDA Approved Drug for Diffuse Midline Gliomas: A Collaborative Story**

Joshua Allen, Ph.D., Jazz Pharmaceuticals

**Development of Ligands for PET Imaging in Parkinson's Disease and Related Neurodegenerative Disorders**

James Petersson, Ph.D., University of Pennsylvania

9:55 a.m. - 10:15 a.m.

**Coffee Break**

10:15 a.m. - 11:45 a.m.

**Parallel Sessions 1**

11:45 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

**Lunch Break and Seminars**

12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.

**Lunch Seminar**

1:00 p.m. - 2:10 p.m.

**Plenary Session 2 (Room: Grand Ballroom)**

Host: Xinjun Zhang, Ph.D., Merck & Co., Inc.

**AI & Agents in the Pharma Value Chain: State of Affairs and Hype vs. Reality**

Ron Kim, M.B.A., Former Fortune 100 Pharmaceutical CTO

**Advancing Drug Discovery and Development with AI and New Modalities**

Siyuan Chen, M.B.A., Bristol Myers Squibb

2:10 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.

**Coffee Break**

2:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

**Parallel Sessions 2**

4:00 p.m. - 4:15 p.m.

**Coffee Break**

4:15 p.m. - 5:45 p.m.

**Parallel Sessions 3**

5:45 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

**Rewarding Ceremony and Closing Remarks (5min Raffle drawing) (Room: Grand Ballroom)**

6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

**Dinner (Invitation Only)**

# Lunch Seminars

**Lunch Seminars (Sat)**

**12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.**

**Parallel Seminar 1**

**Nonclinical in vivo testing and bioanalysis of Antibody Drug Conjugate (ADC)**

**Room: Malvern**

**Presenter: Guodong Zhang, Ph.D., VP of BD, TriApex Laboratories**  
**Host: Jingwen Niu, Ph.D., Head of R&D, AlphaThera**

**Parallel Seminar 2**

**Apeloa CDMO Introduction**

**Room: Paoli**

**Presenter: Lilith Elmore, M.S., BD, Apeloa Pharmaceutical**  
**Host: Ying Zhou, Ph.D., Associate Director, Teva Pharmaceuticals**

**Parallel Seminar 3**

**Tackling Difficult Targets: Innovative Platforms for TCR-CD3 and KLK Proteins**

**Room: Haverford**

**Presenter: Sarah Rains, M.S., BD Manager, KACTUS**  
**Host: Zhiyi Cui, Ph.D., Associate Director, GSK**

# Scientific Track

## Scientific Track

**New Modality and Platforms in Drug Discovery and Development  
(Academic, CMC, Bio new modality, discovery)**

**Room: Centennial I**

**Lead: Jake Dong, Ph.D., Frontage Laboratories, Inc**

## Parallel Session 1

**New Modalities and Platforms**

**Session Moderator: Sherry Gao, Ph.D., University of Pennsylvania**

**10:15 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.**

**From Research to Real-World: Mass Spectrometry in Academia and Industry**

Shelly Gao, Ph.D., University of Pennsylvania

**10:45 a.m. - 11:15 a.m.**

**Engaging Patient Communities in Drug Discovery and Development: Strategies and Best Practices**

Chari Cohen, DrPH, MPH, Hepatitis B Foundation

**11:15 a.m. - 11:45 a.m.**

**Academia/Industry Collaboration in Action: The Invention of MK-7602, a New Clinical Antimalarial**

Manuel de Lera Ruiz, Ph.D., Merck & Co., Inc.

## Parallel Session 2

**Advanced Drug Discovery and Processing Development**

**Session Moderator: Peng Wang, Ph.D., Lonza**

**2:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.**

**Uncovering Cancer Metablism Across Scales**

Yihui Shen, Ph.D., University of Pennsylvania

**3:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.**

**From Integration to Actionable Target: The HBV-miR-2/HBV-SITE Axis as a Predictive Biomarker and Therapeutic Avenue for HCC**

Wenqiang Yu, Ph.D., Fudan University

**3:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.**

**The Use of Artificial Intelligence/Machine Learning in Oncology Drug Discovery**

Dowdy Jackson, Ph.D., Jackson Consulting Group

## Parallel Session 3

**Opportunities/Challenges in Drug Discovery**

**Session Moderator: Tong-yuan Yang, Ph.D., Johnson & Johnson**

**4:15 p.m. - 5:15 p.m.**

**Panel Discussion**

**Hao Chen, Ph.D., GSK**

**Chari Cohen, DrPH, MPH, Baruch S. Blumberg Institue**

**Dowdy Jackson, Ph.D., Jackson Consulting Group**

**Michael Kalos, Ph.D., Next Pillar Consulting**

**Baofa Yu, M.D., Immune Oncology Systems, Inc.**

**Rui Liao, Ph.D., Johnson & Johnson Innovative Medicine**

# Clinical & Regulatory Track

## Clinical & Regulatory

**Clinical Frontiers: Accelerating Drug Development and Approvals**  
(Clinical development, Clinical pharmacology, Bioanalysis, Regulatory, Safety, Medical Affairs)

**Room: Grand Ballroom**

**Lead: Yali Liang, M.D., M.S. Jazz Pharmaceuticals**

### Parallel Session 1

**Innovation in Action: Beyond AI in Clinical Drug Development**

**10:15 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.**

**Clinical Development of Zanidatamab**  
Kevin Bellew, M.S., Jazz Pharmaceuticals

**10:45 a.m. - 11:15 a.m.**

**Foundational Concepts and Applications of Automation and AI in Drug Safety Monitoring**  
Mina Ebeid, M.D., Nicole Schmid David, PA-C, MPH, Genmab

**11:15 a.m. - 11:45 a.m.**

**Beyond Bidimensional RANO 2.0: How Volumetric AI is Redefining Speed and Precision in Neuro-Oncology Trials**  
Gene Kim, PharmD. MERIT CRO

### Parallel Session 2

**Medical Evolution: Breakthroughs Reshaping Clinical Landscapes**  
**Session Moderator: Lei He, M.D., Ph.D., Exelixis**

**2:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.**

**Paving the Way for Novel Therapies for Patients with Cancer - the 'Right' Dose and Innovative Development**  
Stacie Peacock Shepherd, M.D., Ph.D., Fore Biotherapeutics

**3:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.**

**The Journey from Bench to Bedside to Drug Development: Navigating Science, Patients, and Strategy**  
Nageatte Ibrahim, M.D., Arc Nouvel Clinical Development Consulting

**3:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.**

**Rare Disease Clinical Development**  
Haichen Yang, M.D., M.B.A., Amicus Therapeutics

### Parallel Session 3

**Optimizing Efficiency: Leveraging PBPK to Bypass Traditional Trials**  
**Session Moderator: Gaohua Lu, Ph.D., Bristol Myers Squibb**

**4:15 p.m. - 4:45 p.m.**

**PBPK Implementation in Big Pharma vs Small Biotech – Opportunities and Challenges.**  
Valeriu Damian, Ph.D., BioCryst Pharmaceuticals

**4:45 p.m. - 5:15 p.m.**

**Real-world Implementation of PBBM Approaches in Supporting Biowaivers, Dissolution Specifications and SUPAC Changes**  
Nikunj Kumar Patel, Ph.D., Teva Pharmaceuticals

**5:15 p.m. - 5:45 p.m.**

**Next-Generation PBPK: Real-World Implementation and Novel Applications**  
Gaohua Lu, Ph.D., Bristol Myers Squibb

# AI and Data Science Track

## AI and Data Science

**Pushing the Boundaries of AI and Data Science for Drug Discovery and Development**

**Room: Centennial III**

**Lead: Lixia Yao, Ph.D., Polygon Health Analytics LLC**

### Parallel Session 1

**Harnessing Data at Scale: Integrative Analytics Across the Drug Lifecycle**  
**Session Moderator: Lixia Yao, Ph.D., Polygon Health Analytics LLC**

**10:15 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.**

**Data Science For Pharmaceutical Industry**

Zhiyong Xie, Ph.D., Fosun Pharmaceutical Development (Shenzhen) Co. Ltd

**10:45 a.m. - 11:15 a.m.**

**Understanding Lung Cancer Biology for Forward and Reverse Translation**

Barzin Nabet, Ph.D., Genetech

**11:15 a.m. - 11:45 a.m.**

**Clinical Trials 2.0: How AI is Reshaping Clinical Development**

Feng Liu, Ph.D., Immunocore

### Parallel Session 2

**Evolving Biostatistics: From Traditional Models to Translational Impact**  
**Session Moderator: Sterling Wu, Ph.D., Merck**

**2:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.**

**Monitoring Overall Survival as Safety Endpoint in Oncology Clinical Trials**

Zhiheng Xu, Ph.D., FDA

**3:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.**

**Optimizing Dose Selection in Oncology**

Fang Liu, Ph.D., Merck & Co., Inc.

**3:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.**

**Statistical Principle for AIML Modeling in Clinical Research Developments**

Helen Zhou, Ph.D., GSK

### Parallel Session 3

**From Algorithms to Medicines: The AI revolution in Pharma R&D**  
**Session Moderator: Yunlong Wang, Ph.D., M.B.A., IQVIA**

**4:15 p.m. - 4:45 p.m.**

**Creating a Fully Agentic Clinical Development Future**

Lucas Glass, Ph.D., IQVIA

**4:45 p.m. - 5:15 p.m.**

**AI based QA/QC in Life Science**

Tiaohao Wu, Ph.D., OpAIDA

**5:15 p.m. - 5:45 p.m.**

**Multi-Modal Integration of Histology and Spatial Transcriptomics Data - A Topology- and Morphology-Driven Approach**

Chao Chen, Ph.D., Stony Brook University

# Multiple Tracks

Room: Centennial II

Parallel Session 1

Lead: Bill Lu, M.B.A., Forerun Advantage

Business

**Innovation, Access, and Partnership: How Global Pharma Selects Biotech Collaborators in The Current Environment**  
Session Host: Jeff He, M.B.A., MA, Genmab

10:15 a.m. - 11:45 a.m.

**Panel Discussion**

Hui Liu, Ph.D., MBA, Sandoz  
Nehal Solanki Patel, Ph.D., M.B.A., Legend Biotech  
Jack Wu, Ph.D., M.B.A., Takeda  
Sam Ye, Ph.D., Daiichi Sankyo, Inc.

Parallel Session 2

Lead: Patricia Tsao, M.D., Ph.D. CytoEX Inc.

Career

**Insider Perspectives on Qualities that Employers Value**  
Session Moderator: Patricia Tsao, M.D., Ph.D., CytoEX Inc.

2:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

**Beyond Doing the Job: How STEM Professionals Earn Growth and Promotion**  
Michelle Ottey, Ph.D., CIC Campuses and Labs

3:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

**The Human Edge: Essential Skills for Life Sciences Careers in an AI-Driven Era**  
Marcia Zaruba O'Connor, M.S., The O'connor Group

3:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

**Science, Startups and Serendipity: How People Shape Success**  
Sharon H Willis, Ph.D., Integral Molecular

Parallel Session 3

Lead: Evelyn Guo, M.D., M.B.A., Genmab

Health & Wealth

**Track: Fit & Financially Free: The Dual-Engine Life**  
Session Moderator: Evelyn Guo, M.D., M.B.A., Genmab

4:15 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

**Equity Investing**

Douglas Roman, CFA, CMT, M.S., Gamma Internation Bank

5:00 p.m. - 5:45 p.m.

**Growth Opportunities in the Life Science Supply Chain**  
Dan Leonard, M.B.A., UBS

# Roundtable Discussion

## Roundtable Discussion

### Parallel Session 1

### Women in Investment

Room: Frazer

10:15 a.m. - 11:45 a.m.

**Session Host: Bill Lu, M.B.A., Forerun Advantage**

#### Roundtable Discussion

Lori Gough, Ph.D., Partner, Epidarex Capital  
Kathie Jordan, Ph.D., Managing Director, Healthcare Investment Group  
Michele Washko, M.B.A., CEO, Life Science Greenhouse Investments  
Saima Farooq, M.B.A., Assoc. Innovation Manager, Center for Medical Innovation, PSU

### Parallel Session 3

### From Data to ROI: How AI Impacts the Bottom Line of Drug Development

Room: Frazer

4:15 p.m. - 5:45 p.m.

**Session Host: Bill Lu, M.B.A., Forerun Advantage**

#### Roundtable Discussion

Dominique Demolle, Ph.D., CEO, Cognivia  
Tifani McCann, Ph.D., Chief Data & Analytics Officer, Otsuka  
Haichen Yang, M.D., M.B.A., VP of Clinical Research, Amicus Therapeutics

### Parallel Session 3

### Career: Ask an Expert

Room: Haverford

4:15 p.m. - 5:45 p.m.

**Session Host: Patricia Tsao, M.D., Ph.D. CytoEX Inc.**

#### Panel Discussion

Yufeng Li, Ph.D., Vivace Therapeutics  
Haichen Nie, Ph.D., Teva Pharmaceuticals  
Helen (Hui) Sun, MHRM, SPHR, PCC, Zambon  
Patricia Tsao, M.D., Ph.D., CytoEX Inc.  
Lu Wang, Ph.D., GENENTECH/Roche

# Program Committee

## Leadership Team

<b>Program Chair</b>	<b>Lu Wang, Ph.D. M.B.A., Genentech/Roche</b>
<b>Program Co-Chair</b>	<b>Xinjun Zhang, Ph.D., Merck</b>
<b>Program Director</b>	<b>Evelyn Guo, M.D. M.B.A., Genmab</b>

## Track Leads

<b>Friday Workshop</b>	<b>Lixia Yao, Ph.D., Polygon Health Analytics LLC</b>
<b>Scientific</b>	<b>Jake Dong, Ph.D., Frontage Laboratories, Inc</b>
<b>Clinical &amp; Regulatory</b>	<b>Yali Liang, M.D. M.S., Jazz Pharmaceuticals</b>
<b>AI &amp; Data Science</b>	<b>Lixia Yao, Ph.D., Polygon Health Analytics LLC</b>
<b>Business</b>	<b>Bill Lu, M.B.A., Forerun Advantage</b>
<b>Career</b>	<b>Patricia Tsao, M.D., Ph.D., CytoEX Inc.</b>
<b>Health/Wealth</b>	<b>Evelyn Guo, M.D. M.B.A., Genmab</b>

## Function Leads

<b>Operation Lead</b>	<b>Sherry Wang, M.S., GSK; Yifan Gong, Ph.D., Frontage Laboratories, Inc</b>
<b>Business Development</b>	<b>Hui Wang, Ph.D., Genevoyager</b>
<b>Communication</b>	<b>Saisi Xue, Ph.D., Bristol Myers Squibb</b>
<b>Project Management</b>	<b>Jingwen Niu, Ph.D., AlphaThera</b>
<b>IT/Website</b>	<b>Jialie Luo, Ph.D., Cencora</b>
<b>Finance</b>	<b>Ying Zhou, Ph.D., M.B.A., Teva Pharmaceuticals</b>

## Volunteer Members

Zhiyi Cui, Fei Meng, Ruyu Shi, Ian Sun, Katie Sun, Ruixi Wang, Ronghui Zhou, Jie Zhu, Lele Song, Kairui Wang, Keman Xu, Xinhao Lin, Kai Wang, Yifei Lu, Shannuo Li, Emily Zhang, Stacey Jiang, Vincent Gao, Patrick Zhang, Vivian Zhu, Evan Tian, Elsa Bai, Zhengxi Wei, Samuel Wu, Minghao Li, Chenxiao Wang, Derui Huang, James Huang, Zhiying Jiang, Qi Wang, Terry Zheng, Lisa Yu, Guo Chen, Ran Li, Li Chen, Guanghui Li

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# Accelerating Drug Discovery and Development with AI and New Modalities

## Keynote



## Joshua Allen

CSO - Oncology  
Jazz Pharmaceuticals

Joshua Allen, PhD, Chief Scientific Officer, Oncology of Jazz Pharmaceuticals, discovered the anticancer activity of the first and only FDA approved treatment for diffuse midline gliomas called Modeyso (dordaviprone/ONC201). Dr. Allen has continuously advanced the research and development of Modeyso from academic discovery to commercialization, along with the creation and clinical introduction of biologically distinct derivatives.

He received his Ph.D. in Biochemistry and Molecular Biophysics from the University of Pennsylvania. Several research publications, patents, grants, and awards reflect his scientific and entrepreneurial efforts in oncology, including recognition on the Forbes 30 under 30 list. Prior to joining Chimerix, Dr. Allen served as Chief Scientific Officer at Chimerix as well as Oncocoetics.

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# Development of Ligands for PET Imaging in Parkinson's Disease and Related Neurodegenerative Disorders

Keynote



## E. James Petersson

Professor  
University of Pennsylvania

E. James Petersson completed his undergraduate education at Dartmouth College and his graduate study under Dennis Dougherty at the California Institute of Technology. After receiving his Ph.D. in 2005, he was an NIH Postdoctoral Fellow at Yale University with Alanna Schepartz. He joined the Department of Chemistry at the University of Pennsylvania in 2008 and the Biochemistry and Molecular Biophysics Graduate Group in the Perelman School of Medicine in 2013.

His research focuses on the use of chemical tools to understand dynamic and shape shifting proteins, with applications ranging from combating antibiotic resistance to imaging neurodegeneration. Prof. Petersson has been recognized by several awards, including the Searle Scholar, an NSF CAREER award, and a Sloan Fellowship. Since 2023, he has served as the Chair of Graduate Studies in the Department of Chemistry.

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# Accelerating Drug Discovery and Development with AI and New Modalities

## Keynote



## Ron Kim

Digital Executive Advisor  
Former Fortune 100 Pharmaceutical CTO

Ron Kim is a distinguished technology and cybersecurity leader with over two decades of experience driving digital transformation across Fortune 100 enterprises, private equity portfolio companies, and global consulting firms. He has served twice as a C-level digital operator in highly regulated industries and led IT/CISO strategy for a \$120B portfolio.

With deep expertise in AI strategy & risk, cybersecurity, and enterprise technology modernization, Ron combines board-level strategic insight with hands-on technical credibility. He is also a sought-after keynote speaker, having presented at AWS Web Services re:Invent, SXSW, Dartmouth Tuck, Michigan Ross, Penn State, Temple University, and national technology associations.

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# Accelerating Drug Discovery and Development with AI and New Modalities

## Keynote



## Siyuan Chen

International Business Lead  
BMS/RayzeBio

Siyuan Chen is currently International Business Lead for RayzeBio – a BMS company. Siyuan joined BMS as the President & General Manager for China in December 2019. She later expanded her role to cover China and Asia Cluster in 2023. With strong leadership and rich experience in both China and international markets, Siyuan leads the strategy implementation for BMS to be a leader of innovation in China & Asia Cluster and accelerated the realization of BMS's vision – transforming patients' lives through science.

Prior to BMS, Siyuan held several senior management roles at GSK and Novartis. Siyuan received a Bachelor of Science in Biochemistry from Fudan University, an MBA degree from the Columbia Business School, and a Master of Science in Computer Science from the University of Massachusetts.

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# From Scientist to Entrepreneur

## In Person Workshop (Friday, 2:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.)

Discover the diverse and inspiring journeys of scientists who have successfully transitioned into entrepreneurship in this dynamic workshop, featuring founders at every stage—from early-stage innovators to mid-career builders and seasoned leaders with 10+ years of experience. Speakers will share practical insights on securing non-dilutive funding, developing effective business development strategies, pivoting based on market or scientific learnings, and recruiting and leading high-performing teams. The session will conclude with an interactive panel discussion, offering attendees the chance to ask questions and gain personalized perspectives. To encourage open and candid conversation, this workshop will not be recorded.



**Andrew Tsourkas, Ph.D.**  
Founder  
AlphaThera, Inc.



**Frank Li, Ph.D.**  
CEO  
JSidocel, Inc.



**Lake Paul, Ph.D.**  
CEO & Founder  
BioAnalysis LLC



**Lixia Yao**  
President & CEO  
Polygon Health Analytics LLC

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# New Modality and Platforms in Drug Discovery and Development

## Scientific Track

### Parallel Session I (Saturday, 10:15 a.m. - 11:45 a.m.) New Modalities and Platforms

This session highlights how scientific innovation becomes real-world impact, bridging academic discovery, industry development, and patient-centered translation. Through three complementary talks, we'll explore the power of mass spectrometry across research and biopharma, practical strategies for meaningfully engaging patient communities, and a real case study of academia-industry collaboration that helped advance a new clinical antimalarial, MK-7602.

This session is ideal for anyone in discovery, translational science, clinical development, or partnerships who's interested in the tools, relationships, and collaborative models that move breakthroughs from research to reality.



**Shelly Gao, Ph.D.**  
Director  
University of Pennsylvania



**Chari Cohen, DrPH, MPH**  
President  
Hepatitis B Foundation



**Manuel de Lera Ruiz, Ph.D.**  
Principle Scientist  
Merck

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# New Modality and Platforms in Drug Discovery and Development

## Scientific Track

### Parallel Session II (Saturday, 2:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.) Advanced Drug Discovery and Processing Development

Join us for a forward-looking session spotlighting how emerging science and technology are reshaping the path from biological insight to therapeutic innovation. Bringing together expertise across academia and industry, this program will explore new frontiers in cancer research—from mechanistic discovery and biomarker development to data-driven approaches that accelerate drug discovery and decision-making.

Attendees will walk away with a clearer view of where the field is headed and what's actionable now: how to recognize and validate promising biomarker/target hypotheses, how to connect complex biological signals to translational strategies, and how computational methods can accelerate oncology discovery while avoiding common pitfalls.



**Yihui Shen, Ph.D.**  
Assistant Professor  
University of Pennsylvania



**Wenqiang Yu, M.D., Ph.D.**  
Professor  
Fudan University



**Dowdy Jackson, Ph.D.**  
CSO/CEO  
Jackson Consulting Group

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# New Modality and Platforms in Drug Discovery and Development

## Scientific Track

### Parallel Session III (Saturday, 4:15 p.m. - 5:15 p.m.) Opportunities and Challenges in Drug Discovery

Join this discussion to explore where drug development innovation is headed—and where the next wave of manufacturing and discovery opportunities may emerge. We'll examine how evolving science, new modalities, and smarter development strategies are reshaping the end-to-end journey from early discovery to commercialization, with a focus on practical approaches that can shorten timelines, improve quality, and reduce cost and risk.

Attendees will gain a clearer view of high-impact innovation opportunities across the development and manufacturing continuum. The session will also offer perspectives on partnering and acquisition opportunities in China biotech beyond 2026, what signals to watch, how to assess strategic fit and technology differentiation, and how to structure collaboration models that create long-term value.



**Michael Kalos, Ph.D.**  
Managing Director  
Next Pillar Consulting



**Chari Cohen, DrPH, MPH**  
President  
Hepatitis B Foundation



**Dowdy Jackson, Ph.D.**  
CSO/CEO  
Jackson Consulting Group



**Hao Chen, Ph.D., M.B.A.**  
VP, mRNA CMC Portfolio  
GSK



**Baofa Yu, M.D.**  
Adjunct Professor  
Immune Oncology Systems, Inc.



**Rui Liao, Ph.D.**  
Senior Director  
Johnson & Johnson Innovative Medicine

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# Clinical Frontiers: Accelerating Drug Development and Approvals

## Clinical & Regulatory Track

### Parallel Session I (Saturday, 10:15 a.m. - 11:45 a.m.) Innovation in Action: Beyond AI in Clinical Drug Development

This Innovation in Action session brings real-world clinical development use cases to life, demonstrating how cutting-edge technologies—including advanced study design, automation and analytics—are accelerating speed, enhancing consistency, and improving decision quality throughout the trial journey.

Attendees will hear practical lessons from the Zanidatamab clinical development program, foundational approaches for implementing automation and AI in drug safety monitoring, and how volumetric AI is advancing RANO 2.0 by enabling faster, more precise assessments in neuro-oncology trials.

Participants will leave with actionable insights on where these innovations are already delivering tangible value, how to implement them responsibly, and the potential they hold to unlock next-generation clinical operations, endpoints, and overall drug development efficiency.



**Kevin Bellew, M.S.**  
Senior Vice President,  
Jazz Pharmaceuticals



**Nicole David, PA-C, MPH**  
Associate Director  
Genmab



**Gene Kim, PharmD.**  
Associate Director  
MERIT CRO

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# Clinical Frontiers: Accelerating Drug Development and Approvals

## Clinical & Regulatory Track

### Parallel Session II (Saturday, 2:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.) Medical Evolution: Breakthroughs Reshaping Clinical Landscapes

This session will spotlight emerging breakthroughs that are redefining how clinical trials are designed, executed, and translated into meaningful clinical practice. Featuring insights from Dr. Shepherd, Dr. Ibrahim (Oncology), and Dr. Yang (Rare Disease), the discussion will explore innovative approaches to navigating today's most complex clinical development challenges. Attendees will gain practical, real-world takeaways on advancing clinical trial innovation from industry experts.



**Stacie Peacock Shepherd,  
M.D., Ph.D.**  
Chief Medical Officer  
Fore Biotherapeutics



**Nageatte Ibrahim, M.D.**  
CEO and Founder  
Arc Nouvel Clinical Development  
Consulting (Former VP at Merck)



**Haichen Yang, M.D., M.B.A.**  
Vice President of Clinical Research  
Amicus Therapeutics

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# Clinical Frontiers: Accelerating Drug Development and Approvals

## Clinical & Regulatory Track

### Parallel Session III (Saturday, 4:15 p.m. - 5:45 p.m.)

#### Optimizing Efficiency: Leveraging PBPK to Bypass Traditional Trials

PBPK session will show how PBPK and physiologically based biopharmaceutics modeling (PBBM) can streamline development by generating evidence that may reduce reliance on traditional clinical trials—while strengthening confidence in dosing and formulation decisions. We'll compare implementation realities in big pharma vs. small biotech, and share real-world use cases where PBBM supports biowaivers, dissolution specifications, and SUPAC changes, plus emerging "next-generation" applications of PBPK in practice. Attendees will gain pragmatic insights on when these approaches work best, how to operationalize them, and how to translate modeling into decisions that save time and resources without compromising scientific rigor.



**Valeriu Damian, Ph.D.**  
Executive Director  
BioCryst



**Nikunj Kumar Patel, Ph.D.**  
Director of QPB  
Teva Pharmaceuticals



**Gaohua Lu, Ph.D.**  
Senior Director  
Bristol-Myers Squibb

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# Pushing the Boundaries of AI and Data Science for Drug Discovery and Development

## AI & Data Science Track

**Parallel Session I (Saturday, 10:15 a.m. - 11:45 a.m.)**

### **Harnessing Data at Scale: Integrative Analytics Across the Drug Lifecycle**

Harnessing data at scale across drug discovery and development transforms disconnected datasets into actionable insights—accelerating target discovery, sharpening trial design, and strengthening the evidence that drives decision making. In this session, three speakers will discuss disease modeling with a focus on lung cancer using forward and reverse translation, as well as AI enabled drug discovery, highlighting practical ways to prioritize targets, optimize molecules, and reduce time and cost. Attendees will leave with concrete, applicable strategies they can bring back to their own programs to accelerate discovery and improve development outcomes.



**Barzin Nabet, Ph.D.**  
Senior Principal Scientist  
Genentech



**Feng Liu, Ph.D.**  
Head of Biometrics  
Immunocore



**Zhiyong Xie, Ph.D.**  
Chief AI Officer  
Fosun Pharmaceutical  
Development (Shenzhen) Co. Ltd

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# Pushing the Boundaries of AI and Data Science for Drug Discovery and Development

## AI & Data Science Track

### Parallel Session II (Saturday, 2:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.)

### Evolving Biostatistics: From Traditional Models to Translational Impact

This session will spotlight how biostatistics is evolving beyond traditional modeling to meet the demands of today's clinical trial landscape. Our speakers will explore overall survival as a safety endpoint in oncology trials, smarter approaches to dose optimization, and the statistical principles that underpin reliable, fit for purpose AI/ML models in clinical development. Attendees will walk away with practical frameworks to strengthen inference, enhance benefit-risk evaluation, and apply modern statistics with greater confidence across drug development lifecycle.



**Zhiheng Xu, Ph.D.**  
Lead Mathematical Statistician  
FDA



**Fang Liu, Ph.D.**  
Senior Director  
Merck & Co.



**Helen Zhou, Ph.D.**  
Senior Director  
GSK

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# Pushing the Boundaries of AI and Data Science for Drug Discovery and Development

## AI & Data Science Track

### Parallel Session III (Saturday, 4:15 p.m. - 5:45 p.m.) From Algorithms to Medicines: The AI revolution in Pharma R&D

This session will explore how AI is moving beyond promising algorithms and delivering real world impact across pharma R&D—from accelerating clinical development to strengthening data quality across the drug lifecycle. You'll hear from three seasoned speakers sharing applications of AI in clinical development, QA/QC, and the integration of histology with spatial transcriptomics to unlock deeper biological insight. Attendees will leave with concrete ideas for scaling trustworthy AI, improving operational rigor, and transforming complex multimodal data into actionable decisions that ultimately support the development of better medicines.



**Lucas Glass, Ph.D.**  
Senior Vice President  
Architecture & Standards at IQVIA



**Tianhao Wu, Ph.D.**  
CEO  
Opaida, Inc



**Chao Chen, Ph.D.**  
Associate Professor  
Stony Brook University

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# Accelerating Drug Discovery and Development with AI and New Modalities

## Lunch Seminar

**KACTUS** will share “Tackling Difficult Targets: Innovative Platforms for TCR-CD3 and KLK Proteins”, spotlighting enabling technologies that can unlock challenging biology and accelerate the path from target to therapeutic concept. **Apeloa** will present an “Apeloa CDMO Introduction”, offering a concise look at end-to-end development and manufacturing capabilities to help teams move efficiently from early development to scale-up and beyond. **TriApex Laboratories** will cover “Nonclinical in vivo testing and bioanalysis of Antibody Drug Conjugate (ADC)”, focused on the translational essentials—robust in vivo studies and bioanalytical strategies that support confident decisions in ADC development. If you work in discovery, CMC/CDMO strategy, or translational/nonclinical development, these sessions are a great chance to learn, compare approaches, and connect with experts driving execution in the real world.



Sarah Rains  
Business Development Manager  
KACTUS



Lilith Elmore  
Business Development  
Apeloa Pharmaceutical



Guodong Zhang  
Vice President of Business Development  
TriApex Laboratories

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# **Business Track: Innovation, Access, and Partnership: How Global Pharma Selects Biotech Collaborators in the current environment**

## **Business Panel**

### **Parallel Session I (Saturday, 10:15 a.m. - 11:45 a.m.)**

How do changing drug pricing policies influence which biotechs large pharmaceutical firms choose to partner with? This question is becoming increasingly important as new pricing frameworks emerge globally, and the U.S. policy landscape continues to evolve. The implications extend well beyond pricing—they may influence clinical development plans, launch sequencing, and even how innovative assets are valued.

In this session, we will host a panel bringing together experienced leaders from pharma and biotech to examine these developments and their strategic implications.

\*All views shared by panelists reflect their personal perspectives and not the official positions of their organizations.



**Hui Liu, Ph.D. M.B.A.**  
Head of Patient Support and Field  
Reimbursement  
Sandoz



**Nehal Solanki Patel, Ph.D., M.B.A.**  
Head of Corporate Development and  
competitive Intelligence  
Legend Biotech



**Jack Wu, Ph.D., M.B.A.**  
Senior Director  
Takeda

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# Accelerating Drug Discovery and Development with AI and New Modalities

## Career Track

### Parallel Session II (Saturday, 2:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.)

Insider Perspectives on Qualities That Employers Value" is a practical, no-fluff session designed for anyone who's job-hunting or ready to climb the next rung on the career ladder. You'll hear directly from hiring managers and leaders about what truly stands out in resumes, interviews, and day-to-day performance. We'll unpack real examples of behaviors, mindsets, and soft skills that get people hired, promoted, and trusted with bigger opportunities. Whether you're trying to land your first role, pivot to a new field, or position yourself for promotion, this session will help you understand how employers think and show you concrete ways to present yourself as the candidate and colleague they don't want to lose.



**Michelle Ottey**  
President  
CIC Campuses and Labs



**Marcia O'Connor**  
CEO and Founder  
The O'Connor Group



**Sharon Willis**  
Co-founder, Vice President  
Integral Molecular

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# Accelerating Drug Discovery and Development with AI and New Modalities

## Health & Wealth Track

### Parallel Session III (Saturday, 4:15 p.m. - 5:45 p.m.) Fit & Financially Free: The Dual-Engine Life

Let's be honest—everyone wants to feel healthier and become wealthier, and those goals make life a lot happier. That's why we're excited to launch a new Health & Wealth member-benefit track featuring a timely session on Wealth this year. Join Douglas Roman, CFA, CMT, M.S. (Gamma International Bank) for market insights and investing fundamentals, and hear Dan Leonard, M.B.A. (UBS) on "Growth Opportunities in the Life Science Supply Chain"—a perspective especially relevant for anyone working in (or investing around) biotech and pharma. Come for practical ideas, real-world frameworks, and a fresh lens on building a stronger, more secure future—inside and outside the workplace.



**Douglas Roman, CFA, CMT, M.S.**  
Chief Investment Officer  
Gamma International Bank



**Dan Leonard, M.B.A.**  
Managing Director  
UBS

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Friday, Mar. 20, 2026 2 - 5 PM &  
Saturday, Mar. 21, 2026 8 AM - 5 PM EDT  
Sheraton Valley Forge Hotel  
480 North Gulph Road  
King of Prussia, PA 19406 United States

# Women in Investment

## Business Round-table I

**Frazer Room (Saturday, 10:15 a.m. - 11:45 a.m.)**

The field of biotech investment was not historically built with women in mind, and even today women remain a minority among investors. Most women who enter this field do so through unexpected paths, as scientists, clinicians, operators, policy thinkers, or entrepreneurs. At some point along the journey, they realize their training and curiosity can play a powerful role in shaping the future of innovation.

This roundtable discussion is to celebrate the stories, journeys, and achievements of women in biotech investment, while reflecting on both the strengths and challenges of being a woman in this demanding field. The conversation aims to broaden the horizon for highly trained women with deep domain expertise, to entertain the many opportunities within their reach, and to move beyond traditional boundaries and stereotypes.

Sometimes the most important step is realizing that possibilities exist. The session is designed to foster in-depth discussion within a small group of approximately 25 participants. We would love to hear your perspectives and experiences.



**Lori Gough, Ph.D.**

Partner  
Epidarex Capital



**Kathie Jordan, Ph.D.**

Managing Director,  
Healthcare Investment Group



**Michele Washko, M.B.A.**

CEO  
Life Science Greenhouse Investments

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# From Data to ROI: How AI Impacts the Bottom Line of Drug Development

## Business Round-table II

**Frazer Room (Saturday, 4:15 p.m. - 5:45 p.m.)**

AI is everywhere in biopharma conversations—but where does it create real ROI in drug development?

At the SAPA-GP 2026 Annual Conference, we'll host a roundtable discussion designed to bridge the worlds of drug development, data science, and AI, exploring how emerging AI capabilities can help solve the real-world challenges and operational pain points faced by clinical development teams.

The session is designed to foster in-depth discussion within a small group of approximately 25 participants. If you have experience in any aspect of drug development, we would love to hear your perspectives and experiences.



**Dominique Demolle, Ph.D.**  
CEO  
Cognivia



**Tifani McCann, Ph.D.**  
Chief Data & Analytics Officer  
Otsuka



**Haichen Yang, M.D., M.B.A.**  
Vice President of Clinical Research  
Amicus Therapeutics

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# Accelerating Drug Discovery and Development with AI and New Modalities

## Career Round-table - Ask an Expert

**Haverford Room (Saturday, 4:15 p.m. - 5:45 p.m.)**

Experts from the biopharma industry will address questions on resume strategy, interview preparation, and career path planning for entry and mid-level scientists. The discussion will focus on real hiring expectations, role transitions, and how experience is evaluated when progressing to the next level in industry.

The one on one or small group Q and A format enables targeted questions, peer context, and direct, experience-based input beyond generic career advice. Participants are encouraged to bring specific scenarios and active decisions for discussion. This session is intended for scientists at the mid-career stage seeking clarity on positioning, growth options, and next steps.



Yufeng Li  
Senior Director  
Vivace Therapeutics



Haichen Nie  
Associate Director  
Teva Pharmaceuticals



Helen Sun  
HRM  
Zambon



Patricia Tsao  
CEO  
CytoEX Inc.



Lu Wang  
Director  
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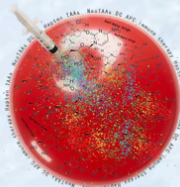
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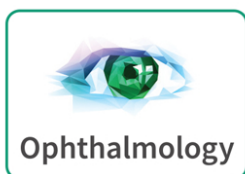
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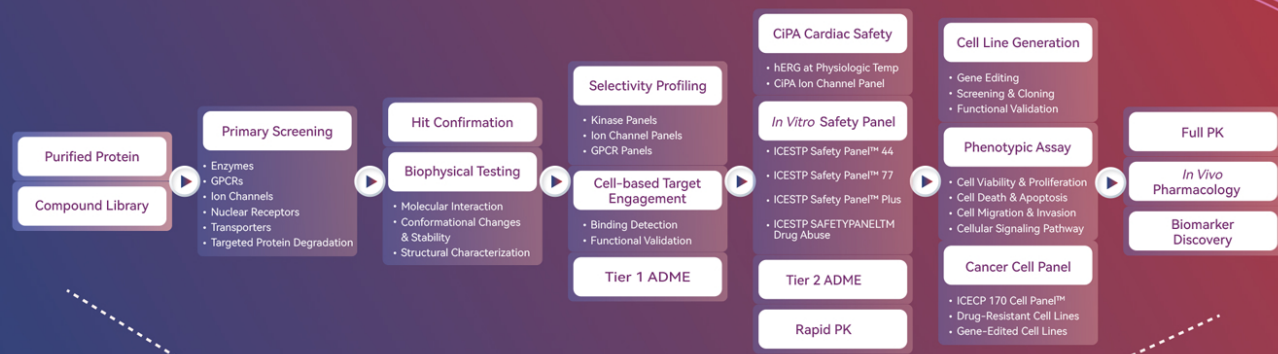
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## 2026 @Philly Cell & Gene Therapy Annual Conference

### Program Tracks

- Cell Therapy
- Gene Therapy
- RNA Therapy
- CMC
- Clinical and Regulatory
- Commercial and Business
- Career Development

### Dates:

Friday, 8 May 2026

Saturday, 9 May 2026

Sheraton Valley Forge Hotel  
480 N Gulph Rd  
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### For Inquiries:


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# 2026 @Philly CELL & GENE THERAPY ANNUAL CONFERENCE

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## Program-At-A-Glance

### DAY 1 – May 8, 2026

**KEYNOTE SPEECH Peter Marks, M.D., Ph.D.**, Head of Infectious Diseases, Eli Lilly and Company  
Advancing Genetic Medicine

**KEYNOTE SPEECH Lindsey George, M.D.**, Director of Clinical In Vivo Gene Therapy, University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine and Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia  
Hemophilia Gene Therapy and Lessons From Translational Investigation

**KEYNOTE SPEECH Sheila Ann Mikhail, J.D.**, Co-founder & CEO of M34, Inc.  
TBD

CMC Track	Evolving Manufacturing Processes: Break the Boundaries with Innovative Technologies
Gene Therapy Track	From Breakthrough to Broad Impact: The Scalable Era of Gene Therapy
Commercial & Business Track I	Translating Innovation into Value: Asset Strategy, Commercialization & the Tri-state Biotech Ecosystem
Liberty Bell Venture Forum: The CGT Roadshow	
Company Showcase	
RECEPTION	
DINNER	

### DAY 2 – May 9, 2026

**KEYNOTE SPEECH Terence Flott, M.D.**, Provost and Executive Deputy Chancellor of University of Massachusetts Chan Medical School, Dean of the T.H. Chan School of Medicine  
TBD

**KEYNOTE SPEECH Laura Sepp-Lorenzino, Ph.D.**, Principal, GNMmeds LLC, Former CSO of Intellia Therapeutics  
Advancing Precision Medicine: Oligonucleotide and Genome Editing Therapeutics

Cell Therapy Track	Emerging Cell Therapies from Conventional Ex Vivo CAR-T Approaches to Next Generation In Vivo CAR-T Therapies: Innovations, Automation, Translation and Diverse Delivery Platforms
Clinical & Regulatory Track	Evolving Regulatory Frameworks and Innovative Clinical Development Strategies to Advance Next-generation Cell and Gene Therapies
Commercial & Business Track II	Translating Innovation into Value: Asset Strategy, Commercialization & the Tri-state Biotech Ecosystem
RNA Therapy Track	Advancing RNA Therapeutics Integrating Chemistry, DMPK, and Bioanalytical Innovation to Enable Translational and Clinical Success
Career Development Session I&II	From Candidate to Leader: Career Strategy and Promotion Readiness
RECEPTION	

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See You  
Next Year!

