WILSON SONSINI

ENTREPRENEUR & INVESTOR LIFE SCIENCES SUMMIT 2025

MARCH 13-14, 2025

EVENT PROGRAM

SHERATON SALT LAKE

PRESENTED BY | BIOUTAH | TECHNOLOGY LICENSING OFFICE THE UNIVERSITY OF UTAH



TECHNOLOGY LICENSING OFFICE
THE UNIVERSITY OF UTAH

PARTNER WITH THE UNIVERSITY OF UTAH:

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The University of Utah offers flexible partnerships—sponsored research, joint ventures, and licensing agreements—translating innovations into real-world solutions. Our Technology Licensing Office connects you with cutting-edge research for efficient commercialization.

Why Partner with Us?

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- Collaborative community fostering success.

963,000+
SQ. FT. DEDICATED TO RESEARCH

309
INVENTION DISCLOSURES

23
U.S. PATENTS ISSUED

$691M
RESEARCH FUNDING (FY2024)

Licensing & Join Ventures

- Streamlined agreements tailored to go beyond industry needs.
- Leverage groundbreaking technologies for joint ventures or licensing.

Proven Success:

The University of Utah has a strong reputation for its issued patents and revenue generation from its research activities.

$31.3m
LICENSING REVENUE

24
LICENSING DEALS

We have successfully secured 24 licensing deals and $31.3M in total revenue.

Data based on FY 2024.

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THE UNIVERSITY OF UTAH

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technologylicensing.utah.edu

WELCOME





WELCOME TO THE 2025 WILSON SONSINI
ENTREPRENEUR & INVESTOR LIFE SCIENCES SUMMIT

On behalf of BioUtah and the University of Utah's Technology Licensing Office, we welcome you to the tenth annual Entrepreneur & Investor Life Sciences Summit.

We host this summit for many reasons, including introducing investors to Utah's life sciences industry, showcasing exciting investable technologies developed in Utah, connecting companies and investors, providing content to assist early-stage companies and networking between various segments of our life sciences community—one of the fastest growing in the country.

With federal policy changes coming fast, this year's presentation on market perspectives by Monica DiCenso, head of Global Investment Opportunities Group for J.P. Morgan Private Bank, will be of particular interest.

Our keynote speaker, Earl "Eb" Bright, is the President of ExploraMed, the premier incubator for technologies arising from the Stanford Mussallem Center for Biodesign. Eb has unique and deep insights into what makes a startup successful – a presentation not to be missed.

We have revamped the pitch competition, expanding the number of companies presenting and using an entertaining shark tank-style format. Companies who applied to present, whether selected or not, may exhibit their technology at our on-site Innovation Hall as well as post information to our virtual Investor Hall accessible through our Whova app.

And don't miss the afternoon tracks where important content will be presented on funding from family offices and local venture capital, entrepreneurial insights from early stage CEO's and a new addition this year – a legal track presented by our title sponsor, Wilson Sonsini.

Attendees always say networking is the main highlight and reason to attend this event. We encourage you to use the Whova app where all attendees are listed to communicate with others and even invite them to meet with you. Over a dozen exhibitors will be on hand to share their products and services as well. Don't miss our BIO Business Solutions booth to learn how you can save more than your annual membership fee with BioUtah.

We are grateful for the generous support of our sponsors and exhibitors who make the summit possible, especially our title sponsor Wilson Sonsini. This is the fourth consecutive year they have headlined this event showing their strong commitment to the life sciences industry in Utah. We appreciate their partnership as well as that of all of our sponsors, most of whom have also been supporting this event for many years.

We also thank the many investors who have taken the time to be here today and learn more about the state's burgeoning innovation hub. Innovation is the lifeblood of Utah's life sciences industry, while funding fuels its rapid growth. Our goal for this summit has always been to gather leaders from both groups to accelerate our industry's impact. Enjoy the day!

Kelvyn Cullimore, Jr.
President & CEO
BioUtah

Bruce Hunter
Chief Innovation Officer
University of Utah

EVENT SPONSORS

PRESENTED BY | BIOUTAH | TECHNOLOGY LICENSING OFFICE, THE UNIVERSITY OF UTAH

TITLE

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VIP DINNER

TECHNOLOGY LICENSING OFFICE, THE UNIVERSITY OF UTAH

SESSION

J.P.Morgan PRIVATE BANK — MORNING

FREEDOM CAPITAL MARKETS — FINANCE

MERIT MEDICAL — SKI DAY

ENGAGE CONTRACTING — LUNCH

NUSANO — INVESTOR

MAYER | BROWN — ENTREPRENEUR

PRESENTING

CONTENT CARNIVORES

CONTRIBUTING

PhRMA — RESEARCH • PROGRESS • HOPE

SALT LAKE CITY — DEPARTMENT of ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

LANYARD

U HEALTH, UNIVERSITY OF UTAH

CENTER FOR MEDICAL INNOVATION, UNIVERSITY OF UTAH

WI-FI

Governor's Office of Economic Opportunity

TECHNOLOGY LICENSING OFFICE PLATINUM MEMBERS

Ballard Spahr LLP

Michael Best

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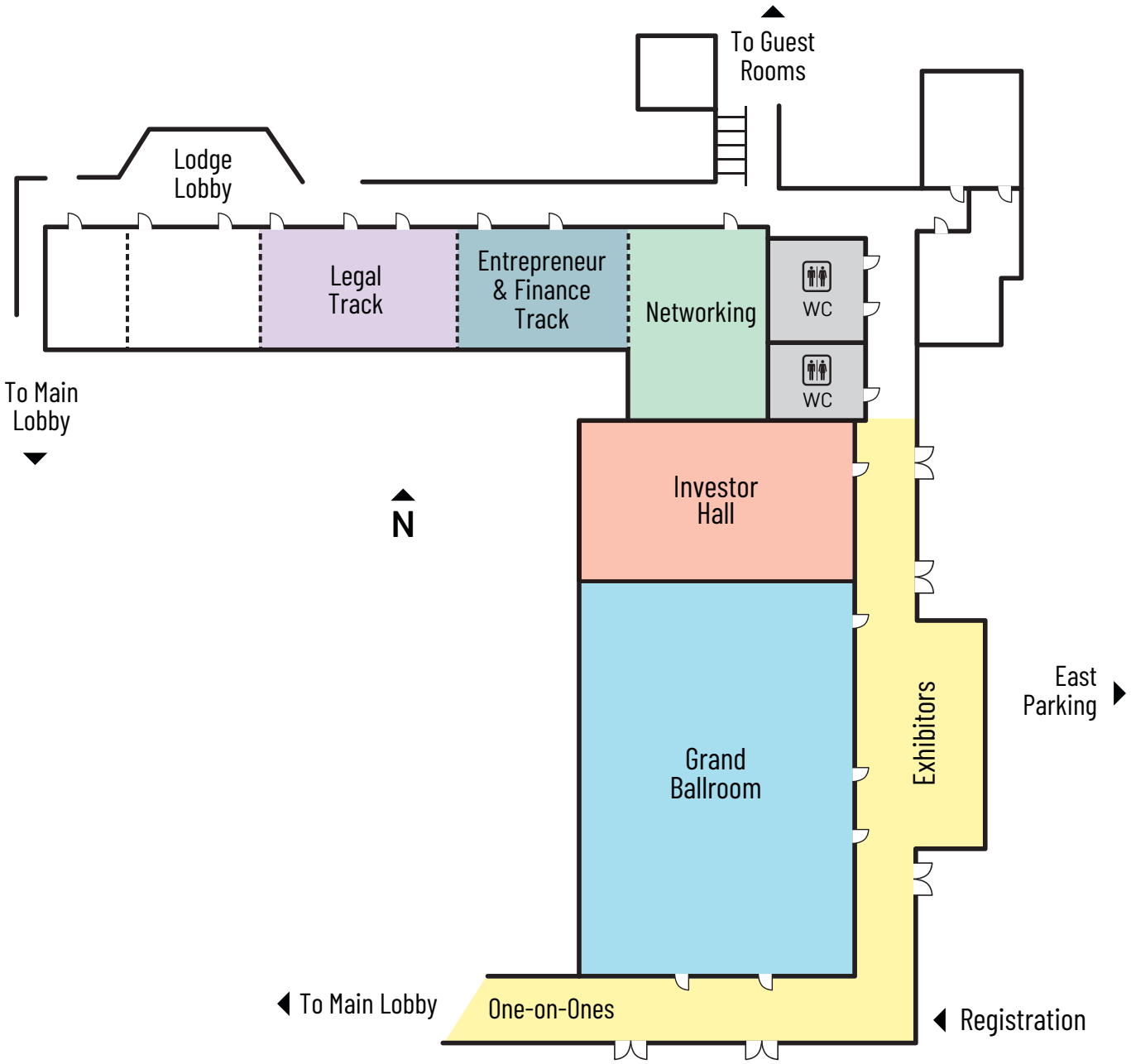
VENUE LAYOUT

SHERATON SALT LAKE



WI-FI & WHOVA APP

WI-FI INSTRUCTIONS

Free public Wi-Fi is available compliments of the Governor's Office of Economic Opportunity.

Governor's Office of Economic Opportunity

1. Wi-Fi Network:"Marriott/Bonvoy/Conference"
2. Password: "goeo25"



SUMMIT COMPANION APP: WHOVA

The E&I Summit uses the Whova platform to enrich your experience at the Summit while delivering all sessions virtually. Whova will also allow you learn about speakers and sponsors, engage with exhibitors, view our virtual Investor Hall and virtual Exhibit Hall, schedule meet ups with attendees, and more. Whova can be accessed via both an online app and a mobile app.

DESKTOP APP

The online version of Whova can be accessed at eilifesciencessummit.org by clicking the "Whova Access" link. Login to the app by using the email address with which you registered for the Summit.

MOBILE APP

Search "Whova" in the App Store on your iPhone or in Google Play on your Android phone. Open the app and search for "entrepreneur and investor." Once you have found the 2025 E&I Summit, sign in using the same email you used to register for the Summit. If you do not have a password, please create one by entering it in the appropriate field.

POST-EVENT CONTENT ACCESS

Content can be accessed for up to three months after the Summit using the online app or the mobile app.

ACCESS WHOVA:

J.P.Morgan

Advancing breakthroughs, together

We are committed to fostering connections that drive investment and innovation in the life sciences industry.

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MORNING SESSION

MARCH 13, 2025

SHERATON HOTEL, SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH

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Session Sponsor:

J.P.Morgan

LOCATION: GRAND BALLROOM

7:30 AM	**Networking, Continental Breakfast**	
8:30 AM	**Welcome & Opening Remarks**	**Kelvyn Cullimore,** President & CEO, BioUtah **Jim Hotaling,** Associate Vice President for Research Innovation and Translation (AVPRIT) at the University of Utah
8:45 AM	**CEO Insights: Building a Life Sciences Company**	**David Politis,** CEO, Publisher, Editor & Founder, Utah Money Watch (Moderator) **Chris Lowe,** CEO, Nusano **Tina Marriott,** Former President & COO, Recursion; Board Chair, Revagenix **Lincoln Nadauld,** CEO, Culmination Bio **Kurt Workman,** CEO, Owlet
9:30 AM	**Venture Capital: The Fuel for Life Sciences Growth**	**Kurtis Parker,** Managing Director-Investment Banking, Ernst & Young Capital Advisors (Moderator) **Matt Dormer,** Managing Dir., Health & Life Sciences Investment Banking, Stephens, Inc. **Ian Robinson**, Investor, J.P. Morgan **Jack Boren**, Managing Partner, Epic Ventures, University of Utah Ventures **Donna Parr**, Managing Partner, Cross-border Impact Ventures
10:15 AM	**Break**	
10:30 AM	**Market Perspectives for 2025**	**Monica DiCenso,** Head of Global Investment Opportunities Group, J.P. Morgan Private Bank
11:15 AM	**Being an Entrepreneur: Perils & Promises**	**Earl "Eb" Bright**, President, ExploraMed; Director, Intellectual Property Policy, Stanford Mussallem Center for Biodesign
12:00 pm	**Networking Lunch**	

INVESTOR TRACK

MARCH 13, 2025

SHERATON HOTEL, SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH

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Track Sponsor:

NUSANO

LOCATION: GRAND BALLROOM

HOST: NOMAN KHAN

	PITCH TANK 1: MEDICAL DEVICES	JUDGES:
1:00 PM	1. **Vira Regen,** Kapil Sharma, Founder & CEO 2. **Demeter,** Jeremy Buzzard, Co-founder & CEO 3. **TAGS Medical,** Annette Lavoie, CEO	**Jenny Barba**, Managing Partner, Features Capital **Chris Cooley**, Managing Director / Head of Healthcare Equity Capital Markets, Stephens, Inc. **Mark Paul**, Executive Director, Center for Medical Innovation, University of Utah
	PITCH TANK 2: MEDICAL DEVICES	**JUDGES:**
1:55 PM	1. **RefloDx,** Rudy Wilcox, CEO 2. **Freyya,** Gabriele Niederauer, CEO & Co-founder 3. **Zealacare,** Aidan Napier, Co-founder	**Lisa Jordan Dunlea**, SVP, Technology Commercialization & Industry Engagement, St. Jude Children's Research Hospital **Jamie Richardson,** Director, 1315 Capital **Luke Larsen,** Vice President, MedVenture Health
	PITCH TANK 3: THERAPEUTICS/PHARMACEUTICALS	**JUDGES:**
2:45 PM	1. **Sethera Therapeutics,** Karsten Eastman, CEO 2. **Evolution Bio,** Luke Hayes, CEO 3. **Neuropharma,** Jed Black, CEO	**Ryan Rust**, Senior Director, Business Development, Eli Lilly **Mike Grey**, Venture Partner, Pappas Capital; Chairman, Sorriso Pharmaceuticals **Sylvia McBrinn**, Board Director, BioAlta
	PITCH TANK 4: DIGITAL HEALTH/BIOTECH	**JUDGES:**
3:35 PM	1. **Renew Biotechnologies,** Chad Pollard, CEO 2. **Microvascular Therapeutics,** Evan Unger, President & CEO 3. **Monere Corp.,** Mou Nandi, Co-founder & CEO	**Ryan Morley**, Partner, SpringTide Ventures **Nickolas Mark**, Managing Partner, Intermountain Ventures **John Christopher LiPuma**, Managing Director, Fortress Investment Group
4:30 PM	**Announcement of Shark Tank Winners**	

FINANCE/ENTREPRENEUR TRACKS

MARCH 13, 2025

SHERATON HOTEL, SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH

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Track Sponsor:

FREEDOM CAPITAL MARKETS

FINANCE TRACK		LOCATION: SUNDANCE ROOM
1:00 PM	**Family Office Investors: Pathways to Funding**	**Marcia Nelson,** Managing Director, Freedom Capital (Moderator) **Frank Langston**, Investor, Thiel Capital - Bio Fund **David Luftglass**, CEO, Renaissance Assets **John Dvor**, Managing Partner, EEE Family Office **Amy Rees Anderson**, REES Capital
1:45 PM	**Show Me the Money: Utah Funding Sources**	**Craig Fryer,** Executive Director, J.P. Morgan Private Bank (Moderator) **Chad Norman**, Senior Portfolio Manager, Avenue Capital **Jerry Henley**, Managing Director, Utah Innovation Fund **Jackson Davis,** Founder & Managing Partner, Hexagon Capital **Derek Crocker**, Head of Finance & Partner, Crocker Ventures
2:30 PM	**Break**	

Track Sponsor:

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ENTREPRENEUR TRACK		LOCATION: SUNDANCE ROOM
2:45 PM	**Real Life Experiences from Startup CEOs in the Trenches**	**Myles Greenberg,** CEO, InCarda Therapeutics (Moderator) **Chad Pollard**, CEO, Renew Biotechnologies **Ian Quigley**, CEO & Co-founder, Leash Biosciences **Chiao-ih Hui**, Founder & CEO, Solution Diagnostics
3:30 PM	**Attracting Investors: The Do's & Don'ts**	**Tim Cooley**, Director of Entrepreneurship, Startup State Initiative, GOEO; Author; Part-time Executive Director, Park City Angels (Moderator) **Rick Merrell**, Executive Director, Salt Lake City Angels **Brian Case**, Founder & Investor, Case Office **Anne Sinnott**, Angel Investor & Philanthropist
4:15 PM	**Break**	
4:30 PM	**Announcement of Shark Tank Winners** (Grand Ballroom)	

LEGAL TRACK

MARCH 13, 2025

SHERATON HOTEL, SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH

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Track Sponsor:

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LOCATION: SNOWBIRD ROOM		HOST: MATT BRESNAHAN
1:00 PM	**Licensing & Collaborations Including University Spinouts**	**Farah Gerdes**, Partner, Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati
1:35 PM	**Progressive Investment Strategies for High-value, IP-backed Life Sciences Companies**	**Matt Bresnahan**, Partner, Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati (Moderator) **John Christopher LiPuma**, Investment Professional Intellectual Property Finance Group; Fortress Investment Group **Jess Krannich**, Partner, Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati **Bob Rogers**, Chairman & CEO, Kurin
2:15 PM	**Break**	
2:30 PM	**Corporate Strategy & Trends in VC Life Sciences Financings**	**Alison Johnson**, Partner, Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati **Marc Porter**, Partner, Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati **Nathan Robinson**, Partner, Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati
3:00 PM	**Patent Strategy for the BioTech & TechBio Enterprise**	**Sara Patak**, Partner-elect - Patents & Innovation, Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati **Rex Watkins**, Of Counsel - Patents & Innovations, Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati **Danya Martell Smart**, Patent Agent, Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati
3:30 PM	**Business Advisory & Executive Advisory Practice**	**Meredith Krannich**, Executive Advisor, Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati **Matt Meyer**, Chief Business Advisor, Life Sciences, Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati
4:00 PM	**Break**	
4:30 PM	**Announcement of Shark Tank Winners** (Grand Ballroom)	

ONE-ON-ONE SESSIONS
MARCH 13, 2025
SHERATON HOTEL, SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH

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WITH A NON-DILUTIVE FUNDING EXPERT
APPOINTMENTS AVAILABLE ON A FIRST-COME, FIRST-SERVED BASIS

FEDERAL GRANTS: G2G CONSULTING



LIZ POWELL, FOUNDER & PRESIDENT
G2G is a premier Washington D.C. based firm that specializes in identifying non-dilutive federal grants for life sciences companies. They have helped clients secure over $545M in federal funding since 2007. Meet with G2G principal, Liz Powell, and learn about federal grant opportunities that may fit your needs.

SCAN QR CODE TO SCHEDULE APPT. WITH LIZ

SBIR/STTR GRANTS: UTAH INNOVATION CENTER



LINDA CABRALES, DIRECTOR
The Utah Innovation Center works with entrepreneurs in their journey to develop and advance innovative technologies and is in awe of the remarkable talent and drive found in Utah. They support businesses in accessing non-dilutive funding through the federal Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) and Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) programs.

SCAN QR CODE TO SCHEDULE APPT. WITH LINDA

APEX ACCELERATOR



CHUCK SPENCE, PROGRAM DIRECTOR
The Utah APEX Accelerator is a Department of Defense contracting program within the Governor's Office of Economic Opportunity. APEX Accelerator seeks to identify entrepreneurs, start-ups and mature companies working on technologies needed for national security and public health.

SCAN QR CODE TO SCHEDULE APPT. WITH CHUCK

SKI DAY
MARCH 14, 2025
SNOWBIRD RESORT, SNOWBIRD, UTAH

snowbird

9320 SOUTH CLIFF LODGE DR., SNOWBIRD, UT 84092

Ski Day Sponsor:

MERITMEDICAL

SKI DAY SCHEDULE

8:00 AM	**Continental Breakfast**	**Superior Room, Cliff Lodge** 9320 South Cliff Lodge Dr. Snowbird, UT 84092
9:00 AM	**Skiing**	
12:00 PM	**Luncheon**	**Superior Room, Cliff Lodge** 9320 South Cliff Lodge Dr. Snowbird, UT 84092
1:00 PM	**Skiing**	

LIFT TICKETS

Discounted lift tickets are available for purchase using the QR code.

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SUMMIT PARTICIPANTS



JENNY BARBA
(JUDGE)
MANAGING PARTNER,
CO-FOUNDER,
FEATURES CAPITAL

Jenny Barba, co-founder and managing partner of Features Capital, is a venture investor and board member with over twenty-five years of experience financing the growth of medical device and healthcare technology innovation. Jenny has executed over $4B in capital transactions across thirty lead-managed public and private equity offerings, M&A, and alternative investments. Jenny specializes in deal sourcing, portfolio construction, harvesting growth and building management teams in medical technology companies across all stages of development and a broad spectrum of diseases. Jenny has a successful track record fundraising for shareholder value creation, and strategic planning for corporate development, market expansion, commercialization growth and exits.



JED BLACK
CEO,
NEUROPHARMA, INC.

Jed Black, MD, Yale and Stanford trained neuroscientist. Stanford faculty/medical director Stanford Center for Sleep Science and Medicine. Medical device and drug developer. Led development of 3 blockbuster drugs. Founder/co-founder of 8 life-science companies (medical services, medical devices, therapeutics). 300+ peer-reviewed scientific publications. CEO of Neuropharma, Inc., Utah-based CNS drug discovery and development start-up with a clinical-stage asset and a deep preclinical small-molecule pipeline.



JACK BOREN
MANAGING PARTNER,
EPIC VENTURES, UNIVERSITY
OF UTAH VENTURES

Jack Boren is a managing partner at Epic Ventures, which manages University of Utah Ventures, Zions SBIC, LLC and the Epic Ventures Funds. Epic has been building category-defining healthcare and biotech businesses in the Mountain West for over 30 years.



MATTHEW BRESNAHAN
(MODERATOR/HOST)
PARTNER - PATENTS
& INNOVATIONS,
WILSON SONSINI

Matt Bresnahan is a partner in the San Diego and Los Angeles offices of Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati, where he has focused his practice for the past fifteen years on establishing and building biotech companies. Matt also spends a significant amount of time in the firm's new Salt Lake City office. Matt's training is in all aspects of intellectual property, including strategic patent counseling, patent prosecution, licensing, and litigation. Matt is primary outside IP counsel to more than 50 life sciences companies within the biotechnology, therapeutic, genomics, and medical device fields in Southern California. Matt leads a team of more than 30 patent attorneys and patent agents at the firm.



EARL "EB" BRIGHT
(KEYNOTE)
PRESIDENT,
EXPLORAMED

Eb has many years of technology development, company formation, financing and operations experience running the ExploraMed incubator. He is a co-founder of several companies, a patent attorney since 1993 and has served on the executive management teams and/or boards of many start-up companies in multiple capacities that have employed hundreds of people and helped thousands of patients over the last 18 years. His positions include VP IP & General Counsel, Acclarent (acquired by Johnson & Johnson); head of reimbursement, general counsel and asst. secretary Neotract (acquired by Teleflex); VP IP, general counsel and asst. secretary Vibrynt; Co-founder, VP IP and general counsel Moximed; Co-founder, chief operating officer, general counsel and asst. secretary Nuelle (acquired by Aytu); general counsel & asst. secretary Willow; Co-founder, chief administrative officer and board member Revelle; and CEO, co-founder and board member of X9. Eb is a co-founder of and serves on the Alliance for U.S. Startups & Inventors for Jobs (USIJ) Board. He is also the IP policy director of the Stanford Mussallem Center for Biodesign Innovation Policy Fellowship.



JEREMY BUZZARD
CO-FOUNDER AND CEO,
DEMETER

Jeremy Buzzard is co-founder and chief executive officer at Demeter, focusing on transforming outcomes of in vitro fertilization. He did his PhD at Monash and post-doc at Harvard in reproductive cell and molecular biology before joining McKinsey & Company, where he co-led the firm's global healthcare strategy and transactions service line. He is passionate about finding new technologies, then creating and executing the strategies to build them into life-changing treatments. Based in Park City, he collaborates globally to tackle key challenges in reproductive health, improving patient outcomes and expanding access to care.



LINDA CABRALES
DIRECTOR,
UTAH INNOVATION CENTER

Linda Cabrales is the director of the Utah Innovation Center, part of the Governor's Office of Economic Opportunity. She works with Utah startups and small businesses to pursue non-dilutive funding through the federal Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) and Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) programs. She values meeting with entrepreneurs and companies to strategize on their next move to advance their company and products, sharing her knowledge and enthusiasm for Utah's vibrant ecosystem. Linda co-founded a small business and has worked in banking, communications, and management consulting in the public and private sectors.



BRIAN CASE
FOUNDER & INVESTOR,
CASE OFFICE

With 40+ years of entrepreneurial experience, Brian has founded eight businesses, sold six, and learned from closing two. His journey began with creating stamp collector kits at 13 and evolved into founding a wealth management firm specializing in physicians' financial needs. As the spouse of an Ob/Gyn and having invested in medical startups, Brian's healthcare connection runs deep. He now advocates for including personal finance in physician well-being conversations, working to remove the taboo around financial discussions in healthcare. Brian is passionate about physician well-being and the link between financial health and burnout.



CHRIS COOLEY (JUDGE)
MANAGING DIRECTOR /
HEAD OF HEALTHCARE EQUITY
CAPITAL MARKETS,
STEPHENS, INC.

Mr. Cooley has over 30 years of healthcare industry experience having begun his career in equity research covering healthcare services, healthcare information technology and medical devices and hospital supplies. During his tenure in equity research, Chris was ranked by the Wall Street Journal, the Financial Times and StarMine and was a speaker at multiple industry events and conferences. Mr. Cooley joined Stephens in 2010 to lead equity research coverage of the Medical Device and Hospital Supply Sector and transitioned to Investment Banking in 2022 to head Stephens' ECM origination efforts in Health and Life Sciences. Prior to joining Stephens, Mr. Cooley began his professional career with Dean Witter and also worked for Cargill, Inc., Morgan Keegan, SunTrust Equitable Securities and FTN Equity Capital Markets. Mr. Cooley received a Master of Business Administration, with concentrations in finance and operations management from the University of Tennessee.



TIM COOLEY (MODERATOR)
DIRECTOR OF
ENTREPRENEURSHIP,
GOEO | STARTUP STATE
INITIATIVE

Tim Cooley is the Director of Entrepreneurship for the Governor's Office of Economic Opportunity and Startup State Initiative. He is also the author of the #1 best-selling book on raising capital, *The Pitch Deck Book: How To Present Your Business And Secure Investors*. He is the former Executive Director for Park City Angels and consulted for Fortune 5 companies as well as 100s of early-stage companies in marketing, sales, product development, fundraising, and operations.



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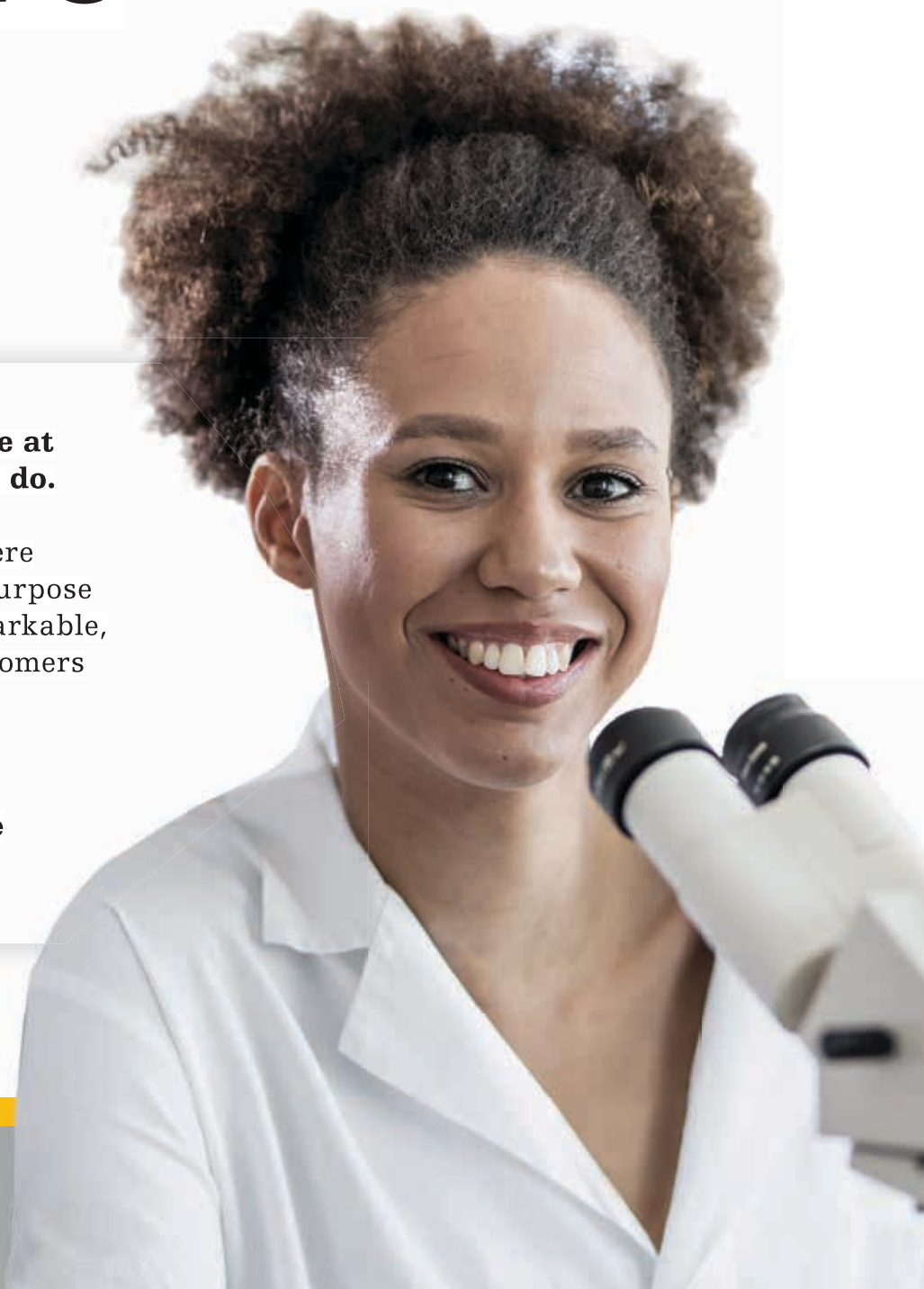

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DEREK CROCKER
HEAD OF FINANCE & PARTNER,
CROCKER VENTURES

Derek Crocker graduated from BYU's MAcc program in 2006 and then worked at Ernst and Young in assurance in the Bay Area until late 2010. He then returned to Utah to work for his family-owned venture capital firm, Crocker Ventures, founded by Gary Crocker in the early 2000's. For the last 14 years Derek has worked with others placing various investments in early-stage biotech, medical device and technology companies along with investments in several private equity funds.



KELVYN CULLIMORE
PRESIDENT & CEO,
BIOUTAH

Kelvyn Cullimore has three decades experience as a medtech CEO, over a decade on the board of the Medical Device Manufacturers Association and over a decade as mayor of Cottonwood Heights, a suburb of Salt Lake City. He brings a unique understanding of industry and policy issues to advance association objectives and help member companies. He has been CEO of BioUtah since October 2018.



JACKSON DAVIS
FOUNDER,
MANAGING PARTNER,
HEXAGON CAPITAL

Jackson Davis is a co-founder of Hexagon, a stage agnostic frontier tech venture capital firm. Prior, Jackson worked with two VC firms focusing on life sciences and investing from inception through growth stages. He also has been a co-founder of a venture-backed biotech and operator at a hyper-growth cell reprogramming startup overseeing corporate development, capital raising, and new ventures.



MONICA DiCENSO
(KEYNOTE)
HEAD OF GLOBAL INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES GROUP,
J.P. MORGAN PRIVATE BANK

Monica DiCenso is a managing director and head of the Global Investment Opportunities (GIO) Group at J.P. Morgan Private Bank. As a senior leader of the firm, Monica sets the strategic direction for a team of 60+ Investors who advise the firm's largest and most sophisticated clients, including ultra-high-net-worth individuals and family offices. As a part of GIO, Monica provides cross-asset solutions to a global client base and offer institutional-caliber coverage. Throughout two decades immersed financial markets through various economic cycles, Monica has earned a reputation in the professional community as a specialist in this space. Monica's background comprises both the institutional lens of investment banking and exposure to the breadth of wealth management resources at the Private Bank. Before joining GIO in 2015, Monica was the head of U.S. equity strategy at J.P. Morgan Global Wealth Management. She joined the Private Bank in 2012 from J.P. Morgan's Investment Bank.





MATT DORMER
MANAGING DIRECTOR,
HEALTH AND LIFE SCIENCES
INVESTMENT BANKING,
STEPHENS, INC.

Matt Dormer joined Stephens in 2022 and has more than 20 years of experience in the biotechnology industry. Prior to joining Stephens, he was a managing director in Healthcare Investment Banking at Oppenheimer & Co., Laidlaw & Co. and Summer Street Research Partners. He has extensive experience assisting healthcare companies, both publics and privates, with transactions including M&A, IPOs, public offerings, private placements and a diverse spectrum of strategic and financial advisory assignments. Matt started his financial career in Equity Research at Fulcrum Global Partners covering the Biotech sector before transitioning to Healthcare Investment Banking. Matt earned a Bachelor of Science in Biology from Davidson College and received an MBA in Finance from Northeastern University. In his free time he enjoys fly fishing and skiing with his family.



JOHN DVOR
MANAGING PARTNER,
EEE FAMILY OFFICE

John Dvor is a global corporate development executive, specializing in commercializing innovative technologies as an investor and operator with inorganic and organic strategies. As an investor, he founded the Tufts Health Ventures Corporate Venture Capital Fund, raising and investing $275M in VC, PE, LP strategies, M&A deals, and structured multiple JV deals with leading hospitals, insurance companies and medical technology platforms. He was co-founder and general partner of Miraki Innovation, a $200M medical technology venture fund spin-out from Harvard Mass General Hospital, and expanded the firm into Montreal, QC and Dubai, UAE. Key investments include Auris Health (acquired $5.75B), Iora Health (acquired $2B), SSI Innovations ($3B IPO). He has led investments and divestments for UHNW family offices across industries, and serves as Venture Partner at C10 Labs, a VC fund spin-out from the MIT Media Lab.

BALLARD GOES BEYOND

Our life sciences lawyers assist entrepreneurs, investors, and companies at all stages in achieving their objectives as they move from innovation to commercialization and beyond. We are proud to support the 2025 Entrepreneur & Investor Life Sciences Summit.

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- Cardiac Mapping
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Imaging
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- Camera-Based Robotic
- Intravascular Ultrasound

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KARSTEN EASTMAN
CEO,
SETHERA THERAPEUTICS

Dr. Karsten Eastman is the co-founder and CEO of Sethera Therapeutics, a pioneering therapeutics platform company leveraging processes to unlock previously undruggable targets. With a PhD from the University of Utah under Professor Vahe Bandarian, Dr. Eastman has developed methodologies that challenge long-standing scientific dogmas in peptide and enzyme engineering. They have led Sethera from inception, securing multi-million-dollar funding, and advancing a pipeline of bespoke peptides with applications across multiple therapeutic areas. Dr. Eastman is dedicated to integrating AI-driven discovery with enzymatic processes to reshape drug development and expand the possibilities of molecular design.



CRAIG FRYER
(MODERATOR)
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR,
JP MORGAN

Craig Fryer is an executive director at JP Morgan, specializing in Life Sciences in the Intermountain region. Before becoming a commercial banker, he spent over 11 years as an investment banker in life sciences, advising on 100+ transactions totaling around $40 billion. He began his career at Ernst & Young as a manager in IT Risk and Assurance and was a Certified Fraud Examiner. Craig earned dual Bachelor of Science degrees in Finance and Information Systems from the University of Utah and an MBA from Duke University's Fuqua School of Business.





FARAH GERDES
PARTNER - TECHNOLOGY TRANSACTIONS,
WILSON SONSINI

Farah Gerdes founded and leads the technology transactions practice in Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati's Boston office, where she focuses on the representation of pharmaceutical, biotechnology, medical device, and diagnostic companies in complex collaboration and partnering transactions. She advises numerous domestic and international, public and private life sciences companies on business transactions related to the discovery, development, supply, and commercialization of life sciences products and technologies. She counsels her clients with respect to the structuring and negotiation of a wide range of agreements, including strategic alliances, joint ventures, incubator structures, options, and build-to-buy arrangements.



MYLES GREENBERG
(MODERATOR)
PRESIDENT & CEO,
INCARDA THERAPEUTICS

Dr. Myles Greenberg brings to InCarda more than 25 years of experience in growing life sciences firms as an entrepreneur, operating executive, board member, clinician and investor. Prior to joining InCarda, Dr. Greenberg was CEO of Alucent Biomedical where he raised $75 million of institutional financing and brought a novel drug-device combination therapy from concept through product development and successful completion of clinical studies. He was also previously chief development officer at IntegraMed America (acquired by US Fertility). Before becoming a full-time operating executive, Dr. Greenberg was a partner or principal at VC firms CHL Medical Partners, HealthInvest Equity Partners and Pappas Ventures. As a start-up venture investor and board member, he often served as lead director or in an interim executive management role at many dynamic companies in the biotechnology, medical device, and healthcare services and information technology sectors.

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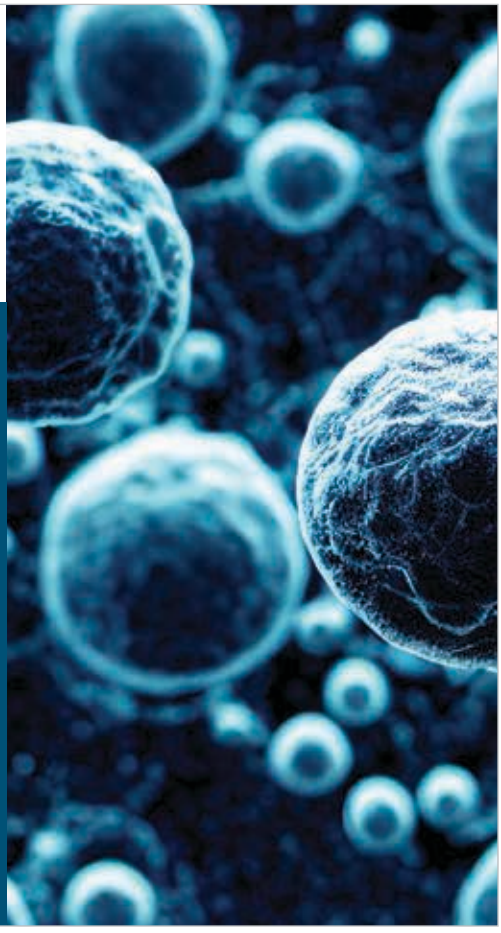
Key Achievements:

Halia Therapeutics is advancing multiple clinical programs. HT-6184 is currently in a Phase 2 trial for low-risk MDS and is preparing to begin a Phase 2 obesity trial in combination with semaglutide. Additionally, HT-4253 is in an ongoing Phase 1 trial for neuroinflammation associated with Alzheimer's disease.

HALIA THERAPEUTICS

Contact us



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- // 9 Manufacturing Locations Worldwide
- // 7,100 Employees
- // MMSI $3.6B Market Cap





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MIKE GREY (JUDGE)
CHAIRMAN,
SORRISO
PHARMACEUTICALS, INC.

Mike Grey has founded several biotechnology companies and is currently chair or executive chair of Mirum Pharmaceuticals, Inc., Sorriso Pharmaceuticals, Inc., Spruce Biosciences, Inc., Theolytics Ltd., Altay Therapeutics, Inc. and Plexium Inc. He also serves as venture partner at Pappas Capital and on the board of directors of OnKure, Inc. Mike has more than 50 years of experience in the pharmaceutical and biotechnology industries. He has held senior positions at a number of biotechnology companies and previously Mike served in various roles with Glaxo, culminating in his position as vice president, corporate development and head of international licensing.



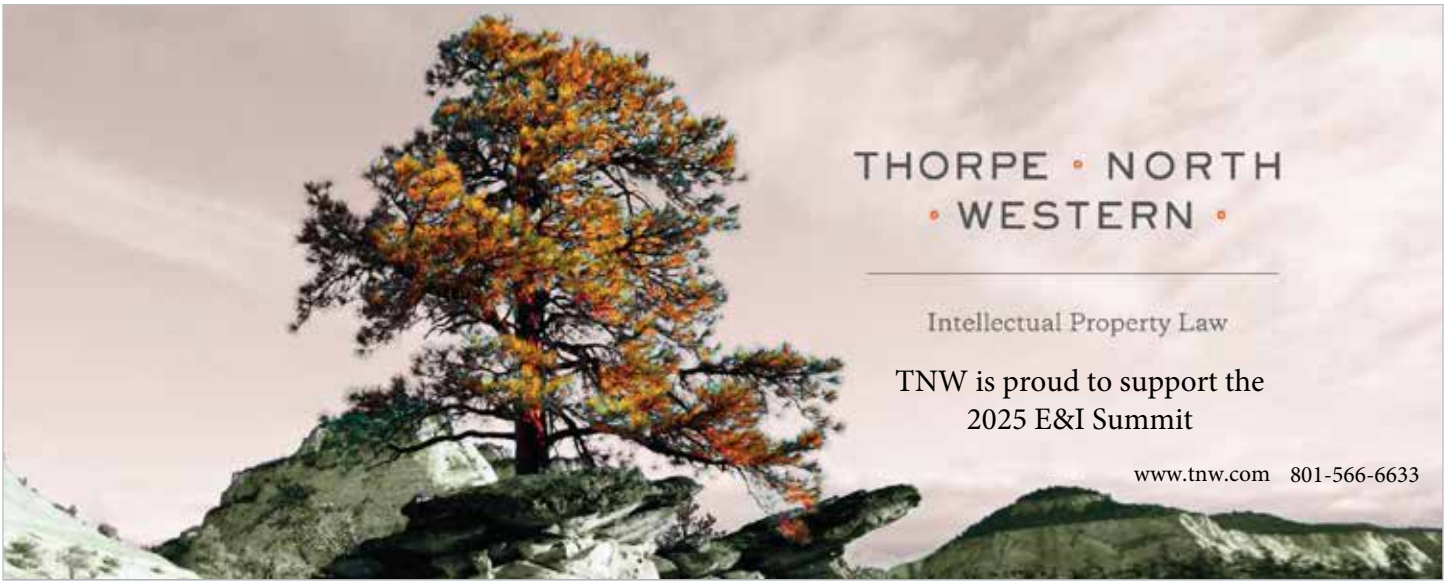
LUKE HAYES
CEO,
EVOLUTION BIO

Luke Hayes is founder and CEO of Evolution Bio, a biotech company using its directed evolution technology for biological drug discovery. Luke has more than a dozen years of experience in venture capital and has served in senior operating roles in life science companies including as CFO of a publicly traded biotech company. Luke received a BS in Chemical Engineering from BYU and an MBA from UCLA.



JERRY HENLEY
MANAGING DIRECTOR,
UTAH INNOVATION FUND

Jerry Henley serves as a managing director at the Utah Innovation Fund and assistant commissioner at the Utah System of Higher Education, where he oversees fundraising and partnership development for Convergence Hall at The Point. With nearly 20 years in the pharma and biotech industries, he has built an extensive background in corporate and government sales and has a strong track record in business development. Before joining the Utah Innovation Fund, Jerry was a managing director at The Connor Group and held senior roles as VP of business development at Sorenson Capital, assistant vice president in Institutional Advancement at Utah Valley University, and chief revenue officer at Tula Health.





WILSON SONSINI

Partners in Discovery and Innovation

Wilson Sonsini represents life sciences companies through the entire business life cycle, from formation through IPO and strategic partnerships, and has one of the largest life sciences practices in the United States. For more than 40 years, our attorneys have represented trailblazers in the life sciences industry—from the earliest innovators to those that are shaping the future of healthcare today.



Life Sciences Leadership

The firm's life sciences practice features a multi-disciplinary team of attorneys, patent agents, and scientific advisors. We represent clients in a wide range of strategic and operational corporate areas and assist them with complex commercial and technology transactions driven by IP and innovation.

For more information, visit **wsgr.com**.

Attorney Advertising

Wilson Sonsini has 19 offices in technology and business hubs worldwide. For more information, visit **wsgr.com/offices**.



JIM HOTALING
ASSOCIATE VICE PRESIDENT
FOR RESEARCH INNOVATION
AND TRANSLATION (AVPRIT)
AT THE UNIVERSITY OF UTAH

Dr. James Hotaling is a fellowship-trained urologist specializing in male infertility and men's health. He completed his undergraduate work at Dartmouth, graduating magna cum laude with a double major in history and biophysical chemistry. He then went to Duke for medical school and completed a 6-year residency at the University of Washington, Dr. Hotaling pursued an additional year of training under Dr. Craig Niederberger at the University of Illinois at Chicago focusing on male infertility and men's health. He is also one of the only men's health and infertility experts in the U.S. to have undergone additional training to become a Fellow of European College of Sexual Medicine. He has over 125 publications, is funded by the NIH to study erectile dysfunction and male infertility. He regularly speaks at conferences all over the U.S. on male infertility, men's health, and erectile dysfunction. He has been on the faculty at the University of Utah since 2013 and is currently the medical director of the fertility integrated practice unit.



CHIAO-IH HUI
FOUNDER, CEO,
SOLUTION DIAGNOSTICS

Chiao-ih Hui is founder and chief executive officer of Solution Diagnostics, based in Salt Lake City, Utah. Solution Diagnostics was founded to foster healthier communities by providing reliable, affordable, and accessible medical diagnostics directly to consumers' hands.

What Do
The Governor
The Mayor
The Investors
The CEOs
The Trade Associations and
Academia
All Have in Common?

A Content Carnivores Production



BRUCE HUNTER
CHIEF INNOVATION OFFICER,
UNIVERSITY OF UTAH,
TECHNOLOGY LICENSING OFFICE

Bruce leads the dedicated team at the University of Utah Technology Licensing Office in transforming academic research into practical solutions, with a focus on bridging the gap between groundbreaking research and real-world application. With many years expertise in tech transfer, Bruce is committed to collaborating with internal and external stakeholders to build a thriving innovative culture and ecosystem at the University of Utah. Guided by a strategic vision and a faculty first mindset, Bruce continuously adapts the office to emerging trends, shaping a future where innovation drives positive change within and beyond academia.



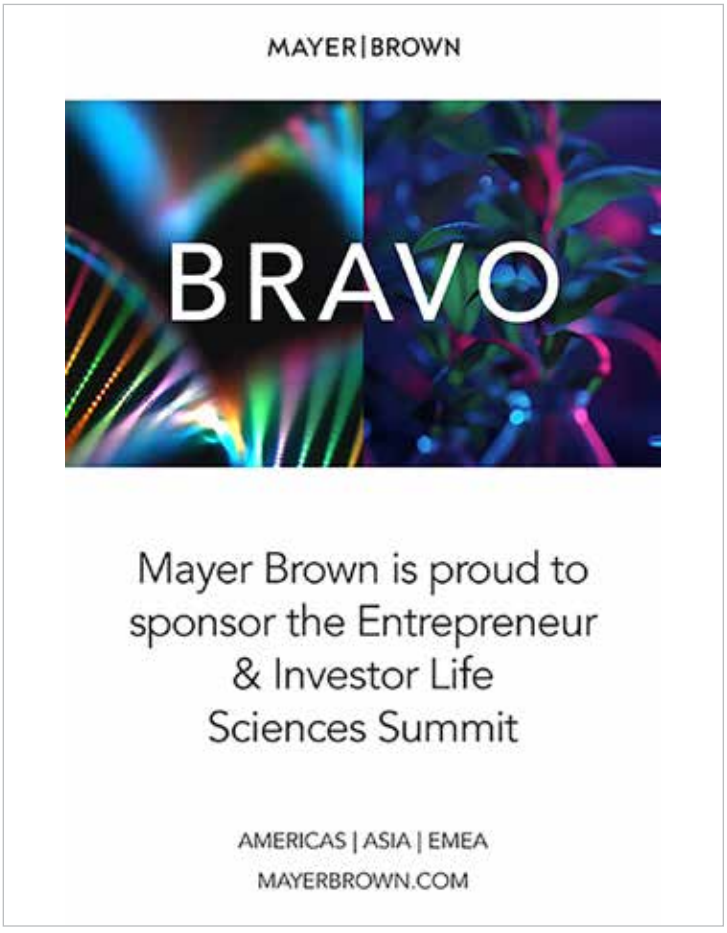
ALISON JOHNSON
PARTNER - CORPORATE,
WILSON SONSINI

Alison Johnson is a corporate partner at Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati, where she focuses on the representation of emerging companies at all stages of growth, advising them on venture capital and other financings, mergers and acquisitions, private equity, and corporate governance matters. She also represents venture capital firms and angel investors. Alison's clients include both locally based and national companies across the country in a wide range of industries, including e-commerce, SaaS, biotechnology, and agtech. Prior to rejoining the firm in 2021, Alison served as Holland & Hart's firm-wide chair of the food and beverage and consumer products industry group. She joined that firm in 2010 and made partner in 2016. Alison began her legal career as a corporate associate in Wilson Sonsini's Palo Alto office.



LISA JORDAN DUNLEA
(JUDGE)
SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT,
COMMERCIALIZATION &
INDUSTRY COLLABORATIONS,
ST. JUDE CHILDREN'S RESEARCH
HOSPITAL

Lisa joined St. Jude Children's Research Hospital in January of 2024. In her role as the hospital's first senior vice president of technology commercialization & industry partnerships, she will work with researchers developing scientific breakthroughs to commercialize our innovations through several means, establishing collaborations with industry partners, launching startup companies, and expanding licensing efforts to established companies. By supporting our world-class scientists and clinicians with commercialization expertise, she will help our innovations benefit more patients. Lisa has over 25 years of experience as a life science venture capitalist and entrepreneur and is excited to use her extensive experience to further the St. Jude mission of treating and curing catastrophic pediatric diseases.





NOMAN KHAN (HOST)
ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR
EXTERNAL ENGAGEMENT,
UNIVERSITY OF UTAH,
TECHNOLOGY LICENSING OFFICE

Noman excels in engaging scientific business development and executive leadership at prospective partners, gaining a deep understanding of companies' key needs and areas of mutual interest through comprehensive research, face-to-face meetings, and conference calls. He strategically develops a strong knowledge base and fosters relationships with University of Utah faculty and members of the research community, driving relationship development with companies that share mutual interests. By collaborating with corporate engagement colleagues, Noman plays a pivotal role in establishing annual revenue goals from corporations and develops, coordinates, implements, and assesses revenue strategies to foster corporate investment in the University. He has a BA in Film and Media Arts, BS in Strategic Communications, Master in International Affairs and MBA in Marketing and Entrepreneurship from the University of Utah.



JESS KRANNICH
PARTNER - LITIGATION,
WILSON SONSINI

Jess M. Krannich is a litigation partner in the Salt Lake City office of Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati. Jess is a seasoned trial lawyer who leads significant intellectual property, unfair competition, patent, and general commercial matters for a wide range of clients in the technology, life sciences, medical device, consumer products, and financial services sectors. Many of his clients are major industry leaders in the Rocky Mountain West.



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MEREDITH KRANNICH
EXECUTIVE ADVISOR -
EXECUTIVE ADVISORY
PROGRAM,
WILSON SONSINI

Meredith L. Krannich is an advisor in the Executive Advisory Program of Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati. Resident in the firm's Salt Lake City office, she focuses on leveraging her nearly 20 years of experience in the life sciences sector as a lawyer and business executive to advise clients on a variety of legal operational and business matters.



FRANK LANGSTON
INVESTOR,
THIEL CAPITAL - BIO FUND

Frank Langston is an investor at Thiel Capital – Bio Fund, where he identifies, invests in, and supports high-impact biotech companies from seed to pre-IPO. The firm has backed industry leaders like Adimab, AbCellera Biologics (Nasdaq: ABCL), and Compass Pathways (Nasdaq: CMPS). A two-time founder and former executive at Ginkgo Bioworks' Biosecurity division, Frank brings deep entrepreneurial insight to portfolio companies. He applies a first-principles approach and lateral thinking to help founders navigate biotech's toughest challenges to outperform the status quo.

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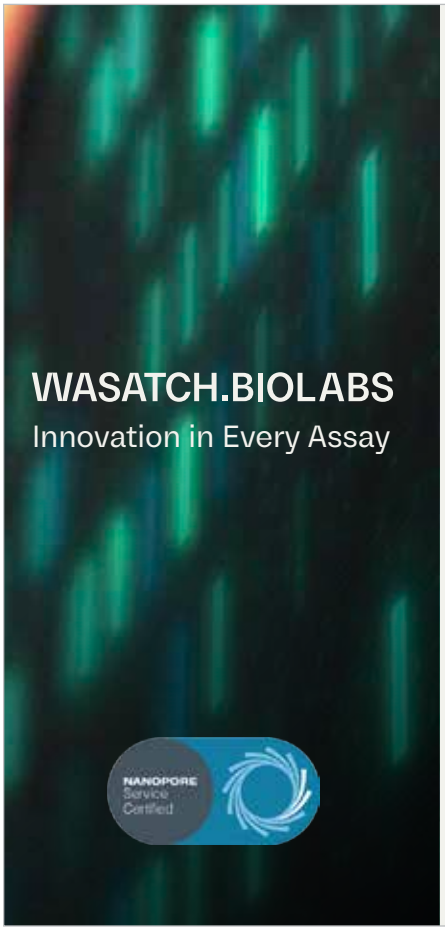
LUKE LARSEN (JUDGE)
VICE PRESIDENT,
MEDVENTURE HEALTH

Luke currently serves as vice president at MedVenture Health. Responsible for the firm's deal processes, Luke leads the sourcing and screening of new opportunities, market research, investment theses, and general due diligence teams. Prior to his time with MedVenture, Luke held various corporate finance, market research, and business development positions within Koch Industries and Ford Motor Company. Luke is originally from Bountiful, Utah, and holds a B.S. in Accounting and Management Information Systems from Utah State University's Jon M. Huntsman School of Business.



ANNETTE LAVOIE
CEO,
TAGS MEDICAL

Dr. Annette Lavoie is a seasoned startup executive, sought after for her strategic approach to early-stage medical device development and commercialization. Early in her career, Annette left an academic research position to start a company around her passion project; a non-surgical permanent contraceptive device for women, known as Daisyclip. Following Daisyclip's acquisition exit in 2012, Annette worked with startup entrepreneurs across many disciplines to help mitigate risk, raise capital and build effective teams. She recently joined the TAGS Medical team to lead their first seed round capital raise and commercialize their TAGS diagnostic device.



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High-Throughput Targeting:
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THE FUTURE OF MED TECH STARTS HERE

CENTER FOR MEDICAL INNOVATION

The Center for Medical Innovation at University of Utah Health is an ecosystem of innovation focused programs and resources dedicated to identifying, developing, and commercializing next-generation medical technologies.

We welcome Utah's Life Sciences industry to join us on our mission to discover innovations that make healthcare better for everyone.

MED TECH VENTURE STUDIO

A defined development process, our MedTech Venture Studio offers faculty and clinicians the opportunity to collaborate with our engineering and commercialization staff to de-risk and prepare new technologies for market entry.

REGULATORY AFFAIRS

Understanding the pathways necessary to receive FDA approval for new devices, our Regulatory Affairs team offers consultation, filing, and quality management system expertise.

PROTOTYPING & DESIGN

Our Prototyping & Design Lab offers advanced fabrication equipment including 3D printing, microelectronics assembly, CNC machining, and all the power tools necessary to build first-generation prototype devices.

BENCH TO BEDSIDE COMPETITION

The annual Bench to Bedside Competition gives multidisicplinary student teams guidance and resources necessary to build technology-based solutions addressing unmet clinical needs and launch succesful start-ups.

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JOHN CHRISTOPHER LiPUMA (JUDGE)
MANAGING DIRECTOR
FORTRESS INVESTMENT GROUP

Mr. LiPuma is a managing director in Fortress's San Francisco Intellectual Property Group, where he focuses on a wide variety of investment opportunities in connection with intellectual property, life sciences, and academic institutions. Prior to joining Fortress in 2018, Mr. LiPuma headed business development for Kastle Therapeutics, a private equity backed biotechnology company acquiring ultra-orphan drugs. Before joining Kastle he was with OrbiMed Advisors, a life sciences focused asset management firm. At OrbiMed he worked on royalty monetizations, direct lending to late development stage and early commercial stage life sciences companies, and several private equity transactions focused on acquiring legacy assets from big pharma. He started his career as an investment banker at Leerink Partners. Mr. LiPuma holds a B.A. from Hamilton College.



CHRIS LOWE
CEO,
NUSANO

Chris Lowe is the CEO of Nusano, a physics company located in West Valley, Utah. Chris has over 20 years' experience in C-suite and executive-level roles in life science companies where he was a part of bringing 5 therapeutics to FDA approval and completing 5 IPO's. He brings extensive strategic and operational expertise to Nusano, including licensing, financing and acquisitions. Chris holds a bachelor of science degree from California Polytechnic State University, and a Master's degree in Finance from St. Mary's University.

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DAVID LUFTGLASS
CEO,
RENAISSANCE ASSETS

David is a seasoned entrepreneur and leader with a track record of building and scaling diverse ventures across emerging industries. His extensive network of public and private sector leadership in the U.S. and internationally allows him to move nimbly and make impacts quickly at a large scale. Drawing on over a decade of experience in corporate development and executing on unique opportunities, David spearheads Renaissance's strategic direction, partnerships, and operational excellence. He is passionate about creating sustainable value and championing disruptive innovations that enhance shareholder wealth and societal impact.



NICKOLAS MARK (JUDGE)
GENERAL MANAGING PARTNER,
INTERMOUNTAIN VENTURES

Nickolas Mark is a highly accomplished healthcare industry leader who is deeply committed to addressing the most pressing challenges in healthcare. As the co-founder and managing partner of Intermountain Ventures, a healthcare venture capital fund, Nickolas collaborates with early-stage pioneers, creative entrepreneurs, and mission-driven organizations to drive innovation and transformation in the industry. Prior to co-founding Intermountain Ventures, Nickolas held senior leadership positions at a global investment firm with approximately $50 billion in assets under management. He also worked as a senior advisor at leading consulting firms where he focused on executing innovation and growth-related initiatives for Fortune 500 companies and global organizations. Nickolas has a relentless focus on making a meaningful, measurable, and positive impact in the healthcare industry. He is dedicated to partnering with innovative pioneers, creative entrepreneurs, and mission-driven organizations to drive change and address the biggest challenges in healthcare.



TINA MARRIOTT
FORMER PRESIDENT & COO,
RECURSION

Biotechnology executive operating at the intersection of innovative technology and life science. Proven business and technical leader with experience spanning global multinationals to start-ups, including C-level roles at both public and private companies.



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HEALTH
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DANYA MARTELL SMART
PATENT AGENT,
WILSON SONSINI

Dr. Danya J. Martell Smart is a patent agent in the Boston office of Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati, where her work focuses on patents and innovations primarily in the life sciences, biotechnology, and related industries. Danya has experience in molecular biology, genomics, gene editing, next-generation sequencing, bioinformatics, protein engineering, protein biochemistry, and fluorescence microscopy.



SYLVIA McBRINN (JUDGE)
BOARD DIRECTOR,
BIOATLA

Sylvia McBrinn has more than 40 years of leadership and commercialization experience in the biopharmaceutical industry having successfully launched products in a variety of therapeutic areas. Ms. McBrinn currently advises innovators at Yale University as an EIR and female entrepreneurs as a member of the Life Science Council of Springboard Enterprises. She was the founding CEO of Axerion Therapeutics, Inc. (now ReNetX Bio), a private clinical stage biotech company. Prior to that, she served as Head, U.S. Organization of Vernalis Pharmaceuticals, Inc. where she built and led its U.S. commercial organization. Ms. McBrinn also held roles of increasing responsibility in marketing and sales in a variety of therapeutic areas at Pfizer and predecessor companies.



Nomi Health

The Nomi Health Difference



What we do: At Nomi Health, we deliver health benefit solutions to employer-sponsored health plans and our broker partners that effectively r**educe healthcare costs by up to 30%** and we are just getting started. Our long- term goal is to rebuild healthcare to operate at half the cost. From direct contracting and pharmacy benefits to provider payments and analytics, we are on a mission to provide direct healthcare solutions that deliver access to high quality care at the lowest possible price.

How do we do it?

- We eliminate waste whenever and wherever possible.
- Through our analytics, we equip decision-makers with the insights they need to drive better outcomes.
- We deploy tailored health solutions that address the needs and opportunities surfaced in our analytics.

Why do we do it?

- Healthcare is overly complex and littered with waste, driving up the cost of care, and leaving most unable to afford the care they need.
- We believe employers, their members, and providers of care should not have to bear the cost of this waste.

So we're removing it!

Who do we serve?

- We partner with self-funded employers, like-minded brokers, and local providers who are ready to push back against the status quo.
- Our partners believe that healthcare can and should be affordable for all.

Our Solutions

Analytics
Our market- leading benefits analytics platform offers actionable insights to manage and measure benefits strategies.

Direct Network
We secure direct provider contracts with below-market rates that reduce employer costs by up to 30%.

Pharmacy Management
Employers can save up to 25% on annual pharmacy management spending through our in- house Rx benefit administration.

Financial Services
Our claims and billing platform streamlines how health services are paid for and reduces administrative costs.

By the Numbers

Founded in 2019, Nomi Health has quickly become a trusted name and partner for self-funded employers, governments, third-party administrators, brokers, and consultants.

25 Million
Lives Impacted

300+ Million
Annual Claims Analyzed

3,000+
Customers Nationwide

$100 Billion
Healthcare Spend on Our Platform



RICK MERRELL
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR,
SALT LAKE ANGELS

Rick has over 35 years' experience creating, building, and managing complex information technology systems for both private industry and the United States Air Force. As an active Angel investor, he currently serves as the executive director of the Salt Lake City Angels investment group where he oversees operations for an Angel group consisting of 35 members. Rick also serves as founder/CEO of Agentis Technology, a software development consulting company and previously served in IT executive management roles for Fiserv Securities. He began his career as a combat communications officer in the US Air Force and retired from the US Air Force reserves in 2011. Rick received his bachelor's degree in computer science from Lehigh University in 1987.



RYAN MORLEY (JUDGE)
PARTNER,
SPRINGTIDE

Ryan is a partner at SpringTide with experience driving innovation within health systems and in startup environments. Prior to SpringTide, Ryan helped pioneer population health models within the University of Utah Health delivery and payer arms. Ryan was the CFO of a digital health platform, TruClinic, and led its acquisition by InTouch Health, which was subsequently acquired by Teladoc. Ryan also served as the National Deputy Finance Director for Senator Romney's 2012 presidential campaign. Ryan earned a bachelor's degree in accounting from Brigham Young University and an MBA from the Wharton School. He is a board director at OpenLoop, Troomi, Paterna Biosciences, and IgniteData. He is a board observer at Aegle Health Partners and Okadoc.



MATTHEW MEYER
CHIEF BUSINESS ADVISOR,
LIFE SCIENCES,
WILSON SONSINI

Matthew J. Meyer is chief business advisor for life sciences at Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati. Based in San Francisco, Matthew leads the firm's life science business advisory practice—a newly formed, innovative resource aimed at providing start-up and emerging life sciences companies with business insights, capabilities, and strategies to help them thrive and address some of their most challenging issues. Matthew is an experienced executive and attorney who has held diverse roles of increasing responsibility across a wide range of private and public biopharma, medtech, and precision medicine companies from start-ups to Fortune 50 in the U.S. and Europe, including Pfizer, Novartis, and CareDx. His leadership capabilities include delivery of strong commercial results, structuring and executing partnering transactions across the product life cycle, raising debt and equity capital in the private and public markets, working with founders, and more.



LINCOLN NADAULD
CEO,
CULMINATION BIO

Dr. Lincoln Nadauld founded the Intermountain Precision Genomics program and successfully led the clinical implementation of precision health across Intermountain Healthcare's 24 hospitals and 160 physician clinics while serving as Intermountain Healthcare's chief of precision health and academics. Nadauld conceived of and led the Heredigene, Population Study — a collaborative effort to collect and perform whole-genome sequencing on 500,000 participants in the Intermountain system. Nadauld's work was recognized with the Utah Governor's 32nd Annual Science Medal for Industry, which is the highest civilian award to be bestowed by the state of Utah and honors significant contributions to science and technology. Dr. Nadauld also received the 2020 C2 Catalyst for Precision Medicine award, honoring those who improve personalized treatment for cancer patients. He was also named a Top-50 Healthcare Innovator by Modern Healthcare.



PRICE

COMMERCIAL REAL ESTATE
DEVELOPMENT AND INVESTMENT



MOU NANDI
CO-FOUNDER & CEO,
MONERE CORP

Mou Nandi (MS in Computer Science, Master of Business Creation) has 24+ years in global software development leadership in big companies like Tata, S&P and HP and also in startups building AI-powered platforms from zero to one and building high performing teams, that built a planet scale AI document management system for the legal industry with multi ten-billion natural text and images and achieved a unicorn exit.



AIDAN NAPIER
CO-FOUNDER,
ZEALACARE

Aidan co-founded Zealacare in 2022 with his partners, Aaron Collette and Matt Napier, while studying at Brigham Young University. After earning his Finance degree in April 2024, Aidan jumped into Zealacare full-time and hasn't looked back. Entrepreneurship is his passion. Aidan loves the challenge of growing businesses and feels incredibly lucky to be building his own at a young age. Outside of work, Aidan is married to his best friend and biggest supporter, Aubrey, and they are enjoying life together in Alpine, Utah.



MARCIA NELSON
(MODERATOR)
MANAGING DIRECTOR,
FREEDOM CAPITAL MARKETS
FOUNDING PARTNER,
TRIPLE C ADVISORY

Marcia is a managing director at Freedom Capital Markets (FCM) and oversees the family office division. The majority of her career has been working in and for family offices and private dealmakers. Prior to FCM, Marcia was a Managing Director and head of business development for ShareNett, a members-only global network of professional investors, and she worked previously at Alberleen Family Office Solutions, an independent investment advisory firm backed by family offices.



GABRIELE NIEDERAUER
CEO & CO-FOUNDER,
FREYYA, INC.

Gabriele Niederauer, PhD, FAIMBE, has over 30 years of experience in product development and commercialization of four separate medical device companies and served in key senior management positions. She is an accomplished and highly-engaged Chief Executive Officer with broad-based experience taking clinical ideas from concept to market to exit. All four of her former companies were acquired (Bluegrass Vascular Technologies – acquired by Merit Medical; ENTrigue Surgical (acquired by ArthroCare), C2M Medical (acquired by Tornier), OsteoBiologics (acquired by Smith & Nephew). Investors in each of these transactions achieved positive returns.



CHAD NORMAN
SENIOR PORTFOLIO MANAGER,
AVENUE CAPITAL GROUP

Chad leads the life science investing efforts at the Avenue Venture Opportunities Funds. He has been involved in the venture lending and investing space for 23 years, having completed over $2B in financings.



KURTIS PARKER
(MODERATOR)
MANAGING DIRECTOR -
INVESTMENT BANKING,
EY CAPITAL ADVISORS

Kurtis Parker is a managing director in the US Health Care Investment Banking practice at Ernst & Young Capital Advisors, LLC (EYCA) and leads the US MedTech coverage. Prior to joining EYCA, Kurtis spent over 20 years in health care investment banking with firms including Raymond James. Kurtis received an MBA with high distinction from the University of Michigan (including a semester at the Helsinki School of Economics) and a BS, summa cum laude, in Accounting from Brigham Young University (including a semester at the BYU Jerusalem Center for Near Eastern Studies).



DONNA PARR
MANAGING PARTNER,
CROSS-BORDER IMPACT
VENTURES

Donna Parr is a managing partner of Cross-Border Impact Ventures. She has over 30 years experience in venture and private equity investing and prior experience in corporate finance. She has worked as portfolio manager in several venture and biotech funds and the private equity groups of two Canadian pension funds including Ontario Municipal Employees Retirement System (OMERS) where she ultimately headed the private equity and venture group for four years. Donna has operational experience as an Executive Director of CellAegis Devices, which developed a patented medical device for reducing the impact of heart attacks and stroke, and the manager business development for a cleantech company. She has served on 40 boards of private companies.



SARA PATAK
PARTNER - PATENTS
& INNOVATIONS,
WILSON SONSINI

Sara L. Patak is a partner in the Boulder office of Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati. Her practice focuses on patent prosecution and intellectual property counseling, serving clients in a wide range of technology fields, including the pharmaceutical and biotechnology industries.



MARK PAUL (JUDGE)
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR,
THE CENTER FOR MEDICAL
INNOVATION, UNIVERSITY OF
UTAH / CHAIR OF BIOUTAH

Past global president of Stryker Neurovascular. 32 years in the medtech industry with Stryker and Boston Scientific. Currently, serving as the executive director of the Center for Medical Innovation at University of Utah Health. 2023 BioUtah Executive of the Year. Utah Innovation Fund Board, BioUtah Board, StrokeDx Board.



DAVID POLITIS
(MODERATOR)
CEO, PUBLISHER, & EDITOR,
UTAH MONEY WATCH

For 40+ years, David Politis has helped Life Science inventors, entrepreneurs, and executives via strategic positioning, messaging, public relations, and marketing communications. He is also a thoughtful yet strategic storyteller and analyst, one focused on helping business professionals and consumers learn about emerging news and information, while also providing actionable analysis and insights, including his 10-year run as Editor of Utah Tech Watch (2003—2013), his 14-month stint at Silicon Slopes as Publisher/VP of Content (2021—2022), and as Editor/ Publisher of Utah Money Watch (2023—Present).



CHAD POLLARD
CEO,
RENEW BIOTECHNOLOGIES

Chad is a young founder who received his undergraduate degree in Genetics, Genomics, and Biotech where he began developing the products Renew owns today. Chad continued this work into his PhD in Cell Biology where ultimately him and his Professor co-founded Renew. Chad pioneers pre-symptomatic NGS diagnostics.



MARC PORTER
PARTNER - CORPORATE,
WILSON SONSINI

Marc Porter is a corporate partner in the Salt Lake City office of Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati, where his practice focuses on the representation of emerging technology, consumer product and life science companies, and the venture capital firms that fund them, in Utah and beyond. He executes a substantial volume of financings and liquidity events each year for early to late-stage private companies as well as venture capital firms. Marc is a trusted advisor to executives, boards of directors, entrepreneurs and venture capital fund managers.



LIZ POWELL
FOUNDER & PRESIDENT,
G2G CONSULTING

Liz Powell, Esq., MPH started G2G Consulting in 2007 after working as policy staff on Capitol Hill. G2G has raised $524 million in non-dilutive funding for clients (many in health innovation), shaped regulations and policies, and organized advocacy campaigns. G2G produces the monthly GBG Report and Webinars listing life science government grants. Liz previously served as legislative director in Congress, campaign staff, public affairs manager for a national health association, and policy analyst for the UK Parliament's Health Committee. She helped launch the Women's Health Innovation Coalition and serves on the Innovation Equity Forum Steering Committee run by the NIH Office of Research on Women's Health and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.



IAN QUIGLEY
CEO/CO-FOUNDER,
LEASH BIOSCIENCES

Ian Quigley is a co-founder and the CEO of Leash Biosciences. Ian collected Leash's first data in a lab he built in the basement of his house (~12B physical measurements). Before Leash, Ian built and analyzed scalable measurement technologies for drug discovery at Recursion (employee #13). He was trained as a molecular and developmental biologist, as well as a data scientist, at the Salk Institute, UT Austin, Baylor College of Medicine, and Rice University.



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AMY REES ANDERSON
CEO,
REES CAPITAL

Amy is the managing partner of REES Capital, an angel investing firm; the founder of the IPOP Foundation, a charity promoting entrepreneurship and self-reliance; and serves on the boards of numerous organizations. Previously, Amy was the CEO of MediConnect Global, a healthcare technology company she grew and sold for over $377 million. She has been a contributor to both *Forbes* and the *Huffington Post* and is the author of the book: *What Awesome Looks Like: How To Excel In Business & Life*.



JAMIE RICHARDSON
(JUDGE)
DIRECTOR,
1315 CAPITAL

Jamie is a director at 1315 Capital, a private investment firm based in Philadelphia with $1B under management that provides expansion and growth capital to commercial-stage healthcare services, medical technology, medtech & pharma outsourcing, and health & wellness companies. The firm targets markets where high-quality management teams can rapidly scale platform companies into large and important businesses that positively impact patients, physicians, and the broader healthcare system.



IAN ROBINSON
INVESTOR,
J.P. MORGAN LIFE SCIENCES
PRIVATE CAPITAL

Ian is an investor at J.P. Morgan Life Sciences Private Capital, a $500M+ bio therapeutics focused venture capital strategy based in New York City. Ian was part of the founding team since inception roughly two years ago. Prior to Life Sciences Private Capital, Ian was involved in venture-style strategic investments at J.P. Morgan, corporate M&A, and business strategy. Prior to J.P. Morgan, Ian worked as a management consultant specializing in investment management space.



NATHAN ROBINSON
PARTNER - CORPORATE,
WILSON SONSINI

Nathan Robinson is a partner in the Salt Lake City office of Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati, where he specializes in corporate and securities law, including general corporate representation, public offerings, private placements, and mergers and acquisitions. He has significant experience in counseling publicly held companies on disclosure matters and complex securities laws issues. He regularly works with emerging growth, technology, and life sciences companies, both public and private, as well as investment banks, venture capital funds, and private equity firms.





BOB ROGERS
CHAIRMAN AND CEO,
KURIN, INC.

Bob Rogers has been in the medical device industry for over 40 years. His industry experience has provided him with a foundation from which he has developed several innovative devices. Specifically, Mr. Rogers is recognized as one of the founders of theluer-activated valve industry estimated to exceed annual sales of $1.2B worldwide and the disinfection cap market estimated to exceed $1B annually. As the CEO of Ivera Medical from 2007-2015, Rogers led the creation of an entirely new market space with the development of the CUROS™ disinfecting cap product line, an innovation that was acquired by 3M Corporation in early 2015. Rogers has a keen eye for identifying opportunities and developing elegantly simple designs to address pervasive healthcare issues. His patented ideas have founded several companies including Ivera Medical, Bridge Medical, and Mission Medical Devices.



RYAN RUST (JUDGE)
SENIOR DIRECTOR,
BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT,
ELI LILLY AND COMPANY

Ryan is a senior director of business development for the Catalyze360 organization at Eli Lilly. In this role, he negotiates collaboration agreements with biotech partners to enable their science to advance from the lab to the clinic. Ryan started at Lilly in 2017 in Global & US Market Access. He successfully executed many contracts with top PBMs and health insurance plans in the US as well as led price strategy development for new drug launches. Ryan obtained a BSc degree in Nutrition from Brigham Young University and PharmD and MBA degrees from Butler University.



KAPIL SHARMA
FOUNDER & CEO,
VIRA REGEN

Kapil Sharma is founder and chief executive officer at Vira Regen. Vira Regen utilizes gene-specific bioelectric and electromagnetic stimulation modalities to harness the body's natural self-repair processes. He concurrently serves as the director of partner and investors at Altitude Lab, Recursion's premier startup accelerator. Sharma is instrumental in connecting startups with key industry leaders and investors, facilitating events such as the Horizon commercialization program and the RISE Summit, which attracted over 65 reputable healthcare investors. Lastly, he is also the former director of bioengineering/ investor relations at Second Heart Assist Inc.



H. ANNE SINNOTT
ANGEL INVESTOR/
PHILANTHROPIST,
PARK CITY ANGELS

Anne Sinnott is an entrepreneur with a diverse background in medical research, biotechnology, and STEM education. After earning a graduate degree in neuroscience and an MBA, she began her career in neuroimmunology and neuro-oncology research. She then went on to co-found a successful biotech startup, playing a key role in its growth and public offering. After a hiatus to raise three sons, she became deeply involved in philanthropy, angel investing, and community leadership. Now based in Park City, she serves on several advisory committees and boards, including PCAngels (an angel investing organization), The Policy Circle (a leadership organization dedicated to community impact and civic engagement), PC Tots (an early childhood education and childcare organization), and Women's Giving Fund (a local non-profit funding agency).



CHUCK SPENCE
PROGRAM DIRECTOR,
APEX ACCELERATOR

Chuck Spence is the director of the Utah APEX Accelerator program and has been with the program for 20 years. Chuck also served as President of the program's national association and testified before congress on its behalf. Chuck has been involved in economic development, his passion, for 25 years! When not serving Utah's businesses, Chuck enjoys golf, hiking, classic cars and is an avid reader.



EVAN UNGER
EXECUTIVE CHAIRMAN AND CEO,
MICROVASCULAR
THERAPEUTICS, INC.

Evan Unger M.D. is a renowned expert on ultrasound contrast media. He founded MVT to advance the field of ultrasound contrast agents and theranostics. Dr. Unger has also founded three other biotech companies. His first company, ImaRx Pharmaceutical, developed 3 FDA approved drugs, including Definity®, the world's #1 selling ultrasound contrast agent. ImaRx Pharmaceutical was acquired by DuPont yielding a > 20x ROI. Dr. Unger's second company, ImaRx Therapeutics, went public and performed clinical trials using ultrasound and microbubbles to treat ischemic stroke. Dr. Unger co-founded NuvOx, a clinical-stage biotech company that is in Phase II trials for stroke and brain cancer. He is a co-inventor on the issued U.S. patent covering MVT-100 and also an inventor on over 120 other issued US patents. He is a board-certified radiologist and has had an appointment as a Professor of Radiology and Biomedical Engineering at the University of Arizona and serves as President and CEO of NuvOx Pharma.



REX WATKINS
OF COUNSEL - PATENTS
& INNOVATIONS,
WILSON SONSINI

Dr. Rex Watkins is Of Counsel at Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati, where his practice focuses on patent procurement—both domestic and international—for clients in the life sciences. Rex has extensive experience in patent counseling, patent drafting and prosecution, freedom-to-operate analyses, validity and infringement opinions, IP due diligence, patent litigation, and licensing.



RUDY WILCOX
CEO,
REFLODX, INC.

Rudy Wilcox is the CEO and co-founder of RefloDx. He has over 15 years industry experience in developing medical devices. Rudy received his B.A. from Brigham Young University in Electrical and Computer Engineering and M.S. from University of Utah in Biomedical Engineering with an emphasis on bioinnovation.



KURT WORKMAN
CEO,
OWLET

Kurt Workman serves as Owlet's chief executive officer and a member of the board of directors. Mr. Workman co-founded and served as the CEO of Owlet from the company's founding in 2012 until December 2019. During his tenure as CEO of Owlet, Mr. Workman led the company's growth from its inception and was instrumental in overseeing the research and development of several of the company's key product offerings, including the iconic Owlet Smart Sock, Owlet Cam and the Owlet Band. Mr. Workman has also served as a member of Owlet's board of directors since he co-founded the company in 2012, and continues to provide key oversight of Owlet's product portfolio, strategy, and growth opportunities.

PITCH COMPANIES

VIRA REGEN
KAPIL SHARMA
VIRAREGEN.COM
Vira Regen is developing novel electrostimulation medical devices and gene therapies for multiple indications.

DEMETER
JEREMY BUZZARD
DEMETERIVF.COM
Demeter is an AI powered, novel optics platform to improve IVF outcomes.

TAGS MEDICAL
ANNETTE LAVOIE
EXHALIX-LLC.COM/PRODUCTS/
TAGS™ is the only POC device that can provide diagnosis and early detection of Peripheral Artery Disease.

REFLODX, INC.
RUDY WILCOX
REFLODX.COM
RefloDx's patented SondeFlux technology is poised to disrupt the status quo, becoming the gold standard in diagnosing Laryngopharyngeal reflux.

FREYYA, INC.
GABRIELE NIEDERAUER
FREYYA.COM
Freyya is an early-stage medical device company developing the first wearable pelvic floor biofeedback and monitoring device to help women recover from pelvic dysfunction.

ZEALACARE
AIDAN NAPIER
ZEALACARE.COM
Zealacare offers smart briefs for adult incontinence with sensors that send real-time wetness alerts to our smartphone app.

SETHERA THERAPEUTICS, INC.
KARSTEN EASTMAN
SETHERATX.COM
Sethera Therapeutics is an enzymatic platform that enables the generation of peptide-based bioactive compounds.

EVOLUTION BIO
LUKE HAYES
EVOBIO.COM
Evolution Bio is using its directed evolution technology to optimize biological drug candidates across a wide range of indications.

NEUROPHARMA
JED BLACK
NEUROPHARMAMEDS.COM
Neuropharma is a group of accomplished drug developers seeking to address some of the most pressing sleep disorders.

RENEW BIOTECHNOLOGIES
CHAD POLLARD
RENEWBT.COM
Renew Biotechnologies is a leading innovator in the molecular diagnostics industry, specializing in the developing & commercializing technologies derived from Oxford Nanopore Technologies.

MICROVASCULAR THERAPEUTICS
EVAN UNGER
MVTPHARMA.COM
MVT is a clinical-stage biotech advancing microbubble and nanobubble tech for ultrasound.

MONERE CORP
MOU NANDI
MONERE.AI
Monere is transforming women's health with NiADA, a non-invasive AI-powered anemia detection platform.

PITCH HALL COMPANIES
FIND MORE INFORMATION IN WHOVA

AGIGEN, INC.
TIFFANY HENSLEY-MCBAIN

Agigen, Inc. is an early-stage company that aims to support healthy aging, optimal immune health and reduced inflammation. Our technology uses AI-based antigen mapping to profile inflammation to provide a personalized medicine approaches to health and disease prevention and treatment.

BLOOM SURGICAL
JACOB SHEFFIELD

Bloom Surgical is transforming laparoscopic surgery with LaparoVision, a groundbreaking "windshield wiper" for laparoscopes.

CALLIOPE BIOPHYSICS
MICHAEL BENNETT

Rocket Science and Healthcare combine at Calliope Biophysics. We have developed a novel process to detect cancer in lymph nodes using techniques based in rocket science.

COUNTED, LLC
LANCE SQUIRE

At Counted, we have developed an inexpensive solution to the medication adherence problem. A solution that will provide real time accurate data, while minimizing any disruption in the current supply chain system.

DIAGNOSTIC VENTURES
BRIAN BENTLEY

Diagnostic Ventures has a patent on technology that was developed at BYU with $5.2 million in funding from the NIH, for separating whole blood and detecting the pathogens causing Sepsis in about 1 hour.

DIGIBEAT HEALTH MONITORING SYSTEMS
CLIFFORD STEELE

DigiBeat has developed an acoustic cardiography and medical examination system that merges traditional medical techniques with advanced machine learning and augmented reality to make a scalable solution to cardiovascular disease management.

EMERGENCY SCIENTIFIC
RYAN MURRI

Emergency Scientific is a medical device company that manufactures and sells the Landmark REBOA Catheter, an FDA cleared aortic balloon catheter used for hemorrhagic control.

FOLDAX, INC.
AMY SCOTT

Foldax® is reinventing every aspect of the heart valve – from material to design to manufacturing – to develop surgical and transcatheter valves designed to last a lifetime addressing historical trade offs between tissue and mechanical valves.

FROSTBYTE
JAKOB TRAVIS

Adaptive smart safety clothing aimed to combat cold exposure and frostbite using data controlled heating elements to ensure long battery life and protection for users.

GLAFABRA THERAPEUTICS
CHRIS HOPKINS

Therapy lasting years, not weeks. Glafabra is creating freedom for patients with metabolic disorders. Our experienced entrepreneurs are striving towards $1B service obtainable market with therapies for Fabry, Pompe and Gaucher.

KYPHOLIFT
BRANDON JOHNSON

KyphoLift and KyphoWedge are game-changing medical devices poised to transform radiology by addressing a costly bottleneck: inefficient, risky patient positioning.

MAGMEDICS
KASEY LUND

Magmedics INC is a Veteran and Minority owned Physics and BioTech company that will revolutionize the way the USA and the world treats and manages hypertension and high blood pressure.

MICROMISTRX INC.
KEVIN SHURTLEFF

We manufacture prescription-controlled inhalers that allow addictive drugs, such as oxycodone, to be used safely with less likelihood of abuse.

ORTHOBOLT
BRANDON WILDE

OrthoBolt fills the gaps of the increasing challenges in spinal procedures, particularly in patients with osteoporosis, through the design of an expandable pedicle screw optimized with cutting-edge rotating strut technology.

PRECISION SYRINGE
ADRIAN BLAKE

Precision Syringe's patented device delivers 22% greater accuracy in medical injections through innovative one-handed operation, targeting high-value procedures in aesthetics, ophthalmology, and animal health.

PRESSURE MEDICAL
RYAN HOGAN

Pressure Medical innovates in healthcare with a smart pneumatic tourniquet for better management of combat trauma and critical conditions, partnering with key US departments and aims for broad commercial adoption.

PRISM AI THERAPEUTICS
ASAF ZVIRAN

Prism AI Therapeutics is scaling the development of AI-driven precision therapeutics. Our quantum mechanics-based AI/ML is uniquely able to discover accurate, precise, clinically actionable, and mechanistically interpretable disease models, and correctly predict biomarkers and drug targets.

RADUX DEVICES, LLC
GORDON GORDON

Radux Devices pioneers cutting-edge solutions with proprietary technology like the Steradian Shield, a scalable, low-cost, high-volume disposable, revolutionizing healthcare and beyond. Our proven model delivers superior ROI and sets a new standard in radiation safety and commercialization success.

SAYVANT
JUSTIN MARDJUKI

Sayvant is the leader in clinical documentation AI for acute care. Sayvant automates the creation of robust, clinically accurate charts, saving Emergency Medicine and Urgent Care clinicians 2+ hours a day and reducing RCM and Quality overhead.

SIGNPATH PHARMA, INC.
KAI LARSON

Signpath is a clinical stage biotech company. Our technology platform eliminates the cardiotoxic side effect of numerous drugs and drug candidates. This technology platform utilizes proprietary complex lipids to mitigate cardiac side effects such as cardiac arrhythmia and cardiomyopathy.

SNOW CANYON THERAPEUTICS
DAVID BLACKWELL

Snow Canyon Therapeutics develops treatments for neurodegenerative diseases by targeting NRF2, a key pathway for cellular defense against oxidative damage. Our ALS research highlights NRF2 as a promising approach for therapies, offering hope to patients facing debilitating conditions.

SPIRE
JAN KUBANEK

SPIRE has developed a noninvasive brain stimulation platform to treat chronic pain and depression.

TENSAI SURGICAL SOLUTIONS
NOAH PEARSON

Tensai is developing a revolutionary implantable device for the gradual correction of Pectus Excavatum - similar to orthodontic braces - reducing pain, eliminating opioid use, and expanding treatment.

ZCURE
CHI ZHANG

ZCURE aims to develop nanoparticle formulations of cancer therapeutic drugs to improve their penetration of blood-brain barrier for treating brain cancer with simultaneous neuroprotective effects. We focus on drugs that suppress cancer stem cells and modulate tumor immunogenicity in glioblastoma.

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avantor delivered by VWR

Ballard Spahr LLP

Bio Where breakthroughs begin

Center for Medical Innovation University of Utah

Co-Dx

ENGAGE CONTRACTING

G2G Consulting

Governor's Office of Economic Opportunity
UTAH INNOVATION CENTER

innosphere life sciences incubator

J.P.Morgan PRIVATE BANK

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HEALTH UNIVERSITY OF UTAH

TECHNOLOGY LICENSING OFFICE THE UNIVERSITY OF UTAH

UTAH MEP

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renalytix

Turner Medtech Manufacturing & Prototyping

Ultradent

ultragenyx

Vertex The Science of Possibility

Zions Bank


Welcome to the world, bestie.
Intermountain Health
The Power of We