



WILSON SONSINI

ENTREPRENEUR  
& INVESTOR  
LIFE SCIENCES  
SUMMIT 2026

MARCH 12-13, 2026

# AGENDA

PRESENTED BY



BIOUTAH

BYU

College of  
Life Sciences

Technology  
Transfer Office

# SUMMIT INFORMATION

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## UTAH'S PREMIER EVENT FOR LIFE SCIENCES INVESTMENT

**MARCH 12, 2026**



### **SUMMIT**

8:30 AM - 4:30 PM

HILTON SALT LAKE CITY CENTER  
255 SOUTH WEST TEMPLE  
SALT LAKE CITY, UT 84101

**MARCH 13, 2026**



### **SKI DAY**

7:30 AM - 4:00 PM

SNOWBIRD RESORT  
SNOWBIRD, UTAH

LIFT TICKETS AVAILABLE



### **LIGHT BREAKFAST**

8:00 - 9:30 AM

SNOWBIRD RESORT  
SUPERIOR ROOM, THE CLIFF LODGE  
9320 SOUTH CLIFF LODGE DR.  
SNOWBIRD, UT 84092



### **LUNCHEON**

12:00 - 2:00 PM

SNOWBIRD RESORT  
SUPERIOR ROOM, THE CLIFF LODGE  
9320 SOUTH CLIFF LODGE DR.  
SNOWBIRD, UT 84092



# MORNING SESSION

MARCH 12, 2026

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**J.P.Morgan**

## LOCATION: MAIN BALLROOM

7:30 AM	<b>Networking, Continental Breakfast</b>	
8:30 AM	<b>Welcome &amp; Opening Remarks</b>	Kelvyn Cullimore, President & CEO, BioUtah Laura Bridgewater, Dean, College of Life Sciences, Brigham Young University Congressman Michael Kennedy (R-UT), United States House of Representatives
8:45 AM	<b>Lessons Learned in Building a Life Sciences Company</b>	Farah Gerdes, Partner, Wilson Sonsini [Moderator] Paul Perreault, Former CEO, CSL Limited Greg Critchfield, CEO, RefloDX Travis Sessions, CEO, Biomerics Zhenya Lindgardt, President & CEO, Sera Prognostics
9:30 AM	<b>Investing in Life Sciences Companies: How the VC Landscape is Changing</b>	Alison Johnson, Partner, Wilson Sonsini [Moderator] Frank Langston, Investor, Thiel Capital - Bio Fund Zachary Betts, CEO & Founder, Zandia Ventures Lu Han, Partner, Lumira Ventures Kirsten Horning, Partner, PL Capital
10:15 AM	<b>Break</b>	
10:30 AM	<b>KEYNOTE: Market Perspectives for 2026</b>	Monica DiCenso, Head of Global Investment Opportunities Group, J.P. Morgan
11:15 AM	<b>KEYNOTE: Disruption isn't a Strategy: How to Build Innovations That Win</b>	Ann-Somers Hogg, Director, Healthcare Research, The Clayton Christensen Institute
12:00 PM	<b>Networking Lunch</b>	



# INVESTOR TRACK

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<b>LOCATION: MAIN BALLROOM</b>		<b>HOST: DAVE BROWN, BYU</b>
<b>SHARK TANK GROUP 1: THERAPEUTICS/PHARMACEUTICALS</b>		<b>JUDGES:</b>
1:00 PM	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Azunic AI</b>, Jerry Henley, CEO</li> <li>2. <b>Numiera</b>, Izi Stoll, Founder and CEO</li> <li>3. <b>Glafabra</b>, Chris Hopkins, CEO</li> </ol>	<b>Craig Jeppson</b> , Epic Ventures <b>Ryan Rust</b> , Senior Director, Business Development, Eli Lilly
<b>SHARK TANK GROUP 2: MED DEVICE &amp; DIAGNOSTICS SERIES A</b>		<b>JUDGES:</b>
1:50 PM	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Path Fertility</b>, Andy Olson, CEO</li> <li>2. <b>Microvascular Therapeutics</b>, Emmanuelle Meuillet, PhD, CSO</li> <li>3. <b>Purgo Scientific</b>, Nicholas Ashton, CTO</li> </ol>	<b>Jenny Barba</b> , Co-Founder, Features Capital <b>Jay Muse</b> , Serial Entrepreneur
<b>SHARK TANK GROUP 3: MED DEVICE &amp; DIAGNOSTICS</b>		<b>JUDGES:</b>
2:40 PM	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Freyya</b>, Stefan Niederauer, Co-founder &amp; VP</li> <li>2. <b>Bloom Surgical</b>, Jacob Sheffield, CEO</li> <li>3. <b>DigiBeat Health</b>, Clifford Steele, CEO</li> </ol>	<b>Brandon Rosenhan</b> , MedMountain Ventures <b>Mark Paul</b> , Center for Medical Innovation, Univ. of Utah <b>Jolene Anderson</b> , Co-Chair, Keiretsu Forum Northwest
<b>SHARK TANK GROUP 4: DIGITAL HEALTH / BIOTECH</b>		<b>JUDGES:</b>
3:30 PM	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Intactis Bio Corp</b>, Daniel Rodriguez-Granrose, Founder &amp; CEO</li> <li>2. <b>Myxtek Bio</b>, Christian Iverson, Co-founder</li> <li>3. <b>Eyescreen</b>, Zia L'Ecuyer, CEO</li> </ol>	<b>Tina Marriott</b> , Founder/Principal, Lindrow <b>Dani Goff</b> , Program Director, Intermountain Ventures <b>Gabi Tellez</b> , Investor, SpringTide Ventures
4:20 PM	<b>Break</b>	
4:45 PM	<b>Announcement of Shark Tank Winners</b>	



# FINANCE/ENTREPRENEUR TRACKS

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## ENTREPRENEUR TRACK

LOCATION: ALPINE ROOM

1:00 PM	<b>What You May Not Know About Launching a Life Sciences Company</b>	<b>Matt Meyer</b> , Chief Business Advisor, Wilson Sonsini [Moderator] <b>Ann-Somers Hogg</b> , Director, Healthcare Research, The Clayton Christensen Institute <b>Curtis Sprouse</b> , Co-founder, Sella Therapies & Amplio Pharma <b>Ryan Rust</b> , Senior Director, Business Development, Eli Lilly
1:40 PM	<b>Universities as Innovators: Perspectives from the Tech Transfer Offices</b>	<b>Dave Brown</b> , Director, Tech Transfer, BYU [Moderator] <b>Jason Young</b> , Technology Licensing Office, University of Utah <b>Jeri Hansen</b> , Ex. Director for Research, Innovation & Impact, Utah State University <b>Brad Baugh</b> , Utah Valley University
2:10 PM	<b>How the BYU School of Medicine Can Inspire Innovation and Research</b>	<b>Michael Stark</b> , Associate Dean, College of Life Sciences, BYU [Moderator] <b>Mark Ott, MD</b> , Dean, BYU School of Medicine <b>Brandon Webb</b> , Assoc. Dean of Research, BYU School of Medicine
2:40 PM	<b>Break</b>	

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## FINANCE & LEGAL TRACK:

LOCATION: ALPINE ROOM

2:50 PM	<b>Platform or Product? Engineering Optionality in a Volatile Biotech Market</b>	<b>Sara Patak</b> , Partner, Wilson Sonsini [Moderator] <b>Kapil Sharma</b> , CEO, Vira Regen <b>Rachel Jones</b> , Chief Product Officer, VedaBio <b>Ryan Watts</b> , CEO, Denali Therapeutics
3:25 PM	<b>Seed Fund Investor Panel</b>	<b>Jenny Barba</b> , Founder, Features VC [Moderator] <b>Tomi Smith</b> , Northwest Capital <b>Kristin Wihera</b> , Dir. of Fund Operations, Nucleus Institute <b>Bob Mitchell</b> , General Partner, FF20 Ventures
4:10 PM	<b>Local Investor Panel</b>	<b>Ryan Morley</b> , Partner, SpringTide Ventures [Moderator] <b>Luke Larsen</b> , Vice President, MedVenture Holdings <b>Brandon Rosenhan</b> , Founding Partner, MedMountain Ventures <b>Jack Boren</b> , Partner, Epic Ventures/Utah Venture Fund
4:45 PM	<b>Announcement of Shark Tank Winners</b> (Main Ballroom)	



# BIOHIVE STUDENT TRACK

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**LOCATION:** CANYON ROOM B

**HOST:** ANDY ROBERTSON, BIOHIVE

12:00 PM	<b>LUNCH KEYNOTE:</b> <b>An Entrepreneur's Journey:</b> <b>The David Bearss Story</b>	David Bearss, PhD, CEO, Halia Therapeutics
1:00 PM	<b>The Funding Landscape Explained</b> <b>(Without the Jargon)</b>	Anh Hoang-Lindsay, CEO, Jana Care Ryan Morley, Springtide Taylor Nadauld, Cougar Capital
1:45 PM	<b>Student Engagement with</b> <b>Utah's Biotech Industry</b>	Andy Robertson, BioHive [Moderator] Bryce Nelson, Utah Talent Hub Mark Paul, Executive Director, CMI Cindy Dunkle, Chief People Officer, Denali Therapeutics
2:15 PM	<b>From Lab Bench to Startup:</b> <b>What Students Need to Know</b>	Tim Jenkins, Faculty, BYU [Moderator] Chad Pollard, CEO, Renew Biotechnologies Brad Randall, Union Capital Partners



# ROUNDTABLES

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## NEW TO THE 2026 E&I SUMMIT

Our expert-led roundtables help life sciences companies anticipate challenges, avoid pitfalls, and maximize innovation. Open to all attendees (no appointment required), these interactive small-group sessions span three themed tracks and foster candid conversation and practical insights. **Discussions run every 30 minutes from 1:00-2:30.**

OPERATIONS SECTION		LOCATION: WASATCH ROOM		
START TIMES:	1:00 PM	1:30 PM	2:00 PM	
	<b>IT Strategy with Musa Technology Partners &amp; Binary Solutions</b>	For companies at any stage: Explore IT strategies for growth—from secure, scalable infrastructure & cybersecurity to regulatory readiness and long-term planning	Justin Rusko, Musa Technology Partners Steven Fredericks, Binary Solutions	
	<b>Using AI Inside Startups: Where it Helps, Surprises, &amp; Creates Risks</b>	Explore where & how AI tools are working, unexpected efficiency gains, emerging risks, & practical governance approaches that don't slow teams down.	Meredith Krannich, Wilson Sonsini	
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION		LOCATION: CANYON ROOM A		
START TIMES:	1:00 PM	1:30 PM	2:00 PM	
	<b>Best Practices for Pitching to Investors</b>	Experienced advisors will cover investor types, effective outreach, crafting a compelling pitch deck, and confidently handling tough investor questions.	Matt Brown, Wilson Sonsini	
	<b>Investor Relations</b>	Join an interactive roundtable on investor relations, featuring practical strategies to communicate your value in ways that resonate and stick.	Chelli Miller, Content Carnivores	



# ROUNDTABLES

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NON-DILUTIVE FUNDING SECTION		LOCATION: CANYON ROOM C	
START TIMES:	1:00 PM	1:30 PM	2:00 PM
	<b>Contracting with DOD</b>	Defense agencies are seeking to collaborate with biotech companies to transition cutting-edge technology for national defense & security. Learn about federal partnership opportunities.	Chuck Spence, APEX Accelerators
	<b>Procuring Grant Funding from the Federal Government</b>	Discover how to navigate federal grants & position your company for success with practical insight into accessing critical non-dilutive capital.	Aditya Girish, G2G Consulting
	<b>Funding Options Available Through Nucleus Institute</b>	Nucleus Grow advises companies on securing non-dilutive SBIR/STTR grants.  Nucleus Fund provides early-stage capital for companies with an affiliation to a Utah-based university.	Linda Cabrales, Nucleus Grow Kristen Wihera, Nucleus Fund



# SKI DAY

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9320 S. CLIFF LODGE DR.  
SNOWBIRD, UT 84092

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## SKI DAY SCHEDULE

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

## LIFT TICKETS

Lift tickets are available for purchase using the QR code.





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TODAY



**QUESTIONS?**  
CONTACT

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