



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

TITLE SPONSOR

**WILSON
SONSINI**

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	Networking, Continental Breakfast	
8:30 AM	Welcome & Opening Remarks	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	Lessons Learned in Building a Life Sciences Company	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	Investing in Life Sciences Companies: How the VC Landscape is Changing	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	Break	
10:30 AM	KEYNOTE: Market Perspectives for 2026	Monica DiCenso, Head of Global Investment Opportunities Group, J.P. Morgan
11:15 AM	KEYNOTE: Disruption isn't a Strategy: How to Build Innovations That Win	Ann-Somers Hogg, Director, Healthcare Research, The Clayton Christensen Institute
12:00 PM	Networking Lunch	



INVESTOR TRACK

MARCH 12, 2026

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LOCATION: MAIN BALLROOM

HOST: DAVE BROWN, BYU

SHARK TANK GROUP 1: THERAPEUTICS/PHARMACEUTICALS

JUDGES:

1:00 PM

1. **Azunic AI**, Jerry Henley, CEO
2. **Numiera**, Izi Stoll, Founder and CEO
3. **Glafabra**, Chris Hopkins, CEO

Craig Jeppson, Epic Ventures
Matt Dormer, Managing Dir., Health & Life Sciences, Stephens
Julia Gregory, Chair and CEO, Isometry Advisors

SHARK TANK GROUP 2: MED DEVICE & DIAGNOSTICS SERIES A

JUDGES:

1:50 PM

1. **Path Fertility**, Andy Olson, CEO
2. **Microvascular Therapeutics**, Emmanuelle Meuillet, PhD, CSO
3. **Purgo Scientific**, Nicholas Ashton, CTO

Chris Cooley, Managing Director, Stephens
Jenny Barba, Co-Founder, Features Capital
Jay Muse, Serial Entrepreneur

SHARK TANK GROUP 3: MED DEVICE & DIAGNOSTICS

JUDGES:

2:40 PM

1. **Freyya**, Stefan Niederauer, Co-founder & VP
2. **Bloom Surgical**, Jacob Sheffield, CEO
3. **DigiBeat Health**, Clifford Steele, CEO

Brandon Rosenhan, MedMountain Ventures
Mark Paul, Center for Medical Innovation, Univ. of Utah
Jolene Anderson, Co-Chair, Keiretsu Forum Northwest

SHARK TANK GROUP 4: DIGITAL HEALTH / BIOTECH

JUDGES:

3:30 PM

1. **Intactis Bio Corp**, Daniel Rodriguez-Granrose, Founder & CEO
2. **Myxtek Bio**, Christian Iverson, Co-founder
3. **Eyescreen**, Zia L'Ecuyer, CEO

Tina Marriott, Founder/Principal, Lindrow
Dani Goff, Program Director, Intermountain Ventures
Gabi Tellez, Investor, SpringTide Ventures

4:20 PM

Break

4:45 PM

Announcement of Shark Tank Winners



FINANCE/ENTREPRENEUR TRACKS

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THERAPEUTICS 

ENTREPRENEUR TRACK

LOCATION: ALPINE ROOM

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

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FINANCE & LEGAL TRACK:

LOCATION: ALPINE ROOM

2:50 PM	Platform or Product? Engineering Optionality in a Volatile Biotech Market	Sara Patak , Partner, Wilson Sonsini [Moderator] Kapil Sharma , CEO, Vira Regen Rachel Jones , Chief Product Officer, VedaBio Ryan Watts , CEO, Denali Therapeutics
3:25 PM	Seed Fund Investor Panel	Jenny Barba , Managing Partner & Co-Founder, Features Capital [Moderator] Tomi Smith , Ecosystem Venture Partner/LP of Fund, Northwest Angel Fund Kristin Wihera , Director of Fund Operations, Nucleus Fund Bob Mitchell , Founder & Chariman, RDM Enterprises, LLC
4:10 PM	Yes, There is Venture Capital in Utah	Ryan Morley , Partner, SpringTide [Moderator] Luke Larsen , Vice President, Wasatch Health Brandon Rosenhan , Founding Partner, MedMountain Ventures Jack Boren , Managing Partner, Epic Ventures/University of Utah Ventures
4:45 PM	Announcement of Shark Tank Winners (Main Ballroom)	



BIOHIVE STUDENT TRACK

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LOCATION: CANYON ROOM B

HOST: ANDY ROBERTSON, BIOHIVE

12:00 PM	LUNCH KEYNOTE: An Entrepreneur's Journey	David Bearss, PhD, CEO, Halia Therapeutics
1:00 PM	The Funding Landscape Explained (Without the Jargon)	Anh Hoang-Lindsay, CEO, Jana Care Ryan Morley, Partner, SpringTide Taylor Nadauld, Professor of Finance, BYU Marriott School of Business
1:45 PM	Student Engagement with Utah's Biotech Industry	Andy Robertson, Executive Director, BioHive [Moderator] Bryce Nelson, Coop. Education Program Manager, Talent Ready Utah Mark Paul, Executive Director, University of Utah Center for Medical Innovation Cindy Dunkle, Chief People Officer, Denali Therapeutics
2:15 PM	From Lab Bench to Startup: What Students Need to Know	Tim Jenkins, PhD, Associate Professor, BYU [Moderator] Chad Pollard, CEO, Renew Biotechnologies Brad Randall, Union Capital Partners



ROUNDTABLES

MARCH 12, 2026

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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	
	IT Strategy with Musa Technology Partners & Binary Solutions	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	
	Using AI Inside Startups: Where it Helps, Surprises, & Creates Risks	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	
	Best Practices for Pitching to Investors	Experienced advisors will cover investor types, effective outreach, crafting a compelling pitch deck, and confidently handling tough investor questions.	Matthew Brown, Wilson Sonsini	
	Investor Relations	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
	Contracting with DOD	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
	Procuring Grant Funding from the Federal Government	Discover how to navigate federal grants & position your company for success with practical insight into accessing critical non-dilutive capital.	Aditya Girish, G2G Consulting
	Funding Options Available Through Nucleus Institute	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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SNOWBIRD, UT 84092

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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

Lift tickets are available for purchase using the QR code.





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QUESTIONS?
CONTACT

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kelvyn@bioutah.org or 801.580.4523



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