



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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SESSION SPONSOR

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, Brigham Young University College of Life Sciences 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, Chair & 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, Founder & General Partner, 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	LUNCH SPONSOR  ENGAGE CONTRACTING



INVESTOR TRACK

MARCH 12, 2026

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LOCATION: MAIN BALLROOM		HOST: ADAM STEVENS, 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 & 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 Jolene Anderson, Managing Director, VectorPoint Ventures Jay Muse, CEO, Piper Access
SHARK TANK GROUP 3: MED DEVICE & DIAGNOSTICS		JUDGES:
2:40 PM	1. Freyya, Gabriele Niederauer, CEO & Co-founder 2. Bloom Surgical, Jacob Sheffield, CEO 3. DigiBeat Health, Clifford Steele, CEO	Branden Rosenhan MD, Founding Partner, MedMountain Ventures Mark Paul, Executive Director, Center for Medical Innovation, Univ. of Utah Zachary Betts, CEO & Founder, Zandia Ventures
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. UV Sense, Kristina Schiffman, Founder & 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	



ENTREPRENEUR/FINANCE TRACKS

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THERAPEUTICS

ENTREPRENEUR TRACK

LOCATION: ALPINE ROOM

HOST: ALISON JOHNSON, WILSON SONSINI

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 , Exec. 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 , PhD, 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 Institute Bob Mitchell , Founder & Chairman, RDM Enterprises, LLC
4:10 PM	Yes, There is Venture Capital in Utah	Ryan Morley , Partner, SpringTide [Moderator] Luke Larsen , Vice President, Wasatch Health Branden Rosenhan , MD, 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

MARCH 12, 2026

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LOCATION: CANYON ROOM B

HOST: ANDY ROBERTSON, BIOHIVE

12:10 PM

LUNCH KEYNOTE:
An Entrepreneur's Journey
[Main Ballroom]

David Bearss, PhD, CEO, Halia Therapeutics

1:00 PM

The Funding Landscape Explained
(Without the Jargon)

Anh Hoang-Lindsay, CEO, Jana Care [Moderator]
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, Managing Partner, 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: CANYON ROOM C	
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.	Matt 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: WASATCH ROOM	
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
	Securing Non-Dilutive Government Funding	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 Kristin 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	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 (Ending at 4:00 PM)	

LIFT TICKETS

Lift tickets are available for purchase using the QR code.





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