



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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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  
HILTON SALT LAKE CITY CENTER

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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, Brigham Young University College of Life Sciences 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>	<p>LUNCH SPONSOR</p> 



# 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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## ENTREPRENEUR TRACK

LOCATION: ALPINE ROOM

HOST: ALISON JOHNSON, WILSON SONSONI

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> , CEO/President, Institute for Biomedical Entrepreneurship (IBE) & EurekaConnect <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, BYU Tech Transfer [Moderator] <b>Jason Young</b> , Director of Commercialization, University of Utah Technology Licensing Office <b>Jeri Hansen</b> , Exec. Director for Research, Innovation & Impact, Utah State University <b>Brad Baugh</b> , Assoc. Gen. Counsel & Director, Utah Valley University Office of IP & Technology Transfer
2:10 PM	<b>How the BYU School of Medicine Can Inspire Innovation and Research</b>	<b>Michael Stark</b> , PhD, Associate Dean, BYU College of Life Sciences [Moderator] <b>Mark Ott</b> , MD, Dean, BYU School of Medicine <b>Brandon Webb</b> , MD, 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> , PhD, CEO, Denali Therapeutics
3:25 PM	<b>Seed Fund Investor Panel</b>	<b>Jenny Barba</b> , Managing Partner & Co-Founder, Features Capital [Moderator] <b>Tomi Smith</b> , Ecosystem Venture Partner/LP of Fund, Northwest Angel Fund <b>Kristin Wihera</b> , Director of Fund Operations, Nucleus Fund <b>Bob Mitchell</b> , Founder & Chairman, RDM Enterprises, LLC
4:10 PM	<b>Yes, There is Venture Capital in Utah</b>	<b>Ryan Morley</b> , Partner, SpringTide [Moderator] <b>Luke Larsen</b> , Vice President, Wasatch Health <b>Branden Rosenhan</b> , MD, Founding Partner, MedMountain Ventures <b>Jack Boren</b> , Managing Partner, Epic Ventures/University of Utah Ventures
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> [ Main Ballroom ]	David Bearss, PhD, CEO, Halia Therapeutics
1:00 PM	<b>The Funding Landscape Explained          (Without the Jargon)</b>	Anh Hoang-Lindsay, CEO, Jana Care Ryan Morley, Partner, SpringTide Taylor Nadauld, Professor of Finance, BYU Marriott School of Business
1:45 PM	<b>Student Engagement with          Utah's Biotech Industry</b>	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	<b>From Lab Bench to Startup:          What Students Need to Know</b>	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
	<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: WASATCH ROOM	
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>Securing Non-Dilutive Government Funding</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 Kristin Wihera, Nucleus Fund



# SKI DAY

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9320 S. CLIFF LODGE DR.  
SNOWBIRD, UT 84092

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**Ballard Spahr**  
LLP

## 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 (Ending at 4:00 PM)</b>	

## LIFT TICKETS

Lift tickets are available for purchase using the QR code.





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STUDENT



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SKI DAY

### Ballard Spahr LLP

PRESENTING



CONTRIBUTING



DEPARTMENT of  
ECONOMIC  
DEVELOPMENT

## Stephens

WI-FI



Governor's Office of  
Economic Opportunity



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