Podium Speakers Biography

Keynote Speech

Randy Schekman, PhD

Professor, 2013

Nobel Prize Winner

Berkeley
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

Dr. Randy Schekman is a Professor in the Department of Molecular and Cell Biology, University of California, Berkeley, and an Investigator of the Howard Hughes Medical Institute. He studied the enzymology of DNA replication as a graduate student with Arthur Kornberg at Stanford University. His current interest in cellular membranes developed during a postdoctoral period with S. J. Singer at the UC Diego. Among his awards are the Gairdner International Award, the Albert Lasker Award in Basic Medical Research and the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine, which he shared with James Rothman and Thomas Südhof. He served as the Editor of the Annual Reviews of Cell and Developmental Biology and as Editor-in-Chief of the Proceedings of the NAS and eLife. Schekman leads an effort with major philanthropic support to identify and fund basic research on the mechanisms of Parkinson's Disease initiation and progression (https://parkinsonsroadmap.org).

Schekman's laboratory investigates the mechanism of vesicular traffic in the secretory pathway in eukaryotic cells. Currently the lab investigates the mechanism of biogenesis of extracellular vesicles including how small RNAs are sorted for secretion in exosomes and the means by which these vesicles are internalized and function in target cells.

Xian-Ping Lu, PhD

Chairman & CEO

We Discover New Drugs
微芯生物
CHIPSCREEN

Dr. Xian-Ping Lu founded Shenzhen Chipscreen Biosciences, the leading drug discovery and development company based in China focusing on innovative small molecular therapeutics 20 years ago with a group of US-trained professionals. Previously he was Director of Research at Galderma R&D in Princeton until 2000, the year he became visiting professor at China's State Key Laboratory for Biomembrane and Membrane Biotechnology in Tsinghua University. He also participated in founding Galderma Research Inc. and Maxia Pharmaceuticals in San Diego around 1994.

Dr. Lu came to the US in 1989 for postgraduate fellowship study at the Department of Pharmacology, University of California in San Diego, followed by research at La Jolla Cancer Research Foundation (Burnham Institute). He obtained his Ph.D. in Molecular Biology and M.S. in Biochemistry from Peking Union Medical College, Chinese Academy of Medical Sciences, and his B.S. degree in Biochemistry from Sichuan University.

With over 30 years of biomedical research and biotech/pharmaceutical experience in various therapeutic areas, Dr. Lu is a skilled leader of diverse groups in global operating settings. He has published more than 100 peer-reviewed papers in prestigious journals including Nature, Science and The Lancet. He is the lead inventor of over 300 patented inventions in areas of small molecule therapeutics.

In the past 20 years, Dr. Lu has participated and promoted many reforms in regulatory environment, policy, and guideline of NMPA, reimbursement system of national health care, security and exchange of capital market, taxation and many others in China. He has been recognized as "China's New Drug Trailblazer" as well as winning various of prizes and recognitions from the industry and other institutions.

John O. Link, PhD
Former VP
(Retired)

GILEAD

Dr. John O. Link has 30 years of experience in discovering and developing drugs as a medicinal chemist and project leader. John received his PhD in Chemistry under the direction of EJ Corey at Harvard University working on CBS reduction chemistry and a novel synthesis of amino-acids, now named the Corey-Link Reaction. John elucidated the inhibition mechanism of the immunosuppressant drug CellCept® along with the enzymatic mechanism of its target, inosine monophosphate dehydrogenase at Syntex/Roche Palo Alto. At Celera John worked in inflammation and antiviral areas with three compounds entering clinical trials. John was a Vice President of Medicinal Chemistry at Gilead Sciences and led the project teams that discovered the hepatitis C NS5A inhibitors ledipasvir and velpatasvir (Harvoni® Epclusa®) and continued as the project leader through Phase I clinical trials. The NS3/4a protease inhibitor drug voxilaprevir was discovered in his group (Vosevi®). John is co-inventor on those three approved drugs. He is also a co-inventor and was a project leader on the first-in-class twice-yearly dosed Capsid inhibitor lenacapavir that is in multiple late-stage clinical trials for HIV treatment or prevention. John was awarded the American Chemical Society's 2015 "Heroes of Chemistry Award" for his contributions to the discovery of Harvoni®, and in 2017 received the inaugural "Male Ally" award from the "Women at Gilead" employee resource group.

Gary Starling, PhD

CSO

XYPHOS

Dr. Gary Starling has focused his career on the Discovery and Early Development of Biologics therapeutics in large and small biopharmaceutical companies.

His Ph.D. studies in Immunology at the Christchurch School of Medicine, University of Otago, New Zealand where he studied NK cells and made mAb against leukocyte surface antigens. Following post-doctoral work in Immunogenetics at the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Center in Seattle, WA, and subsequent studies on Dendritic Cell maturation in Christchurch, New Zealand, Gary began his career in the BioPharmaceutical industry at Bristol-Myers Squibb in Seattle working on extracellular domains of leukocyte antigens as targets for monoclonal antibodies (mAb). He worked on Discovery stage small molecule therapeutics at BMS in Princeton NJ, before moving to CuraGen, a Genomics-based biotech in the New Haven, CT area. At CuraGen, Gary headed up the Inflammation group, and had Project Management and Collaboration Management responsibilities for Biologics Programs. He moved to California in 2005 to join PDL BioPharma, a company that pioneered humanization of mAb, to head up their Autoimmune Diseases group. PDL BioPharma spun out Facet Biotech, where Gary was Senior Director of Research with responsibilities for Translational Oncology (including Empliciti, now approved for treatment of Multiple Myeloma) and led a preclinical Autoimmune Disease mAb program. Following the acquisition of Facet Biotech by Abbott Labs, Gary became Director, Oncology Biologics, and formed and led the Costimulation Early Biology Unit, establishing the company's Immuno-Oncology program. On joining Merck, Gary headed up the Therapeutic Area Biology and Pharmacology group before taking responsibility for the Discovery Biologics group where he had responsibility for a portfolio of monoclonal antibody therapeutics in multiple disease areas. Most of the therapeutics brought into early development were in the area of immuno-oncology, where Merck built on the emergent success of Keytruda. His group was also responsible for translational studies which identified biomarkers of response to Keytruda. Treatments for Infectious Diseases and Cardiovascular disease were also moved into development and have shown proof-of-concept in clinical studies. He has recently departed Merck for a soon to be disclosed company.

Gary has published more than 60 scientific papers, book chapters and patents and has been an invited speaker in conferences with topics ranging from Biologics Drug Discovery, Immuno-Oncology and Oncology Biologics. He has lectured Masters-level students on Cancer Immunotherapy, and developed programs at Merck and Abbott Labs teaching internal audiences Drug Discovery with a focus on Biologics.

Keynote Speech

Gregory Verdine, PhD

Professor, President, CEO

HARVARD UNIVERSITY

fog·pharma

LifeMine

Dr. Gregory Verdine is an award-winning university educator, pioneering scientist and innovator, life science entrepreneur, venture capitalist and successful biotech company-builder. Verdine is an originator of STEMgenesis, a new model for fostering community economic and intellectual growth through the convergence of philanthropy, workforce development, and institution creation. In a distinguished academic career spanning three decades at Harvard University and Harvard Medical School, Verdine reinvented the teaching of organic chemistry to focus intensively on its fundamental connectivity to biology, and he founded two fields of science that meld basic research and new medicines discovery: chemical biology, the pursuit of chemistry in the service of uncovering the mysteries of biology; and new modalities, the discovery and development of novel structural classes of therapeutics.

In his academic research, Verdine made fundamental discoveries into how living organisms manage their genomes, tagging them for cell-type specification, and conducting search-and-destroy operations for cancer-causing abnormalities. He invented a powerful new class of therapeutics termed stapled peptides, which enable intervention into diseases previously considered "undruggable." Hundreds of laboratories worldwide now conduct basic and translational research on stapled peptides, and an optimized stapled peptide pioneered at Harvard is currently in Phase II clinical development for the treatment of blood-borne cancers.

Verdine has been among the most active and successful entrepreneurs translating academic research into new medicines. As an academic founder at Harvard and a Venture Partner at several prominent life science investment firms, he is responsible for the creation of ten biotechnology companies, including Enanta Pharmaceuticals, Gloucester Pharmaceuticals (acquired by Celgene) and WaVe Life Sciences. These companies have succeeded in gaining FDA approval for three breakthrough medicines and have multiple additional candidates in development. He moved beyond company ideation and creation into company-building and management at WaVe Life Sciences, Warp Drive Bio, and currently FOG Pharmaceuticals and LifeMine Therapeutics.

Verdine's concept of STEMgenesis took form with his founding and inaugural Presidency of the non-profit Gloucester Marine Genomics Institute and Gloucester Biotechnology Academy, which together aim to promote the creation of a vibrant life science industry on Cape Ann Massachusetts through coordinated establishment of a world-class ocean-based genomics research entity and an educational institution that trains high school graduates for rewarding careers in biotechnology.

Verdine's contributions to science and society have been recognized by numerous honors and awards, including his being named a Fellow of the Royal Society of Chemistry, and a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. He is the recipient of a Presidential Investigator Award, the Nobel Laureate Signature Award, and the Award for Excellence in Chemistry in Cancer Research.

Verdine received a B.S. and Ph.D. in chemistry from St. Joseph's University and Columbia University, respectively, and he is the recipient of honorary degrees from Harvard University and Clarkson University.

Joseph C. Wu, MD, PhD

Professor

Stanford University

Dr. Joseph C. Wu is Director of Stanford Cardiovascular Institute and Simon H. Stertzer, MD, Professor of Medicine and Radiology at Stanford University. Dr. Wu received his MD from Yale University and PhD (Molecular & Medical Pharmacology) at UCLA. He is board certified in cardiology.

His lab works on biological mechanisms of patient-specific and disease-specific induced pluripotent stem cells (iPSCs). The main goals are to (i) understand basic cardiovascular disease mechanisms, (ii) accelerate drug discovery and screening, (iii) develop “clinical trial in a dish” concept, and (iv) implement precision medicine for prevention and treatment of patients. Dr. Wu has published >400 manuscripts with H-index of 97 on Google scholar. He is listed as top 1% of highly cited researchers by Web of Science (2018, 2019).

Dr. Wu has received National Institutes of Health (NIH) Director’s New Innovator Award, NIH Roadmap Transformative Award, American Heart Association (AHA) Innovative Research Award, Presidential Early Career Award for Scientists and Engineers (PECASE) given out by President Obama at the White House, AHA Established Investigator Award, Burroughs Wellcome Foundation Innovation in Regulatory Science Award, AHA Merit Award, and AHA Distinguished Scientist Award.

Dr. Wu serves on the FDA Cellular, Tissue, and Gene Therapies Advisory Committee, AHA National Board of Directors, and Scientific Advisory Board for the Keystone Symposia. Dr. Wu is an elected member of American Society of Clinical Investigators (ASCI), Association of University Cardiologists (AUC), American Institute for Medical and Biological Engineering (AIMBE), American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS), American Association of Physicians (AAP), and National Academy of Medicine (NAM).

Matt Repasky, PhD
SVP

SCHRÖDINGER.

Dr. Matt Repasky, Senior Vice President of Life Sciences Products, Schrodinger Inc., joined the company in 2002. He received his Ph.D. in Chemistry from Yale University in the laboratory of Prof. William Jorgensen. Since joining the company as a scientific developer, he has held several management roles including product manager of the industry-leading docking application, Glide. Matt has published extensively in the area of structure-based virtual screening and has provided leadership in the development of software products in the areas of docking, pharmacophore modeling, conformation generation, and QSAR modeling.

Arthur Reingold, MD

Professor

Berkeley
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

Dr. Arthur Reingold is Professor and Head of the Division of Epidemiology at the School of Public Health at the University of California, Berkeley. Among the projects he directs are the California Emerging Infections Program, including its surveillance for and studies of COVID-19 in the San Francisco Bay Area. Dr Reingold has authored or co-authored almost 400 research articles on diverse topics within the field of infectious disease epidemiology and has been the recipient of numerous awards, including election to membership in the National Academy of Medicine.

Sharon Liang, MD, PhD, RAC

VP

燃石医学
Burning Rock Dx

Dr. Sharon Liang, VP Regulatory Affairs and Quality Affairs at Burning Rock Dx, LLC. Before joining the current company, Dr. Liang was the Senior Director Regulatory Affairs at GRAIL, Inc. Dr. Liang was a genetics expert at FDA leading reviews of new and upcoming technologies in the Office of In Vitro Diagnostic Device and Radiological Health (OIR), at the Center for Devices and Radiological Health (CDRH). As a senior reviewer and Principal Scientist, she developed multiple guidance and articulated medical device policies, including copy number variation detection, companion diagnostics, direct-to-consumer tests, Next-generation- sequencing (NGS), bioinformatics pipelines for NGS data, Precision Medicine, targeted therapy, cancer screening. She is an expert in the regulatory submissions of PMA, 510(k), 513(g), Q-submissions for medical devices, and IND, NDA, BLA for companion diagnostics devices in Precision Oncology. Dr. Liang was a member of the FDA activity steering committee for the Precision Medicine Initiative leading the bioinformatics working group. She received her Ph.D. in Human Genetics and M.S. in Applied Statistics from Vanderbilt University, followed by a postdoctoral cancer research fellowship at NCI and was a Commissioner's fellow at FDA.

Carrie Ling, PhD
Assistant Director

HKSTP

Dr. Carrie Ling is currently an Assistant Director of Business Development (InnoHK), Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation (HKSTP). Her role is to drive the development of Hong Kong as the hub for global research collaboration funded by the Hong Kong Special Administrative region Government. She has been supporting the biotech and medtech start-ups in fund raising and commercialization of their innovation in collaboration with the stakeholders from universities, NGOs, industry and government.

Before joining HKSTP, she was a senior lecturer of Integrative Systems and Design at Hong Kong University of science and Technology. She is passionate about empowering one's creativity in science and technology through solving real-life healthcare problems and nurturing the next generation biodesign entrepreneurs in HK. In 2016, she initiated and organized the first a-week-long MedTech Hackathon with Stanford Biodesign and HKU Dreamcatchers in HK. As a technical lead of medical devices at HKSTP, she established the "Healthcare Devices Innovation Hub" at HK Science Park to provide the one-stop service for the young device start-ups from ideation to prototyping.

She obtained her bachelor and PhD degrees in the Department of Mechanical Engineering at The University of Hong Kong and The Hong Kong Polytechnic University in 2002 and 2006 respectively. She pursued her orthopedic research training at University of Florida, Department of Orthopedics and Rehabilitation, after her doctoral degree for two years. From 2009 to 2011, she was a Postdoctoral Fellow at Stanford University, Department of Mechanical Engineering. She has authored/co-authored more than 50 papers in international journals and conference proceedings and one US patent in optic fiber flowmeter for biomedical use.

Panelists Biography

Janet Xiao, J.D, PhD
Head of China Life Science, Partner
MORRISON FOERSTER

Dr. Janet Xiao, patent partner at Morrison & Foerster LLP and head of firm's China Life Sciences Group, focuses her practice on worldwide patent procurement, patent portfolio management, and strategic planning for life sciences companies. Janet works extensively in performing IP due diligence reviews in the contexts of VC investments, technology transactions, mergers and acquisitions, and marketing and manufacturing clearance for biopharmaceutical products. Chambers USA and Chambers Global recognize her as being highly sought after for patent prosecution and strategy mandates by innovators from around the world.

Chuck Comey
Partner
MORRISON FOERSTER

Chuck Comey is a partner in Morrison & Foerster's Palo Alto office. Described by a client as "*a real superstar able to handle even the most complex and important transactions*" *(Chambers)*, Chuck advises on M&A, venture capital and private equity financings, and joint ventures and strategic alliances, with a focus on transactions in the life sciences and technology sectors. Before relocating to Silicon Valley in 2010, Chuck opened and served as managing partner of the firm's Shanghai office from 2003 – 2010, and he also spent nine years in the firm's Tokyo office. He speaks and reads Mandarin.

Chuck has cultivated a strong market reputation for his transactional work. He has been recommended as a leading lawyer for M&A by *Chambers Global* since 2015, earning the distinction of "Expertise Based Abroad" for his work in China. He is also ranked Band 1 for California: Deals in Asia by *Chambers USA*.

Sean Cao, MBA, PhD

SVP

CBC Group

Dr. Sean Cao is currently the Managing Director of CBC Group (formerly C-Bridge Capital), where he focused on the incubation and strategy of new companies. In 2017, Dr. Cao co-founded Everest Medicines, a biopharma company focused on developing innovative therapeutics in China and other Asian regions, and served as its CEO until February 2020. Dr. Cao is also the Chairman of NiKang Therapeutics, a US based biotech incubated by CBC in 2017. Prior to CBC, Dr. Cao was VP of Global Business Development at Simcere Pharmaceutical Group, responsible for the global BD strategy for Simcere, including licensing, acquisition, partnering and investment activities. Dr. Cao was also the President and Board Director at Simcere of America, a wholly owned subsidiary of Simcere. Prior to that, Dr. Cao was the Senior Director of Alternative Partnership, Evaluation & Expertise at Sanofi, where he led the externalization effort in Global R&D, and managed the evaluation of acquisition/in-licensing opportunities. Before Sanofi, Sean was an associate at New Leaf Venture Partners, a healthcare VC firm based in New York. Sean worked in the pharmaceutical and diagnostic industries for over eight years before joining New Leaf, first at Aventis, then at Johnson & Johnson. Sean holds a Ph.D. in Microbiology from the University of Virginia, an MBA with honor from the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania, and a B.Sc. in Microbiology from Nankai University.

Neil Desai, PhD
Founder, Chairman and CEO

Dr. Neil Desai is the Founder of Aadi Bioscience, Inc. He was former SVP, Global R&D, Abraxis Bioscience; VP, Strategic Platforms, Celgene Corp; Inventor of the *nab*® technology, Abraxane® and ABI-009. He successfully led the Abraxane team through all development stages. He has over 25 years of experience in novel therapeutic delivery systems with over 100 issued patents, over 40 peer-reviewed publications and book chapters, and over 200 presentations at scientific meetings. He participated in FDA and EU Nanotechnology initiatives and was a member of the Steering Committee for the National Cancer Institute (NCI) Alliance for Nanotechnology in Cancer.

He holds a M.S and Ph.D. in Chemical Engineering from the University of Texas at Austin, USA, and a B.S. in Chemical Engineering from the University Institute of Chemical Technology in Mumbai, India.

Cheni Kwok, MBA, PhD,
Managing Partner & Founder

Linear Dreams LLC | 直梦

Dr. Cheni Kwok is a senior biopharmaceutical executive with broad operational expertise who has executed over 150 transactions including M&A, strategic partnerships, licensing, divestitures, spin-offs and project financing. Dr. Kwok is the Managing Partner and Founder of Linear Dreams LLC, a management consultancy for the life sciences industry. The firm's engagements include a broad range of business and corporate development activities including managing business development teams, product and technology licensing, search & evaluation of products and technology platforms, merger & acquisitions, corporate strategy, portfolio planning, market and competitive intelligence, due diligence support for financing as well as valuation services for over 50 biopharmaceuticals companies, contract research & non-profit organizations, research institutes and investors in USA, Europe, China, Taiwan and Singapore. Selected list of clients of Linear Dreams include Heat Biologics, Inc. (NASDAQ: HTBX), Shanghai Henlius Biotech, Inc. (HKG: 2696), Rigel Pharmaceuticals, Inc. (NASDAQ: RIGL), Immune-Onc Therapeutics, Inc., Anwita Biosciences, Inc. and GF Xinde Investment Management Co. Ltd..

As Senior Vice President, Corporate Development at Poniard Pharmaceuticals Inc., Dr. Kwok established corporate and business development, strategic and commercial planning, new product planning, competitive intelligence and forecasting functions. Previously, she was Director of Business Development at Celera Genomics Inc., where she led the business development efforts for Celera's small molecule therapeutics, including the divestiture of the oncology pipeline (including Imbruvica® (ibrutinib)) to Pharmacyclics Inc. (now an AbbVie Company). Dr. Kwok held business development positions of increasing responsibility at Exelixis Inc., where she initiated multiple partnerships and served as the alliance manager for the GlaxoSmithKline PLC (GSK) collaboration. Prior to joining Exelixis Inc., she held various research management, technology assessment and alliance management roles at SmithKline Beecham PLC (now GSK).

Dr. Kwok received a bachelor's degree with first class honors in biotechnology from the Imperial College of Science, Technology and Medicine, University of London, UK, a Ph.D. in human molecular genetics from the University of Cambridge, UK and has earned the Certified Licensing Professional (CLP) credential. At present, Dr. Kwok is serving as the Board of Directors of Chinese-American Biopharmaceutical Society (CABS).

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Ed Harrington, MBA
CFO
Genentech

Ed Harrington is Genentech's chief financial officer. He assumed this role in January 2016. Ed leads the Genentech and Pharma North America Finance organizations as well as the Genentech Site Services function. He is a member of the Genentech Executive Committee and the Global Pharma Finance Leadership Team.

Ed joined Roche in 2001 as finance director, U.S. Consumer Health in Nutley, New Jersey. Following this role, he was finance director, US Pharma Alliances, General and Administrative, Tech Services, IT in New Jersey from 2003-2006. Ed moved to Switzerland in 2006 as global head of Pharma Strategic Alliances and R&D Portfolio Controlling through 2009. He then joined Roche Canada as vice president and chief financial officer from 2010-2012.

In 2013, Ed moved to Roche China where he was vice president, Finance. In this role he was responsible for Finance, Procurement and Business Development.

Prior to joining Roche, Ed held both finance and accounting positions in companies including J. P. Morgan and Ernst & Young.

Ed received his bachelor's degree in accounting from Robert Morris University and an MBA in finance and international business management from Carnegie Mellon University.

Guo-Liang Yu, PhD

CEO

apollomics

Dr. Guo-Liang Yu is the global CEO of Apollomics Inc., an innovative therapeutics company devoted to curing cancer by combining immunology and other cancer fighting methods. Before Apollomics, Dr. Yu was the Executive Chairman of Crown Biosicence Inc., a publically-listed personalized oncology platform company with ~600 employees globally. Crown Bioscience was recently acquired by JSR for $400 million. He co-founded Epitomics Inc., an antibody biotechnology company, and served as Chairman and CEO for 10 years prior to its acquisition by Abcam for $170 million. During his tenure at Epitomics, spun-off Apexigen Inc., an immune-oncology therapeutics company. He was also a venture partner at OrbiMed Venture LLC. Dr. Yu's success is driven by his scientific curiosity and passion for translating scientific discovery to real products. After graduating from Fudan University in Shanghai, China, he came to the United States in 1984 to pursue advanced studies. He obtained his Ph.D. from UC Berkeley, where he and Dr. Greider discovered telomerase and its mechanism in Dr. Blackburn's lab. Drs. Blackburn and Greider received Nobel Prize in 2009 for their discovery.

Dr. Yu later joined Dr. Frederick Ausubel's lab at Harvard University to pursue the question of how plants defend themselves against pathogens without an immune system, and identified the plant disease resistance gene. In 1993, when genomics was still in its infancy, Dr. Yu joined Human Genome Sciences Inc. as one of the first few senior scientists, identifying human gene targets for drug discovery. Among several important drug targets he studied was BLys, the first successfully genomic target for the development of a lupus antibody drug Benlysta, which was approved by FDA in 2010.

In 1998, Dr. Yu was attracted to identifying plant genes with economic value in agriculture and in bio-energy. He was Senior Vice President of R&D at Mendel Biotechnology Inc. where his team analyzed the function of a complete set of plant transcription factors, and ultimately identified several valuable traits such as enhanced crop yield, disease resistance, and drought tolerance. Dr. Yu has co-authored 43 peer-reviewed scientific articles that have been referenced by the scientific community over 6000 times. He is a co-inventor of more than 400 patents.

Dr. Yu is the founding president of the Chinese Biopharmaceutical Association (CBA) and serves on the boards of several professional organizations in the United States and China, including BayHelix, Chinese-American Bio/Pharmaceutical Society (CABS), National Foundation of Cancer Research, Ray Wu Memorial Foundation, and University of Pacific. Dr. Yu is generous in coaching young entrepreneurs, and he has co-founded a dozen startup companies in biotech and the healthcare sector, including Immune-Onc Therapeutics, Inc.in Palo Alto.

Dewan Zeng, MBA, PhD
Head of Search and Evaluation, Business Development
BeiGene

Dr. Dewan Zeng is the Head of Search and Evaluation, Business Development at BeiGene. In her current role, she leads a team of business professionals to identify and evaluate innovative products and technologies to complement BeiGene's portfolio. She led the due diligence teams and supported transactions on several licensing deals including BeiGene's collaborations with Amgen and Novartis. She also served as the transition team lead for Amgen BeiGene collaboration, which consists of 3 inline products and 20 pipeline products. Prior to joining BeiGene, Dewan worked at Pfizer in early oncology development and clinical research, was Director of Clinical Research at Gilead and Director of Translational Research at CVT. In her 23 years of pharmaceutical career, she served as the global program lead on multiple Phase 1 to Phase 3 clinical programs and supported NDA submission and approval of three pharmaceutical products in US, Europe and China.

Dewan has BS degree in Biochemistry from Peking University, PhD in Biochemistry from University of Virginia, and MBA in Global Business Strategy from Cal State University East Bay. She completed her post-doctoral training at UCSF. Dewan lives in San Francisco Bay Area with her husband and two children.

Cariad Chester
Partner

Cariad Chester prior to joining TCG X, Cariad was a Managing Director at Aquilo Capital, where he led investments in biotechnology companies developing human therapeutics. Prior to Aquilo Capital, he served as a research scientist in the lab of Dr. Holbrook Kohrt at Stanford University. His research focused on understanding tumor-immune system interactions during cancer onset, progression, and treatment. He has authored or co-authored over 20 peer-reviewed manuscripts and presented research at conferences in Canada, the US, and China. Cariad has also worked in clinical trial management, helping to launch and coordinate phase I, first-in-human trials of investigational immunotherapeutic agents, and formerly operated a consulting practice advising early-stage companies on assay development and pipeline prioritization. Cariad received his B.A. from Swarthmore College, where he double majored in Neuroscience and Comparative Religious Studies..

Breakout Room
Speakers Biography

Teng Peng, PhD
Technique Application Manager

BIOSYSTEMS Acro

Dr. Teng Peng has around 20 years of experience in pharmaceutical R & D at AstraZeneca and Merck with wide scope of expertise and knowledge in preclinical drug discovery, translational science, and early drug development. In addition, Teng has years of basic research and drug discovery experience in the disease areas of CV, diabetes, respiratory, and CNS. Teng earned her MS in Molecular Biology and PhD in Biochemistry.

Bethany Hills
Partner

MORRISON
FOERSTER

As co-lead of the FDA Regulatory & Compliance practice at Morrison & Foerster LLP, Bethany Hills advises her life sciences and health tech industry clients on both pre- and post-market issues, including everything from FDA submissions and communication strategies to post-approval FDA and healthcare compliance and reimbursement issues. Her clients span the full range of FDA and healthcare regulated companies, including medical device and health tech, drug, combination product, diagnostic, biologic, and regenerative medicine, cosmetic, dietary supplement, and food industry businesses, and the investor groups focusing on innovation in these industries.

Keunbong (KB) Do, PhD
Associate

MORRISON
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Dr. Keunbong (KB) Do leverages his industry experience and Ph.D. in biophysical chemistry to assist clients with U.S. and international IP strategies and patent prosecution, as well as supporting our FDA clients. KB received his J.D. from Harvard Law School. Prior to law school, KB worked at Samsung SDI as a leader of the Chemical-Mechanical Planarization (CMP) slurry development team and as a senior research engineer in the semiconductor materials development group. He earned his Ph.D. in biophysical chemistry from Stanford University, where his research focused on characterizing and engineering fluorescent proteins using various concepts and tools in molecular biology, biochemistry, and physical chemistry.

Lumeng Ye, PhD

Sr. Scientist

GenScript
Make Research Easy

An expert in molecular and synthetic biology. She received her PhD in Bio-engineering from Vrije Universiteit Brussel, Belgium, and did postdoc at Denmark Technical University.

Jenna Frame, PhD
Manager, Scientific Communications & Marketing,

BIOCYTOGEN

Dr. Jenna Frame has worked with mouse and zebrafish models in the hematology field for over 15 years at the University of Rochester and Harvard Medical School. At Biocytogen, Jenna helps provide researchers with the information they need to select quality animal models and other preclinical services to advance their research pipeline.

Larry Jin, PhD

COO

BIORTUS

Dr. Larry Jin serves as Chief Operating Officer of Wuxi Biortus Biosciences Ltd. Prior to joining Biortus, Dr. Jin was a co-founder and CEO of 3D BioPharma Inc., a company dedicated to structure-based drug discovery.

Dr. Jin got extensive biotech experience when he worked at Biogen in Boston and Ignyta in San Diego, where he was involved in drug discovery projects in both oncology and neuro-degenerative diseases.

Dr. Jin was a research associate professor at Burnham Institute of Medical Research from 2010-2014 and an assistant professor at University of Texas, Houston from 2005-2006. Dr. Jin completed his post-doctoral training in structural biology at Harvard with Prof. Stephen C. Harrison, after he got his Ph.D. in Molecular Medicine in 1999 from Cambridge University, England. He received his M.S. in Molecular Biology from Chinese Academy of Sciences in1990. He received his B.S. in Biology in 1987 from Peking University, China.

Michael Zhao
Co-founder

Q BAY
center | 钱塘中心

Michael Zhao started Longwood Biology Inc. with friends after graduating from Harvard Medical School in 2014, aiming to develop effective and low toxic anti-neurodegenerative drugs from small molecules, and translating bench work to bedside therapies for Alzheimer's disease. He founded LB Ventures in 2016 for early-stage startups in the biotech industry. LB Ventures invests globally across the spectrum of healthcare companies including pharmaceuticals, medical devices and medical services, focusing on developing and expanding early-stage life science and technology companies with strong potential to achieve global success in their markets. In 2017 he established the team of HLT Inc. with friends which is a medical analytics company focused on analytical solutions, pharmaceutical market access and real world evidence through a better use of AI technology, data acquisition and analytics. In 2020, he joined Q Bay as a partner focusing on the platform to support innovation and connect entrepreneurs. Q Bay is committed to accelerating start-up development by leveraging technology resources and finance accessibility, while building a diverse community.

Charles Li, MBA
VP of Business Development

CR MedIcon
A PHARMARON COMPANY

Charles has over twenty years of working experience in drug research and development, possessing broad life science expertise including medicinal chemistry, radiochemistry, molecular imaging/diagnostics, protein therapeutics, and cell therapies for cancer and neurodegenerative diseases, ranging from discovery, translational to clinical development. Charles was a research scientist before his business profession, playing a variety of leadership roles in different organizations, both in the US and China, focusing on business growth strategy and market validation/penetration. Charles has led business development (sales and marketing) for multiple emerging biotechs and CROs for their critical global growth and is the driver of team building and resource-acquiring. Charles has actively played soccer for thirty years and an intelligent team player.

Xiaoxi Wei, PhD
Co-founder & CEO
User Affiliate at Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory

X-THERMA

Dr. Xiaoxi Wei is an entrepreneur and chemistry professional in the area of supramolecular assembly and biomimetic nanoscience. Her Ph.D. work demonstrated the success of developing synthetic transmembrane nanopores with distinguished selectivity applying biomimetic and supramolecular chemistry principles. She is the inventor of X-Therma's core technology based on hyper-effective ice prevention materials. She founded X-Therma Inc. in 2014 to develop a state-of-the-art biopreservation formulation that incorporates a first-in-class hyper-effective (500x) and non-toxic proprietary antifreeze polymer. She led the X-Therma team as an industrial User at The Molecular Foundry, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory from 2015 to 2018 and gained multiple recognitions internationally and nationwide. She is the principal investigator of multiple SBIR awards to develop breakthrough cryoprotectants enabling complex tissue/organ cryopreservation. She is experienced in business development and fundraising and managed international procurement projects in various industries while completing her Ph.D. study. She was a major author of 8 peer-reviewed research papers before founding X-Therma.

SANJEEV REDKAR, MBA, PhD
President and Co-Founder

Dr. Sanjeev Redkar is the President & Co-Founder of Apollomics Inc., a biotech company developing innovative oncology therapeutics harnessing the immune system and targeting specific molecular pathways. In his previous role, Dr. Redkar was SVP, Product Development at Astex Pharmaceuticals, an Otsuka company. Dr. Redkar has led the development of several oncology therapeutics though IND and global launch including Dacogen, Nipent and Mitozytrex. Additionally, Dr. Redkar worked on multiple drugs through their FIH submission and clinical trials that led to the buyout of Astex to Otsuka for close to a billion dollars. He has over 25 years of oncology drug development experience, over 25 peer-reviewed publications and 150 patents. Dr. Redkar earned his Ph.D. from University of Colorado, MBA from St. Mary's College of California, and Bachelor's at Indian Institute of Technology Bombay. Dr. Redkar is an Adjunct faculty and a Board Member at the University of the Pacific School of Pharmacy, Stockton, Advisory Board of University of Colorado, Boulder, Chemical Engineering Dept. and Board Member of EPPIC, an entrepreneurial biotech organization.

Sophia Kan,
Director of Marketing Strategy, GoBroad Healthcare Group

Sophia Kan, Director of Marketing Strategy at GoBroad Healthcare Group. Ms Kan is an expert in Phase I - IV clinical trial operations and global regulatory affairs. Prior to GoBroad, Ms Kan was the Chief Executive Officer and Chief Strategy Officer at eStart Medical Technology Co., a leading clinical CRO service provider in China.