



DRUG DISCOVERY 2021

AFTER THE STORM:
RE-CONNECT, RE-INVENT,
RE-IMAGINE

19TH & 20TH OCTOBER
THE EXHIBITION CENTRE,
ACC, LIVERPOOL
FACE TO FACE AND COVID-SAFE

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 elrig.org

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 [elrig](https://www.linkedin.com/company/elrig)

We are delighted to be hosting Drug Discovery 2021 as a face-to-face event. To keep everyone safe, we are taking a number of actions so you can relax as you learn about the latest research and innovations in the field of drug discovery and reconnect with colleagues. See page 5 for important participant information.

WELCOME TO DRUG DISCOVERY 2021

A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR OF ELRIG AND SENIOR DIRECTOR OF SCREENING AND SAMPLE MANAGEMENT AT GLAXOSMITHKLINE, MELANIE LEVERIDGE,



On behalf of ELRIG I would like to welcome you to the 15th Drug Discovery meeting, Drug Discovery 2021!

The Drug Discovery conference is the flagship of all ELRIG events and marks the pinnacle of the ELRIG yearly meetings calendar, by bringing together the drug discovery life science community, for a festival of cutting-edge science and technology. I am delighted that after 18 months of virtual interactions we are able to come back together at Drug Discovery 2021 face to face and I want to thank ACC Liverpool, and the ELRIG professional team for their hard work, and detailed planning to ensure that we can safely bring our community back together again; I am sure like me you are all incredibly excited to catch up with colleagues old and new and make the most of the networking opportunities that this event is known for.

The numbers associated with Drug Discovery 2021 are staggering; Over 1000 delegates are expected, over 50 world-class speakers will present, there is a poster session of over 100 cutting-edge scientific posters talking about a multitude of topics in drug discovery, and 100 vendors will display their latest and most innovative technologies in the exhibition hall. All taking place over 2 days in the ACC Liverpool, an outstanding conference and event venue on Liverpool's iconic waterfront.

In addition to the impressive scientific programme, there are numerous other highlights that we will announce at the meeting:

- During my introduction, I will talk about ELRIG's newly articulated values and purpose, together with our 2021-2024 strategy, building on our strengths and everything we have learned during the pandemic (see opposite page). I will also announce our full calendar of events for 2022 so you can hold the dates in your diaries now!
- Clare Viney, the Chair of ELRIG's People & Culture Work Group, will launch our newly developed Guiding Principles for Equality, Diversity and Inclusivity, which will be supported by a number of workshops taking place throughout the meeting. Our thanks to Lilian Hunt of EDIS for organising them.
- Del Trezise, the Chair of ELRIG's Early Career Professional (ECP) Work Group has created a series of workshops and networking events specifically for the ECP community including the now famous 'Network like a boss' sessions.
- We welcome our partner organisations, Alzheimer's Research UK (ARUK), the British Pharmacological Society (BPS) and the Society of Laboratory Automation and Screening (SLAS), who have all contributed to the programme this year. During the meeting we will be celebrating the BPS 90th anniversary and will hear from the winner of the BPS's Sir James Black Award for Contributions to Drug Discovery. We will also be announcing the winner of the SLAS Innovation Ave^{NEW} competition.

- We will present the newly inaugurated ELRIG's Lifetime Achievement award to Steve Rees OBE, previous ELRIG Chair, former ELRIG Board Member and Vice President, Discovery Biology, R&D at AstraZeneca. This is an award presented to individuals who have made a significant contribution to the life sciences, especially the area of drug discovery and I'm delighted that Steve is our inaugural recipient.
- We will present this year's ELRIG's Impact Award, sponsored by SelectScience, to Laura Ajram, Psychiatry Consortium Programme Manager at Medicines Discovery Catapult and you will have the opportunity to hear her speak about her work.

As you can see there is lots going on and it promises to be a fantastic two days.

It has been a challenging 18 months for the events industry, and whilst the ELRIG team have demonstrated their outstanding agility to adapt to the virtual environment and built an online platform that is second to none, there is nothing like the collaboration, networking and overall buzz that comes from face-to-face events such as this. I would like to thank everyone in the ELRIG community who has continued to support the organisation over this period and enabled us to keep doing what we do best, which is to bring the drug discovery community together to learn, share, connect, innovate, and collaborate, on an open access basis.

The success of ELRIG is dependent upon the many volunteers who give their time freely to create our meetings and other events as well as the vendor community who support our organisation, by taking sponsorship opportunities at each meeting. I would like to thank the science committee, session chairs, speakers, and exhibitors for their contributions to this event. The volunteers and vendors are supported by an outstanding ELRIG professional team, and I would also like to thank Sanj Kumar, General Manager of ELRIG, Clare Cockerham, Programme Manager and Tara Shanks, Events Manager, for all their hard work. Finally, I would like to thank you for attending and I look forward to re-connecting with you all. Enjoy the meeting!

ABOUT ELRIG

The European Laboratory Research & Innovation Group (ELRIG) is a leading European not-for-profit organization that exists to provide outstanding scientific content to the life science community. The foundation of the organisation is based on the use and application of automation, robotics and instrumentation in life science laboratories, but over time, we have evolved to respond to the needs of biopharma by developing scientific programmes that focus on cutting-edge research areas that have the potential to revolutionize drug discovery.

Comprising a global community of over 12,000 life science professionals, participating in our events, whether it be at one of our scientific conferences or one of our networking meetings, will enable any of our community to exchange information, within disciplines and across academic and biopharmaceutical organisations, on an open access basis, as all our events are free-of-charge to attend!

OUR VALUES

Our values are to always ensure the highest **quality of content** and that content will be made readily **accessible to all**, and that we will always be an **inclusive** organisation, serving a **diverse scientific network**. In addition, ELRIG will always be a **volunteer led** organisation, run by and for **the life sciences community**, on a **not-for-profit** basis.

OUR PURPOSE

ELRIG is a company whose purpose is to bring the life science and **drug discovery** communities together to **learn, share, connect, innovate and collaborate**, on an **open access** basis. We achieve this through the provision of world class conferences, networking events, webinars and digital content.

GOVERNANCE

ELRIG's board is comprised of volunteers from it's community, who either work in biopharma, CRO's, academia or with vendor companies. The board is steered by the General Committee, who act as a direct connection to the community and thus is comprised of a diverse group of people. The board delegates its tasks to a series of work groups, who work with the Operational Team to ensure ELRIG achieves it's objectives. Current work groups are:

- Early Career Professionals
- Marketing Communications
- Networking & Webinars
- People & Culture
- Publications
- Science Strategy
- Vendor Outreach

STRATEGIC PILLARS



EVENTS

Deliver UK leading events, showcasing cutting edge science and technology, that are accessible to all.



EQUALITY, DIVERSITY & INCLUSIVITY

Promote inclusivity, engagement and collaboration, in our diverse community.



PRESENCE & AWARENESS

Expand and enhance our digital presence.



SUSTAINABILITY

Drive an open and transparent organisation, with a focus on delivery excellence and financial sustainability.

WELCOME TO DRUG DISCOVERY 2021

As Scientific Program chairs it is our great pleasure to welcome you back to Liverpool for an in-person Drug Discovery 2021!

Even though last year's COVID affected virtual event, attracted 1000 delegates over 10 days, to listen to more than 50 talks, there was something missing. The talks and the on-line engagement were excellent, but ELRIG's flagship event is renowned for its informal networking opportunities, that lead to spontaneous yet long-lasting and deeply rewarding interactions, which are the driving force in the drug discovery industry.

So it is with great delight that we welcome you back to this year's face-to-face event, which we expect will educate you as well as encourage those human interactions we have all missed.

This year's theme was chosen to celebrate the innovation and efforts of our industry and the scientific successes that we have shared throughout the period of the pandemic, by providing a platform for the whole drug discovery community to meet at a free to attend, in-person event, where members of ELRIG's community may:

- Re-connect with colleagues, as well as hear stories from scientists who have been responsible for combatting COVID-19 in the session tracks on infection and diagnostics.
- Re-invent the process of drug discovery, by building diverse partnerships with even greater emphasis on efficiency, automation, and remote operation in our two session tracks of screening and chemistry.
- Re-imagine and create a new vision for drug discovery, with insights from our innovation and disruptive strategies tracks.

Our organising committee and session chairs have been working hard since late 2020 and thanks to them we have again been able to assemble a world-class line up of scientific speakers, with 50 talks taking place across 4 tracks over 2 days.

As always with ELRIG's Drug Discovery event, it is not just about the scientific talks, there is also a vibrant exhibition hall, where we expect 100 suppliers from our industry. A packed programme of ECP events, posters, and workshops.

We encourage you to get to as much of the science as you possibly can and to take full advantage of the exhibitor's expertise and knowledge to improve your own discovery sciences. The vendor presence at ELRIG ensures that these conferences are of minimal cost to attendees, so please show your appreciation by visiting the booths and asking as many probing and difficult questions of their technology as possible. With these questions they are better equipped to supply us with the tools of the future to make the next set of discoveries.

We like to thank the ELRIG Board and General Committee for their support and courage in deciding that this event should be in-person. We would also like to thank the ELRIG Operational Team, for patiently shepherding ourselves and the Program Chairs through the organising process. Without their help, together with the all the other volunteers, this meeting would not be possible.

Finally, without you, the meeting delegate, we have nothing too. We thank you in advance for your participation and look forward to connecting with you over the next couple of days. As always, we welcome your feedback on how we can further improve the agenda to ensure the growth and success of ELRIG Drug Discovery for the future.

Have fun in Liverpool and enjoy the opportunity to discuss emerging Science within a vibrant and educational environment!



Simon Chell
AstraZeneca



Simon Ward
University of Cardiff



Chun-wa Chung
GlaxoSmithKline



Ian Waddell
Early Discovery
from Charles River

INFORMATION FOR PARTICIPANTS

REGISTRATION

To help keep Drug Discovery 2021 COVID safe we will require you to observe the following registration process:

1. Pre-registration for the meeting is essential. Please register at elrig.org and enter our EventFlo registration system (*new for Drug Discovery 2021, if you wish to, you may choose a pro-noun, which will be printed on your badge and don't forget to pre-register for our workshops, as spaces are limited*)
2. Print out your badge at home
3. This year Drug Discovery is in the conference Center, the entry to which is just past the entrance of the Pullman Hotel. When arriving, stewards will be on-hand to guide you through to the registration desk
4. To ensure we minimize the risk of spreading COVID, please have available one of the following:
 - Your COVID passport, which is a document issued by your local government showing you have been double vaccinated, for example for a UK resident, this is available via the NHS app. Either an electronic or paper QR code is acceptable and the passport must have your name printed on it and will be matched with your registration ticket.
 - A certificate showing that you have been tested in the last 72 hours and that you are negative for COVID infection. The certificate must have your name printed on it and will be matched with your registration ticket.
 - If you have neither of these we will direct you to a test center close by the venue.
5. Once you have entered the venue, you may wear a mask if you wish, but this is not compulsory. Also please choose a coloured lanyard to visibly demonstrate your comfort level.
 - Green - I am comfortable shaking your hand
 - Yellow - I am being cautious with social contact
 - Red - I am keeping my distance

WIFI

Wi-Fi is freely available throughout the venue and may be found by following the bellow instructions:

1. Enable the wireless function on your device
2. Connect to the Free_Wifi SSID (wireless network)
3. Your device should automatically prompt you to sign into the network, if it does not or you miss the notification, browse to a web site of your choice e.g. accliverpool.com
4. You will be re-directed to the ACC Liverpool Landing Page
5. Click on the 'FREE WI-FI ACCESS' button
6. The page of your choice will then load.

ELRIG MOBILE APP

Download the free ELRIG app and access all our conference information, programme and more from your phone or tablet.

- View the event programme
- View presentation and poster abstracts
- View speaker profiles
- View the exhibitor guide
- View the delegate and exhibitor list
- Organise your day with your own favourites list
- Share your profile as vCard and QR Code and scan exhibitor QR code information tags
- Network – contact delegates, other exhibitors and speakers easily through opt-in directories and integration with Linked-In, Twitter and Facebook

You can download the ELRIG app by visiting the app store appropriate to your tablet or smart phone, scanning the QR code below or visiting the ELRIG website:

elrig.org/mobile-app



Please note that ELRIG authorised photographs and videos will be taken throughout the duration of the meeting, which may then be used for promotional purpose after the event. If you do not wish your image to be used, please let the organisers know. The taking of your own photographs or making your own recordings is strictly forbidden.

Both a prayer and quiet room are available for use of all delegates (rooms 5 and 6 respectively). Please ask the organisers for access.

The event is cashless and free! All beverages and food served at ELRIG's Drug Discovery meetings are freely available to all who attend.

DRUG DISCOVERY 2021 SESSION CHAIRS

NEW APPROACHES IN INFECTION BIOLOGY



David Pallin
Charles River Laboratories



Adrian Goldman
University of Helsinki



Nikki Carter
Excalibur Healthcare



Emily Adams
Liverpool School of Tropical
Medicine and Mologic

INNOVATIONS IN CHEMISTRY TO DISCOVER NEW MEDICINES: APPROACHES TO DRUGGING RNA



Oliver Rausch
Storm Therapeutics Ltd



Wesley Blackaby
Servier



David Reynolds
AstronauTx Ltd



John Isaac
Janssen Neuroscience

ALZHEIMER'S RESEARCH UK

SCREENING INNOVATION TO ENHANCE DRUG DISCOVERY - SPONSORED BY DOMAINEX



Ian Storer
AstraZeneca



Jeff Jerman
Lifearc



Kenny Simmen
Johnson & Johnson
Innovation



Laura Dickens
UKRI - Medical Research
Council

INNOVATIVE STRATEGIES SUPPORTING DRUG DISCOVERY

DISRUPTIVE TECHNOLOGIES



Carolina Wählby
Uppsala University



Mark Roberts
Tessella



Nura Mohamed
Imperial College London

THE BRITISH PHARMACOLOGICAL SOCIETY - OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES OF DRUGGING THE UNDRUGGABLE

PLENARY KEYNOTE SPEAKERS



Rob Howes
CEO and Site Director, DHSC

INNOVATION AND AUTOMATION DURING A PANDEMIC
19th October 2021, Room 3A at 09.20

It has been an unprecedented time for our Industry over the past 18 months. The rise of Covid-19 and the impact on our Society and Industry were not anything that could have been predicted when we had the last ELRIG Drug Discovery meeting in person in 2019. As the spread of Covid-19 developed during the Spring of 2020, the UK Government identified a gap in provision of high volume Diagnostic testing for this new pathogen. This led to the establishment of the Lighthouse Laboratory Network beginning with the UK Biocentre in Milton Keynes and rapidly expanding to labs at Alderley Park and Glasgow providing PCR-based testing for SARS-CoV-2.

In April 2020, AstraZeneca were approached to establish a Lab in the Cambridge area to form part of

the Lighthouse Network and provide extra PCR-testing capacity. The Lab was developed in two phases: Phase 1 in conjunction with GSK, University of Cambridge and AstraZeneca and Phase 2 as a collaboration between AstraZeneca and Charles River Laboratories. The Lab ran from April 2020 to May 2021.

In this talk, I'll cover the development of the Cambridge Covid Testing Centre, the use of automation to increase the throughput of the SARS-CoV-2 diagnostic assay and several innovations implemented over the lifetime of the Centre. Several of these innovations are being continued in other Labs across the UK.



Guido Lanza
Vice President of Integrated Research, Valo Health

LOOKING AHEAD: WHAT IS NEXT FOR AI IN DRUG DISCOVERY?
20th October 2021, Room 3A at 09.00

The pharmaceutical industry has had a long-standing reputation of being extremely data-rich and algorithm poor, which has resulted in a lag in exploiting advances in AI when compared to other major industries. Over the last five years machine learning-based approaches have started to receive more attention, with investments reaching \$13B in 2020, a four-fold increase over 2019. This type of steady and increasing investment has taken the space from a small number of sub-critical mass players to a healthy ecosystem of large and small players to complement the activities in the established pharma companies. There are countless examples of successes from target ID through drug development where machine learning models have made significant contributions. These managed to disarm many skeptics, but more importantly generated tangible pipeline value. However, their impact was typically confined to the traditional

stage-gates of drug discovery and development. For the first time, the scope, scale and quality of human data coupled with computational power can enable a foundational shift in the approach to developing new medicines throughout the entirety of drug discovery and development. The next phase of our industry's journey to become more data-driven will be to use AI and data to break down the lines between the traditional chevron model of pharma. This human-centricity will naturally create a new series of challenges around integration of diverse skillsets, around data biases, and around data sharing. Understanding and addressing these challenges will impact not just the value of the work within each chevron, but finally enable us to develop models to meaningfully break the silos and impact downstream attrition and ultimately the number and quality of drugs reaching patients.

AWARDS



Throughout the meeting, we will celebrate the contribution of certain individuals of the ELRIG community to the wider community by acknowledging their contributions with an award.

This year we are delighted to present the following awards:



ELRIG's Inaugural Lifetime Achievement Award to Steve Rees OBE, previous ELRIG Chair, former ELRIG Board Member and Vice President, Discovery Biology, R&D at AstraZeneca.

The purpose of the award is to recognise individuals who have made a significant contribution to the life sciences that has had a positive impact on the industry, was pivotal to a key scientific breakthrough, and/or benefited the global community. Earlier this year Steve, along with seven other AstraZeneca employees, was awarded an OBE in the Queen's Birthday Honours list, for services to science and the COVID-19 response. By choosing Steve as the recipient of ELRIG's inaugural Lifetime Achievement Award, ELRIG recognises not only his work done in the response to COVID-19, but also his wider contribution to the drug discovery industry and the ELRIG community.

To celebrate the award, Steve will present a talk titled "A Career In Drug Discovery" in 3A on Tuesday 19th October at 9.00AM.



ELRIG's Early Career Professional Impact Award 2021 to Dr. Laura Ajram, Psychiatry Consortium Programme Manager at Medicines Discovery Catapult.

The Early Career Professional Impact Award, recognises and celebrates the achievements of early-career professionals (ECP) who have made a clear, demonstrable impact on the wider scientific community.

To celebrate the award, Laura will be giving a presentation of her work on Wednesday 20th October at 9:50AM.

Supported by:

SelectScience® **23** YEARS
The Fastest Way to Expert Opinion™

The SLAS Innovation *AveNEW* award to a start-up company that demonstrates compelling science and technology, clarity of vision and market opportunity and impact on the field of life sciences discovery and technology.

The award will be given by Mary Geismann, Senior Membership Manager of SLAS and Christian Parker, SLAS's European Ambassador.

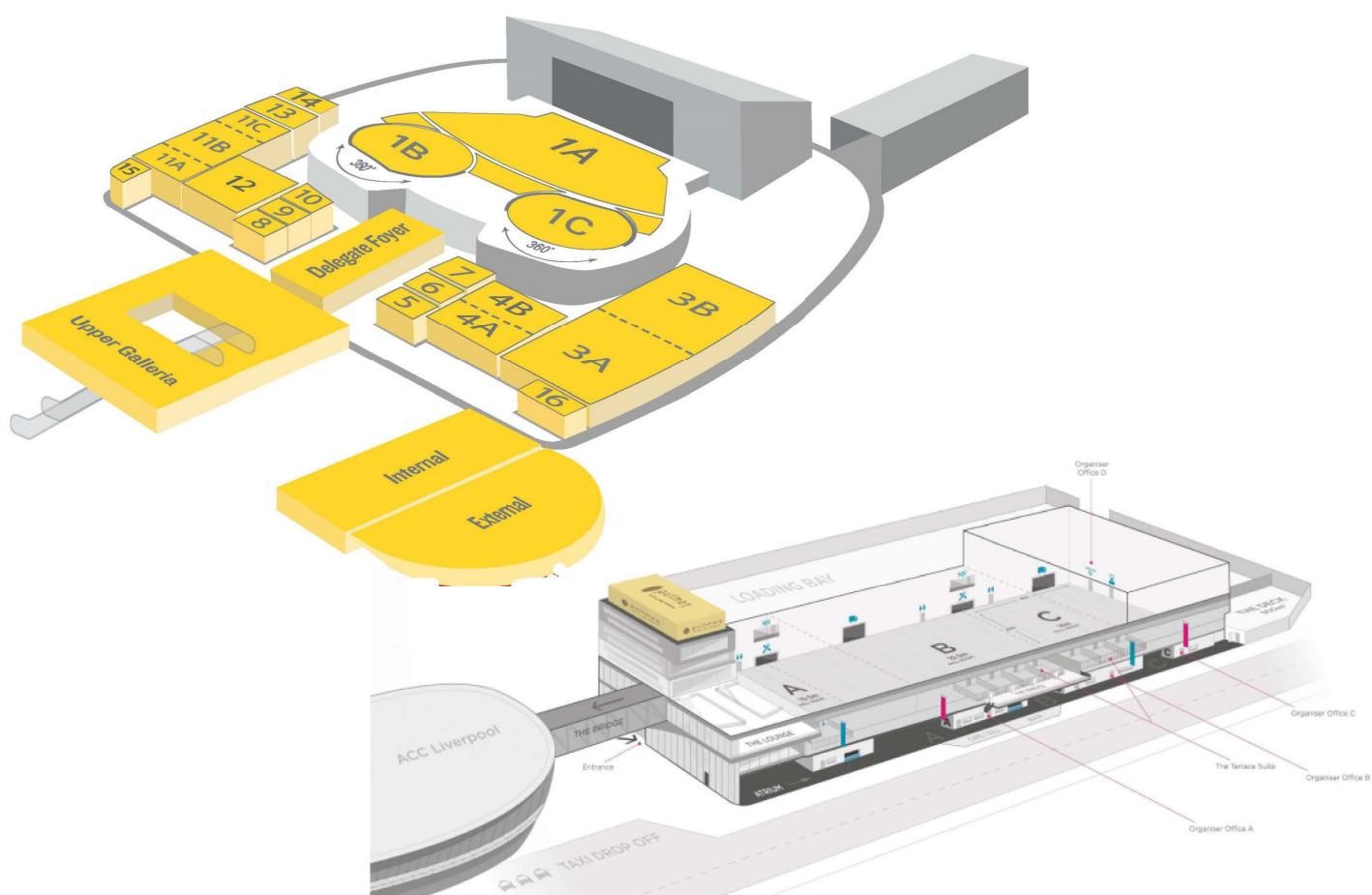
The award will be given at start of the networking event, in the SLAS Innovation *AveNew*.

Two poster prizes will be given at the end of the meeting in the categories of

- Overall best Poster
- Best Early Career Professional poster

These awards will be decided by a group of judges and presented by Melanie Leveridge, Chair of ELRIG at the end of the meeting.

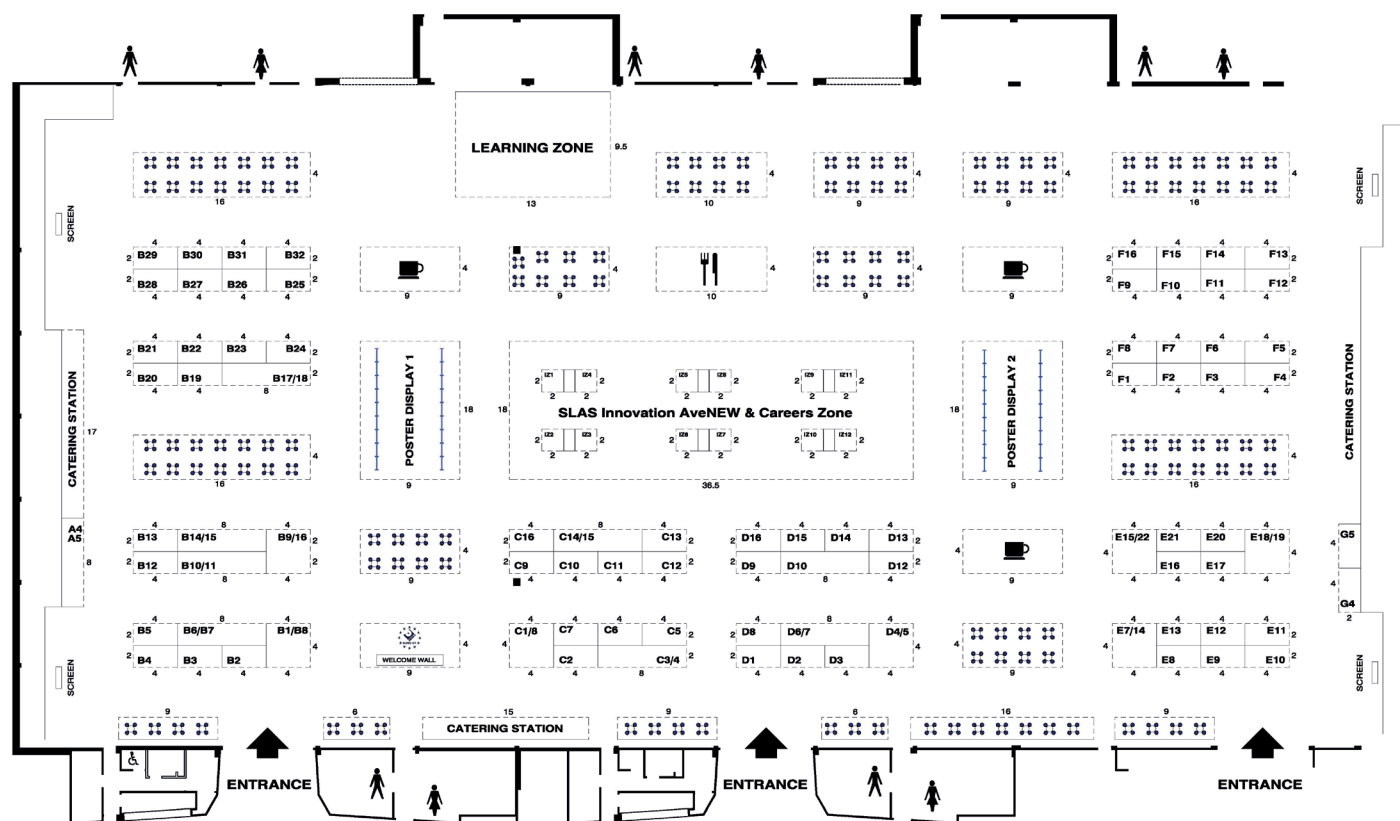
ACC, LIVERPOOL FLOOR PLAN



EXHIBITOR BOOTH LOCATIONS

10x Genomics	BB2:B9214/B15	Cellbox Solutions	F1
Abcam	C13	Celtarys Research	IZ04
acCELLerate	F16	ChemPartner	E16
Aelian Biotechnology	D2	CN Bio Innovations	E20
AltemisLab	F8	Collaborative Drug Discovery	C9
Alveolix	IZ09	Cytek Bio	F11
Arctoris	B26	Cytiva	B24
Ardigen	D1	Domainex	C10
Aurelia Bioscience	B20	Drug Discovery World (DDW)	C11
Axxam	D8	Drug Target Review	F5
BBD BioPhenix	IZ10	Ectica Technologies	E9
Beckman Coulter Life Sciences	C12	Ellarion Cybernetics	IZ03
Benchling	F4	Eurofins Discovery	B32
BICO	B6/B7	Fida Biosystems	E13
BioAscent Discovery	F3	Flexible Lab Solutions	F7
Bio-Rad	C1/C8	Flow Robotics	B4
BioStrata	G5	Formulatrix	D3
Biosynth Carbosynth	B22	Genedata	A4/A5
BioTechniques	E11	GenScript Biotech	C5
bit.bio	B16/B9	Gilson	B23
BlueCatBio	D16	HexagonFab	IZ02
British Pharmacological Society	F10	INTEGRA Biosciences	E15/E22
Cell Signaling Technology	E10	Iota Sciences	F2

ACC, EXHIBITION HALL FLOOR PLAN



EXHIBITOR BOOTH LOCATIONS

ISOPLEXIS	D14	Reaction Biology	D12
Kinomica	IZ01	Revivocell	IZ12
LabLogic Systems	B1/B8	Sartorius	C14/C15
Levitas Bio	B28	SelectScience	E12
LGC - ATCC	B13	Stilla Technologies	E8
LifeNet Health LifeSciences	E18/E19	Stratech Scientific	D13
Lightspeed Microscopy	IZ11	SUN bioscience	IZ07
Magnitude Biosciences	IZ06	Symeres	D8
Malvern Panalytical	D10/D11	Synthego	B21
Manchester BIOGEL	E21	Tecan	E7/E14
Medicilon	F15	The Native Antigen Company	C7
Medicines Discovery Catapult	D15	The Society for Laboratory Automation and Screening (SLAS)	B25
Merck	B5	Thermo Fisher Scientific	F9
Merrow Scientific	C6	TRI Thinking Research Instruments	IZ08
Miltenyi Biotec	D6/D7	Twist Bioscience	D4/D5
mycustomerandme.com	IZ05	UPM Biomedicals	D9
NanoTemper Technologies	C16	Veolia Water Technologies	B19
Nexcelom Bioscience	C3/C4	WuXi AppTec	B3
NUVISAN	B17/B18	Yokogawa Deutschland	B10/B11
Pelago Bioscience	B2	Ziath	B27
PerkinElmer	C2	Zyme Communications	F12
Promega	B12		
Proteome Sciences	G4		

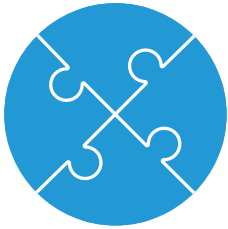
10 REASONS WHY THE INDUSTRY IS RE-CONNECTING AT DRUG DISCOVERY 2021



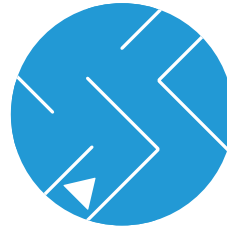
DRUG DISCOVERY 2021 IS FREE TO ATTEND



ENGAGE WITH WORLD-LEADERS IN DRUG DISCOVERY



LEARN ABOUT EIGHT OF THE HOTTEST TOPICS IN THE INDUSTRY



GET THE INSIDE TRACK ON THE LATEST TRENDS AND TECHNOLOGIES



RE-CONNECT WITH AND MAKE NEW CONNECTIONS ACROSS THE WHOLE COMMUNITY



RECEIVE EARLY CAREER ADVICE FROM THE EXPERTS



SAFE TO ATTEND EVENT



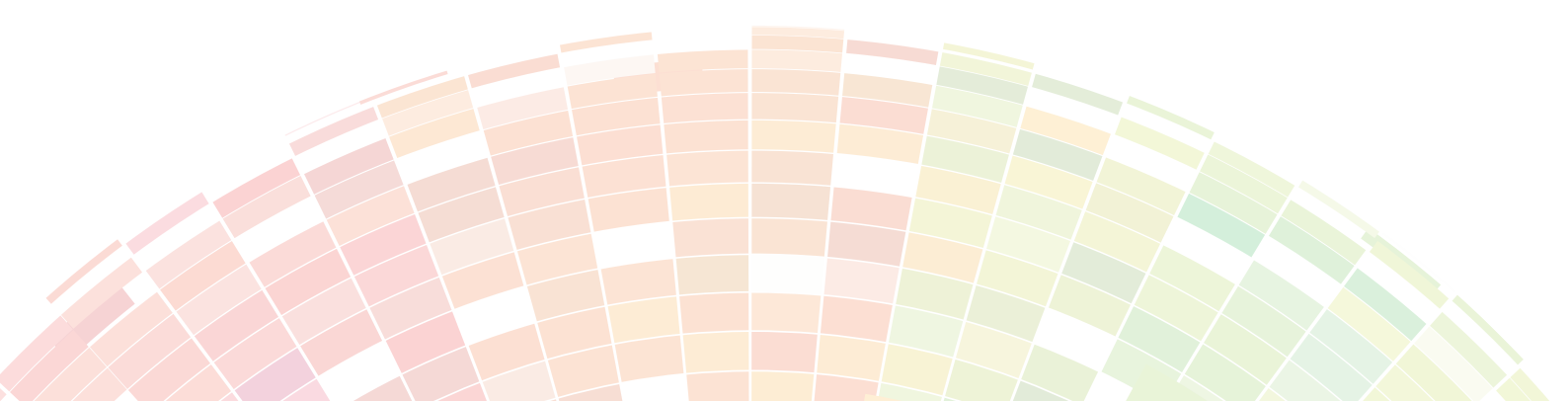
HEAR FROM YOUR AWARD WINNERS



DRUG DISCOVERY 2021 IS A GREAT TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITY WITH EXCLUSIVE WORKSHOPS



ENJOY A VIBRANT, EXPERTLY ORGANIZED EVENT IN ONE OF THE WORLD'S GREATEST CITIES



ELRIG'S EQUALITY DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION (EDI) AIMS AND GUIDING PRINCIPLES

As ELRIG is the hub of a community comprising almost 12,000 individuals, who are actively interested in drug discovery and life-sciences, it is imperative that ELRIG represents all members of that community equitably and fairly. With that objective in mind, ELRIG's board redefined ELRIG's strategy late last year and agreed that 1 of our strategic pillars (see About ELRIG page) will be Equality, Diversity & Inclusivity (EDI), with the aim of promoting inclusivity, engagement and collaboration, in our diverse community. The implementation of this strategy was tasked to ELRIG's People & Culture Work Group, who in turn initiated a project, earlier this year, to poll the community on how to introduce an EDI policy, to guide the behaviours of ELRIG and its community.

The first step in the policy development process was to organise a workshop of community members, to gauge their opinions and listen to their experiences. We assembled a group of almost 20 individuals from various companies and organisations for a workshop that led to some interesting outcomes. The first learning was that we didn't need a policy yet, but a set of guiding principles would set us off on our EDI journey. We also learnt that the best way to encourage diversity, was through having a diverse set of speakers, as the speaker line-up is the most impactful way of influencing the community. Finally, we learnt that we should start with small changes and the bigger ones would evolve naturally.

With these learnings in mind, I am delighted to launch ELRIG's EDI Guiding Principles, which you can find below. I am also delighted to report that in Drug Discovery 2021 our Tracks Chairs have been tasked with ensuring the diversity of the speakers, resulting in a gender balance. Not only that, but we have also made some small steps in encouraging all our attendees to think about EDI when they are part of an ELRIG meeting (see below for the small changes we have made).

The People & Culture Work Group will continue to develop this set of guiding principles and ensure that all our events are diverse and inclusive and will revisit our progress in the future years, with regular updates to the ELRIG community.

I would like to thank all of those who contributed to the writing of our Guiding Principles and wish you all an enjoyable Drug Discovery 2021!



Clare Viney
Board Member of ELRIG UK, Chair of People & Culture Work Group and CEO of CRAC

OUR AIMS

- ELRIG will strive for cultural change, both for itself and the ELRIG community
- Rather than a policy we have developed the ELRIG Community's Guiding Principles
- We will communicate the journey and the conclusions
- The process and implementation of outcomes will be transparent
- Data and the ELRIG community will guide action
- Mechanisms will be put in place to ensure that accessibility is maximised at all events
- Guiding principles will be embedded in governance and all Work Groups daily activities

OUR GUIDING PRINCIPLES

We will promote equality, by welcoming all to all our events and will be inclusive, by removing barriers to access, and that our events will represent the diversity of the ELRIG community.

OUR EQUALITY PRINCIPLE IS:

We will ensure that all are welcome by: profiling the demographics of attendees by segment, age, ethnicity, disability and gender, monitoring and ensuring that no one group is favoured nor excluded and act to ensure equal outcomes and opportunities for the entire ELRIG community.

OUR DIVERSITY PRINCIPLE IS:

We will strive for gender balance at our events, by ensuring that the diversity mix of our speakers represents the diversity of our delegates, and that the diversity mix of our delegates represents the diversity of the ELRIG community, as well as ensuring that scientific content reflects the diversity of the ELRIG community.

OUR INCLUSIVITY PRINCIPLE IS:

We will ensure that accessibility is maximised at all events, by removing barriers to those with disabilities, limits on finances, caring and parental responsibilities, religious needs, geographical location and other requirements. To ensure our principles remain relevant, we will solicit, monitor, and report to the ELRIG community and act upon relevant feedback during and after events to maintain accessible and safe spaces in which to collaborate.

DRUG DISCOVERY 2021 WORKSHOPS

ECP ACTIVITIES

The inclusivity of the ELRIG society has resulted in an Early Career Professional (ECP) community that is large (over a third of delegates at any ELRIG meeting are ECP's), engaged and vibrant. Being an ELRIG ECP allows you to develop new skills, hear the latest cutting-edge research and meet senior industry leaders in an informal and inclusive environment.

Drug Discovery 2021, has specific activities organised for our ECP community.

ECP Welcome Reception for an informal breakfast networking session in the Innovation Ave/NEW - Careers Zone at 8AM to 8:45AM, before the main scientific sessions begin.

- Meet other ECPs and expand your network
- Learn about careers opportunities from companies within the career zone
- Find out more about the ELRIG organisation from members of the ELRIG working groups

SKILL DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOPS



GAINING A CAREER IN INDUSTRY: LEARNING TIPS AND TRICKS FROM THE INSIDE

19th October 2021
Room 11B at 10.50 - 11.50

This workshop will be led by Allan Jordan, Director of Oncology at Sygnature Discovery and will also include new employees from Sygnature, who will share their experiences. This workshop will end with Q&A and an informal discussion.

SPEAKER

Allan Jordan
Sygnature



EXCEPTIONAL SCIENCE PRESENTATIONS: HOW TO EFFECTIVELY COMMUNICATE THE VALUE OF YOUR WORK

19th October 2021
Room 11B at 14.00 - 14.45

Exceptional Science Presentations: How to Effectively Communicate the Value of Your Work

Designing a good scientific talk matters just as much as designing a good experiment. Think about it – if your scientific finding is important, then the vehicle used to communicate these findings is equally important, right?

Most technical presentations, however, fail to hit the mark. Without the right communication tools, even fascinating findings may go unnoticed.

On the flipside, by honing simple science communication skills, your work gets the recognition it needs, and you attract the opportunities you deserve.

That's the power of a well-crafted scientific story - the missing ingredient in most technical presentations.

Delivering your message using the principles of storytelling not only captures your audience in the moment, but also leaves a lasting impression of your work long after the talk.

Breaking down the tried-and-true story techniques used by science communicators, this workshop shows you how to structure your scientific message to communicate the true value of your research.

Learning objectives:

Learn the three key principles of effective scientific presentations Recognize common mistakes made in technical presentations (and learn how to avoid them) Fine-tune your message to address different audience types Use story techniques to capture and hold attention.

SPEAKER

Anita Ramanathan
Word Cortex



LEARN TO LEARN

29th October 2021
Room 11B at 14.30 - 16.00

Why is learning agility so important in our industry? Did your team fail to deliver but you are not sure why or what to do about it? Do you struggle to give or receive feedback? If you're curious to find out more and learn about some simple approaches to making individual and team learning more effective, come to the 'Learn to Learn' session being held by Chris Williams of Questae Coaching & Consulting Ltd You'll be expected to put what you hear into practice- which of course is the best way to learn! You'll find out more when you register- places are limited so don't wait too long.

SPEAKER

Chris Williams
Questae Coaching & Consulting Ltd

DRUG DISCOVERY 2021 WORKSHOPS

EDI IN DRUG DISCOVERY WORKSHOPS



INCLUSIVE RESEARCH AND EXPERIMENTAL DESIGN

Tuesday 19th October
Room 11B at 12.30 - 13.30

Exclusionary research wastes money, time and in the worst cases can cost lives. In this interactive workshop Dr Lillian Hunt will present on the importance of inclusive research and experimental design in from discovery research through to clinical trials. They'll also provide emerging and new information on funders and regulatory changes in this fast developing field, and work through case studies and examples with the group. Attendees will be equipped to take new knowledge, approaches and methods back to their fields.

For the workshops I'd like to include the EDIS safer space policy as it specifically touches on the topics of discussion (e.g. protected characteristics and in relation to research): edisgroup.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/EDIS-Safer-Space-Policy-2021.pdf

SPEAKER

Lillian Hunt
EDIS



EQUALITY, DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION: AWARENESS TO ACTION

Wednesday 20th October
Room 11B at 13.00 - 14.00

In this interactive workshop we'll discuss the current climate and challenges of equality, diversity and inclusion work in relation to organisational culture, research environment, publishing and more. We'll walk through key areas of need and Dr Lillian Hunt will talk through toolkits (including Wellcome Trust's anti-racist toolkit) and other actions that can be made at both the individual and organisational level to support inclusive cultures.

For the workshops I'd like to include the EDIS safer space policy as it specifically touches on the topics of discussion (e.g. protected characteristics and in relation to research): edisgroup.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/EDIS-Safer-Space-Policy-2021.pdf

SPEAKER

Lillian Hunt
EDIS



DRUG DISCOVERY 2021 WORKSHOPS

APPLICATION AND TECHNOLOGY WORKSHOPS

HOW TO SELECT THE BEST NANOPARTICLE FOR NEXT-GEN DRUG DELIVERY

19th October 2021
Room 11B at 15.45 - 16.45

This presentation will highlight recent advances in the development of two unique nanomedicinal particle platforms including poly (D,L-lactide-co-glycolic acid) (PLGA) and mesoporous silica nanoparticles (MSN).

THE SINGLE-CELL SEQUENCING REVOLUTION

20th October 2021
Room 11B at 10.50 - 12.20

Few technologies have captured as much attention recently as single-cell sequencing technologies. During this workshop, hosted by Aelian Biotechnology, we invite thought leaders that will present cutting edge data/ concepts covering both the wet-lab and the computational side of the workflow.

THE CHALLENGES OF CELL MODELS: NOVEL APPROACHES AND TOOLS FOR BASIC RESEARCH AND DRUG DISCOVERY

19th October 2021
Room 11C at 10.50 - 11.50

High throughput screening using stem cell derived neurons. Take home points:

- Drug discovery for neurodegenerative diseases are often limited by the inability to source cell lines that correctly exhibit disease phenotype in an endogenous manner.
- Stem cells are able to provide disease relevant models for testing that are scalable and can be differentiated into the appropriate tissue type.
- Direct reprogramming of stem cells may allow for faster, more efficient differentiation and shows increased robustness in HTS assays compared to traditional differentiation techniques

Using iPSC-derived cells to explore mitochondrial disease. Take home points:

- Diseases caused by mutations of mitochondrial DNA (mtDNA) are devastating multisystem disorders with highly variable presentations. They are very poorly understood and no disease modifying treatments are available.
- Because we can't manipulate the mitochondrial genome, we can't readily generate animal or cell based models and so these diseases have been very hard to study.
- We are using iPSC's derived from patient fibroblasts, differentiated into neurons and muscle to study the pathophysiology in the cells most severely affected by the disease, with the ultimate goal of identifying novel therapeutic targets for these otherwise intractable diseases. Use of stem cell technology has the potential to transform our understanding of these hitherto obscure and difficult diseases.

Printing synthetic, living and hybrid materials Take home points:

- By 3D printing, we have assembled functional synthetic tissues comprising patterned networks of thousands of aqueous droplets joined by lipid bilayers.
- A related printing technology has been used to pattern a variety of living cells, providing structures that include small tumours and neural tissues.
- Millimeter-scale printed structures can be used as building blocks for cm-scale structures ranging from synthetic axons to hybrid constructs containing both synthetic and living cells.



nanoComposix

SPEAKER

Philippe Saint-Cricq-Riviere
nanoComposix

AELIAN
BIOTECHNOLOGY

SPEAKERS

Fabian Theis
Helmholtz Zentrum Munich
Muzz Haniffa
Newcastle University
Daniel Schraivogel
EMBL Heidelberg

bit.bio
THE CELL CODING COMPANY

CHAIR

Zoe Nilsson
Global Product Marketing Manager

SPEAKERS

Jeremy Anton
Charles River Laboratories
Michael Duchon
University College London
Hagan Bayley
University of Oxford

TRACK SUMMARY

NEW APPROACHES IN INFECTION BIOLOGY

19th October 2021
Room 3A

The fight against infectious diseases and the need for innovative therapies is becoming more important every year. The threats to human, and indeed animal, health posed by (re)-emerging viruses, by the spread of anti-bacterial resistance and by the spread of protozoan parasites like malaria in a warming world are just some of the more significant challenges that will need to be addressed by scientists in the coming decades.

In this session we will take a closer look at ongoing work to identify novel therapies against COVID-19 and other

SESSION CHAIRS

David Pallin
Charles River Laboratories
Adrian Goldman
University of Helsinki

viruses. We will also look at approaches to develop novel anti-bacterial therapies to stem the rise of resistance and extend the effective life of established drugs. We will also discuss approaches based on targeting the key first step in bacterial virulence: adhesion to host proteins. Endotoxins continue to be associated with poor patient outcomes in the clinic and we will look at novel approaches to combat the issue. Finally, we will look at one approach to developing novel drugs against protozoan parasites: targeting unique, essential organelles in the parasite.

08.00-08.45	Registration
08.45-08.55	ELRIG - Annual Review - Visions & Values - Melanie Leveridge, GlaxoSmithKline
08.55-09.00	ELRIG - Equality, Diversity & Inclusion Guiding Principals - Clare Viney, CRAC
09.00-09.20	ELRIG - Lifetime Achievement Award - A Career In Drug Discovery - Steve Rees, AstraZeneca
09.20-10.10	Plenary Keynote - Innovation and Automation during a Pandemic - Rob Howes, DHSC
10.10-10.50	Refreshment Break
10.50-11.00	Session Chair Introduction - David Pallin, Charles River Laboratories & Adrian Goldman, University of Helsinki
11.00-11.30	Maria Anastasina, University of Helsinki - Neuropilin-1 facilitates SARS-CoV2 cell entry and infectivity
11.30-12.00	Platinum Presentation - Tom Yuan, TwistBioScience
12.00-12.30	Volkhard Kempf, University of Frankfurt - Functional analysis of Bartonella pathogenicity factors might contribute to novel therapeutic concepts
12.30-14.00	Refreshment Break - with poster session (60 mins)
14.00-14.30	Nadia Naffakh, Institut Pasteur, CNRS - Targeting the human RED-SMU1 splicing complex as a basis for host-directed anti-influenza therapy
14.30-14.35	Bronze Sponsorship - Helen Bright, Medicines Discovery Catapult
14.35-14.40	Bronze Sponsorship - Lucy Farmer, Lablogic
14.40-14.45	Bronze Sponsorship - Jo Walter, Fida Biosystems
14.45-15.15	Keni Vidilaseris, University of Helsinki - Studies of the membrane-bound pyrophosphatase as a potential drug target against protist parasites
15.15-15.45	Refreshment Break
15.45-16.15	Dirk Linke, University of Oslo - Developing inhibitors that block adhesin-collagen interactions
16.15-16.30	Industry Insider Sponsorship - Louise Affleck, PerkinElmer
16.30-17.00	Martin Everett, Antabio - Inhibition of bacterial virulence as an alternative to antibiotic treatment: Pseudomonas aeruginosa elastase as a target for antivirulence therapy
17.00-19.00	Networking in The Exhibition Hall sponsored by Eurofins





DIAGNOSTIC TESTING AND BIOMARKERS – THE NEW NORMAL?

19th October 2021
Room 3B

SESSION CHAIRS

Nikki Carter
Excalibur Healthcare
Emily Adams
Mologic and Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine

In the fight against the COVID-19 pandemic, diagnostic testing and biomarkers are terms that the world beyond scientific and medical professionals and come to appreciate as part of the 'new normal'. These tests have been critical elements in containing the virus and preventing further spread. The field of infectious disease diagnostics has never experienced such an expedited flurry of activity and expansion of diagnostic tests available. While the COVID-19 pandemic, may be responsible for 'normalising' diagnostic testing in the global population.

Biomarker research and clinical diagnostic testing have been a critical part of drug design, development, and post approval commercialisation for many years.

Biomarkers enhance the understanding of the mechanism of action, enable the assessment of target engagement, facilitate early proof of dose focusing and increase the efficiency of early clinical development by application of targeted diagnostic tests. This session will discuss the application and development of diagnostic testing and biomarkers – are they the new normal?

08.00-08.45	Registration
08.45-08.55	ELRIG - Annual Review - Visions & Values - Melanie Leveridge, GlaxoSmithKline
08.55-09.00	ELRIG - Equality, Diversity & Inclusion Guiding Principals - Clare Viney, CRAC
09.00-09.20	ELRIG - Lifetime Achievement Award - A Career In Drug Discovery - Steve Rees, AstraZeneca
09.20-10.10	Plenary Keynote - Innovation and Automation during a Pandemic - Rob Howes, DHSC
10.10-10.50	Refreshment Break
10.50-11.00	Session Chair Introduction - Nikki Carter, Excalibur Healthcare & Emily Adams, Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine and Mologic
11.00-11.30	Jonathan O'Halloran, QuantumDx - Q-POCTM, a paradigm shift in rapid multiplex molecular diagnostics
11.30-12.00	Platinum Presentation - Stephen Hague, 10X Genomics
12.00-12.30	Nick Matherson, University of Cambridge - A luminescent reporter cell line for authentic SARS-CoV-2 infection and neutralising antibody activity
12.30-14.00	Refreshment Break - with poster session (60 mins)
14.00-14.30	Emily Adams, Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine and Mologic - Diagnostics for epidemics, pandemics and neglected tropical disease
14.30-14.35	Bronze Sponsorship - Philippe Saint-Cricq-Riviere, nanoComposix
14.35-14.40	Bronze Sponsorship - Aline Miller, Manchester BIOGEL
14.40-14.45	Bronze Sponsorship - Sharon Barnard, Integra Biosciences Ltd
14.45-15.15	Alex Van Belkum, Biomeirieux - Emerging Diagnostic Technologies in Clinical Microbiology
15.15-15.45	Refreshment Break
15.45-16.15	Daniel Wise, Excalibar - Computer literate? Novel AI based reading of lateral flow devices
16.15-16.20	Bronze Presentations - Rebecca Charlton, LGC - ATCC
16.20-16.25	Bronze Presentations - Mark Twigden, Cell Signaling Technology
16.25-16.30	Bronze Sponsorship - Michelle Jackson, Cytek Biosciences BV
16.30-17.00	Josh Quick, University of Birmingham - How to build a mobile lab for genomic surveillance of viral outbreaks
17.00-19.00	Networking in The Exhibition Hall sponsored by Eurofins



TRACK SUMMARY

INNOVATIONS IN CHEMISTRY TO DISCOVER NEW MEDICINES: APPROACHES TO DRUGGING RNA

19th October 2021
Hall 1B

SESSION CHAIRS

Oliver Rausch
Storm Therapeutics Ltd
Wesley Blackaby
Servier

The approvals of the siRNA drug Patisiran and the RNA splicing modulator Risdiplam, for the treatment of hereditary transthyretin amyloidosis and spinal muscular atrophy respectively, has heralded a new era of drug discovery expanding the druggable genome outside of the realm of proteins to now include RNA as a drug

target in its own right. Talks in this track will explore the breadth of different approaches and modalities currently being explored to drug RNA, including case studies from bench to bedside and the cutting-edge technologies being employed to discover the next generation of RNA targeting medicines.

08.00-08.45	Registration
08.45-08.55	ELRIG - Annual Review - Visions & Values - Melanie Leveridge, GlaxoSmithKline
08.55-09.00	ELRIG - Equality, Diversity & Inclusion Guiding Principals - Clare Viney, CRAC
09.00-09.20	ELRIG - Lifetime Achievement Award - A Career In Drug Discovery - Steve Rees, AstraZeneca
09.20-10.10	Plenary Keynote - Innovation and Automation during a Pandemic - Rob Howes, DHSC
10.10-10.50	Refreshment Break
10.50-11.00	Session Chair Introduction - Oliver Rausch, Storm Therapeutics Ltd & Wesley Blackaby, Servier
11.00-11.30	Hasane Ratni, F. Hoffmann-La Roche - Discovery of risdiplam (evrysdi) - A medicine for the treatment of spinal muscular atrophy
11.30-12.00	Platinum Presentation - Gabriela Nass Kovacs, Genedata
12.00-12.30	Iris Alroy, Anima BioTech - mRNA Lightning platform for the discovery of selective small molecule mRNA regulatory drugs
12.30-14.00	Refreshment Break - with poster session (60 mins)
14.00-14.30	Isaac Kimsey, Nymirum - ynamic RNAs and Structure-Guided Small Molecule Drug Discovery
14.30-14.35	Bronze Sponsorship - Assunta Romano, Merck
14.35-14.40	Bronze Sponsorship - Tecan
14.40-14.45	Bronze Sponsorship
14.45-15.15	Nagy Habib, MiNA Therapeutics - Small activating RNAs from concept to Phase 2 clinical trial
15.15-15.45	Refreshment Break
15.45-16.15	David Hardick, Storm & Konstantinos Tzelepis, The Milner Therapeutics Institute - Drugging RNA Modifying Enzymes – METTL3 Inhibitors as a novel therapeutic strategy for Acute Myeloid Leukemia
16.15-16.30	Industry Insider Sponsorship
16.30-17.00	Jeannie Lee, Harvard - X-reactivation as an approach to treating Rett Syndrome
17.00-19.00	Networking in The Exhibition Hall sponsored by Eurofins



DISCOVERY

#ELRIG

#ELRIGDD21

#drugdiscovery

TRACK SUMMARY

ALZHEIMER'S RESEARCH UK

19th October 2021
Hall 1C

Despite huge unmet medical need there has been limited progress in discovering and developing new treatments for dementia, in particular therapeutics that slow or stop the progression of underlying disease. Progress has been hampered by a lack of well validated targets and the concomitant increased risk of failure at clinical proof concept, which has led to a number of large pharma exiting this area.

Alzheimer's Research UK is the UK's leading dementia research charity funding across the whole spectrum of biomedical research, to build the understanding of the causes of all dementias and to improve diagnosis, prevention, risk reduction, and treatment. With a mission to identify a life-changing treatment for people with dementia

SESSION CHAIRS

David Reynolds
AstronauTx Ltd
John Isaac
Janssen Neuroscience

by 2025, Alzheimer's Research UK is playing a major role in the ecosystem by facilitating innovative research on targets for Alzheimer's disease and other dementias.

Investing in the multi-million-pound drug discovery initiatives as the Dementia Consortium and the Drug Discovery Alliance, and then in the UK Dementia Research Institute, Alzheimer's Research UK facilitated projects are now leading the way in providing much needed target discovery and validation; moreover, the charity is enabling assay development and early drug discovery activities that are re-invigorating dementia medicines discovery. This Track highlights some of the leading work in this area and highlights Alzheimer's Research UK's approach to facilitating drug discovery in dementia.

08.00-08.45	Registration
08.45-08.55	ELRIG - Annual Review - Visions & Values - Melanie Leveridge, GlaxoSmithKline
08.55-09.00	ELRIG - Equality, Diversity & Inclusion Guiding Principals - Clare Viney, CRAC
09.00-09.20	ELRIG - Lifetime Achievement Award - A Career In Drug Discovery - Steve Rees, AstraZeneca
09.20-10.10	Plenary Keynote - Innovation and Automation during a Pandemic - Rob Howes, DHSC
10.10-10.50	Refreshment Break
10.50-11.00	Session Chair Introduction - David Reynolds, AstronauTx Ltd & John Isaac, Janssen Neuroscience
11.00-11.30	Sara Imarisio, ARUK - Alzheimer's Research UK and its support for translational research
11.30-12.00	Platinum Presentation - Sara Gomes & Marta Rucka, bit.bio
12.00-12.30	Lianne Van Beek, CRL & Tennore Ramesh, Sitran Institute - Identification of tool compounds targeting the SRSF1-dependent nuclear export of pathological C9ORF72-repeat transcripts
12.30-14.00	Refreshment Break - with poster session (60 mins)
14.00-14.30	Nicky Willis, UCL DDI - Small molecule inhibitors of carboxylesterase Notum to potentiate Wnt signalling
14.30-14.35	Industry Insider Presentation - Jasmine Trigg, Sartorius
14.45-15.15	Duncan Scott, Alborada Drug Discovery Institute, Cambridge - Development of eIF2B modulators for the treatment of neurodegenerative disease
15.15-15.45	Refreshment Break
15.45-16.15	Vincent Dion, Cardiff Dementia Research Institute - Gene editing to treat expanded CAG/CTG repeat disorders
16.15-16.20	Bronze Presentation - Simon Myrbäck, Cellbox Solutions
16.20-16.25	Bronze Presentation - Nick Clare, Synthego
16.25-16.30	Bronze Presentation - Daniel Thomas, Arctoris Ltd
16.30-17.00	Paul Brennan, Oxford DDI - Novel Therapeutic Targets for Treatment of Neurodegeneration
17.00-19.00	Networking in The Exhibition Hall sponsored by Eurofins



CELLBOX

SYNTHEGO



euofins

DISCOVERY

#ELRIG

#ELRIGDD21

#drugdiscovery

SCREENING INNOVATION TO ENHANCE DRUG DISCOVERY

20th October 2021
Room 3A



SESSION CHAIRS

Ian Storer
AstraZeneca
Jeff Jerman
LifeArc

Despite recent progress, many candidate drugs still fail to demonstrate sufficient efficacy and safety in clinical studies. Furthermore, there is also increased need to identify hits to a growing array of novel and complex proteins and phenotypes, alongside pressure to develop approaches to enable traditionally intractable targets. As a result, advances are required to accelerate the discovery and optimisation of high-quality disease-relevant starting points, including improvements to early screening systems and translational assays to minimise late-stage drug attrition.

In this session, topics will focus on developments in screening strategies and methods to meet these challenges. This will include advances in technologies including screening automation, the impact of AI on hit identification efficiency, as well as application of information rich endpoints and human disease-relevant test systems. In addition, improved methods for the discovery of high-quality macromolecules will also be presented.

08.00-08.50	Registration
08.50-09.00	Welcome & introductions - Conference Directors
09.00-09.50	Plenary Keynote - Looking ahead: what is next for AI in drug - Guido Lanza, Valo Health
09.50-10.10	ELRIG - Early Career Professional Impact Award - Mind the gap... making a career out of building bridges - Laura Ajram, Medicine Discovery Catapult
10.10-10.50	Refreshment Break
10.50-11.00	Session Chair Introduction - Ian Storer, AstraZeneca & Jeff Jerman, LifeArc
11.00-11.30	Markus Ralser, Crick Institute / Dept Biochemistry, Berlin - High-throughput proteomics for gene function prediction, target discovery and precision medicine
11.30-12.00	Platinum Presentation - Richard Cuthbert, Bio-Rad
12.00-12.30	James Robinson, AstraZeneca - Automating Image Analysis with Deep Learning to Accelerate Drug Discovery and Increase Mechanistic Insight
12.30-12.45	Industry Insider Presentation - Fredrik Rahm, Pelago
12.45-12.50	Bronze Presentation - Mourad Ferhat, IsoPlexis
12.50-12.55	Bronze Presentation - Gary Allenby, Aurelia
12.55-13.00	Bronze Presentation - Ravindra Chaudhari, Nanotemper
13.00-14.30	Refreshment break - with poster session (60 mins)
14.30-15.00	Preeti Bakrania, LifeArc - Generation of fully human antibodies using high throughput IntelliSelect® Technology Platforms at LifeArc
15.00-15.30	Jo Redmond, GlaxoSmithKline - Alignment of Chemogenomic and Functional Genomic screening for target ID
15.30-15.40	Comfort Break
15.40-16.10	Marta Stebbeds, Charles River - A Huntington's disease embryonic stem cell phenotypic HTS to identify small molecule modulators of mutant HTT
16.10-16.40	David Battersby, GlaxoSmithKline High-throughput PROTAC synthesis for direct, biological assaying
16.40-17.00	Closing Session



TRACK SUMMARY

INNOVATIVE STRATEGIES SUPPORTING DRUG DISCOVERY

20th October 2021
Room 3B

Global healthcare challenges experienced over the last 18 months have accelerated the rate of change within an already innovation-led industry. Academic and pharmaceutical healthcare R&D has needed to adapt to understanding, diagnosing and treating new areas of disease, as well as embracing ways of working with more collaborative agility and flexibility. This session aims to spotlight how the ways we conduct research have

SESSION CHAIRS

Kenny Simmen
Johnson & Johnson Innovation
Laura Dickens
UKRI - Medical Research Council

changed, illustrate potential lasting shifts in practise and disease area focus, and consider where research on drug and vaccine research may be headed. Topics will include: How we pursue drug discovery through novel partnership models; How progress through discovery and development pipelines may become more agile and rapid; How we can consider diversity in health research and clinical trials.

08.00-08.50	Registration
08.50-09.00	Welcome & introductions - Conference Directors
09.00-09.50	Plenary Keynote - Looking ahead: what is next for AI in drug - Guido Lanza, Valo Health
09.50-10.10	ELRIG - Early Career Professional Impact Award - Mind the gap... making a career out of building bridges - Laura Ajram, Medicine Discovery Catapult
10.10-10.50	Refreshment Break
10.50-11.00	Session Chair Introduction - Kenny Simmen, Johnson & Johnson Innovation & Laura Dickens, UKRI, Medical Research Council
11.00-11.30	Jonathan Pearce, UKRI- Medical Research Council - The MRC's COVID-19 Research Response
11.30-12.00	Platinum Presentation - Andrew Scott, Malvern Panalytical Ltd
12.00-12.30	Annette Crosse, Equality - Improving diversity in health research and clinical trials
12.30-12.45	Industry Insider Presentation - Charlotte Kopitz, Nuvisan
12.45-12.50	Bronze Presentation - Matt Taylor, ThermoFisher
12.50-12.55	Bronze Presentation - Mark Graham, Cytiva
12.55-13.00	Bronze Presentation - Tasmin Lamont, Collaborative Drug Discovery
13.00-14.30	Refreshment break - with poster session (60 mins)
14.30-15.00	Peter Simpson, Medicines Discovery Catapult - Democratising Drug Discovery – Widening Access to Expertise and Technologies
15.00-15.30	Frank Von Delft, University of Oxford - Open drug discovery on the edge - the COVID Moonshot's quest for an antiviral pill
15.30-15.40	Comfort Break
15.40-16.10	Rachael Robbins, Vaccines Manufacturing and Innovation Centre - Learnings from Covid and how the industry needs to adjust for the future
16.10-16.40	Helen Horton, Touchlight - Transforming Research and Medicine through Synthetic Biology
16.40-17.00	Closing Session



TRACK SUMMARY

DISRUPTIVE TECHNOLOGIES

20th October 2021
Hall 1B

Whilst the drug discovery world has always been at the forefront of emerging technology, the next decade is set to be the backdrop for a convergence of enabling technologies that together will accelerate R&D into exciting new areas. Our ability to measure smaller and smaller structures whilst retaining spatial relationships and dynamics, coupled with the computing power to analyse the resulting datasets means we can directly observe relevant biological processes rather than abstracting away

SESSION CHAIRS

Carolina Wählby
Uppsala University
Mark Roberts
Tessella

from them. Huge leaps in computing power and machine learning and rapidly advancing graph techniques mean that in-silico discovery approaches can work hand in hand with experimental techniques to explore and manipulate molecular space at enormous scale, and the emerging prospect of true quantum computing raises the prospect of moving beyond simulations and abstractions of molecular interactions. This track will highlight many of the key trends in this space.

08.00-08.50	Registration
08.50-09.00	Welcome & introductions - Conference Directors
09.00-09.50	Plenary Keynote - Looking ahead: what is next for AI in drug - Guido Lanza, Valo Health
09.50-10.10	ELRIG - Early Career Professional Impact Award - Mind the gap... making a career out of building bridges - Laura Ajram, Medicine Discovery Catapult
10.10-10.50	Refreshment Break
10.50-11.00	Session Chair Introduction - Carolina Wählby, Uppsala University & Mark Roberts, Tessella
11.00-11.30	Mats Nilsson, SciLifeLab - High resolution anatomical mapping of gene expression using targeted in situ sequencing
11.30-12.00	Platinum Presentation - Sun Yung, Nexcelom
12.00-12.30	Ilaria Testa, SciLifeLab - Live cell compatible super resolution fluorescence microscopy for 3D imaging
12.30-12.45	Industry Insider Presentation - Tilmann Buerckstuemmer, Aelian Biotechnology
12.45-12.50	Bronze Presentation - Tali Bloom, Benchling
12.50-12.55	Bronze Presentation - Sylwia Mankowska, HexagonFab
12.55-13.00	Bronze Presentation - Paul Gallant, LifeNet Health Lifesciences
13.00-14.30	Refreshment break - with poster session (60 mins)
14.30-15.00	Ben Slater, Materials Innovation Factory (MIF) at Liverpool University - Chemical Materials Design
15.00-15.30	Sam Genway, Capgemini Engineering - Quantum computing: a new frontier in drug discovery?
15.30-15.40	Comfort Break
15.40-16.10	Pedro Beltrao, EBI - A structural biology community assessment of AlphaFold 2 applications
16.10-16.40	Hugo Ceulemans, Johnson & Johnson - MELLODDY: privacy-preserving federated machine learning across pharma partners
16.40-17.00	Closing Session



TRACK SUMMARY

THE BRITISH PHARMACOLOGICAL SOCIETY - OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES OF DRUGGING THE UNDRUGGABLE

20th October 2021
Hall 1C

SESSION CHAIRS

Nura Mohamed
Imperial College London

In the world of drug discovery, “undruggable” targets are proteins that are considered too challenging to bind with conventional molecules. With the rapid pace of scientific advancement, however, these “undruggable” targets now represent a promising new area of research thanks to the development of novel targeting strategies. In this

session, topics will focus upon novel screening, imaging and computer-aided drug discovery methods that are being developed to identify and target these hard-to-reach proteins. The session will also include a presentation by Daren Austin, the winner of the 2020 BPS Sir James Black Award.

08.00-08.50	Registration
08.50-09.00	Welcome & introductions - Conference Directors
09.00-09.50	Plenary Keynote - Looking ahead: what is next for AI in drug - Guido Lanza, Valo Health
09.50-10.10	ELRIG - Early Career Professional Impact Award - Mind the gap... making a career out of building bridges - Laura Ajram, Medicine Discovery Catapult
10.10-10.50	Refreshment Break
10.50-11.00	Session Chair Introduction - Nura Mohamed, Imperial College London
11.00-11.30	Daren Austin, GlaxoSmithKline Sir James Black Award Presentation - Anti-CD20, new precision medicines from old targets
11.30-12.00	Platinum Presentation - Lotta Rätty, Miltenyi
12.00-12.30	Terence Hébert, McGill University Tracking GPCR signalling- from the outside in one cell at a time
12.30-12.45	Industry Insider Presentation - Dave Madge, WuXi
12.45-12.50	Bronze Presentation - Ellen Berg, Eurofins
12.50-12.55	Bronze Presentation - Craig Malcolm, Promega
12.55-13.00	Bronze Presentation - Tomasz Kostrzewski, CN Bio Innovations Ltd
13.00-14.30	Refreshment break - with poster session (60 mins)
14.30-15.00	Yanhui Tan, Guangxi Normal University Effects of small molecule compounds targeting osteoclasts against RA bone destruction
15.00-15.30	Rongjun Chen, Imperial College London



ELRIG EVENTS 2022

KEY EVENTS

ELRIG organises up to 6 scientific conferences and 6 networking meetings per year, that will have anywhere between 40 to 1500 attendees. Meetings may be an afternoon only to 2 days in length and have a very narrow focus or contain a broad range of topics, applicable to many research areas within the drug discovery community. All events are free-to-attend, simply register at elrig.org. Remaining events for 2021 and future events for 2022 are:



EVENTS 2021

DISCOVERY TECHNOLOGIES

Alderley Park Conference Centre, Cheshire
November 9th - 10th 2021

PHARMACEUTICAL FLOW CYTOMETRY & IMAGING

Circle Square, Manchester
November 30th - December 1st 2021

EVENTS 2022

CRISPR IN DRUG DISCOVERY 2022

Babraham Research Campus, Cambridge
March 1st - 2nd 2022

DISCOVERY TECHNOLOGIES 2022

Alderley Park Conference Centre, Cheshire
September 2022

RESEARCH & INNOVATION 2022

The Kings Centre, Oxford
March 29th - 30th 2022

DRUG DISCOVERY 2022

ExCeL, London
October 4th - 5th 2022

CELL BASED ASSAY 2022

Astra Zeneca, Gothenburg
May 17th - 19th 2022

PROTEIN SCIENCES IN DRUG DISCOVERY 2022

Astra Zeneca, Cambridge
November 2022

TRANSLATING IDEAS INTO THERAPIES

The Crick, London
July 4th - 5th 2022

ROBOTICS & AUTOMATION 2022

Festo, Esslingen, Stuttgart
November 2022



ELRIG plans to run its future events face-to-face, so we will continue to observe government guidelines for the current global COVID-19 pandemic. In the event that we are unable to host those events in person or social distancing is required, they will take place virtually or as a hybrid.

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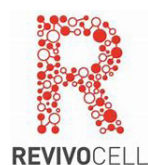
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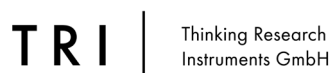
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