



Illumina Ventures 2025 Annual Meeting
The Estate Yountville, Napa Valley, California
Thursday, June 5, 2025

GENERAL SESSION AGENDA

Subject to Change

7:30 AM – 8:30 AM	Breakfast
8:30 AM – 8:45 AM	Welcome <i>Nick Naclerio – Founding Partner, Illumina Ventures</i>
8:45 AM – 10:15 AM	Hyperscale Biology – Data to Feed AI Model Generation <i>Invited Speaker: Kyle Farh, VP & Distinguished Scientist, AI Lab, Illumina</i> <i>Portfolio Spotlight: Oncko – Atray Dixit, Co-founder and CEO</i> <i>Portfolio Spotlight: Lightcast Discovery – Paul Loeffen, CEO</i> <i>Portfolio Spotlight: Protillion Biosciences – Curtis Layton, Co-founder and CEO</i>
10:15 AM – 10:45 AM	Break
10:45 AM – 11:15 AM	Successful Exits <i>Fluent BioSciences – Sepehr Kiani and Brian McKernan, Former CEOs</i> <i>Stilla Technologies – Rémi Dangla, Co-founder and CEO</i>
11:15 AM – 11:45 AM	Rapidly Scaling Companies <i>LetsGetChecked – Peter Foley, Founder and Director</i> <i>Alamar Biosciences – Yuling Luo, Co-founder, Chairman and CEO</i>

11:45 AM – 12:30 PM	Disrupting Diagnostics <i>Pattern Bioscience – Carey-Ann Burnham, CEO</i> <i>Precede Biosciences – Rehan Verjee, Co-founder and CEO</i> <i>Arima Genomics – Tom Willis, CEO</i>
12:30 PM – 1:30 PM	Lunch
1:30 PM – 2:15 PM	The Political Environment <i>Bob Cusack – Former Editor in Chief, The Hill</i>
2:15 PM – 2:45 PM	Equity Capital Markets – The Good, Bad and Ugly <i>Tim Hotchandani</i> <i>Senior Managing Director of Healthcare Services & Technology Investment Banking, Leerink Partners</i>
2:45 PM – 3:15 PM	Fireside Chat <i>Jacob Thaysen – CEO, Illumina</i> <i>Nick Naclerio – Founding Partner, Illumina Ventures</i>
3:15 PM – 3:45 PM	Break
3:45 PM – 4:15 PM	Quick Updates from Portfolio Companies <i>Predicta Biosciences – Irene Ghobrial, Co-founder and CEO</i> <i>Tagomics – Jack Kennefick, Co-founder and CEO</i> <i>Hepta Bio – Hamed Amini, Co-founder and CEO</i>
4:15 PM – 4:45 PM	Introducing Newest Illumina Ventures Portfolio Companies <i>NuCicer – Kathryn Cook, CEO</i> <i>Cubase Bio AB – Malte Kuhnemund, Co-founder and CEO</i> <i>Syntax Bio – John Craighead, CEO</i> <i>Serinus Biosciences – Adam Yaari, Co-founder and CEO</i> <i>Bullseye Biosciences – Corey Gray, Co-founder and CEO</i> <i>Integrated Biosciences – Felix Wong, CEO</i>
4:45 PM – 5:00 PM	Closing Remarks <i>Nick Naclerio – Founding Partner, Illumina Ventures</i>

5:00 PM – 5:30 PM	Transition to The West Pavilion
5:30 PM – 6:00 PM	Cocktail Reception
6:00 PM – 8:00 PM	Seated Dinner Guest Speaker: The Science of Wine Making <i>Dr. Ben Montpetit</i> <i>Richard M. Kunde Endowed Chair</i> <i>Marvin Sands Department Chair & Associate Professor</i> <i>Dept. of Viticulture and Enology, The University of California, Davis</i>
8:00 PM	Adjourn

SPEAKER BIOS

WELCOME ADDRESS



Nick Naclerio, PhD - Founding Partner, Illumina Ventures

Nick is the Founding Partner of Illumina Ventures. His passion is building companies at the intersection of technology and human health. Prior to joining the fund, he served as SVP, Corporate & Venture Development for Illumina Inc., where he was responsible for strategic planning, business development, licensing, venture investing and acquisitions. In six years, Nick and his team completed ten acquisitions, more than a dozen venture investments, and a multitude of other transactions including the formation of Helix and GRAIL and the creation of a global NIPT patent pool. Nick also served as the founding General Manager of Illumina's Enterprise Informatics Business Unit.

Before joining Illumina Inc., Nick co-founded and was the Executive Chairman of the diagnostics company Quanterix. Previously he was Executive Chairman of True Materials and CEO of ParAllele BioScience, life science tools firms that were both acquired by Affymetrix.

Nick got his start in venture investing at Motorola where he led the life science investment team and served on the boards of the SNP Consortium, Genometrix, Clinical Microsensors, and Orchid Bioscience. He founded and led Motorola Life Sciences, an early microarray company that was acquired by GE. He also held leadership positions at DARPA and served on the board of SEMATCH.

Nick received a B.S. in Engineering from Duke University, was a Winston Churchill Scholar at Cambridge University, and earned a Ph.D. in Electrical Engineering from the University of Maryland.

MORNING GENERAL SESSION

Hyperscale Biology – Data to Feed AI Model Generation



Kyle Farh, PhD – VP & Distinguished Scientist, AI Lab, Illumina

Dr. Kyle Farh is Vice President at Illumina's Artificial Intelligence (AI) Lab for Genome Interpretation, where he deciphers the clinical impact of genetic variants in rare and common diseases. Towards this goal, Kyle leads a multidisciplinary research team of deep learning scientists, statistical geneticists, and molecular biologists. Prior to joining Illumina, Kyle was an attending physician at Boston Children's Hospital. Kyle completed his postdoc fellowship in Medical and Population Genetics at the Broad Institute, and received his PhD in Molecular Biology at MIT, MD at Harvard Medical School, and BS in Computer Science from Rice University.



Atray Dixit, PhD – Co-founder and CEO, Oncko

Atray was previously co-founder and CEO of Coral Genomics a company that focused creating diagnostic tests to predict individual patient drug (and drug combination) response. After being acquired by Gordian Bio, he served as VP of Technology building in vivo perturbation screens in complex disease models.

Atray has created genomics screening technologies including Perturb-seq (used throughout pharma and by many drug discovery startups incl. Xaira, insitro, Celsius, NewLimit, and Gordian) and Shuffle-seq.



Paul Loeffen, PhD – CEO, Lightcast Discovery

Lightcast Discovery is a biotools company based in Cambridge, UK, developing a programmable microfluidic platform allowing massively parallel single-cell assay workflows for deep functional profiling and has just had a Limited Commercial Release of its platform ENVISIA in Boston in May. Paul has over 20 years of experience running analytical tools businesses having founded Oxford Diffraction, which was acquired by Varian, Inc., in 2008, and taking Cobalt Light Systems from an early stage to a successful trade sale to Agilent Technologies, in 2017; Paul subsequently worked as Vice-President at Agilent running their molecular spectroscopy business, before starting at Lightcast in 2020. Paul's background is in physics and has worked as a scientist at CERN in Switzerland, the European Molecular Biology Laboratory in Germany, and the European Synchrotron Radiation Facility in France. Paul is based in Oxford and Cambridge in the UK.



Curtis Layton, PhD – CEO and Co-founder, Protillion Biosciences

Curtis is the CEO and Co-founder of Protillion Biosciences. Curtis has pioneered high-impact technology approaches to drug discovery by uniting a broad array of interdisciplinary fields, including protein engineering, next-generation sequencing technology, molecular biology, in vitro transcription and translation, computational biology, software development, and various engineering disciplines, resulting in multiple publications and patents. Dr. Layton completed his postdoctoral fellowship in the Genetics Department at Stanford University School of Medicine, where he developed the founding technology for Protillion. He received a PhD in Computational Biology from Duke University.

Successful Exits



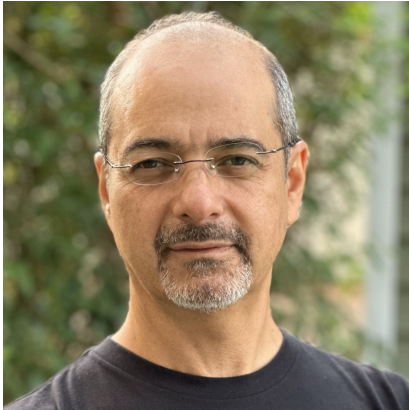
Wouter Meuleman, PhD - Partner, Illumina Ventures

Wouter was part of the founding team at Illumina Ventures and brings to the fund his 15+ years of experience in life science tools development and genomics.

Prior to Illumina Ventures, he was Director of Corporate Development at Illumina Inc., where he led investments including Desktop Genetics (acquired by Celixir in 2018). During his time at Illumina Inc., Wouter also held roles in R&D and Product Development, where he was instrumental in the development of sequencing platforms, the sourcing and evaluation of new technology opportunities, and competitive benchmarking.

An electrochemist by training, Wouter made his debut in life sciences in 2003 as first hire for Oxford University spin-out Oxamer, a company founded by Lasker-award winner Professor Sir Edwin Southern, where he contributed to the development of a benchtop DNA microarray fabrication platform. Following the company's merger with Oxford Gene Technology (later acquired by Sysmex), he continued working alongside Prof. Southern, leading R&D on single cell gene expression analysis and novel applications for DNA microarrays.

Wouter obtained a joint B.Sc./M.Sc. (magna cum laude) in Chemistry from the University of Ghent, Belgium, a Ph.D. in Chemical Engineering from the University of Newcastle, U.K., and an M.B.A. from the University of Cambridge, U.K.



Sepehr Kiani, PhD – Co-founder, Fluent BioSciences

Sepehr Kiani is an accomplished entrepreneur, engineer, and executive with over 29 years of leadership experience spanning business and technology roles. His extensive track record includes building and scaling multiple startups to successful exits, exceeding \$250M in total valuations. Career highlights include founding and leading Teradyne's fiber optics business unit, serving as Chief System Architect and Head of Engineering at Helicos BioSciences (complex single-molecule NGS platform), and playing pivotal roles at GnuBIO (droplet microfluidics-based sequencing system) as a founding executive and later VP & General Manager following its acquisition by Bio-Rad. In 2018, Sepehr founded Fluent BioSciences (single-cell genomics platform), serving as founding CEO and later as Chief Business Development Officer, leading to a successful acquisition by Illumina Inc. in 2024.

Currently, Sepehr is the founder and CEO of Vivid BioInnovations Inc., a stealth-mode biotech company. He is also a Venture Partner at VC23 Investors, and advises innovative biotech companies including Kytopen and QuickR. Additionally, he actively consults on product and machine design, AI-driven marketing, and company formation.

An accomplished inventor, Sepehr holds over 50 patents across diverse fields including semiconductor automation, fiber optics, optical systems, fluid handling, microfluidics, molecular biology, gene sequencing, and single-cell genomics.

He earned a Ph.D. and M.S. from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and B.S. from California Polytechnic State University.



Brian McKernan – Former CEO, Fluent BioSciences

Prior to his work with Fluent, Brian spent the last 20-plus years building successful operating businesses, such as Agencourt Biosciences, Agencourt Personal Genomics, Courtagen Life Sciences and Medicinal Genomics. Several of his companies were significant contributors to the NHGRI's Human Genome Project, as well as key participants in the global effort to curate gene mutation associations for neurological disease conditions. Brian has overseen and managed the implementation of highly efficient manufacturing and services operations, commercial sales organizations and sophisticated bioinformatics development initiatives.

Currently, Brian is the CEO at BioVexis, a platform company bringing leading edge solutions to the life sciences and pharmaceutical industries.

Brian has served as Chairman of the Board of the Analytical Life Sciences and Diagnostic Association, holds a BA in Computer Sciences, Business Management and Japanese, as well as an MBA in Finance from Columbia Business School.

Rapidly Scaling Companies



Peter Foley – Founder & Director, LetsGetChecked

Peter Foley is the founder and previous CEO of LetsGetChecked, a fully integrated platform which allows patients to access laboratory testing, pharmacy and clinical support services in the home. Peter has always been passionate about making healthcare patient-led, and allowing patients to be part of the diagnostic testing process and not once removed. What sparked the idea for LetsGetChecked was a personal experience which resulted in Peter not having access to diagnostic testing in a time of need. Prior to LetsGetChecked, Foley worked in a number of consultancy roles, specializing in the fields of healthcare strategy, planning, and facility development, as well as completing a law degree and masters qualification in ICD-10 coding.



Yuling Luo, PhD – Co-founder, Chairman & CEO, Alamar Biosciences

Dr. Luo is an innovator and serial entrepreneur who has dedicated his career to building life science startup companies. He is currently the Founder, Chairman, and CEO of Alamar Biosciences, a company that is reinventing immunoassays to enable ultra-sensitive and highly multiplexed liquid biopsy analysis for early disease detection.

Dr. Luo was the inventor of RNAscope, a breakthrough molecular detection technology that has pioneered spatial biology and become the gold standard in RNA tissue imaging. As the Founder, President, and CEO of Advanced Cell Diagnostics (ACD), he led the company from concept to successful product launch and commercialization. Under his leadership, ACD became one of the fastest-growing life science companies and was acquired by Bio-Techne in 2016.

Before ACD, Dr. Luo co-founded Panomics (formerly known as Genospectra), a life science company acquired by Affymetrix in 2008. At Panomics, he served in various roles, including Vice President of Functional Genomics and Chief Scientific Officer, leading the development and launch of all its flagship products. Prior to Panomics, Dr. Luo was one of the earliest senior scientists at Exelixis, now a NASDAQ-listed company, where he led a team to identify and validate novel therapeutic targets.

Dr. Luo also co-founded and served as Chairman of the board of Avida Biomed, an NGS-based liquid biopsy technology company acquired by Agilent in 2022. He is also a co-founder and board member of Attovia Therapeutics and a Venture Partner at Illumina Ventures.

Dr. Luo has published numerous research papers in top peer-reviewed journals, and his inventions are the subject of over 30 issued patents. He received a B.S. in Chemistry from the University of Science & Technology of China and earned a Ph.D. in Biochemistry from Case Western Reserve University.

Disrupting Diagnostics



Mara Aspinall – Partner, Illumina Ventures

Mara is a healthcare industry pioneer with a commitment to civic involvement and deep experience in leading genetics, genomics and diagnostics companies. Mara was President and CEO of Ventana Medical Systems, a billion-dollar division of The Roche Group, (now Roche Tissue Diagnostics). She led her world-class team to new financial success, more than two dozen major instrument and assay launches, as well as global leadership in companion diagnostics.

Mara spent 13 years at Genzyme Corporation, where she served as President of Genzyme Genetics and Genzyme Pharmaceuticals. Genzyme Genetics was a leading provider of diagnostic testing and genetic counseling in the oncology and reproductive markets. Aspinall transformed the business from a small, specialized player to one of the top five laboratories in the US while setting the industry standard for quality testing. The business was sold to LabCorp for \$1 billion. Previously, she led Genzyme Pharmaceuticals and its transformation to an international leader in specialized pharmaceutical ingredient manufacturing.

Mara has a passion for education, publishing the popular Sensitive and Specific: The Testing Newsletter and the annual Diagnostics Year in Review. This commitment to expanding knowledge drove her to create the Biomedical Diagnostics master's degree program at Arizona State University, the only program dedicated exclusively to diagnostics, genetics and genomics.

During the pandemic, Aspinall emerged as a national authority on COVID testing. She was the principal investigator at ASU on grants from The Rockefeller Foundation, creating and implementing TestingCommons.com and EvidenceCommons.com – the internationally recognized interactive databases on COVID tests and related research.

Most recently, Mara co-founded BlueStone Venture Partners with a strong portfolio of diagnostic, medical device and digital health companies in the US Southwest.

She was named Arizona Biosciences Leader of the Year by the Arizona Biotechnology Association and one of the “100 Most Inspiring People in Life Sciences” by PharmaVOICE magazine. She holds an MBA from Harvard Business School, a BA from Tufts University, and is certified in Cybersecurity Oversight from Carnegie Mellon / NACD.



Carey-Ann Burnham, PhD – CEO, Pattern Bioscience

In March 2022, Carey-Ann joined Pattern as Chief Clinical Officer and in December of 2024 she was named Chief Executive Officer. Carey-Ann has nearly 20 years of experience as a clinical microbiologist and leader; prior to joining Pattern, she served as a professor of pathology and immunology, molecular microbiology, pediatrics, and medicine at Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis, and the medical director of clinical microbiology at Barnes-Jewish Hospital. Carey-Ann is passionate about innovation in diagnostics and the thoughtful use of technology to improve human health, and is a respected leader and investigator in the clinical microbiology and infectious disease space.

Carey-Ann has been recognized with industry awards including the American Society for Microbiology Award for Research and Leadership in Clinical Microbiology, the Academy of Clinical Laboratory Physicians and Scientists Ellis S. Benson Award, and recognition as a “40 Under 40” honoree by the American Society for Clinical Pathology. Carey-Ann has more than 300 peer-reviewed publications and has held several leadership roles in clinical microbiology, including serving as an editor for the Journal of Clinical Microbiology, co-editor in chief for Clinical Microbiology Procedures Handbook, 5th ed., and serving as the founding editor-in-chief for ASM Case Reports, a new journal from the American Society for Microbiology.



Rehan Verjee – Co-founder and CEO, Precede Biosciences

Rehan is the founding CEO of Precede Biosciences, a company focused on maximizing precision use of medicines through a powerful blood test technology. Prior to co-founding Precede Bio, Rehan was a member of the Healthcare Executive Committee at Merck KGaA from October 2015 to March 2022 serving as the President of EMD Serono and as the Chief Marketing and Strategy officer of Merck Healthcare. In these roles, Rehan was responsible for growing the global, multi-billion dollar specialty medicine franchises of oncology, neurology, immunology and infertility, which included leading the North American business, co-chairing the new medicinedevelopment committee (responsible for all R&D decisions from Phase 1 to approval), leading global business development, chairing global R&D alliances, and owning the launch of new medicines across the major markets. Rehan is currently a member of the board of directors of Precede Biosciences, Tyra Biosciences, and the Massachusetts Biotechnology Council, and he holds a master's degree in molecular and cellular biochemistry from the University of Oxford in the U.K.



Tom Willis, PhD – CEO, Arima Genomics

Tom joined Arima Genomics as its CEO in June 2025. Arima is dedicated to transforming cancer diagnosis and therapy selection through its proprietary platform to reveal otherwise unmeasurable structural mutations.

Tom has been an entrepreneur in the genomics industry for the past 20 years, during which time he founded and successfully exited two startups in the genomic tools and diagnostic space. Early in his career, Tom directed technology development efforts at the Stanford Genome Technology Center during the human genome project. He left Stanford in 2001 to found his first venture, ParAllele BioScience, where he served as the founding CEO. After two rounds of venture financing and the successful development and commercialization of high throughput genotyping tools, ParAllele was acquired by Affymetrix in 2005.

Tom founded his second venture, Sequentia in 2008. As CEO, he and his team developed and commercialized a sequencing-based platform for the assessment of the human immune repertoire. ClonoSEQ, the lead diagnostic indication, enables the assessment of residual disease in leukemia and lymphoma. This technology has been widely adopted by major cancer centers and established as the standard of care in the National Comprehensive Cancer Network (NCCN) guidelines. In 2015 Sequentia merged with Adaptive Biotechnologies to build a public immune platform company.

Tom received his Ph.D. in Physics from Stanford University after earning a Bachelor of Science in Physics from Yale University.

AFTERNOON GENERAL SESSION

The Political Environment



Bob Cusack – Former Editor in Chief, The Hill

Bob Cusack has been reporting on policy and politics in the nation's capital since 1995. He joined The Hill as Business and Lobbying editor in 2003 and became the newspaper's managing editor a year later. He became the editor in chief in 2014.

Cusack has won five awards from the National Press Club and the Society of Professional Journalists for investigative articles on a range of issues, including national security, healthcare and 2008 presidential politics surrounding Hurricane Katrina.

Cusack regularly appears on MSNBC, Fox, ABC and CNN as a political analyst.

Before joining The Hill, Cusack was a chief editor at Inside Washington Publishers.

A native of New York City, Cusack received his B.A. in journalism from Loyola College in Maryland. He is a member of the Screen Actors Guild and has appeared in commercials, television shows and feature films.

Equity Capital Markets – The Good, Bad and Ugly



Tim Hotchandani

Senior Managing Director of Healthcare Services & Technology Investment Banking, Leerink Partners

Tim Hotchandani is a Senior Managing Director of Healthcare Services & Technology Investment Banking.

Prior to joining Leerink Partners, Mr. Hotchandani served as a Managing Director at Rothschild & Co, specializing in the coverage of Life Science Technology companies globally. Previously, he was a Managing Director at Deutsche Bank and began his career as an investment banking analyst at Lehman Brothers and Thomas Weisel Partners LLC.

Mr. Hotchandani earned a Bachelor of Business and Economics from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. He is also a CFA® charterholder.

Fireside Chat



Jacob Thaysen, PhD – CEO, Illumina

Jacob Thaysen, PhD is Chief Executive Officer of Illumina. Prior to joining the company in 2023, Thaysen served as president of the Life Sciences and Applied Markets Group and Diagnostic and Genomics Group at Agilent; corporate vice president of R&D at Dako; and management consultant at Copenhagen Consultancy Company (now Bain & Co). Early in his career, he was founder and chief technology officer of Cantion, a research and defense application development company based in Denmark. Thaysen is Chairman of the ALDA Board (Analytical, Life Science and Diagnostic Association) and is a San Diego Chapter member of the American Cancer Society's CEOs Against Cancer. Thaysen holds an MSc and PhD in physics from the Technical University of Denmark.

Portfolio Companies



Irene Ghobrial, MD – Co-founder and CEO, Predicta Biosciences

Dr. Ghobrial is the Senior Vice President for Experimental Medicine, Director of the Center for Early Detection and Interception of Blood Cancers, Co-Leader of the Lymphoma/Myeloma Cancer Center Program, Lavine Family Chair for Preventative Cancer Therapies, Director of the Ghobrial Lab, and Professor of Medicine at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute and Harvard Medical School. Her research focuses on precursor conditions of multiple myeloma, aiming to understand genetic, epigenetic, and immune mechanisms of disease progression, identify novel biomarkers, and develop therapies to eliminate disease before progression. She has led 15+ clinical trials in Waldenstrom macroglobulinemia and multiple myeloma precursor conditions. Dr. Ghobrial received her MD in 1995 from Cairo University School of Medicine, Egypt. She completed her Internal Medicine training at Wayne State University., and her Hematology/Oncology subspecialty training at Mayo Clinic College of Medicine. She joined Dana-Farber in the field of Waldenstrom's macroglobulinemia and multiple myeloma in 2005.



Jack Kennefick, PhD – Co-founder, Director and CEO, Tagomics

Dr Jack Kennefick is the Co-founder, Director, and CEO of Tagomics, developers of a groundbreaking multi-omic biomarker discovery and diagnostic platform. Under his leadership, Tagomics has raised \$10 million across two funding rounds, graduated from the Start Codon Healthcare Accelerator, and became the first company to join Illumina Venture Labs' European site. Jack holds a PhD in Epigenetics from the University of Birmingham and recipient of the prestigious Royal Society of Edinburgh Enterprise Fellowship and Innovate UK ICURe Fellowship, advanced business and entrepreneurship programmes.



Hamed Amini, PhD – Co-founder and CEO, Hepta Bio

Hepta Bio is a precision diagnostics company pioneering the use of cfDNA genomics and AI to develop scalable, non-invasive tests for chronic disease. Hepta's lead focus is on MASH, where it aims to transform diagnosis and monitoring through a blood-based liquid biopsy platform. Prior to founding Hepta in 2022, Hamed was Director of Bioinformatics and Data Science at GRAIL, where he was part of the founding team from 2016. He led core functions across product development, machine learning, and translational strategy, and played a pivotal role in the development and launch of Galleri, GRAIL's flagship multi-cancer early detection test. Before GRAIL, Hamed was a scientist in Illumina's research division, leading initiatives at the forefront of NGS technology. Hamed holds a B.Sc. in Mechanical Engineering from Sharif University of Technology (2008) and earned his M.Sc. in Mechanical Engineering (2009) and Ph.D. in Biomedical Engineering (2012) from UCLA.



Kathryn Cook – Co-founder and CEO, NuCicer

Kathryn Cook has worked in a variety of roles since 2007. In 2007, they were a Summer Intern at the Office of Information Technology for UC Davis School of Law, where they developed an understanding of C# and HTML. In 2008, they were a Student Researcher at Berkeley Lab, researching InGaN for its photovoltaic potential. In 2009, they were a Summer Intern at Boeing, where they designed and built a Thin Plate Fourier Thermal Conductivity Testing Apparatus. Kathryn also held the role of UC Berkeley Section President for the Society of Women Engineers. In 2010, they were a Graduate Student Researcher at UC Berkeley and a Summer Analyst at Goldman Sachs. From 2011 to 2015, they held various roles at Boeing, including Project Manager and Systems Engineer and Materials, Physics, and Process Engineer. In 2014, they were President-Elect of the Pacific Northwest Section, Society of Women Engineers. From 2015 to 2019, they held various roles at Facebook, including Senior Technical Program Manager, AI/ML and Senior Technical Program Manager, Aquila. Since 2019, they have been the Chief Executive Officer and Co-founder of NuCicer. Kathryn Cook obtained a Bachelor of Science in Materials Science and Engineering from the University of California, Berkeley in 2010. Kathryn then went on to obtain a Master of Science in Materials Science and Engineering from the same university in 2011. In 2012, they obtained a Certified Associate in Project Management from the Project Management Institute. In 2014, they obtained an Aircraft Composite Materials and Manufacturing Certificate from the University of Washington, as well as a Management of Technology Certificate from the University of California, Berkeley, Haas School of Business in 2011.



Malte Kühnemund, PhD – Co-founder and CEO, Cubase Bio AB

Malte Kühnemund is co-founder and CEO of Cubase Bio, a Stockholm, Sweden based pre-seed stage startup. Previously, Malte was Director of RnD and site director of the 10x Genomics Sweden site, which was part of 10x Genomics. He co-founded CARTANA, a Stockholm-based company that pioneered in situ sequencing technology, making reagent kits and services available globally for research since early 2017.

Originally from Northern Germany, Malte earned a Master's degree in Biochemistry & Cell Biology from TU Braunschweig (Germany) and Lund University (Sweden). He then pursued his Ph.D. in Molecular Medicine at Uppsala University & Science for Life Laboratory in Sweden (Ulf Landegren and Mats Nilsson labs), where his work on single-molecule analysis and sequencing technologies became integral to CARTANA's portfolio.

Malte and his colleagues successfully spun out CARTANA from the Mats Nilsson lab. Since August 2020, CARTANA was part of 10x Genomics, maintaining and expanding its in situ sequencing R&D activities in Stockholm, Sweden between 2020-2024.



John Craighead, PhD – CEO, Syntax Bio

John Craighead, PhD has over 20 years of biotechnology and financial services experience and is CEO of Syntax Bio. Recently he served as COO and CFO at HALO Precision Diagnostics and CFO and head of Corporate Development at Elpiscience. Earlier, he was vice president of Strategy, Corporate Development and Investor Relations at GRAIL. He also held leadership roles at Sanofi, Atara Biotherapeutics, Lehman Brothers, Human Genome Sciences and BIO (Biotechnology Innovation Organization). Craighead is a National Science Foundation Fellowship recipient and received his PhD in cell biology from Scripps Research in La Jolla, California. He has authored numerous academic publications in the fields of eukaryotic transcription regulation and clinical development economics, holds a BA in chemistry and molecular biology from St. Olaf College and was awarded the Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship as an undergraduate.



Adam Yaari, PhD – Co-founder and CEO, Serinus Biosciences

Adam is the CEO and Co-Founder of Serinus Biosciences. Prior to Serinus, Adam specialized in AI models for complex problem solving. He gained his industry development skills through engineering roles of increasing responsibilities at Microsoft and as the VP of R&D at his previously co-founded company - Empirical. Adam further evolved his biomedical expertise as a research fellow at MIT, Boston Children's Hospital, and Flagship Pioneering. During that time he published multiple peer-reviewed papers in top journals, including Nature Biotechnology, PNAS, and ICLR.

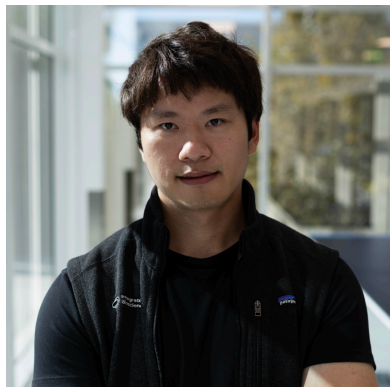
Adam forged his fortitude for the rough seas of biotech entrepreneurship throughout his six years as a Navy SEALs team leader and multiple non-profit leadership positions, promoting values-driven leadership.

Adam received his PhD and MS in computer science from MIT, MSc in computer science and mathematics from the Weizmann Institute of Science, and graduated Summa Cum Laude with a dual major in computer science and neuroscience from the Bar-Ilan University.



Corey Gray, PhD – Founder and CEO, Bullseye Biosciences

Corey Gray is the co-founder and CEO of Bullseye Biosciences, a pioneering preclinical-stage biotech company using AI and automation to develop cyclic peptides against intracellular protein-protein interactions. Prior to founding Bullseye, Corey spent over a decade at leading biotech companies including Vertex and Alnylam Pharmaceuticals. His experience spans strategy, operations, and team leadership during critical transitions from research to commercialization. At Alnylam, he focused on decision science and led cross-functional teams scaling from 5 to 20 people across geographies. Corey brings an objective, execution-focused mindset that has driven rapid scientific progress and over \$5M raised since Bullseye's inception. He is committed to building a capital-efficient, data-driven company that unlocks powerful new biology for patients.



Felix Wong, PhD – Co-founder, Integrated Biosciences

Felix Wong, PhD is CEO of Integrated Biosciences. His work spans biophysics, cellular physiology, and drug discovery, pushing the boundaries of our understanding of aging and accelerating the development of new therapies for age-related diseases. His research has been published in leading journals such as Nature, Science, and Cell.

GUEST DINNER SPEAKER

The Art of Winemaking



Dr. Ben Montpetit

Richard M. Kunde Endowed Chair

Marvin Sands Department Chair & Associate Professor

Dept. of Viticulture and Enology, The University of California, Davis

Dr. Ben Montpetit earned his PhD in Biochemistry from the University of British Columbia in 2007. He completed postdoctoral work in the areas of gene expression and RNA transport at the University of California, Berkeley, from 2008 to 2012. From 2012 to 2016, he served as an Assistant Professor in the Department of Cell Biology at the University of Alberta. In 2016, he joined the Department of Viticulture and Enology at the University of California, Davis, where his lab continues to research gene expression regulation in yeast. The Montpetit Laboratory is currently funded by the NIH, NSF, and private donors, with past funding from the Keck Foundation and other federal agencies in Canada. Dr. Montpetit currently holds the Richard M. Kunde Endowed Chair and serves as the Marvin Sands Department Chair in Viticulture and Enology.

PARTICIPANTS

ILLUMINA VENTURES

Mara Aspinall – Partner
William Byrne – Associate
Ivan Coulter – Venture Advisor
Fred Craves – Advisor
Donal Delaney – Chief Financial Officer
Malek Faham – Partner and Chief Scientist
Jay Flatley – Advisor
Yogesh Kamra – Laboratory Manager, UK Labs
Rose Lai – Senior Executive Assistant
Charles Lin – Principal
Marc Martin-Casas – Global Head of Illumina Ventures Labs
Ron Mazumder – Partner
Wouter Meuleman – Partner
Nick Naclerio – Founding Partner
Natalie Nakamoto – Executive Assistant and Office Manager
Bill Rastetter – Advisor
Tim Stenzel – Advisor
Shalaka Wahane – Lead Scientist, SF Bay Area Labs
David Walt – Advisor
Charles White – Senior Associate
Jessica Wong – Controller

LIMITED PARTNERS

Jeff Fisher – Associate Principal Scientist, Illumina
Justine Huang – Principal, Industry Ventures
Noel Jee – Partner, Novo Growth
Austin Karrat – Investment Analyst, Tufts College
Jeni Lee – Partner, Pivotal bioVenture Partners
Michele May – Self
Dusan Perovic – Partner, Two Sigma Ventures
Cande Rogert – VP, Global Head of Advanced Sciences, Illumina
Jacob Thaysen – CEO, Illumina
Ashley Van Zeeland – VP Corporate and Business Development, Illumina
Murali Venkatesan – VP and Head, Danaher Ventures
Brendan Vinnicombe – Associate Director – Strategy & Corporate Development, Illumina
Sha Wang – Founding Partner, Terra Magnum Capital Partners
Douglas Zhang – President, Novogene USA

PORTFOLIO COMPANIES

Hamed Amini – Co-founder and CEO, Hepta Bio
Carey-Ann Burnham – CEO, Pattern Bioscience
Kathryn Cook – Co-founder and CEO, NuCicer
John Craighead – CEO, Syntax Bio
Rémi Dangla – Co-founder and CEO, Stilla Technologies
Atray Dixit – Co-founder and CEO, Oncko
Felix Dobbs – Co-founder and CEO, Broken String Biosciences
Peter Foley – Founder & Director, LetsGetChecked
Irene Ghobrial – Co-founder and CEO, Predicta Biosciences
Jack Kennefick – Co-founder & CEO, Tagomics
Curtis Layton – CEO and Co-founder, Pluton Biosciences
Paul Loeffen – CEO, Lightcast Discovery
Yuling Luo – Founder, Chairman and CEO, Alamar Biosciences
Kirk Malloy – Chair and Director, Tagomics
Tom Miller – Co-founder and CEO, Iambic Therapeutics
Marc Montserrat – CEO, DNA Script
Tom O’Lenic – CEO, RedShift BioAnalytics
Kartik Ramamoorthi – Co-founder and CEO, Encoded Therapeutics
Sid Selvaraj – President, Arima Genomics
Tom Smart – CEO, Actym Therapeutics
Susan Tousi – CEO, Delfi Diagnostics
Rehan Verjee – Co-founder and CEO, Precede Biosciences
Tom Willis – CEO, Arima Genomics
Max Wilson – Co-founder, Integrated Biosciences
Felix Wong – Co-founder, Integrated Biosciences
Adam Yaari – Co-founder and CEO, Serinus Biosciences

INVITED GUESTS

Bob Cusack – Former Editor in Chief, The Hill
Kyle Farh – VP & Distinguished Scientist, AI Lab, Illumina
Tim Hotchandani – Senior Managing Director, Leerink Partners
Sepehr Kiani – Co-founder, Fluent BioSciences
Brian McKernan – Former CEO, Fluent BioSciences
Ben Montpetit – Associate Professor, UC Davis