

Start-Up Stadium

2019 Judges



Alice Chen, Vice President, Accelerator Corporation

Dr. Alice Chen has been a vice president at Accelerator since 2017. She initially joined Accelerator in 2013 as a principal to support portfolio company operations and to provide executive oversight of preclinical development activities across the portfolio. She is actively involved in sourcing and scientifically evaluating emerging biotechnology investment opportunities, and has played an instrumental role in the formation and oversight of several Accelerator portfolio companies, including Acylin Therapeutics, Magnolia Neurosciences, Nemean Pharma, and Rodeo Therapeutics.



Samuel Wu, Managing Director, Acuris Partners

Sam has been a healthcare venture capital investor since 2002. He is a founding partner at Acuris, which was recently launched by the MedImmune Ventures team out of AstraZeneca. Previously he was the managing director of MedImmune Ventures' West Coast office from 2010 to 2016, and a principal at SV Life Sciences, where he invested in a broad range of biopharmaceutical, platform and medical device companies. Sam is or has been a board member of Applied Genetic Technologies Corp (NASDAQ:AGTC), Cerapedics, Hydra Biosciences, Ocular Therapeutix (NASDAQ:OCUL), and the California Life Sciences Institute.



Ving Lee, Chief Scientific Officer, Adesis Inc.

Dr. Lee received his BA and M.S.-Ph.D. from the Ohio State University and University of Illinois at Champaign-Urbana, respectively, and held postdoctoral fellowships at U. Illinois and Harvard University (NIH). He has held leadership and technical positions at Lederle Laboratories (Cyanamid), Microcide Pharmaceuticals, Iconix Pharmaceuticals (Iconix Biosciences), Anacor Pharmaceuticals, Limerick Biopharma, and CB Research and Development.



Christine Boisrobert, Global Pharma Market Director, Air Liquide

Combining over 25 years of experience in the food and pharmaceutical industries, Christine Boisrobert is presently Global Pharma Market Director at Air Liquide, a world leader in gases, technologies and services for Industry and Health. In this role, she helps define and prioritize initiatives to better meet the needs of the pharmaceutical and biotech sector, where compliance, quality and reliability are paramount. A graduate of ENSIA – AgroParisTech (France), Christine holds an M.S. in biochemistry from DePaul University and a Certificate in international food law from Michigan State University.



Tanya Dobash, Managing Member and Attorney, Alta Law Group

Tanya Dobash works at the Alta Law Group, which represents companies in the pharmaceutical, biotechnology and medical device industries, as well as private equity and venture capital firms focused on the life sciences market.



William Mongan, Vice President, Business Development, New Product Planning and Mature Brands, AstraZeneca

William oversees US business development activities to fuel AstraZeneca's pipeline and leverage transformational commercial capabilities. Prior to his current role, William held a range of positions of increasing responsibility in AstraZeneca's commercial, business development and legal organizations. Of particular note, he managed a multi-billion dollar portfolio of primary care brands. Previously, he led AstraZeneca's Healthcare Innovation Center, which focused on pharmaceutical adjacencies such as devices, diagnostics and other healthcare technologies.



Jonathan P. Gertler, Managing Partner and CEO,
Back Bay Life Science Advisors

Jonathan P. Gertler, MD, Managing Partner and CEO of Back Bay Life Science Advisors, has over 30 years of clinical, scientific, and business experience with public and private life science companies in many fields, from diagnostics and medical devices to health care IT. A former vascular surgeon and founder of several life science companies, Dr. Gertler is a frequent speaker and writer on strategic issues facing life science companies at all stages.



Dorothy Marie-Louise Dopfer, Program
Manager Digital Health Accelerator & Community
Building, Berlin Institute of Health (BIH), Berlin
Health Innovations

Dorothy has eight years of experience supporting academic innovators and startups working in digital health, medical devices, and therapeutics. She has worked with a broad range of stakeholders such as scientists, entrepreneurs, investors, and government representatives from Germany, Europe, Israel, and the U.S. Before, she has been working in the field of science management and Entrepreneurship at the Leibniz-Institute for Crystal Growth, a 3D printing startup as well as Stiftung Charité and Freie Universität Berlin.



Frederick Jones, Partner, BioAdvance

Dr. Frederick "Rick" Jones is a life science investor, entrepreneur and physician with extensive experience in biopharmaceuticals and healthcare. Before joining BioAdvance, Rick was a Director at Broadview Ventures, a philanthropic venture investor with a mission to support early stage companies with potential breakthrough technologies in cardiovascular disease. At Broadview he participated in all aspects of the investment process including sourcing opportunities, diligence, negotiating deal terms, supporting portfolio companies and serving on corporate boards.



Barbara Schilberg, Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer, BioAdvance

Ms. Schilberg has more than 30 years of experience working with academic technologies and start-up companies in the life sciences sector. Under her leadership as CEO, BioAdvance has committed \$44 million to 58 seed-stage companies and 32 pre-seed projects focusing in areas including Alzheimer's disease, cancer, diabetes, obesity and infectious diseases. The BioAdvance portfolio companies have leveraged over \$2.71 billion in subsequent capital from venture capital, grants, collaborations, M&A activity and product revenues. Twelve portfolio companies have been acquired and two companies have completed an initial public offering.



Mike Lark, Entrepreneur in Residence, BioAdvance

Dr. Lark has over 30 years of experience at leading and managing drug discovery and development teams at both large pharmaceutical and small biotech companies. Mike is currently playing a number of roles including CSO at Mirata Pharmaceuticals, a startup biotech company focused on a synthetic endomorphin for pain. He is an Entrepreneur in Residence at BioAdvance where he is responsible for outreach to local research institutions to help bring interesting science to an investable stage.



Susie Harborth, General Partner and Chief Financial Officer, BioInnovation Capital

Susie Harborth is the general partner and CFO at BioInnovation Capital, an early-stage venture firm, and the co-founder and managing director of BioLabs San Diego, a biotech-focused coworking space. Previously, Harborth served as CFO at GnuBio, a sequencing startup that was acquired by Bio-Rad Laboratories in 2014. Prior to joining GnuBIO, Susie launched Cequent Pharmaceuticals and Boston Heart Diagnostics. Harborth is on the advisory board at LabCentral, a biotech coworking space in Massachusetts. She also co-founded Launch Bio, a nonprofit organization focused on STEM education, social impact, innovation and inclusive entrepreneurship. She is a recent recipient of Biocom's Catalyst Award.



Adam Milne, Vice President of Operations, BioLabs

Biography coming soon.



Ashok Chander, Co-Founder and Chief Technology Officer, Cellanyx

As CTO of Cellanyx, Ashok is currently advancing a novel live cell biopsy-on-a-chip technology. As reported by Boston Business Journal, Urology Today and The Wall Street Journal's Venture Wire, Cellanyx provides a first-in-class Living Cell Phenotypic cancer diagnostic platform. Ashok developed Cellanyx's core technology during a career in academic research spanning topics from multidrug resistance to matrix-biology. A Fellow of Startup Leadership Boston, Ashok combines his background in biophysics with expertise in business spanning project management, operations, team development, entrepreneurship and raising capital. Ashok is passionate about translating basic scientific discoveries into therapeutic gains. Engaged in oncology research since 1996, Ashok is exceptionally motivated to create meaningful value for patients, physicians, payers, and investors. In collaboration with Cellanyx's Scientific Advisory Board, Ashok has successfully initiated and currently leads four diagnostic clinical programs.



William D. Provine, President and Chief Executive Officer, Delaware Innovation Space

Bill is a founder and currently serves as the first President and Chief Executive Officer of the Delaware Innovation Space in addition to an ex-officio member of its Board of Directors. In this role, Bill oversees all operations of the company and is responsible for its overall performance. Prior to joining the Delaware Innovation Space, Bill worked for DuPont where he led global operations for science and engineering encompassing DuPont's open innovation practice that included oversight for DuPont's innovation centers and regional laboratories around the world. He also has served in a variety of research, marketing, business development, joint venture, and manufacturing leadership roles in DuPont. Bill is very active in cultivating and advancing science across sectors and has served on numerous university, industrial, governmental, and scientific association advisory and management boards and committees.



Fred Kielhorn, Chief Executive Officer, DeNovix Inc.

Mr. Kielhorn started his career in 1988 with DuPont and held positions in R&D, process development, logistics and market development over a 15-year period. In 2000, he had the opportunity to co-found NanoDrop Technologies Inc. and held the position of Managing Director until 2007. During this time the company developed and launched three successful products for life science research. In 2007, NanoDrop Technologies was acquired by Thermo Fisher Scientific. After a brief transition period, he then formed the venture capital firm Kielvest LLC in 2008. Over the next 3 years, Kielvest LLC made a number of investments into early-stage technology companies. Through this experience Mr. Kielhorn realized that his passion was to be more directly involved in the operations of a company, which prompted the formation of DeNovix Inc. in January 2012. Since inception, DeNovix has launched 8 analytical instruments for life science in the fields of spectrophotometry, fluorometry and imaging. Mr. Kielhorn holds a BS in Chemical Engineering from Missouri University of Science and Technology.



Tania Fernandez, Chief Executive Officer, DreamCatcher Ventures

Dr. Fernandez is the Founder & CEO of DreamCatcher Ventures, San Francisco, CA. Her decades of experience encompass scientific and medical research, venture capital, finance and entrepreneurship.

Combining the worlds of science and business, Tania specializes in working with investors and entrepreneurs to build and scale businesses effectively through a scientific and commercial analysis of technologies/products, refining of business models, corporate strategy, competitive analysis and market intelligence. Leveraging strong networks of investors, scientific advisors, key opinion leaders and regulators, alliances both nationally and internationally she assesses the risk reward profile of various ventures to create robust strategies for companies and to parallel track development in multiple markets. Dr. Fernandez has over 16 years of in-depth experience in the life sciences and 10 years of venture investing experience with Burrill & Company, San Francisco, CA, a \$1.5 B life sciences venture capital fund. As Director she was responsible for sourcing, evaluating, and executing on several successful investment transactions across the funds. In addition to the US, she also led the firm's investment strategy for India and cross-border (US-India). She previously held Board/Board observer positions on Adlyfe, Strand, White Glove Health, Bioimagine (exited via a \$100M sale to Roche) and the Advisory Board (Finance) for Express Pharma. She is also on the Editorial Board of the "Interdisciplinary Journal of Applied and Biomedical Sciences". She was also Managing Director at Burrill Equities.



Ravi Kiron, Head of BioPharma External Innovation, EMD Serono/Merck KGaA Silicon Valley Innovation Hub

Dr. Kiron is an experienced pharma/biotech executive with decades of experience from early drug discovery through late-stage clinical development, intellectual property, regulatory strategy and product commercialization. He currently serves as Head of BioPharma External Innovation at EMD Serono, the biopharmaceutical division of Merck KGaA. Dr. Kiron has consulted for dozens of life sciences companies, founded and led multiple new ventures, was an EIR at SRI Ventures, and serves currently on many company and non-profit boards. Dr. Kiron has also held operational & executive roles at Pfizer and J&J/Alza in cardiovascular and oncology R&D and strategic business development. He has a wide breadth of hands-on experience negotiating and executing partnerships, mergers and acquisitions, and has extensive global networks. Previously, he was a faculty member at Cornell University Medical College and at University of Rhode Island.



Charlotte Hubbert, Partner, Gates Foundation Venture Capital

Charlotte leads the Gates Foundation Venture Capital initiative and oversees investing in innovative technologies that support the foundation's programs in global health and agriculture. She currently serves on the board of directors of Synlogic, Sera Prognostics, Lodo Therapeutics, Omniome, and Vir Biotechnology. Prior to joining the foundation, Charlotte was a vice president at H.I.G. BioVentures, investing broadly in healthcare. Charlotte began her career in early stage biotech, investing at Accelerator Corporation, where she was part of the founding team and oversaw management of five companies: Oncofactor, Groove Biopharma, Acylin Therapeutics, Xori, and Pharmselex.



Annika Pierson, Chief Operating Officer, German Accelerator Life Sciences

Through various roles in the European and the US healthcare industries, Annika has extensive experience building strong global networks by bringing together investors, entrepreneurs, and senior industry executives. As Chief Operating Officer of ACI, she facilitates the successful US market entry of emerging companies from Europe and connects US-based startups with European investors and industry groups. Prior to joining the German Accelerator Life Sciences and founding ACI in Cambridge, MA, Annika headed the innovation and entrepreneurship programs of Charité Foundation in Berlin, including the highly successful international healthcare industry conference, Charité Entrepreneurship Summit. Annika is an outspoken advocate for innovation-friendly policies and frequent speaker on how to foster entrepreneurship on a global level. She continues to serve on the Advisory Board of the Charité Entrepreneurship Summit and has been active as advisor and mentor to startups throughout her career.



Amy Gu, Managing Partner, Hemi Ventures

Amy Gu is the founder and managing partner of Hemi Ventures, a VC firm that invests in early-stage companies in emerging technology sectors like AI, biotech, and autonomous vehicles. Amy is a leader in diversifying the male-dominated world of tech entrepreneurship and financing. Prior to her experience as an investor, Gu honed her innovation skills as an executive and adviser at companies including Evernote, Robinhood and Udacity. Amy has a long-time focus on biotech sector, whose breakthroughs hold the potential to cure devastating diseases, unlock personalized medicine, and demystify the human genome. She sits on the judging panel of BIO Conference's Start-Up Stadium for two consecutive years in 2017 and 2018. Fast Company named Amy among its "Most Creative People of 2015", "40 under 40 of 2018" by Silicon Valley Business Journal and "Rising Stars in VC" by National Venture Capital Association. She holds an MBA from Stanford.



Justin Li, Principal, Hemi Ventures

Justin focuses on biotech entrepreneurs whose breakthroughs hold the potential to cure devastating diseases, unlock personalized medicine, and demystify the human genome. He previously worked as an analyst at WI Harper Group and Green Pine Capital Partners. Prior to landing in venture, he cofounded multiple startups companies and worked on product management, market development and user acquisition. Justin earned his B.S. in Chemistry from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.



Fabian Pruissen, Program Manager, Holland BIO

As a programme manager at HollandBIO, Fabian is committed to creating a cast-iron innovation climate for life sciences companies. His ultimate goal is to pave the way for biotech start-ups and scale-ups in terms of increasing funding possibilities, boosting valorization and stimulating the biopharmaceutical ecosystem in the Netherlands. HollandBIO is the industry association of the Dutch biotech sector and connects, supports and represents hundreds of life sciences companies and organizations in the highly dense biotech community of the Netherlands. Fabian received his MSc in Biomedical Sciences from the University of Utrecht (the Netherlands) in 2013. He had several positions at the Netherlands Organisation for Health Research and Development (ZonMw) and joined the HollandBIO team in 2016.



Rick Sax, Senior Vice President, IQVIA

Rick is a 25-year veteran of the pharmaceutical industry, having held senior positions in Clinical Development at Merck & Co. and AstraZeneca. His career has included leading cardiovascular drug development at Merck, and leadership roles in the U.S. Business, Global Medical Sciences, and New Opportunities at AstraZeneca. At AstraZeneca he also helped lead their efforts to transform Clinical Development, focusing on improving program and protocol design. Rick joined Quintiles in 2011, where he oversaw the Biostatistics/Medical Writing/Global Regulatory Affairs group (Clinical Analysis & Reporting Services), Safety Knowledge & Reporting, and the Center for Integrated Drug Development – Quintile’s home for clinical program and trial design and its enabling technology platform, Infosario Design®. He was a Managing Director in QuintilesIMS Consulting Services and now is a Senior Vice-President in the IQVIA Design & Delivery Innovation group, focused on supporting biopharma companies to design integrated development, regulatory, and commercial strategies for their assets.



Adrian McKemey, Senior Vice President,
Consulting Services, Global Head, R&D Strategy
Solutions, IQVIA

Dr. Adrian McKemey is a founding member of the IQVIA Consulting Services team. As a Senior Vice President and Head of the R&D Strategy Solutions, Adrian focuses on business transformation, portfolio management, risk partnering, scenario planning and R&D strategies to help biotech, pharma and private equity develop next generation development and commercialization models. Prior to assuming leadership at IQVIA Consulting Services, Adrian was a Principal with the Boston Consulting Group (BCG) working in the Life Sciences practice in New York helping pharma clients with business process reengineering and organizational change, along with new product R&D/Commercialization strategies. Adrian has also served as a pharmaceutical and diagnostic independent strategy consultant in London and Menlo Park for companies and was a tenured faculty member at Brunel University in London and visiting professor at Stanford. Adrian holds a Ph.D. and B.Sc. from University of London in High Energy Nuclear Particle Physics.



Kenneth Kilgore, Director of Immunology
Pharmacology, Janssen Pharmaceutical Companies
of Johnson & Johnson

Ken earned his undergraduate and M.S. (Cell Biology) degrees from Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, Michigan in 1987 and 1989, respectively. In 1993, Ken obtained his Ph.D. in Cardiovascular Pharmacology at the University of Michigan followed by Postdoctoral training in the Department of Pathology (University of Michigan). After completing postdoctoral training in 1996, Ken accepted a research faculty appointment in the Department of Pharmacology at the University of Michigan. He joined, in 1998, the Inflammation Department at Warner-Lambert/Parke-Davis (Pfizer) in Ann Arbor, Michigan. Ken left Pfizer in 2005 to join GlaxoSmithKline in Collegeville, Pennsylvania where he was Head of Translational Pharmacology for the ImmunoInflammation Center of Excellence in Drug Discovery. In 2009, Ken joined Janssen Pharmaceuticals (Johnson and Johnson), where he established the ImmunoPharmacology Group within the Immunology Therapeutic Area. He is currently the head of the Early Proof-of-Concept group which seeks to establish non-traditional, external collaborations/alliances to rapidly progress early-stage assets. Ken is an author on over 60 scientific publications and has completed his Executive MBA at St. Joseph's University (Philadelphia, PA). In 2017, he received the Janssen Innovation Leadership Award for his work in the area of biodefense. Ken is also active in the biotechnology start-up community via his work on the MTRAC Life Sciences Innovation Hub at the University of Michigan (Ann Arbor, MI) as well as sitting on the Investment Committee for the Venture Capital group, BioAdvance (Radnor, PA).



Jit Patel, Principal Consultant, Jit Patel Consulting

Dr. Jit Patel is currently freelance consultant helping biotech startups (drug and device) secure strategic partnerships and capitalization. Previously Dr. Patel was Vice President of Research & Business Development at Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation (JDRF), and Director of Business Development and Venture Capital Liaison at AstraZeneca Pharmaceutical. Dr. Patel obtained his B.Sc. and PhD from Kings College, University of London. He did his postdoctoral training at the NIMH, NIH. In addition to his extensive drug hunting experience, Dr. Patel is a seasoned opportunity scout and deal maker with an extensive portfolio that includes licensing, partnerships and startups transactions.



Kara Bortone, Head of JLABS San Diego, JNJ

As Head of JLABS in San Diego, Kara is responsible for external engagement, innovation sourcing, company onboarding, portfolio management, operational excellence, educational programming and P&L. She catalyzes and supports the translation of science and technology into valuable solutions for patients and consumers across the pharmaceutical, medical device and consumer healthcare sectors. Kara joins Janssen R&D through Prescience International, where she was Director of Corporate Ventures, primarily focusing on the JLABS project. She has over 10 years experience in the European and the U.S. biotech sector. Prior to joining Prescience, Kara led the scientific communications and marketing for Belgian-based Galapagos NV at a period when the company grew from 60 to over 800 employees and completed its initial public offering on Euronext. She holds a BS in Chemistry from the University of North Carolina and a PhD in Biochemistry from the University of Texas.



John Lilly, Managing Member, Lateral Capital Management

Former Pillsbury Company CEO, John Lilly, is the Managing Member of Lateral Capital, the Early Stage investing fund he began in 2003. Now launching it's fifth Fund, Lateral Capital Funds have made 71 investments in Early Stage companies, across 19 states. Lateral Capital investments span a wide range of categories, from cancer vaccine to high technology water filtration to a new treatment for glaucoma. Lateral does not invest in startups, but looks for businesses that have finished products, patents to protect them while they grow, a path to cash flow break even and which contribute to the Common Good. Almost all Lateral investments are made in conjunction with Angel/Accelerator groups across the country including Gopher Angels

(Minneapolis), Golden Seeds (New York), Band of Angels (Palo Alto) and Tamiami Angels (Naples). Prior to his time as CEO at Pillsbury, John worked at The Procter & Gamble Company for 22 years, working on almost all of P&G's laundry, paper and food and beverage brands in 25 countries. Since leaving the world of "big company" management, he has acted as an advisor to TPG Capital, Centerbridge Partners, Lehman Brothers, Calera Capital and Goldman Sachs PIA on a wide range of M&A projects in the US, Europe and Israel.

Jae Sly, Senior Scientific Advisor, L2C Partners
Photo and biography coming soon.



Jeffrey Safran, Special Counsel, McCarter & English

Dr. Jeffrey Safran is a Special Counsel in the Wilmington, Delaware, office of McCarter & English, as part of the firm's Intellectual Property and Information Technology Practice. Dr. Safran's practice includes all segments of patent and trademark prosecution, including the preparation of patent and trademark applications; portfolio development and management; client counseling; patentability, trademarkability, non-infringement, and invalidity opinions; and due diligence. Technical areas of Dr. Safran's practice include all areas of biotechnology (such as biochemistry, immunology, cell biology, microbiology, and bacteriology), plant genetics, chemistry, chemical engineering, polymer chemistry, pharmaceuticals, pesticides and herbicides, screening and diagnostic assays, diagnostic agents, and methods of treatment. Dr. Safran also has extensive licensing experience, including intellectual property in-licensing and out-licensing, joint venture licensing, company-to-company licensing, and industry/university collaborations. Dr. Safran earned a B.S. in Biology from East Tennessee State University, a Ph.D. in Biochemistry from the University of Texas Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences, and a J.D. from the Temple University Beasley School of Law.



Genevieve Halpenny, Associate, McCarter & English

Genevieve Halpenny focuses on obtaining patents for clients in the chemical and biotechnology industries. Her primary areas of experience include drafting, filing, and prosecution of US and foreign patent applications covering small molecule drugs, industrial chemicals, electrochemical processes, polymers, and inventions at the intersection of chemistry and biology. Genevieve's practice includes performing freedom to operate, patentability, and patent portfolio analysis. Genevieve has also helped clients monetize their patents through licensing agreements and enforcement, including litigation.



Kathryn Zavala, Vice President of Operations and Business Development, MedTech Innovator

Kathryn Zavala is the VP, Operations & Business Development at MedTech Innovator, a nonprofit global competition and accelerator for medical device, digital health, and diagnostic companies. She previously held a position as Senior Technology Fellow at the UCLA Technology Development Group, where she assisted with the commercialization of university technologies. At Campbell Alliance, Kathryn developed launch strategies for biopharma clients. She received her Bachelor's from UC Berkeley, where she majored in Molecular and Cell Biology and Rhetoric. Kathryn earned her PhD in Molecular, Cell, and Developmental Biology from UCLA.



Laura Tadvalkar, Senior Associate, MP Healthcare Venture Management (MPH)

Laura is a Senior Associate at MP Healthcare Venture Management (MPH), the strategic venture capital fund of Mitsubishi Tanabe Pharma. MPH invests in early-stage biotech companies developing novel therapeutics and platform technologies, in areas of strategic interest for Mitsubishi Tanabe. Laura is currently a Board Observer at Ribometrix, which discovers and develops small molecule therapeutics to target functional RNA structures. Laura is also a Kauffman Fellow (Class 23). Previously, Laura was a Manager at Clarion Healthcare, a boutique life sciences consulting firm based in Boston. At Clarion, she worked with emerging and established biopharmaceutical companies on commercial strategy for therapeutics and drug/device combinations in rare disease and oncology.



Dan Conley, Angel Investor, NJ Angels

Since 1986, Dan Conley has provided various forms of capital and financing to Business Owners, large and small, technology-driven or not, and has created a number of “firsts” in his career. Dan was recruited as the sole Program Coordinator for GE Capital’s acquisition of the RCA Credit Corp. As one of its finance shop decision makers, he helped develop similar vendor equipment financing programs for other Manufacturing Clients of GECC, until he was recruited by Chancellor Corp, the General Partner of a series of investment trusts, leveraging syndicates of debt with equity — from single or multiple investors — to make attractive portfolio returns. Dan’s Program Coordinator role there also resulted in originating millions of dollars of new business, and improving and implementing Chancellor’s automated prospecting & profiling system, — similar to GE Capital’s R.A.C.E. system — which accelerated and refined the Rapid Application Credit Evaluation – process, from all 50 states to GECC’s central bank.



Henry Ahn, Program Director, NSF, Division of Industrial Innovation & Partnerships

Henry Ahn joined the National Science Foundation in July 2016 as an SBIR/STTR Program Director. Prior to joining NSF, Henry managed seed/early stage investment programs for TEDCO for 12 years including Technology Commercialization Fund, TEDCO’s flagship seed funding program for technology-based companies in Maryland. During his time at TEDCO, Henry was actively involved with various entrepreneurs and entrepreneur support groups as a guest speaker, an advisory board member, a judge, a mentor, among others. Additionally, Henry was part of the licensing/supplier relations team at a biotechnology company called Upstate, where he successfully negotiated, licensed and commercialized approximately 190 biomedical research reagents from around the world. Henry has also done approximately 5 years of research, mostly in the field of immunology (including graduate work). Henry has an MBA from Rice University, an M.S. in biotechnology from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville and a B.S. in biomedical engineering from Boston University.



David Crean, Managing Director, Objective Capital Partners

David H. Crean, Ph.D is a Managing Director at Objective Capital Partners, a middle market investment banking firm located in Southern California, where he leads the firm's M&A, partnering and capital financing transactions with life science and healthcare clients. Dr. Crean has in excess of 25 years of life sciences R&D and corporate development transactional experience in the pharmaceutical industry responsible for leading mergers, acquisitions, licensing and collaborations, and establishing corporate strategy. Dr. Crean holds FINRA Series 79 and Series 63 licenses and is a Registered Investment Banking Representative of BA Securities LLC, Member FINRA SIPC.



Michael Margolis, Co-Head of Healthcare Investment Banking, Oppenheimer & Co.

Michael A. Margolis, R.Ph., joined Oppenheimer & Co. Inc. in 2017 where he currently serves as Co-Head of Healthcare Investment Banking. He has over two decades of Investment Banking experience in the Life Sciences sectors. Prior to joining Oppenheimer, Mr. Margolis served as the Head of Healthcare Investment Banking at Roth Capital Partners, LLC, and as a Managing Director at Merriman Holdings, Inc. (also known as Merriman Curhan Ford Group Inc.). Before becoming an Investment Banker, Michael worked at Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corporation in several roles, including as a Director in the Global Business Development and Licensing group. He also served as an Equity Research Analyst at Ursus Capital. He began his career at Eli Lilly & Company as a Senior Pharmaceutical Representative. Mr. Margolis is a registered Pharmacist and holds an M.B.A. from New York University's Stern School of Business and a Pharmacy Degree from Rutgers University, College of Pharmacy.



Laurie Actman, Chief Marketing, Communications and Program Officer, Penn Center for Innovation

Biography coming soon.



Barbara Dalton, Senior Managing Partner, Pfizer Ventures; Vice President, Worldwide Business Development, Pfizer Inc.

Barbara Dalton, PhD is Vice President, WWBD and Senior Managing Partner of Pfizer Ventures. Barbara has been a member of Pfizer's Worldwide Business Development Leadership Team for the past 11 years where she is responsible for leading Pfizer Ventures, managing the corporation's private equity portfolio, as well as overseeing equity based transactions that support business development. She currently has responsibility for Pfizer's investments in Accelerator NYC, Artios Pharma, Complexa, Cydan, Imara, Ixchelsis, Lodo, Magnolia, Morpnic Therapeutic, Petra Pharma, and Rhythm Pharmaceuticals. Barbara has spent over 30 years in the pharmaceutical industry, most of that time as a corporate venture capitalist. She joined SmithKline's venture capital group, S.R. One, Limited in the early 1990s and was a founding member of EuclidSR Partners, a related private New York based venture capital firm, in 2000. Barbara began her career as a research scientist, pursuing anti-inflammatory drug discovery research at SmithKline and French Research Laboratories. Barbara has been a leader in the corporate venture capital world, establishing the Corporate Venture Capital Group within the National Venture Capital Association. She has been on the board of the Alzheimer's Disease Research Foundation, the NYBio organization and currently Chairs the Healthcare group of the Partnership Fund for New York City. Barbara received a BS in General Science from Penn State and a PhD in Microbiology and Immunology from the Medical College of Pennsylvania, now the Drexel University College of Medicine.



Janet Reed, Partner, Potter Anderson & Corroon LLP

Janet E. Reed is a partner, and leads the intellectual property transactional and counseling practice, at Potter Anderson & Corroon LLP, a prominent law firm in Wilmington Delaware. Janet has extensive experience in domestic and foreign patent prosecution, patent portfolio management and strategic planning, trademarks, evaluation of new technology, and drafting of license and other commercialization agreements. Janet's current passion is counseling small companies and entrepreneurs to give them a solid foundation in IP management and strategy as they grow and commercialize their technology. In addition to her nearly 30 years of legal background, Janet holds a Ph.D. in biochemistry and a Master's degree in plant pathology.



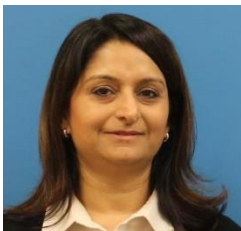
Walter Olesaik, Partner, Remiges Ventures

Walter has over 24 years experience in business development, healthcare consulting and venture investment. Walter spent 8 years in venture investments with Mitsui Ventures, during which time he held positions as a board member or observer in 10 portfolio companies. Prior to Mitsui Walter spent 6 years with Cambridge Pharma Consultancy (an IMS Health company) advising on global pharmaceutical pricing, reimbursement and market access issues to leading pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies. Prior to Cambridge, Walter spent 8 years in Tokyo in various roles with Genzyme Japan and SRL, Inc. Walter holds a AB in Biochemical Sciences from Harvard University and MBA from Cornell University.



Karen Keller, Partner, ShawKeller

She has led teams in patent infringement lawsuits involving agricultural chemicals, human and veterinary pharmaceuticals, high-performance liquid chromatography, biotechnology products, and networking technologies. In late 2012, Chambers USA Women in Law recognized Karen's work by nominating her for its 2013 Up and Coming Intellectual Property Lawyer of the Year Award. Karen also serves as a member of the Sedona Conference's Patent Litigation Working Group 10 on Patent Litigation Best Practices and has been a faculty member for various corresponding Working Group Meetings. Karen served as the President of the Delaware Chapter of the Federal Bar Association, the primary liaison between the district court bench and the Delaware federal bar. In 2013, Karen was recognized for her service to the District of Delaware with the Judge Caleb R. Layton, III Service Award.



Anjali Kumar, Due Diligence Lead, Corporate Development, Shire

Anjali is an accomplished biopharmaceutical industry leader with over 20 years of experience encompassing drug discovery and development, corporate strategy, program leadership and business development. She possesses a blend of big pharma (Genetics Institute/Wyeth, Shire), small biotech (Critical Therapeutics, Flexion Therapeutics) and consulting (Clinquest, Inc.) experience with different treatment modalities in multiple therapeutic areas including rare diseases, inflammatory, respiratory, autoimmune and joint conditions, pain, ophthalmology, cardiovascular and thrombotic diseases and coagulation and oncology. She is skilled in the science, operations and business of drug discovery, development and commercialization and in leading high-functioning cross-functional teams.



Tom Gordon, Managing Director, Silicon Valley Bank

Tom Gordon is a Managing Director for Silicon Valley Bank, leading a dedicated team of professionals in the Mid-Atlantic region. Tom focuses on developing and expanding SVB's market share in the healthcare verticals important to SVB including medical device, drug discovery, diagnostics and healthcare IT. Tom works directly with management teams to bring the full SVB platform including debt solutions, treasury and investment management and foreign exchange. The Philadelphia based team also works closely with the venture capital and private equity firms investing in these verticals. Tom joined SVB Financial in 2004. Prior to SVB, Tom worked in Middle Market Corporate Banking and Specialty Finance at PNC Bank and Bank of America. Tom is active in many of the organizations that support the entrepreneurial communities in Pennsylvania and New Jersey, including the Philadelphia Alliance for Capital and Technologies (PACT), Life Sciences Pennsylvania, New Jersey Bio, The New Jersey Technology Council and the Pittsburgh Venture Capital Association. Tom holds a degree in Finance from the Pennsylvania State University and an MBA from the Erivan K. Haub School of Business at St. Joseph's University.



Julie Betts, Managing Director, Silicon Valley Bank

Julie Betts leads SVB's Life Science Strategic Advisory effort, where she is responsible for managing client engagements and leading execution for advisory projects, including deal sourcing and introductions, benchmarking, strategic valuations, structuring and transaction support. Prior to joining SVB Analytics, Julie worked for 10 years at Greenhill & Co LLC, a boutique investment bank, spending time in both their New York and London offices. While at Greenhill, Julie advised both public and private companies on M&A and restructuring transactions. She managed both buy-side and sell-side processes, completed complex corporate valuations, conducted transaction negotiations and provided strategic advice. Julie has broad experience across a range of sectors, with a focus on healthcare. Before Greenhill, Julie also worked at Prudential Securities in the M&A Group and at J.P. Morgan in the Syndicated Leveraged Finance Group. Julie received an M.B.A. with honors from Columbia Business School and a B.S. from the McIntire School of Commerce at the University of Virginia with concentration in finance.



Laura Scott, Market Manager, Head of Credit Solutions and Mid-Atlantic & Southeast Life Science & Healthcare, Silicon Valley Bank

Laura Scott oversees business development and relationship management in the Mid-Atlantic and Southeast markets for Silicon Valley Bank's Life Science practice. From offices in Atlanta, Philadelphia and northern Virginia, her team builds client relationships, advises companies on strategic growth, and tailors financial services/solutions with a focus on debt financing for companies across all life science sectors and life stages. In her 20 years with Silicon Valley Bank, Laura has developed a wide range of relationships supporting growth in the global technology and life science innovation ecosystem. Having held prior leadership roles at Flagship Bank & Trust, Fleet Bank, and Bank of New England she brings 30 years of commercial banking experience including venture debt, asset based lending, real estate lending, structured finance, securitizations, portfolio management, credit policy, and turnaround management. Laura resides in Boston and holds a BA in International Relations and Spanish from Tufts University and an MBA from Boston University.



Arvind Gupta, Founder and General Partner, SOSV/IndieBio

Arvind founded IndieBio, the world's largest biotech program based seed fund. Using a blend of scientific method and design thinking Arvind and the IndieBio team funds startups that can impact over a billion people or address markets over a billion dollars. Beginning his professional life as an options market maker in the Pacific Coast Exchange in the Microsoft pit, Arvind left trading in search of a career with deeper meaning. Arvind set out and discovered design when IDEO hired him. As a design director of product development and strategy at IDEO, he led the team that designed the Samsung Galaxy Curve, amassed 8 patents, received many international design awards and moved to Shanghai to build the Asia product design team. Further, Arvind co-founded Starters, a personal fitness app that gained thousands of users in 98 countries. Joining SOSV in 2013, Arvind became a venture capitalist to invest in biotech and deep science technologies including AR/VR and new user interfaces. He is a regular speaker at TEDx, TechCrunch Disrupt, Slush conference, Startup Iceland and SFMOMA among others. His writing appears in Nature, Rotman, Forbes and Design Observer. He has been awarded 8 US Patents and has had his work in the SF Museum of Modern Art. Arvind received his B.S. in Genetic Engineering from UCSB and studied Industrial Design at SFSU.



Mona Jhaveri, Founder and Executive Director,
Sound Affects

Mona is the Founder and Executive Director of Sound Affects, a 501(c)3 charitable organization. She launched Sound Affects to address the “Valley of Death,” the growing gap in funding that constrains the translation of cancer research discoveries into clinical applications. Sound Affects’ approach is a crowdfunding platform for biotechnologies addressing unmet needs in the cancer space. To reach the crowd, Sound Affects strategically partners with independent musical artist and music industry platforms to help raise funds and awareness. Mona holds a doctorate in biochemistry from the Bowman Gray School of Medicine of Wake Forest University. She trained as a post-doctoral fellow at the National Cancer Institute. Mona was granted the SPORE Fellowship Award for Breast Cancer Research at the Lombardi Cancer Center of Georgetown University. She subsequently specialized in intellectual property and technology transfer while at the Ludwig Institute for Cancer Research.



Rajeev Dadoo, Partner, SR One

Rajeev joined SR One in 2004 and is an alum of the Kauffman Fellows Program. Rajeev has previously worked in the Competitive Excellence group within GSK on company-wide strategic and operational projects. Rajeev has also worked at Genentech, where his role included technology and clinical development, and at BIO-Rad Laboratories in a product development role. In addition, he worked at Genome Therapeutics in business development and was a co-founder of Unimicro Technologies.



Unity Stoakes, President and Co-founder, StartUp Health

Unity Stoakes is on a life-long mission to achieve the impossible: to improve the health and wellbeing of everyone in the world. By combining the power of moonshot thinking, a transformer mindset, and collaborative communities, he believes anything is possible. In 2011, Unity co-founded StartUp Health with Steven Krein, his business partner of more than 20 years, to organize, support, and invest in a global army of Health Transformers to embark on one extraordinary crusade: to achieve 10 Health Moonshots, each of which can improve the lives of at least one billion people. Today, StartUp Health has the world’s largest portfolio of health innovation companies (more than 250 from 20+ countries and six continents) and has assembled a worldwide network of

200,000 innovators, industry leaders, and investors committed to supporting the entrepreneurs reinventing the future of health. Over the coming years, StartUp Health will invest in thousands of Health Transformers committed to achieving Health Moonshots. Unity has been a tech entrepreneur since the mid-nineties, previously co-founding OrganizedWisdom and helping build The Privacy Council, Middleberg Interactive, and Webstakes.com/Promotions.com, which he helped take public on NASDAQ with his business partner of 20 years, Steven Krein. Unity is a contributing writer for Forbes, has appeared on Bloomberg TV, CNBC, CNN, NPR, and USA Today, and speaks to entrepreneurs, world leaders, and CEOs around the world about the future of health. He is the publisher of StartUp Health Magazine and co-host of StartUp Health NOW, a weekly web series about Health Transformers.



John Cumbers, Founder, SynBioBeta

John Cumbers is the founder of SynBioBeta. John is passionate about education and on the use and adoption of biological technologies. He has received multiple awards and grants from NASA and the National Academy of Sciences for his work in the field. John has been involved in multiple startups such as those producing food for space, microbes to extract lunar and martian resources, and hoverboards! John is an active investor through the DCVC SynBioBeta Fund and his synthetic biology syndicate on AngelList. John received a PhD in Molecular Biology, Cell Biology, and Biochemistry from Brown University, a MSc in Bioinformatics from Edinburgh University and an undergraduate degree from the University of Hull in Computer Science with Information Engineering.



Vinit Nijhawan, Managing Director, UnitedLex Corporation

Vinit Nijhawan is Interim Executive Director at Massachusetts Technology Transfer Center in UMass President's Office. Vinit was Managing Director at UnitedLex focused on academic IP commercialization. Vinit was Managing Director, Office of Technology Development at Boston University where he launched 8 venture-backed spinoffs and successfully executed a patent monetization program. Vinit teaches MBA courses on Entrepreneurship at BU Questrom School of Business, over 500 students have taken his courses. Vinit has over 30 years experience building five startups: as CEO of three, five were acquired. Vinit was Venture Partner at Key Venture Partners and his one investment was acquired for \$430M. Vinit is an advisor and board member to several technology startups and was a Mass High Tech All-Star in 2005. Vinit has

participated in over 240 panel discussions and paper presentations, and was a Board Member of Mass Ventures, an early stage, quasi-public Massachusetts venture capital firm, a co-founder of EdTech Accelerator/Incubator LearnLaunch, ex-President of Massachusetts Association of Technology Transfer Offices and co-founder of Waterloo Alumni Angels. Vinit is also serving or has served on non-profit boards of VentureCafe Foundation, National Academy of Inventors, TiE Global. Vinit earned a B.A.Sc in electrical engineering from the University of Waterloo in Ontario, Canada.



Joy Goswami, Assistant Director of the Office of Economic Innovation and Partnerships, University of Delaware

Joy is the Assistant Director of the Office of Economic Innovation and Partnerships, where he oversees and manages technology transfer activities and corporate partnerships for the University of Delaware. Among his other roles, Joy is actively involved in managing intellectual property, assisting in establishing start-up and spin-off companies and bringing forth university-industry collaborations & partnerships. He has more than twenty years of experience in the field of business development and a career that has produced highly regarded commercialization strategies and outreach practices of novel technologies in engineering, biotechnology, agriculture and bio-medical sector. Joy is a Registered Patent Agent for the US Patent & Trademark Office. He is also a Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR/STTR) reviewer for the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and a Howard Bremer Scholar. Joy earned his Bachelor's and Master of Science in Biology from Delhi University South Campus, and his MBA from the Herberger's College of Business, St. Cloud State University, Minnesota, USA. He earned his Registration as a Technology Transfer Professional (RTTP) from the Alliance of Technology Transfer Professionals.



John Ryan, Managing Director, Wells Fargo Strategic Capital.

John is a managing director and leads the Healthcare Division for Wells Fargo Strategic Capital, which provides venture and growth private equity and debt capital financing solutions to companies across most sectors of the healthcare industry. Earlier in his career John was a Managing Director with ONSET Ventures and before that he focused on health care related investments for JPMorgan Partners and Morgan Stanley Venture Partners. Prior to his work as a venture capital and private equity investor, John worked with Morgan Stanley as an investment banker serving healthcare companies. John holds an M.B.A. from the Harvard Business School and a Bachelor of Science degree with high honors from the University of Colorado.



Gregory Tronto, New Product Development Leader, W.L. Gore Associates

Throughout his 30+ year career, Greg Tronto has earned a reputation as an innovative new business builder. He has a proven track record of identifying and establishing market-driven product concepts and leading the early stage development of high-growth, long term sustainable products for Gore. Greg joined W.L. Gore & Associates, Inc. in 1988, working in applications engineering and technical sales in the industrial filtration market. The majority of his career has been working in product development, building external collaborations and strategic alliances, and leading newly formed teams and businesses. He has extensive global experience, including European and Asian industrial market development. Greg has authored industry white papers and has been a presenter at leading industry trade events and forums. Currently, he works as business development lead for Gore's PharmBIO Products, which was established in 2009. His focus is to continue to build a portfolio of differentiated products by creating and shaping new product concepts which tie to Gore's core technologies that aim to serve the pharmaceutical and biopharmaceutical markets.



Cees de Wit, Co-founder and Managing Partner, Whale Bay & Co.

Cees is one of two co-founders and managing partners of the Whale Bay Group. The Whale Bay Group is an advisory firm solely focused on the Life Sciences Industry with offices in Rotterdam, Basel and Boston. Part of the Whale Bay Group is the Holland US Bridge Program. During his 15 year career, Cees has always worked at the intersection of life science IP, finance, legal and strategy. His strength lies in his eye for detail whilst generating results serving the bigger picture. Cees has structured and negotiated multiple financings, both debt and equity, with ticket sizes ranging from \$300,000 to \$50 million. In addition Cees has been involved in numerous M&A transactions with a total deal value north \$2.5 billion. In his current role, Cees represents clients across the board of the life sciences landscape including biotech, medtech and digital healthcare companies, listed biotech and pharma companies, as well as investors. Prior to co-founding the Whale Bay Group, Cees worked as a corporate lawyer for Simmons & Simmons and Deloitte, where he focused on the Life Sciences industry.



Jasper Evers, Co-founder and Managing Partner, Whale Bay & Co.

Cees is one of two co-founders and managing partners of the Whale Bay Group. The Whale Bay Group is an advisory firm solely focused on the Life Sciences Industry with offices in Rotterdam, Basel and Boston. Part of the Whale Bay Group is the Holland US Bridge Program. During his career that spans almost 2 decades, Jasper has been strategically advising clients in the life sciences industry comprising of multi-nationals, SME's and private equity firms. During his tenure, he structured and negotiated numerous acquisitions, licensing and financing deals around the globe totaling more than \$3.5 billion. Prior to founding the Whale Bay Group, Jasper was an associate partner at Deloitte, where he co-headed the life sciences practice in the Netherlands.



Kristen Cramer, Partner, Womble Bond Dickinson

Veteran IP attorney Kristen Healey Cramer represents domestic and international clients in high-stakes patent infringement litigation. Kristen has served as lead counsel in patent infringement actions in federal district and appellate courts and in inter partes review proceedings before the Patent and Trial Appeal Board. She also has served as local trial counsel in the districts of both Delaware and New Jersey. In addition to representing pharmaceutical clients in Hatch-Waxman litigation, she has litigated patent matters involving medical devices, biotechnology, consumer products and electronics, computer networks, power and business methods, among other technologies and assets. She also advises clients regarding transactional IP matters, including licenses and other agreements, and provides patent opinions. Kristen's peers selected her for inclusion in Best Lawyers in America for Intellectual Property Litigation. Kristen is involved in several bar associations and performs pro bono service representing children with Delaware's Office of Child Advocate. She also leads the firm's IP Content Committee and is active in the ACC's Greater Philadelphia chapter and DelawareBIO.

