

## SCHEDULE AS OF MAY 3, 2024

 = Keynote Speaker  = Speaker  = Panel Discussion

### MONDAY, MAY 20 • PRE-EVENT

Open to all Registered Attendees

Separately Ticketed Event

2:00 PM –  
8:00 PM

 UCLA Campus  
Ackerman Union Ballroom

#### Nucleate Final Pitch Showcase

8 PhD teams from area universities present their startups

### TUESDAY, MAY 21 • PRE-EVENT

9:00 AM –  
1:30 PM

 Roundtrip Bus Tour from  
UCLA-Pasadena-UCLA

#### Pasadena Ecosystem Tour

Xencor Caltech based public biotech

Caltech Famous Higher Ed Campus - what "Big Bang Theory" TV show is loosely based on

Protomer Technologies A wholly owned subsidiary of Eli Lilly  
101 South Marengo an example of re-purposed space for bioscience

HMRI – Huntington Medical Research Institute – emerging leader in biotech and lifescience ecosystem

Doheny Eye Institute – Leader in Human Eyesight

Open to LABEST VIPs Only

39 spots

Sponsored by JLL



1:00 PM –  
7:30 PM

 Skirball Cultural Center

#### First Look SoCal Innovation Showcase 2024

Alliance for SoCal Innovation  
24 startup teams pitch

#### Keynote Address

Keith Strier, Vice President, Worldwide AI Initiatives, NVIDIA

Open to all Registered Attendees

Separately Ticketed Event

Continuous complimentary shuttle loop from UCLA to venue  
Sponsored by Yuyu Pharma



### WEDNESDAY, MAY 22 • VIP PRE-EVENT

Open to LABEST VIPs Only

8:00 AM -  
Noon

 UCLA Campus

#### UCLA Lab Tours

TBA

9:30AM

 Roundtrip Bus Tour from  
UCLA-Torrance -UCLA

#### The Lundquist Institute and Biolabs Tour

The Lundquist Institute has more than 120 principal investigators and 400 researchers in total working on 600 research studies  
Biolabs LA at The Lundquist Institute now houses 30 start-up bioscience companies



Bonus stop: Kings Hawaiian, a uniquely Aloha Experience by serving irresistible baked goods and Hawaiian foods.

Noon

 Campus and Westwood  
Restaurant

#### Lunch on Your Own

UCLA Ackerman Student Union Eateries  
Westwood Village Dining

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Wednesday, May 22 Continued

1:30 PM	 Luskin Conference Center Legacy AB, 2nd Floor, South Wing	 <b>Gateway to Drug Development Collaboration</b>	<p>Panelists:</p> <p><b>Mike Jung</b>, Professor, <a href="#">Chemistry and Biochemistry</a>, UCLA  <b>Stuart Conway</b>, Michael and Alice Jung Endowed Chair of <a href="#">Medicinal Chemistry and Drug Discovery</a>, UCLA</p>	<i>Open to LABEST VIPs Only</i>
2:00 PM	 Luskin Conference Center Legacy AB, 2nd Floor, South Wing	 <b>“Exciting Progress &amp; Innovative Advancements in Ophthalmology”</b>	<p>Panelists:</p> <p><b>Dennis O. Clegg</b>, Wilcox Family Chair in Biomedicine, Co-Director, Center for Stem Cell Biology and Engineering, Professor, <a href="#">Department of Molecular, Cellular and Developmental Biology</a>, UCSB  <b>Peter Francis</b>, Chief Scientific &amp; Chief Medical Officer, <a href="#">Ray Therapeutics</a>  <b>Kristin Macdonald</b>, Retinitis Pigmentosa Patient Advocate  <b>Douglas Tsao</b>, Managing Director, <a href="#">H.C. Wainwright &amp; Co LLC</a>  <b>Aya Barzelay Wollman</b>, Health Science Clinical Instructor Retina division, <a href="#">UCLA Stein Eye Institute</a></p>	Moderated by <b>Abla Creasey</b> , Vice President of Therapeutics Development, <a href="#">CIRM</a>
3:00 PM		<b>Networking Break</b>		
3:15 PM	 Legacy AB, 2nd Floor, South Wing	 <b>New Payment Models for Ultra Rare Diseases</b>	<p>Panelists:</p> <p><b>Paul Ayoub</b>, CEO, Rarity PBC  <b>Abla Creasey</b>, Vice President, Therapeutics Development, <a href="#">California Institute for Regenerative Medicine (CIRM)</a>  <b>Michael Meyers</b>, Vice Chairman, Head of M&amp;A and Strategic Advisory Services, <a href="#">H.C. Wainwright &amp; Co., LLC</a></p>	
3:45 PM	 Legacy AB, 2nd Floor, South Wing	 <b>“Pushing the Envelope to Reverse Fibrosis with Novel Technologies”</b>	<p>Panelists:</p> <p><b>Dino Di Carlo</b>, Armond and Elena Hairapetian Chair in <a href="#">Engineering and Medicine</a>, UCLA  <b>Brigitte Gomperts</b>, Associate Director of Translational Research, <a href="#">UCLA Broad Stem Cell Research Center</a>  <b>Thomas Rando</b>, Director <a href="#">UCLA Broad Stem Cell Research Center</a>  <b>Matthew James Thomas</b>, Head of Immunology &amp; Respiratory Diseases Research, <a href="#">Boehringer Ingelheim</a></p>	
4:30 PM – 6:30 PM	 Centennial Terrace, 3rd Floor	<b>VIP Reception</b>		
4:30 PM		<b>Pearl Cohen Poster Award Announcement</b>	<p><b>Mark Cohen</b>, Partner, Chair of the Life Sciences Practice Group, <a href="#">Pearl Cohen Zedek Latzer Baratz, LLP</a></p>	

## THURSDAY, MAY 23 • LABEST 2024 MAIN EVENT

Open to all Registered Attendees

### LUSKIN CONFERENCE CENTER

7:30 AM  Main Entrance

 **Registration Check-In & Breakfast**

8:20 AM  Centennial Ballroom

 **Emcee: Judy Fortin**, Chief of Communications, UCLA Health and DGSOM

 **UCLA Chancellor Gene Block**

 **Robert Bradway** CEO, [Amgen](#)

 **California Institute for Immunology and Immunotherapy at UCLA Research Park**

Founders: **Arie Belldegrun**, **Eric Esrailian**, **Gary Michelson** with **Owen Witte**, UCLA Presidential Chair and [Developmental Immunology](#)

 **Christopher Viehbacher** CEO, [Biogen](#)

**Welcome from our Innovator Sponsors**

**Ray Deshaies**, Senior Vice President Global Research, [AMGEN](#)

**Michele LeSueur**, Vice President of Global Portfolio and Program Strategy, [Kite](#), a Gilead Company

**Jonathan Thomas**, Interim President & CEO, [CIRM](#)

 **Meet the Experts in Drug Development**

Moderated by **Arie Belldegrun**, CEO, [Bellco Capital](#)

Panelists:

**James Bradner**, Executive Vice President R&D and CSO, Amgen

**Jane Grogan**, Executive Vice President and Head of Research, Biogen

**Priti Hegde**, Senior Vice President and Global Head of Research, [Kite](#), a Gilead Company

**Zachary Roberts**, Executive Vice President of R&D, [Allogene](#)

**Kanti Thirumorthy**, CTO (T-cell Therapy), AstraZeneca

11:30AM  Centennial Terrace,  
12:10 PM 3rd Floor

 **Lunch on the Terrace**

3 lunch seatings, each lasting no more than 40 minutes

- Ushers will scan your badge to ensure that you attend the Lunch you signed up for at registration
- When the chimes ring, your lunch has ended
- Please be courteous to your fellow hungry attendees

1:30 PM  Centennial Ballroom AB

 **Made in LA: Case Studies in Bio Success**

Moderated by **Amir Naiberg**, AVC, CEO and President, [UCLA Technology Development Group](#)

Hear why several startups call the “City of Angels” their home

Panelists:

**Mark Alles**, CEO, [TORL BioTherapeutics](#)

**Martha Lawrence**, Co-Founder, [AccendoWave](#)

**Sumant Ramachandra**, CEO, [ImmPACT Bio](#)

**James Robinson**, CEO, [A2 Biotherapeutics](#)

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Thursday, May 23 Continued

2:30 PM - 5:30 PM  Centennial Ballroom CD

## LABEST Research Pavilion A MUST SEE!

Featuring therapeutic and diagnostic innovations from over 35 presenters across the Los Angeles academic landscape.

3:00 PM  Centennial Ballroom AB

### The Latest Trends in Venture Capital Investing

A stellar panel of VCs provide valuable insight

Panelists:

**Mira Chaurushiya**, Managing Director, [Westlake Bio](#)

**Sahil Chopra**, Principal, [Vertex Ventures HC](#)

**Jakob Dupont**, Executive Partner, [Sofinnova Investment](#)

**Stacey Feld**, Regional Head, West North America, J&J Innovation

Moderated by **Josh Green**,  
Chairman Emeritus, [National  
Venture Capital Association](#)

4:15 PM  Centennial Ballroom AB

### Women's Health: Innovative Research Models in Science and Medicine

Speakers TBA

Moderated by **Janet Pregler**,  
Director, Iris Cantor-UCLA  
Women's Health Center Iris Cantor  
Endowed Chair in Women's Health

12:30 PM - 5:30 PM

## LABEST Showcases

12:20 PM - 1:30 PM  Illumination, 2nd Floor, South Wing

### The State of the Region: Biosciences in LA

Lessons and observations from LABEST 23 and moving forward through 2024 and beyond

Hosted by [Larta Institute](#) and [The Lundquist Institute](#)

Panelists:

**Lindsay Bourgeois**, Director of Business Operations & Strategy  
Director, [Biolabs LA](#) at the Lundquist Institute

**Stephen Cheung**, CEO, [LAEDC](#)

**Fran Fulton**, Economic Development Manager, [City of Torrance](#)

**Teresa Garcia**, Senior Project Manager, [City of Pasadena](#)

**Kelly LoBianco**, Director, Department of Economic Opportunity,  
[County of Los Angeles](#)

**Howard Xu**, Director, Incubator Development and Planning,  
Professor of Microbiology, [LABiospace](#), California State University,  
Los Angeles

Moderated by **Rohit Shukla**, CEO,  
Larta Institute

1:30 PM - 2:40 PM  Legacy AB, 2nd Floor, South Wing

## Biomufacturing

### Welcome:

**Shyam Patel**, Senior Director of Business Development and Alliance Management, [CIRM](#)

### SHOWCASE KEYNOTE

**Louis van de Wiel**, Vice President, Head of Global Supply Chain, [Kite](#), a Gilead Company

### UCLA Good Manufacturing Practices - Past and Future

**Sujna Ravel-Fernandes**, Director, Human Gene and Cell Therapy, [UCLA GMP Facility](#)

Thursday, May 23 Continued

2:40 PM -  
3:30 PM

 Legacy AB, 2nd Floor,  
South Wing

## Bridging Innovation: Constructing the Future of Bioscience Manufacturing

Macella Ayella, National Director of Life Sciences, [Swinerton](#)

## Academic-Industry Collaborations that Advance Manufacturing Workforce Training and Technology Development

Moderated by **Shyam Patel**, Senior Director of Business Development and Alliance Management, [CIRM](#)

Hosted by [CIRM](#) and [NIIMBL](#) Biomanufacturing Consortium

Panelists:

**Mohamed Abou-el-Enein**, Executive Director, [USC/CHLA Cell Therapy Program](#), USC

**Taby Ahsan**, Vice President, Cell and Gene Therapy Operations, [City of Hope](#)

**Chander Arora**, Biotech Program Director, Life Sciences Department, [Los Angeles Mission College](#)

**Sujna Ravel-Fernandes**, Director, Human Gene and Cell Therapy Facility, [UCLA GMP Facility](#)

**Dan St Peter**, Head of Manufacturing, [ImmPACT Bio](#)

**Dhruv Sareen**, Executive Director, [Cedars-Sinai Biomanufacturing Center](#)

1:30 PM -  
2:15 PM

 Artistry Room, 2nd Floor,  
South Wing

## Hot Topic: Metabolism

**Weightloss treatments and their complications:** Current gaps in knowledge and technology, and emerging solutions.

**Immunometabolism as a drug target:** Current gaps in knowledge and technology, and emerging solutions.

**Healthy aging and neurodegenerative diseases:** Current gaps in knowledge and technology, and emerging solutions.

- **Orian Shirihai**, Professor, [Molecular and Medical Pharmacology](#), UCLA

1:00 PM -  
2:00 PM

 Optimist AB, 2nd Floor,  
North Wing

## Hot Topic : Neuroscience

**Basic Neuroscience with Clinical Translation Potential**

- **Rhonda Voskuhl**, Professor, [UCLA Dept. of Neurology](#); Director, UCLA Multiple Sclerosis Program; Faculty Neurologist, UCLA Comprehensive Menopause Care Program; Jack H. Skirball Chair

- **Lindsay M. De Biase**, Assistant Professor, [Department of Physiology](#); David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA

- **Jason Hinman**, Associate Professor & Vice Chair of Research, UCLA Department of Neurology; Stroke Program Director, [WLA VA Medical Center](#)

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Thursday, May 23 Continued

 Laureate Room, 1st Floor, South

 **Learning Lounge hosted by King and Spalding**

Speakers TBA

1:00 PM -  
2:00 PM


Applying for Government Incentives and Grants for Startups

2:15 PM -  
3:15 PM

How to Connect with Venture Capital and Family Offices

4:15 PM -  
5:15 PM

What Every Start-Up Needs to Know about Patent Protection and FDA Approval

 Exploration and Corridor, 2nd Floor, North Wing

**PEARL COHEN** Pearl Cohen Poster Displays

Over 60 Scientific Posters on display from the best and the brightest

5:30 PM -  
7:30 PM

 Centennial Terrace, 3rd Floor

 **LABEST 2024 Closing Reception**

Celebrate LABEST 2024 with complimentary appetizers and drinks. Enjoy the UCLA Jazz Band!

**Sponsor  
Exhibit  
Booths**



A2 BIOTHERAPEUTICS

AMGEN

BIOCOM

BIOLABS

BREAKTHROUGH PROPERTIES

CHARLES RIVER LABS

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INNOVATION

KITE, A GILEAD COMPANY

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