

Program

Delivery of Nucleic Acid Therapeutics II: Biology, Engineering and Development

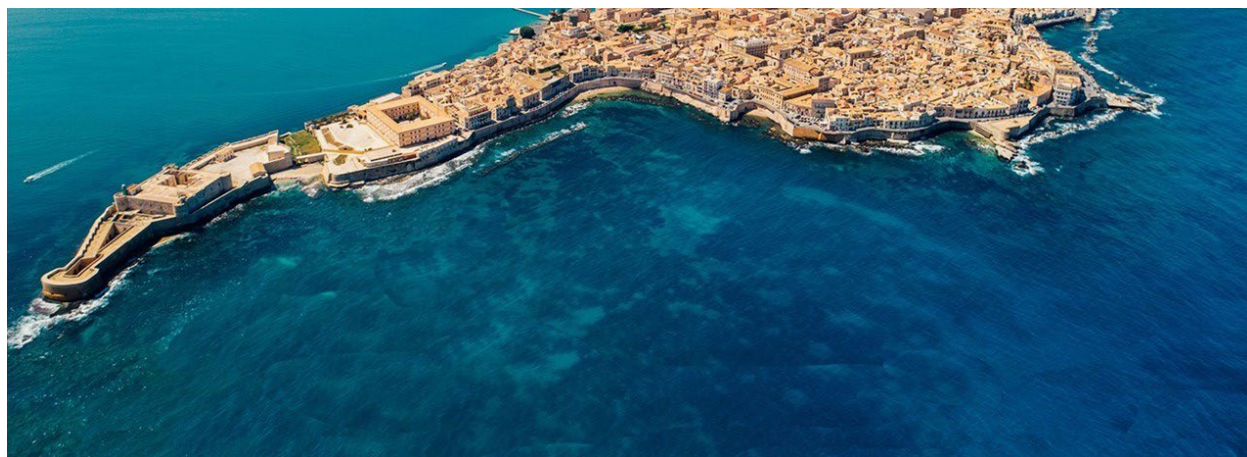
**April 4 – 8, 2024
Grand Hotel Minareto
Siracusa, Sicily, Italy**

Conference Chairs:

Steven F. Dowdy
UCSD School of Medicine
USA

Laura Sepp-Lorenzino
Intellia Therapeutics
USA

Matt Stanton
Generation Bio
USA



Engineering Conferences International
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Grand Hotel Minareto

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Engineering Conferences International (ECI) is a not-for-profit global engineering conferences program, originally established in 1962, that provides opportunities for the exploration of problems and issues of concern to engineers and scientists from many disciplines.

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Previous conferences in this series:

Oligonucleotide Delivery: Biology, Engineering and Development

October 7-11, 2012

Hernstein, Austria

Conference Chairs:

Laura Sepp-Lorenzino, Merck & Co., Inc., USA

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We are the leader in RNAi
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CNS and ocular diseases.

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The Castle Delivery Meeting Redux²
Delivery Of Nucleic Acid Therapeutics II:
Biology, Engineering And Development

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Dyne Therapeutics is a clinical-stage muscle disease company focused on advancing innovative life-transforming therapeutics for people living with genetically driven diseases. With its proprietary FORCETM platform, Dyne is developing modern oligonucleotide therapeutics that are designed to overcome limitations in delivery to muscle tissue. Dyne has a broad pipeline for serious muscle diseases, including clinical programs for myotonic dystrophy type 1 (DM1) and Duchenne muscular dystrophy (DMD) and a preclinical program for facioscapulohumeral muscular dystrophy (FSHD).

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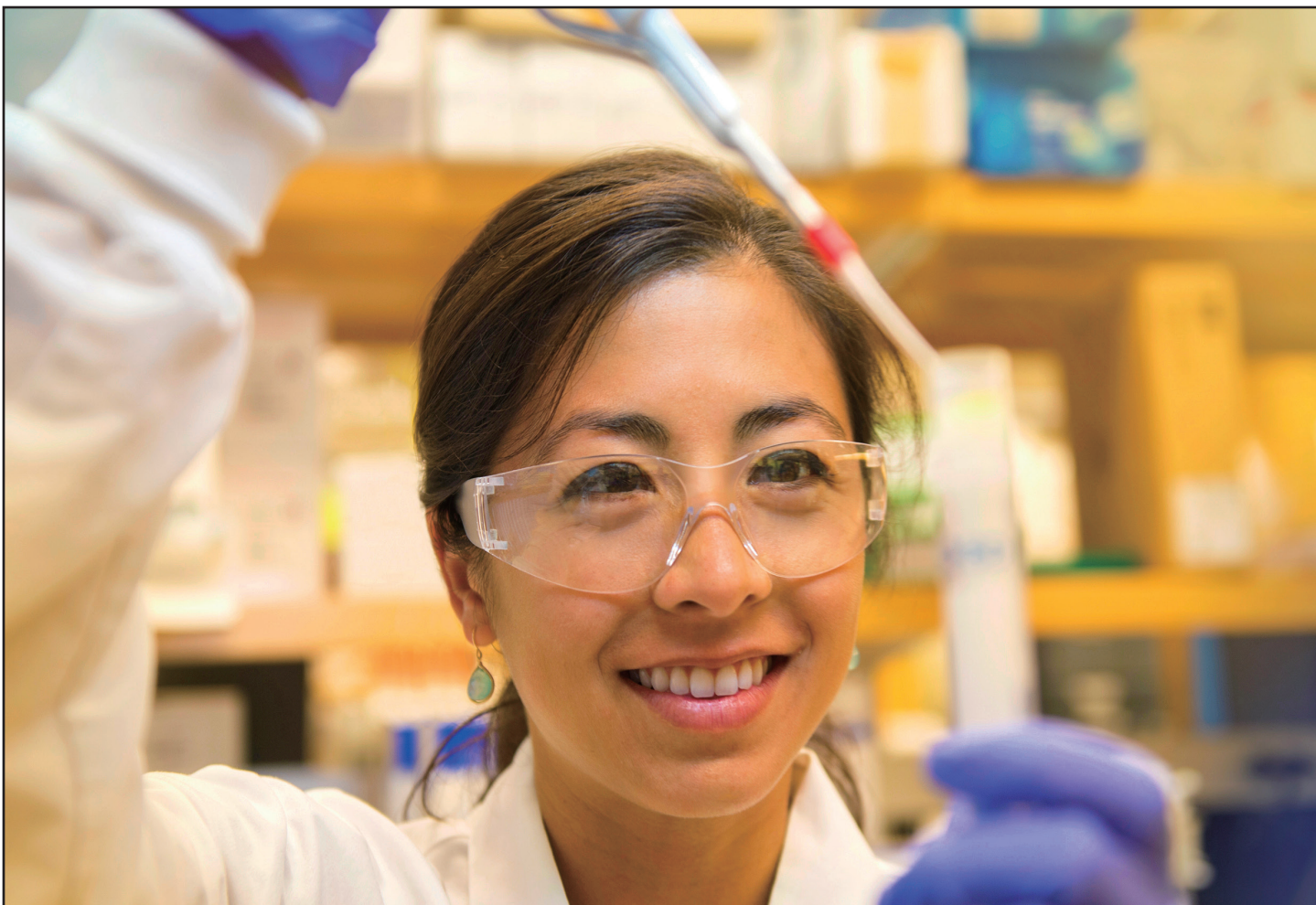
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Intellia
THERAPEUTICS



LIMELIGHT BIO™





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As a leading global biopharmaceutical company, Takeda will always be unwavering in our contribution to bring better health and a brighter future to people worldwide.

ThermoFisher
S C I E N T I F I C

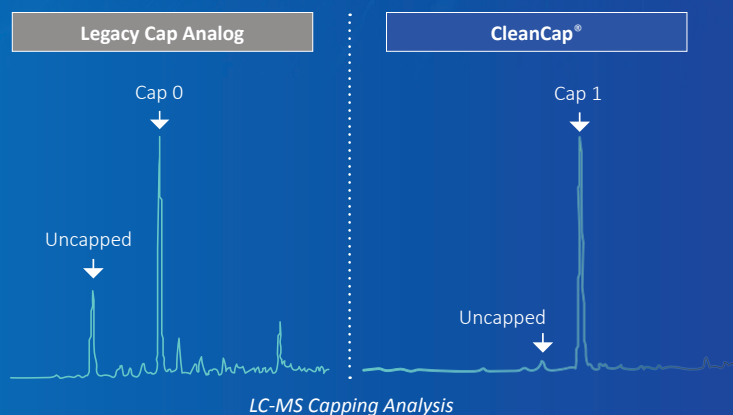
A REVOLUTION in Co-Transcriptional mRNA Capping

CleanCap® demonstrates superior performance versus legacy co-transcriptional capping methods

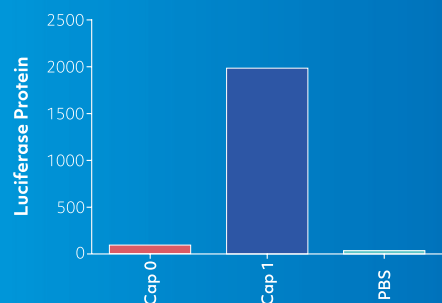
	Legacy Cap Analogs		CleanCap®	
Natural Cap	No	⊖	Yes	⊕
Immunogenic	Yes	⊖	Reduced Immunogenicity	⊕
Capping Efficiency	~70%	⊖	~95%	⊕
Yield/mL Transcription	1.5 mg/mL	⊖	4 mg/mL	⊕
Cost	3 X	⊖	1 X	⊕
Available Therapeutic Licenses	No	⊖	Yes	⊕

CleanCap®

Successful development of mRNA therapeutics relies on reproducible, high-efficiency production of capped mRNA. CleanCap® uses a new co-transcriptional chemical process for the highest level of mRNA capping:



CleanCap® gives superior activity *in vivo* by mimicking a natural cap



Luciferase mRNA was formulated with Lunar Lipids and injected by tail vein into mice. At 6 hours, luciferase was measured by western blot in mouse liver. Data courtesy of Arcturus Therapeutics.

CleanCap® results in a natural Cap 1 structure that does not stimulate the innate immune system of the host, resulting in unparalleled efficiency *in vivo*. Legacy co-transcriptional capping methods yield a Cap 0, an immunogenic cap structure that is poorly expressed *in vivo*. The results speak for themselves: **CleanCap®, the next generation of cap analogs, provide the most active and least toxic mRNA for your *in vivo* applications.**

Be part of the revolution.

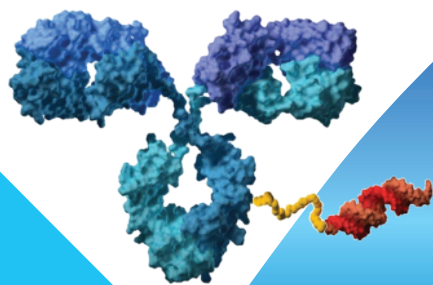
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Antibody Oligonucleotide Conjugates (AOC)



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At MiNA we are pioneering a new class of medicines called small activating RNAs (saRNAs). Through transcriptional activation, they promise a revolution in our ability to modulate previously undruggable targets. Our first saRNA medicine is currently in clinical testing in patients with advanced liver cancer.

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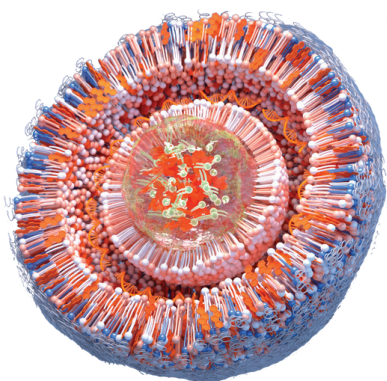
OUR MISSION

Deliver on the promise of
mRNA science to create a new
generation of transformative
medicines for patients

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Delivering tomorrow's genetic medicines, **TODAY**TM



Our next-generation platform technologies use lipid nanoparticles for the safe and efficient delivery of nucleic acids to a variety of tissues.



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Thursday, April 4, 2024

15:00 – 16:30	Conference check-in (Hotel Lobby)
16:30 – 16:40	Welcome and General Announcements
16:40 – 17:30	Keynote Talk 1: Living in the world of Nucleic Acid Medicine, the Cinderella Molecules Mano Manoharan, Alnylam Pharmaceuticals, USA
17:30 – 19:00	Welcome Reception on terrace
19:00 – 20:30	Dinner (Nesos Restaurant)
20:30	Social Hour

NOTES

- *Technical and poster sessions will be in the conference center.*
- *Audio, still photo and video recording by any device (e.g., cameras, cell phones, laptops, watches) is strictly prohibited during the technical sessions, unless the author and ECI have granted prior permission.*
- *Speakers – Please have your presentation loaded onto the conference computer prior to the session start (preferably the day before).*
- *Speakers – Please leave at least 3 minutes for questions.*
- *Please do not smoke at any conference functions.*
- *Turn your cellular telephones to vibrate or off during technical sessions.*
- *After the conference, ECI will send an updated participant list to all participants. Please check your listing now and if it needs updating, you may correct it at any time by logging into your ECI account.*

Friday, April 5, 2024

07:30 – 09:00 Breakfast Buffet (Nesos Restaurant)

09:00 – 09:25 **Setting the Delivery Stage**
Steve Dowdy, UCSD, USA

Session 1: Clinical Stage Delivery

Chair: Art Krieg, USA

09:25 – 09:50 **TfR Ab conjugated oligos for muscle delivery**
Art Levin, Avidity Biosciences, USA

09:50 – 10:15 **TfR-Fab conjugated oligos for muscle delivery**
Oxana Beskrovnaya, Dyne Therapeutics, USA

10:15 – 10:45 Coffee Break

10:45 – 11:10 **CRISPR LNPs**
Kristy Wood, Intellia Therapeutics, USA

11:10 – 11:35 **Design and Evaluation of Novel ionizable Lipids for RNA Delivery**
Pad Chivukula, Arcturus Therapeutics, USA

11:35 – 11:50 **Delivery of a First-in-Class miR-10b Antagomir to Treat Metastatic Cancer: The Long Winding Road from Pre-Clinical Development to Initial Clinical Experience**
Zdravka Medarova, Transcode Therapeutics, USA (Short Talk)

11:50 – 12:05 **Splice-switching oligo conjugates for the treatment of Erythropoietic Protoporphyria**
Phil Becker, ETH, Switzerland (Short Talk)

12:05 – 14:00 Lunch (Terrace or Nesos Restaurant, depending on weather)

Session 2: Endosomal Trafficking and Escape

Chair: Steve Dowdy, UCSD, USA

14:00 – 14:25 **LNP Endosomal Escape**
Anders Wittrup, Lund University, Sweden

14:25 – 14:50 **Harnessing endocytosis to improve the delivery of oligonucleotide-based drugs**
Marino Zerial, Max Plank Institute, Germany

14:50 – 15:15 **ENDOSCAPE: Triterpene glycoside conjugates allow efficient endosomal escape of diverse targeted payloads**
Guy Hermans, Supreme Technologies B.V., the Netherlands

15:15 – 15:40 **Predictive Ex Vivo Models of LNP Behavior**
Dwight Morrow, Moderna, USA

15:40 – 16:00 Coffee Break

16:00 – 16:25 **GaIAhead and PNP, double targeting the way forward!**
Jim Weterings, Sirnaomics, China and USA

16:25 – 16:50 **Exploring cellular uptake and trafficking of lipid conjugated antisense oligonucleotides**
Emma Kay, AstraZeneca, Sweden (Short Talk)

Friday, April 5, 2024 (continued)

- | | |
|---------------|---|
| 16:50 – 17:05 | Deep learning-enhanced single particle tracking reveals intracellular delivery and escape of oligonucleotides
Nikos Hatzakis, University of Copenhagen, Denmark (Short Talk) |
| 17:05 – 17:30 | Round Table on Today's Lessons Learned |
| 17:30 – 19:00 | Poster Session 1 (Conference Center - with beverages) |
| 19:00 – 21:00 | Dinner (Sicilian Buffet on Ortigia Terrace) |
| 21:00 | Social Hour |

Saturday, April 6, 2024

07:30 – 09:00 Breakfast Buffet (Nesos Restaurant)

Session 3: Delivery Chemistry, Immunity and Escape

Chair: Masad Damha, McGill University, Canada

09:00 – 09:25

Lipidated conjugates for CNS delivery

Anastasia Khvorova, University of Massachusetts, USA

09:25 – 09:50

Chemical evolution of artificial peptide carriers for nucleic acid delivery

Ernst Wagner, Ludwig-Maximilian-University of Munich, Germany

09:50 – 10:15

Selective Organ Targeted (SORT) LNPs: focus on lung delivery and PCD program

Dan Siegwart, UT Southwestern/ReCode, USA

10:15 – 10:45

Coffee Break

10:45 – 11:10

Nucleic acid immunity: the key to successful nucleic acid therapeutics

Gunther Hartmann, University of Bonn Hospital, Germany

11:10 – 11:25

Designing Thermostable Hermes lipopolyplex nanoparticles for mRNA and synthetic hpDNA delivery

Amy Walker, 4BaseBio, UK (Short Talk)

11:25 – 11:40

Visualization of lipid nanoparticle disintegration and localized endosomal membrane damage

Johanna M. Johansson, Lund University, Sweden (Short Talk)

11:40 – 11:55

Molecular Nano-Motors (MNMs): A novel delivery modality for oligonucleotides

Hamutal Ben Dov, Aposense, Israel (Short Talk)

11:55 – 14:00

Lunch (Terrace or Nesos Restaurant, depending on weather)

Session 4: New Delivery Strategies

Chairs: Ernst Wagner, Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität, Germany

14:00 – 14:25

Recent Discoveries in ExtraHepatic Delivery of RNA Cargoes

Pete Smith, ReNegade, USA

14:25 – 14:50

Centyrin-targeted siRNA Conjugates for Extra-hepatic Delivery: ABX1100, a CD71 Centyrin-Gys1 siRNA Conjugate for Treatment of Pompe Disease

Sukumar Sakamuri, Aro Biotherapeutics, USA

14:50 – 15:15

Engineering Exosomes to Enable and Create Improved Genetic Medicines

Tony De Fogerolles, Evox Therapeutics Limited, United Kingdom

15:15 – 15:40

LNP delivery

Guarav Sahay, Oregon State University, USA

15:40 – 16:00

Coffee Break

16:00 – 16:14

In Vivo Delivery of RNA Gene Writers to the Liver and Beyond

William Salomon, Tessera, USA (Short Talk)

16:15 – 16:30

“I translate, therefore I deliver”: understanding LNP delivery capabilities on a granular scale to reveal therapeutic opportunities

Charlotte Dunne, Panthera, Germany (Short Talk)

Saturday, April 6, 2024 (continued)

16:30 – 17:00	Just a Little Delivery Reality Check Paul Burke, Burke Bioventures LLC, USA
17:00 – 18:30	Poster Session 2 (Conference Center with beverages)
18:30 – 21:00	Dinner (Nesos Restaurant)
21:00	Social Hour

Sunday, April 7, 2024

07:30 – 09:00	Breakfast Buffet (Nesos Restaurant)
	<u>Session 5: Non-Viral and Viral Gene Therapy</u> Chairs: Matt Stanton, Generation Bio, USA
09:00 – 09:25	AAV delivery Dirk Grimm, Heidelberg University Hospital, Germany
09:25 – 09:50	A Modular, Antibody-Based AAV Retargeting Platform For Efficient And Specific <i>In Vivo</i> Gene Delivery Leah Sabin, Regeneron, New York, USA
09:50 – 10:05	Development of a human hematopoietic stem cell targeted platform through multiplexed targeting and de-targeting modifications of a common viral gene transfer vector for safe and effective editing of stem cell compartment in vivo. (Short Talk) Dmitry Shayakhmetov, Emory University, USA
10:05 – 10:30	Coffee Break
10:30 – 10:55	DNA LNP delivery Matt Stanton, Generation Bio, USA
10:55 – 11:20	Targeting mRNA LNPs to New Cell types Stefaan De Koker, Etherna, Belgium
11:20 – 11:45	LNP Structure Jay Kulkarni, Nanovation Therapeutics, Canada
12:00	Boxed Lunch distribution (Hotel Lobby)
12:45	Meet in lobby for excursion (departing 13:00)
13:00 – 17:00	Sightseeing excursion to Roman ruins and Old Town Siracusa
18:00 – 18:10	Poster Awards
18:10 – 19:00	<u>Keynote Talk 2 The World of LNPs</u> Pieter Cullis, University of British Columbia, Canada
19:15 – 21:30	Gala Dinner (Terrace of Nesos Restaurant)
21:30	Social Hour

Monday, April 8, 2022

07:30 – 09:00	Breakfast Buffet (Nesos Restaurant)
09:00– 12:00	Departures

Poster Presentations

1. **Oligophore and Semaphore for extrahepatic delivery of therapeutic RNA**
Covadonga Paneda, Altamira Therapeutics, Switzerland
2. **AI-driven design of four-component lipid nanoparticles unlocks systemic mRNA delivery to skeletal and cardiac muscles**
Daniel Quevedo, METiS Therapeutics, USA
3. **Using MD simulations to design more efficient lipid nanoparticles**
Florian Mann, Bayer AG, Germany
4. **Safe and effective extra-hepatic delivery of DNA and mRNA using the non-viral fusogenic proteolipid vehicle platform**
John Lewis, Entos Pharmaceuticals, USA
5. **EndoPore: Targeted delivery of nucleic acid therapeutics using pore-forming proteins**
Vineeta Tripathi, Vitarka Therapeutics Ltd, United Kingdom
6. **Investigating the effect of Lipid Bioconjugates on Gapmer ASO activity and toxicity**
Gavin Garland, University of Cambridge, United Kingdom
7. **Dechapering endosomal escape of oligonucleotides from Lipid Nanoparticles by the single particle**
Frank Schulz, University of Copenhagen, Denmark
8. **Uptake of chemically modified antagomirs by lung relevant cell systems**
Anna Rydzik, AstraZeneca, Sweden
9. **Syringable microcapsules for sustained, localized and controllable siRNA delivery**
Sean Bedingfield, Eli Lilly, USA
10. **Innovative development of COVID-19 mRNA vaccine using the gold nanoparticle delivery platform**
Jeehyeon Bae, Chung-Ang University, South Korea
11. **Characterization of triterpene-mediated endosomal escape of cholesterol siRNA**
Myriam Cerezo-Magaña, Lund University, Sweden
12. **Exploring the Traut's reagent as a versatile bifunctional linker for oligonucleotide conjugates**
Daniele Addis, Axolabs GmbH, Germany



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Calendar of ECI Conferences

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2024

January 7-13	23AI	INNOVATIVE MATERIALS & METHODS FOR ADDITIVE MANUFACTURING II (IM2AM) (Tomar Portugal) D. Schmidt (Luxembourg Institute of Science and Technology (LIST); N. Gupta, New York University; E. Eastwood, KCNSC/Honeywell FM&T; B.G. Compton; University of Tennessee, Knoxville; G.M. Gladysz, Los Alamos National Laboratory
February 4-8	24AT	ADVANCING MANUFACTURE OF CELL AND GENE THERAPIES VIII (Coronado, CA) F. Masri, Cell & Gene Therapy Catapult; C. Yeager, Georgia Institute of Technology; G. Maheshwari, BMS; J. Moscariello, BMS
April 4-8	24AC	DELIVERY OF NUCLEIC ACID THERAPEUTICS II: BIOLOGY, ENGINEERING AND DEVELOPMENT (Siracusa, Sicily) L. Sepp-Lorenzino, Intellia Therapeutics; S. F. Dowdy, University of California San Diego School of Medicine; M. Stanton, Generational Bio
April 14-19	24AI	ULTRA-HIGH TEMPERATURE CERAMICS: MATERIALS FOR EXTREME ENVIRONMENT APPLICATIONS V (Sicily, Italy) D. Sciti, Institute for Science and Technology of Ceramics, CNR; L. Silvestroni and F. Monteverde, ISSMC-CNR; J. Binner, Univ. of Birmingham; R. Savino, Univ. of Naples; G. Thompson, Univ. of Alabama; E. Wuchina, Naval Surface Warfare Center
April 28-May 2	24AP	CHEMREC I: THERMOCHEMICAL RECYCLING OF PLASTICS (Malaga, Spain) S. Kersten, University of Twente; M. Pilar Ruiz, Maastricht University; E. Heeres, University of Groningen
May 5-10	20AF	SYNTACTIC AND COMPOSITE FOAMS (Riga, Latvia) G.M. Gladysz and K.K. Chawla, University of Alabama at Birmingham; A. R. Boccaccini, University of Erlangen-Nuremberg; M. Fukushima, National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology
May 12-16	24AH	NANOTECHNOLOGY IN MEDICINE IV: PHYSICAL TRIGGERS AND ADVANCED MATERIALS (Tomar, Portugal) K. Rege, Arizona State University; S. De Smedt, Ghent University S. Varghese, Duke University
May 19-24	24AA	VACCINE TECHNOLOGY IX (Los Cabos, Mexico) C. Lutsch, Sanofi Pasteur; L. Lua, University of Queensland; F. Godia, Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona; T. Tagmyer, Merck
July 14-18	24AE	NANOTECHNOLOGY CONVERGENCE FOR SUSTAINABLE ENERGY, ENVIRONMENT, CLIMATE CHANGE AND HEALTH: A US-AFRICA CONFERENCE (Casablanca, Morocco) I.C. Escobar, University of Kentucky; A. El-Gendy, University of Texas-EI Paso
July 21-25	24AM	BIOCHEMICAL AND MOLECULAR ENGINEERING XXIII: ACCELERATING BIOTECH SOLUTIONS TO AID A CHANGING WORLD (Dublin, Ireland) M. O'Malley, University of California at Santa Barbara; B. Pflieger, University of Wisconsin; V. Roy, GSK
Oct 6-11	24AN	NANOMECHANICAL TESTING IN MATERIALS RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT IX (Sicily, Italy) M. Sebastiani, Rome TRE University
Oct 20-24	24AB	INTEGRATED CONTINUOUS BIOMANUFACTURING VI (Leesburg, VA, USA) A. Azevedo, Instituto Superior Técnico; A. Noyes, Apogee Therapeutics;; K. Brower, Sanofi
Nov 3-7	24AO	MIXED CONDUCTING AND NONSTOICHIOMETRIC COMPOUNDS VII (Tainan, Taiwan) W. Chueh, Stanford University; K.-Z. Fung, National Cheng Kung University; R. Waser, RWTH Aachen; H. Takamura, Tohoku University

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2025

March 30-April 3	25AM	MICROBIAL ENGINEERING III (Porto, Portugal) E. Keshavarz-Moore, University College London; T. Sauer, Sanofi
Late Spring	25AU	SINGLE USE TECHNOLOGIES VII (Europe) N. Montenay, Sartorius; A. Rayat, University College London; A. DiBenedetto, Roche Genentech
April 27 – May 2	25AC	CELL CULTURE ENGINEERING XIX (Tucson, AZ) A. Khetan, BMS; M. Yu, Sutro Biopharma; M. Betenbaugh, Johns Hopkins University
Late Spring	25AG	ALKALI ACTIVATED MATERIALS AND GEOPOLYMERS: SUSTAINABLE CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS AND CERAMICS MADE UNDER AMBIENT CONDITIONS (Finland) C. Leonelli, Università degli Studi di Modena e Reggio Emilia; J. Yliniemi, University of Oulu; W.M. Kriven, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign; J.L. Provis, University of Sheffield; A.R. Boccaccini, University of Erlangen-Nuremberg
May 18-23	25AB	BIO-CHAR IV (Santa Marta, Colombia) F. Berruti, Western University, Canada; F.C. Janna, The National University of Colombia
May 18-22	25AO	ADVANCES IN OPTICS FOR BIOTECHNOLOGY, MEDICINE AND SURGERY XVIII (Cork, Ireland) S. Gibbs, M. Skala and S. Andersson-Engels
June 1-6	25AP	POLYMER REACTION ENGINEERING XII (Clearwater, Florida) I. Konstantinov, The Dow Chemical Company; P. Iedema, University of Amsterdam; M. Grady, Axalta
June 22-27	25AT	THERMAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL BARRIER COATINGS VII (Irsee, Germany) B. Pint, Oak Ridge National Laboratory; E. Opila, University of Virginia; B. Hazel, Pratt & Whitney; Uwe Schulz, German Aerospace Center; Ram Darolia, GE Aviation (retired); B. Harder, NASA
July 2025	25AW	MICRO- AND NANOPLASTICS IN WATER: CHARACTERIZATION, CURE AND PREVENTION (Switzerland) D. Hunkeler, Aqua+Tech
Oct 12-16	25AD	ELECTROPHORETIC DEPOSITION VIII: FUNDAMENTALS AND APPLICATIONS (Calabria, Italy) B. Ferrari, Institute for Ceramic and Glass, Spanish Research Council; A.R. Boccaccini, University of Erlangen-Nuremberg
October 19-24	25AE	ENZYME ENGINEERING XXVIII (Helsingør, Denmark) J. Woodley, DTU; D. Heddam-Welner, DTU
October 26-31	25AS	CERAMIC MATRIX COMPOSITES III (Yamanashi, Japan) R. Darolia, GE Aerospace; K. Goto, JAXA; T. Akatsu, Tokyo University of Technology; S. Kitaoka, Japan Fire Ceramics Center; G. Vignoles, University of Bordeaux
November TBA	25AI	BENEFICIATION OF PHOSPHATES X (Hanoi, Vietnam) (Chair: Patrick Zhang, Florida Industrial and Phosphate Research Institute, USA; Co-Chairs: Phong Vo, Ardaman & Associates Inc, USA; Erika Rova, Yara Suomi Oy, Finland; André Carlos Silva, Federal University of Goiás, Brazil; Ewan Wingate, Bechtel Australia, Australia)
TBA	25AF	CIRCULAR ECONOMY FOR ORGANIC WASTES AND NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT (Cartagena, Colombia) Gerardo Ruiz-Mercado, EPA; Karina Angelica Ojeda Delgado, University of Cartagena; Eduardo Luis Sanchez Tuiran, University of Cartagena

2026

February TBA	26AT	ADVANCING MANUFACTURE OF CELL AND GENE THERAPIES IX (TBA) J. Moscariello, BMS
May/June	26-AP	PYROLIQ II – 2023: Pyrolysis and Liquefaction of Biomass and Wastes (TBA) F. Berruti, ICFAR & Western University; A. Dufour, CNRS, ENSIC; M. Garcia-Perez, Washington State University; W. Prins, University of Ghent
June 7-12	26AW	WASTELCA 5: LIFE CYCLE SUSTAINABILITY ASSESSMENT FOR WASTE MANAGEMENT AND RESOURCE OPTIMIZATION V (Cetraro (Calabria), Italy) U. Arena, University of Campania "Luigi Vanvitelli"

2027

TBA Autumn	27-AH	INTERNATIONAL HYDROGEN CONFERENCE: UNDERSTANDING HYDROGEN-MATERIALS INTERACTIONS (Park City, Utah) M. Martin, NIST; J. Burns, University of Virginia
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Engineering Conferences International

Engineering Conferences International (ECI) is a not-for-profit global engineering conferences program that has served the engineering/scientific community since 1962 as successor program to Engineering Foundation Conferences. ECI has received recognition as a 501(c)3 organization by the U.S. Internal Revenue Service and is incorporated in the State of New York as a not-for-profit corporation.

The program has been developed and is overseen by volunteers both on the international Board of Directors and international Conferences Committee. More than 1,900 conferences have taken place to date. The conferences program is administered by a professional staff and the conferences are designed to be self-supporting.

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To serve the engineering/scientific community with international, interdisciplinary, leading edge engineering research conferences

ECI Purposes

The advancement of engineering arts and sciences by providing a forum for the discussion of advances in the field of science and engineering for the good of mankind by identification and administration of international interdisciplinary conferences

To work with engineering, scientific and social science societies and the interested general public to jointly sponsor conferences and to take other actions that will foster complementary programming.

To initiate conferences that will have a significant impact on engineering education, research practice and/or development.

ECI Encouragement of New Conference Topics

The ECI Conferences Committee invites you to suggest topics and leaders for additional conferences and encourages you to submit a proposal for an ECI conference.

Ideally, proposals should be submitted from 18 to 24 months in advance of the conference although the staff can work on a shorter timeline.

The traditional format for an ECI conference is registration Sunday afternoon with technical sessions held each morning and evening through Thursday or Friday noon. Afternoons are used for informal gatherings, poster sessions, field trips, subgroup meetings and relaxation. This format has served well to build important professional networks in many areas.

ECI welcomes proposals for shorter conferences and for conferences which span weekends in order to reduce the number of working days participants are away from their offices.

ECI Works With You

ECI works with conference chairs in two complementary ways. First, an experienced member of the Conferences Committee acts as your technical liaison from the proposal stage through the conference itself. He or she is always available to consult with you on any conference issue.

Second, after your proposal has been approved by the Conferences Committee, the ECI staff will assume responsibility for the administration of the conference.

Your primary responsibilities will be recruiting the organizing committee, developing the technical program and securing third-party funding necessary to support the travel of key speakers.

The responsibilities of ECI's "full service" staff include -- but are not limited to -- the following:

- Recommend, negotiate, contract and make substantial deposits for housing, meals, meeting space, A/V equipment and tours.
- Maintain web sites for the conference and for submission of abstracts.
- Publicize via electronic and print media.
- Administer all finances including grants, contributions and purchase orders. (ECI makes grant funds available as soon as a grant is approved.) There is no need for chairs to set up a conference bank account or file tax returns for their conference.
- Process all applications and registrations.
- Produce bound program/abstracts book.
- Contract for the publication of print or electronic proceedings, if any.
- Provide on-site staff during the conference.

For more information, please contact the ECI Director at Barbara@engconfintl.org