# Know Before You Go – Important Information for

# Cell Culture Engineering XIX

**April 27 – May 2, 2025**

**Tucson, Arizona, USA**

**[Guidebook App](https://builder.guidebook.com/g/ccexix/)**

On behalf of Engineering Conferences International, the conference chairs **Anurag Khetan** (Bristol Myers Squibb), **Marcella Yu** (Gilead Sciences) and **Michael Betenbaugh** (Johns Hopkins University) who is also the ECI Technical Liaison, we would like to welcome you to this 19th conference of Cell Culture Engineering. **Tressa D’Ottavio, Renee Smith, Kevin Korpics** and Iwill be the ECI on-site staff. This note conveys several items that need to be brought to your attention.

**HOTEL**

[**JW Marriott Starr Pass Tucson Resort and Spa**](https://www.marriott.com/en-us/hotels/tussp-jw-marriott-tucson-starr-pass-resort-and-spa/overview/)**,** 3800 West Starr Pass Boulevard, Tucson, AZ 85745

Phone: +1-888-527-8989

**TRANSPORTATION FROM TUCSON AIRPORT**

An Uber, Lyft or taxi is the most convenient. The drive should be about 20-25 minutes, depending on traffic.

For those who are renting a car, the cost of parking at the Marriott is $10 per night plus taxes for overnight self-parking and $32 per night plus taxes for valet parking.

**CONFERENCE CHECK-IN**

**Sunday, April 27**, 14:00 – 16:30, in the Tucson Ballroom Foyer.

**ECP (Early Careers Program CHECK-IN**

**Saturday, April 26**, 17:00 – 17:30 in the San Pedro Foyer (just outside the San Pedro Room where the ECP will take place.)

**SUNDAY SCHEDULE**

14:00 - 16:30 Conference Check-in

16:45 - 17:00 Welcoming Remarks

17:00 - 17:00 Keynote (Avak Kahvejian – “Developing Programmable Medicines”)

18:00 - 19:30 Dinner

19:30 - 21:30 Poster Session I

**POSTERS NOTE**

There are over 220 posters on display! Do not limit your poster viewing to only the scheduled poster sessions as the poster room will be open 24 hours per day.

**HEALTH AND SAFETY/DUTY OF CARE**

Tucson will have high temperatures between 80oF and 89oF / 27oC and 32oC during the conference week. Most of the time you will be indoors but you still need to stay well-hydrated. Bring a sweater or jacket for the conference room should the temperature be uncomfortable for you.

Emergency Contact Information: Because of privacy concerns, ECI does not collect or maintain emergency contact information for conference participants. If you would like to make this information available in case of emergency, please use the reverse side of your name badge.

Please respect those who wish to continue to wear masks during the conference. *We will have a limited number of masks available. Should you feel unwell at any time during the conference, please contact an ECI staff member (phone numbers are in the App) so that they can assist you and notify the hotel.*

**SPECIAL EVENTS**

* **Tuesday evening** will be at the Old Tucson film set where many classic western films and TV shows were filmed. If you have any western gear, please bring it along. Be prepared for a variety of experiences including a wild west stunt show, a cancan show, a western dress up and photo booth, music, and a buffet with beverages and ice cream. Note that the property is unpaved and that there are areas with uneven surfaces and thus comfortable walking shoes (or cowboy boots) are suggested. Old Tucson staff can point out rest rooms. (<https://oldtucson.com/faq/>) The timing of the evening’s events will be on the App and in the program.
* **Wednesday evening** on the hotel grounds is a celebration of a Taste of Tucson with food trucks that include tacos, tamales, and the famous Sonoran hot dogs, beverages, lawn games and music. Tucson is known for its vibrant Sonoran-style Mexican food and its blending of heritages from Native American, Spanish, Mexican and Anglo traditions. In addition to the food trucks, we will have a slider station, nacho bar, and a soup and salad station. Casual dress.
* **Each morning –** The hotel sponsors an early morning hike of approximately one-hour starting at 07:30 Participation is limited and you and must sign up at the bell desk. Wear closed toe shoes. Bring water and sunscreen. We are working with the hotel to arrange for an early morning hike for CCE participants on Wednesday morning. More information will be available at check-in on Sunday.
* **Each morning** on the Salud Terrace **–** Morning Native American greeting ceremony (Mitakuye Oyasin) at 07:00 led by Larry Redhouse, a Navajo Nation member. Involves a sunrise greeting, music and a sage prayer.
* **Each evening** at 17:00 on the Salud Terrace – Complimentary tequila toast (Pancho Villa: “Arriba, abajo, al centro, al dentro”)
* **Each evening** – a glorious sunset!

**FINAL PROGRAM AND ABSTRACTS FILES**

The files are in PDF format. You can add comments, highlight, add text to the abstract files, and print. However, rotate, delete, replace, crop, split document and insert pages are not accessible.

**There will not be printed copies of the program on site**. We recommend downloading the files prior to arrival. If you would like to have a hard copy on hand, please print and bring with you to the conference. Links to the program booklet and abstracts were shared with all registered attendees on Tuesday, April 22 via email.

**SPEAKERS**

We expect that all presentations will use PowerPoint and we will have a computer projector as well as a laptop with Microsoft PowerPoint. Slides should be the standard 16:9 aspect ratio. Please bring your presentation on a memory stick for loading onto the ECI computer. If you plan to use a Mac computer, please bring the necessary adapters. The graduate students in charge of AV coordination are **Bradley Priem** and **Edward Ma**

All presentations should be loaded the day prior to the session or no later than three hours before the session in which you are speaking begins.

Some advice for speakers:

(i) The less clutter (institutional logos, etc.), the better. No footnotes or headers.

(ii) You will have a well-informed audience, so you can omit introductory slides. The audience can always ask questions.

(iii) Ask not what you can put in but what you can leave out. The viewer can, at the most, take away one message from your talk.

(iv) Use large fonts in the figures (including graphs) so that they can be read in one glance.

(v) Use color when it is effective, but sparingly.

Be sure that you have provided your session chair with a ***very brief*** biography for introductions.

It is vital to the conference schedule that you keep to your given time, allowing enough time (at least five minutes) for questions/ discussion. Keeping in the tradition of ECI conferences, please be available during the conference for discussion and questions. Meals and social periods are perfect for discussion and questions.

**POSTER PRESENTERS**

Posters should be no larger than 1.5 meters high and 1.0-meter-wide (portrait style). **Please hang your poster by 19:00 on Sunday**. ECI will provide push pins.

**All posters will be displayed throughout the conference. Poster presenters are asked to stay with their presentations as follows:**

Sunday 19:30-21:30 Odd posters 1-112, Even 113-224

Monday 19:30-21:30 Even posters 1-112, Odd 113-224

Tuesday 13:30-15:00 Odd posters 1-224 (all odd)

Wednesday 20:00-21:30 Even posters 1-224 (all even)

**WEATHER**

You can visit [www.weather.com](http://www.weather.com) to check the weather in Tucson. As noted earlier, the temperatures will be hwarm but you should bring a sweater or jacket for the conference room if the temperature there is too cool for you. We advise bringing sunscreen for your time outdoors.

**ELECTRICITY**

For those coming from outside the US, you will need a power plug adapter to fit your devices into US outlets, which use Type A and Type B plugs. (Standard voltage is 120V at a frequency of 60 Hz.) If your devices are not dual voltage (110-240V), you will need a voltage converter to step down the voltage.

**MISCELLANEOUS**

The following are a few housekeeping items:

* Attire: Business casual or casual. No suits or ties!
* Please wear your badge throughout the conference. Your badge is mandatory for admittance to meals including Tuesday’s event at Old Tucson Studio and Wednesday’s Taste of Tucson.
* The reverse side of your name badge is where we suggest you place your emergency contact information.
* If you have special dietary needs (e.g., vegetarian, allergies, etc.) that you have not already informed us of when you registered, please contact [Renee](mailto:renee@engconfintl.org) Smith prior to the start of the conference.
* If you have questions about the identity of any of the buffet/dining items, please ask the dining area staff.
* Audio, still photo and video recording by any device (e.g., cameras, cell phones, laptops, PDAs, watches) are prohibited during oral, poster and workshop technical sessions, unless the author and ECI have granted prior permission. Note that student photographers will be taking photos during the conference for a slide show at the closing dinner.
* Smoking is not allowed at any conference function.
* ECI will distribute an electronic conference evaluation/questionnaire at the conclusion of the conference. Please complete and return it, as your comments are valuable to the current chairs, the future chairs in the series, and ECI.
* Guests/Accompanying Persons: If you decide to bring a guest at the last moment, please contact Renee Smith to make arrangements.
* Internet – There is complimentary wireless Internet access at the Marriott. For Wi-Fi access in the meeting rooms use the following:
  + Network Name: ECI Network
  + Password: CCEXIX25

If you are having transportation difficulties and will be a late arrival, please either email or text [Barbara](mailto:barbara@engconfintl.org) (+1-914-484-7349 or +1-914-260-3664)

Have a safe trip and enjoy the conference!