



Tuesday, April 2 | Omni Austin Hotel Downtown

*Co-hosted by CPRIT*

*Presented by Lyda Hill Philanthropies*

### Schedule overview

9:00-9:40 Registration, networking and expo

#### 9:45- 10:35 **Building the Innovations of Tomorrow**

In March 2024, THBI will release “Texas Life Sciences: Building the Innovations of Tomorrow”, a report covering the Texas workforce. This panel will include an overview of the report highlights with an in-depth discussion of the specific strategies included in the report for addressing industry challenges related to expanding the workforce and creating greater opportunity for technology transfer.

##### Speakers:

- Linnea Fletcher, PhD, Biotechnology Department Chair, Austin Community College and Director, InnovATEBIO National Biotechnology Education Center
- Gabby Everett, PhD, Director, Business Operations & Strategy, Site Head, BioLabs Pegasus Park
- Brad Phelan, MBA, Assistant Vice President of Technology Commercialization & Business Development, UT Southwestern Medical Center
- Moderator: Victoria Ford, MPA, President and CEO, THBI

#### 10:40-11:30 **Surviving the Valley of Death**

Each life science and biotech company developing a new product or innovation must face the seemingly insurmountable obstacles to getting that product to the marketplace. This panel provides in depth discussion regarding many tools and strategies needed to “survive the valley of death” and make a successful market launch.

##### Speakers:

- Kristen Doyle, Deputy Executive Officer and General Counsel, Cancer Prevention and Research Institute of Texas (CPRIT)
- Kirk Macolini, President and Principal Consultant, InteliSpark, LLC
- Marcus Nelson, Vice President, Strategy and New Ventures, Texas Medical Center
- Omid Veisheh, PhD, Associate Professor, CPRIT Scholar in Cancer Research and Director of Rice Biotechnology Launch Pad
- Moderator: Dan Hargrove, JD, LLM, Founder, Texas BioTech Ventures, LLC

11:30-12:45 Lunch, networking and expo

### 12:45 -1:35 **Industry Partnership Collaboration Meetings**

#### **Workforce Development Partners Meeting** (Mansfield meeting room)

In this meeting, industry partners will consider two key strategies identified in Building the Innovations of Tomorrow as opportunities to improve the development of the life science workforce. Participants will be asked to provide feedback on those strategies for the development of future initiatives.

- Guest Speaker: Baley Reeves, PhD, Interim Director, National Center for Therapeutics Manufacturing, Texas A&M Engineering
- Guest Speaker: Harry Benson, CAI, Director, Human Performance
- Facilitator: Linnea Fletcher, PhD, Austin Community College/InnovATEBIO

#### **Economic Development Partners Meeting** (Bridge Ballroom)

In this meeting, industry partners will hear from the guest speaker regarding how economic development organizations can partner strategically to more effectively market Texas as a key state for life science and biotech companies. A second guest speaker will outline the Higher Education Coordinating Board's strategic plan for enhancing technology transfer at academic institutions. Participants will be asked to provide feedback on those strategies for the development of future initiatives.

- Guest Speaker: Aaron Demerson, President and CEO, Texas Economic Development Corporation
- Guest Speaker: Matt Parson, Assistant Commissioner for Workforce Strategy, Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board
- Facilitator: Victoria Ford, THBI

1:35-2:15 Snack/coffee break

### 2:15-3:05 **Preparing for the Future- Industry Forecast**

To invest \$2.5 billion into a product that won't make it to the market for 10-12 years each life science and biotech company must be something of a fortune teller. This panel of industry experts will provide knowledgeable insight and informed predictions as to the forces that will shape the market into the next decade and beyond.

Speakers:

- Robert Coughlin, Managing Director of Life Science and Healthcare, JLL
- Bob Lenich, Business Director, Industrial Software, Emerson Automation Solutions
- Ferran Prat, PhD, JD, Senior Vice President for Research Administration and Industry Relations, The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center
- Stan Watowich, PhD, Professor, UT Medical Branch at Galveston; Founder & CEO, Ridgeline Therapeutics
- Moderator: Victoria Ford, THBI

3:10-4:00 **Fireside Chat- How Texas is Working to Improve the Workforce and Technology Transfer**

Speakers:

- Commissioner Harrison Keller, PhD, Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board
- Commissioner Joe Esparza, Texas Workforce Commission
- Moderator: Eric Danielson, Managing Director, Real Estate Development, NexPoint

4:05-4:40 **Closing Keynote- The State of Economic Development in Texas**

Adriana Cruz, Executive Director, Economic Development and Tourism, Office of Governor Greg Abbott

4:40-5:00 Closing remarks

Victoria Ford, THBI

5:00-6:00 Industry Reception, networking, and expo

*Industry Reception co-hosted by Austin Healthcare Council and BioAustinCTX*