InnoPharm

PROGRAM

2nd International Conference on

INNOVATIONS IN PHARMA R&D

November 2-4, 2026

Holiday Inn Boston Hotel
30 Washington St, Somerville, MA 02143

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Life Time Achievement Awards @ Innopharm-2026

Dr. Donald E. Ingber

Wyss Institute at Harvard University, Boston, MA

"InnoPharm-2026 is proud to announce that its 2026 Lifetime Achievement Award will be presented to Professor Donald E. Ingber, Founding Director and Core Faculty of the Wyss Institute at Harvard University, in recognition of his pioneering contributions to biologically inspired engineering, organ-on-chip technology, mechanobiology, and translational medicine. His visionary research has transformed biomedical innovation and significantly advanced drug discovery, disease modeling, and precision healthcare."

Dr. Daria Mochly-Rosen

Stanford University, Stanford, CA

"InnoPharm-2026 is proud to announce that its 2026 Lifetime Achievement Award will be presented to Professor Daria Mochly-Rosen, Professor at Stanford University, in recognition of her pioneering research in protein kinase signaling and its translation into novel therapeutic strategies for cardiovascular, neurological, and metabolic diseases. Her groundbreaking discoveries have had a profound impact on pharmaceutical research and translational medicine, inspiring innovative approaches to improving human health."

Scientific Program Overview

DAY	DATE	FORMAT	SCHEDULE
Day 1	Monday, November 02, 2026	In-Person	09:00-17:45
Day 2	Tuesday, November 03, 2026	In-Person	09:00-17:40
Day 3	Wednesday, November 04, 2026	In-Person	08:15-13:40
Day 3	Wednesday, November 04, 2026	Virtual	14:20-20:10

Zoom Links

Join Zoom Meeting

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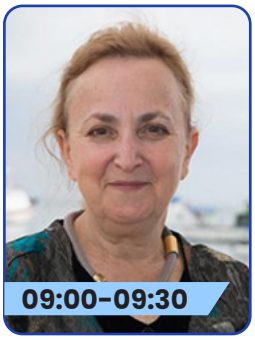
08:20-08:40 **Registrations and Badge Pickup** **@Ballroom Foyer**

08:40-09:00 **Opening Remarks**

KEYNOTE PRESENTATIONS

Moderator: B. Rita Alevriadou, University at Buffalo, Buffalo, NY



09:00-09:30

Daria Mochly Rosen

Stanford University, Stanford, CA

The SPARK Model of Translational Research in Academia; a 20 Years Report

Dr. Daria Mochly-Rosen is a professor at Stanford University and a leader in translational medicine. Her research focuses on cell signaling and therapeutic development, and she founded Stanford SPARK to help advance academic discoveries toward clinical applications.

09:30-10:00

Martin Schwartz

Yale School of Medicine, New Haven, CT

A Novel Target for Combating Vascular Inflammatory Disease

Dr. Martin A. Schwartz is a professor at Yale School of Medicine specializing in vascular biology and mechanotransduction. His research explores how cells respond to mechanical forces and how cellular signaling contributes to vascular inflammation and cardiovascular disease.

10:00-10:30

Debbie C. Crans

Colorado State University, Fort Collins, CO

Beyond the Active Species: Transformation Networks in Vanadium Pharmacology

Dr. Debbie C. Crans is a Professor of Chemistry and Cell and Molecular Biology at Colorado State University. Her research focuses on bioinorganic and bioorganic chemistry, particularly vanadium compounds and their applications in medicine. Her work explores the mechanisms of metal-based drugs and their potential applications in treating diseases such as cancer, diabetes, and tuberculosis.

Coffee & Networking (10:30 - 10:50)

10:50-11:20

A. Thomas Look

Dana-Farber Cancer Institute

Harvard Medical School, Boston, MA

KAT6A/B Inhibitor Transcriptionally Upregulates GD2 to Sensitize Neuroblastoma Cells to Targeted Immunotherapy

Dr. A. Thomas Look is a professor at Harvard Medical School and a cancer researcher at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute. His research investigates the genetic and molecular mechanisms underlying leukemia, neuroblastoma, and other childhood cancers, with a focus on identifying potential therapeutic targets.

SPECIAL TALKS

11:20–11:45 **Kenneth C. Waterman**, *FreeThink Technologies, Inc. Branford, CT*
The Accelerated Stability Assessment program (ASAP): Using Science to Rapidly Set Drug Product Shelf Life for Small Molecules and Biologics

11:45–12:10 **Zaher Nahle**, *Ivyctory Group & Sr. Advisor, Bethesda, MD*
FDA Modernization Act 2.0 and 3.0

Group Photo & Lunch (12:10 - 13:20)

Session-I Drug Discovery & Optimization

Chair: Girish Nallur, *Vistara Bioscience, Guilford, CT*

13:20–13:40 **Barry Morgan**, *HitGen Inc., Franklin, MA*
25 years of DNA-encoded Library Technology: A Personal Perspective

13:40–14:00 **B. Rita Alevriadou**, *University at Buffalo, Buffalo, NY*
Mitochondrial Transfer via Endothelial-derived Extracellular Vesicles: A Potential Therapy for Vascular and Mitochondrial Diseases

14:00–14:20 **Eugenia Trushina**, *Mayo Clinic, Rochester, MN*
Advancing Mitochondrial Complex I Modulators for Neurodegenerative Diseases

14:20–14:40 **Jiayu Liao**, *University of California, Riverside, CA*
FDA-approved World's First Oral GLP1R Small-molecule Agonist

14:40–15:00 **Ronald Davis**, *University of Florida Health, Gainesville, FL*
Mitochondrial-targeted Therapeutics for ALS

15:00–15:20 **Philipp Mews**, *Boston University Chobanian & Avedisian School of Medicine, Boston, MA*
Epigenetic Therapeutics for Addiction: Targeting ACSS2 to Reduce Relapse Vulnerability

15:20–15:40 **Yuping Bao**, *The University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, AL*
Transmembrane Proteins as Targets for Breast Cancer Drug Resistance

15:40–16:00 **Donald L Durden**, *Wake Forest University, Charlotte, NC*
***In silico* design of Multitarget Directed Ligands (MTDSs) for the Polypharmaceutical Treatment of Refractory Diseases**

16:00–16:20 **Girish Nallur**, *Vistara Bioscience, Guilford, CT*
Targeted Peptide Interventions to Restore Proteostasis in Parkinson's Disease

Coffee & Networking (16:20-16:30)

16:30–16:50 **Ying-Xian Pan**, *New Jersey Medical School, Newark, NJ*
Establishing Oprm1 exon 7-associated Splice Variants as Therapeutic Targets for Improving Opioid Safety Without Compromising Analgesia

16:50–17:10 **Xiaofeng Tan**, *DeepCovalent, Inc., Acton, MA*
One-step De Novo Small-molecule Drug Discovery

17:10–17:30 **Ananth Kumar Kammala**, *The University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston, Galveston, TX*
Exosome-based Biologics: A New Frontier in Drug Development and Precision Medicine

17:30–17:45 **David Belnap**, *The University of Utah, Salt Lake City, UT*
Facilitating Commercial Drug Discovery at the University of Utah Electron Microscopy Core

17:45-18:45 **Drinks & Networking**

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PLENARY & KEYNOTE PRESENTATIONS

Chair: Thomas Caulfield, *Digital Ether Computing, Miami, FL*

Donald E. Ingber

Harvard University, Boston, MA

Human Organ Chips for Disease Modeling, Drug Development, and Personalized Medicine

Dr. Donald E. Ingber is the Founding Director of the Wyss Institute at Harvard University. A pioneer in mechanobiology and biologically inspired engineering, his research focuses on Organ-on-Chip technology, tissue engineering, and innovative approaches to drug development and disease modeling.

Rhoda Alani

Brigham and Women's Hospital, Harvard Medical School, Boston, MA

Epigenetic Inhibitors as Novel Therapeutics: Applications in Cancer and Beyond

Dr. Rhoda M. Alani is a physician-scientist specializing in cancer biology and molecular oncology. Her research focuses on the genetic and epigenetic mechanisms involved in tumor development and progression, supporting the discovery of potential new cancer therapies.

Liwu Li

Virginia Polytechnic Institute & State University, Blacksburg, VA

Rejuvenation of Innate Immunity for Treating Chronic Inflammatory Disease

Dr. Liwu Li is a professor at Virginia Tech specializing in innate immunity and inflammation biology. His research investigates immune signaling and the mechanisms underlying acute and chronic inflammatory diseases, with the goal of identifying new therapeutic strategies.

Coffee & Networking (10:40-11:00)

Session-II AI & ML in Pharma R&D

11:00-11:20 **Thomas Caulfield**, *Digital Ether Computing, Miami, FL*
Cryptic Allosteric Pockets: A Computational Route to Selectivity

11:20-11:40 **Naeyma Islam**, *Mayo Clinic, Jacksonville, FL*
Predicting Drug-likeness With or Without Structure: A Multi-modal ADMET Framework

11:40-12:00 **Diana Bohannon**, *Absentia Labs, Somerville, MA*
Bridging Translational Gaps in Drug-induced Liver Injury Using Predictive AI

12:00-12:15 **Alp Tartici**, *Stanford, CA* **(Flash Talk)**
Generative Denoising AI Models for Structure Guided Biologics Engineering

12:15–12:30 **Shourya Verma**, *Purdue University West, Lafayette, IN* **(Flash Talk)**
Towards Multi-modal Cellular Perturbation Modelling

Lunch (12:30-13:30)

Session-III Drug Delivery Systems & Biologics

Chair: Peter F. Kador, *UNMC & Therapeutic Vision, Inc., Omaha, NE*

13:30–13:50 **Urszula Komarnicka**, *University of Wrocław, Poland*
Organometallic (Fe, Ru, Ir, and Os) Phosphine-based Inducers of Ferroptosis in Drug-resistant Cancer Cells and their Applications in Drug Delivery

13:50–14:10 **Gihoon Lee**, *Johnson & Johnson Innovative Medicine, Spring House, PA*
Proteomics-based Discovery of Cellular Mechanisms Driving CHO Productivity

14:10–14:30 **Shanhu Hu**, *WuXi AppTec Co., Ltd., Boston, MA*
Integrated Solutions for Advancing Oligonucleotide Drug Discovery

14:30–14:50 **Tania (Tali) Konry**, *Bouvé College of Health Sciences, Northeastern University, Boston, MA*
Beyond Omics: Functional Immunology as a New Engine for Drug Discovery and Biomarker Development

14:50–15:10 **Zhimin Cao**, *SUNY Upstate Medical University, Syracuse, NY*
Triple-negative Breast Cancer–evidence of Successful Treatment Using Chinese Herb Extract in Animal Model

15:10–15:30 **Peter F. Kador**, *UNMC & Therapeutic Vision, Inc., Omaha, NE*
Orally Active Multifunctional Redox Modulators are Neuroprotective for Vision, Hearing and Cognition

15:30–15:50 **Yangmei Li**, *University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC*
Developing Cyclic Peptide MOR/DOR Dual Agonists as Safe and Potent Analgesics Without Abuse Liability

15:50–16:10 **Hu Yang**, *Marquette University, Milwaukee, WI*
Drug Delivery and Nanomedicine Strategies for Glaucoma

Coffee & Networking (16:10-16:30)

16:30–16:50 **Changning Wang**, *Massachusetts General Hospital Brigham and Women's Hospital, Boston, MA*
Molecular Imaging in Drug Discovery

16:50–17:10 **Thoa Tran**, *Indiana University School of Medicine, Indianapolis, IN*
Bridging the Gap in Aptamer-based Cancer Therapy: Engineering Tunable Photodynamic Therapy for Cancer Treatment

17:10–17:40 **Jan E. Schnitzer**, *PRISM, La Jolla, CA* **(Special Talk)**
Challenges and Solutions on Delivering Precision Medicine Today

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Chair: Diane Joseph-McCarthy, *Boston University, Boston, MA*

Session-IV Clinical Research & Precision Medicine

08:15-08:40 **Yoko Ambrosini**, *Washington State University, Pullman, WA* **(Special Talk)**
The Patient Before the Patient: Veterinary Medicine and Organ-on-a-Chip

08:40-09:00 **Diane Joseph-McCarthy**, *Boston University, Boston, MA*
Machine Learning Enabled Drug Design

09:00-09:20 **Roger Giese**, *Northeastern University, Boston, MA*
The Missing Cancer Prevention Test: Next Generation DNA Adductomics

09:20-09:40 **Hoon-Ki Sung**, *The Hospital for Sick Children, Canada*
Rejuvenating Adipose Tissue: From Drug Repurposing to Dietary Interventions

VIRTUAL PLENARY

Joseph Wu
Stanford University, Stanford, CA

New Approach Methodologies (NAMs): Human-centric Biology for drug Discovery

Dr. Joseph C. Wu is a professor at Stanford University School of Medicine and Director of the Stanford Cardiovascular Institute. His research focuses on cardiovascular disease, stem cell biology, precision medicine, and drug discovery, including human-relevant models for evaluating potential therapies.

Coffee & Networking (10:20-10:40)

10:40-11:00 **Bradley M. Palmer**, *University of Vermont, Burlington, VT*
Cardiac Slice Preparation and Pressure-volume Work Loop Mimicry for Drug Discovery

11:00-11:20 **Shari Price**, *National Institutes of Health, Frederick, MD*
***In vitro* Cardiac Safety Assessments using New Approach Methodologies (NAMs) in 2D and 3D Formats**

11:20-11:40 **Amir Reza Aref**, *Harvard Medical School, Boston, MA*
Micro-physiological Systems Developing a Functional Precision Medicine for Immuno-oncology

11:40-12:00 **Alain Bicart-Sée**, *Hôpital Joseph Ducuing, France*
Kinetics of Molecular Patterns Captured by Mannose-binding Lectin in Septic Shock Correlate With Clinical Outcome: A Monocentric Prospective Observational Study

12:00-12:20 **Su Ryon Shin**, *Harvard Medical School, Cambridge, MA*
Nano-and Micro-engineered Biomaterials Modulating Stem Cells Behavior for Regenerative Medicine

12:20-12:40 **Katherine C. MacNamara**, *Albany Medical College, Albany, NY*
Targeting Resolution Programs to Improve Immunosuppression in Autoimmune Disease

12:40-13:00 **Jienyu Ding**, *The National Institutes of Health Bethesda, MD*
Bottom Up Reconstitution of Integrin Based Focal Adhesion Machinery

13:00-13:20 **Ameer H. El-Afandi**, *Medical College of Wisconsin, Milwaukee, WI*
Weighing in as a Team: Managing Obesity Through Interdisciplinary Group Visits

13:20-13:40 **Matthew Caporizzo**, *University of Vermont, Burlington , VT*
Providing a Clinical Grade of Diastolic Function in a Small Myocardial Slice Addiction

13:40 Lunch & Departures

VIRTUAL PRESENTATIONS

Time zone: Eastern Standard Time (EST)

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14:20-14:30 **Virtual Introductions**

Ernst Wagner

Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München, Germany

Chameleon Nanocarriers for RNA delivery

Dr. Ernst Wagner is a Professor of Pharmaceutical Biotechnology at Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München, Germany. His research focuses on nucleic acid therapeutics, gene delivery, nanomedicine, polymer-based drug delivery systems, and the development of innovative technologies for RNA therapeutics and genome editing.

15:00-15:20 **Basil Golding**, *CBER | US FDA, Silver Spring, MD*
The Impact of Cognate Antigen on Antibody Distribution

15:20-15:40 **Rana Rais**, *Johns Hopkins Drug Discovery, Baltimore, MD*
A Tumor-targeted Prodrug Strategy for Glutamine Antagonism

KEYNOTE PRESENTATIONS

Nathan D. Wong

University of California, Irvine, CA

Lipoprotein(a): A Powerful Driver of Cardiovascular Risk and Emerging Therapeutic Options

Dr. Nathan D. Wong is a Professor of Medicine and Epidemiology at the University of California, Irvine, and Director of its Heart Disease Prevention Program. His research focuses on cardiovascular epidemiology, preventive cardiology, coronary artery calcium, diabetes, and the prevention and management of cardiovascular disease.

Pal Pacher

National Institute of Health, Rockville, MD

Dr. Pál Pacher is a Senior Investigator at the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism, part of the National Institutes of Health. His research focuses on oxidative stress, inflammation, cardiovascular disease, and tissue injury, with an emphasis on identifying molecular mechanisms and potential therapeutic targets.

Nicolas G. Bazan

LSU Health New Orleans, New Orleans, LA

Dr. Nicolas G. Bazan is Boyd Professor and Director of the Neuroscience Center of Excellence at LSU Health New Orleans. His research focuses on neuroscience, retinal degeneration, and neuroprotection, particularly the molecular mechanisms involved in neuronal survival and brain and retinal diseases.

17:10–17:30	**Michael E. Green**, *The City College of New York, New York, NY* **Water, Protons, and Gating the Kv1.2 and Shaker Potassium Ion Channels**
	Coffee & Networking (17:30-17:50)
17:50–18:10	**Shuiying Hu**, *The Ohio State University, Columbus, OH* **From Screening to Neuroprotection: Identifying Novel Xenobiotic Transporter Inhibitors to Prevent Vincristine Neurotoxicity**
18:10–18:30	**William R. Kem**, *University of Florida Health, Gainesville, FL* **The Alpha6Beta2 Nicotinic Receptor as a Preferred Target for Treating Tobacco Addiction**
18:30–18:50	**Gina D'Angelo**, *AstraZeneca, Gaithersburg, MD* **From Discovery to Impact: Biomarkers Powering the Future of Precision Medicine**
18:50–19:10	**Kumaraswamy Naidu Chitrala**, *University of Houston, Houston, TX* **Multi-omics Approaches to Discover Molecular Targets Associated with Health Disparities in Human Diseases**
19:10–19:30	**Hira L. Nakhasi**, *U.S. Food and Drug Administration, Silver Spring, MD* **Development of Genetically Modified Live Attenuated Leishmania Vaccine- from Bench to Bed side**
19:30–19:50	**Asmita Khanolkar**, *SMC Ltd, Boston, MA* **Developing Combination Products for the Evolving Therapeutic Drug-device Landscape**
19:50–20:10	**Taeyoon Jung**, *Johns Hopkins Drug Discovery, Baltimore, MD* **Gut-restricted GCPII-steroid Conjugate for IBD**
20:10	**Closing Remarks**

GLIMPSES INTO

Our Past Conference

NETWORKING CONFERENCING INNOVATING

Attending a Conference isn't all about Learning and Networking

DISCOVERING

A right choice of conference destination is an important aspect of any international conference. Keeping this in consideration, **InnoPharm-2026 – The Second International Conference on Innovations in Pharma R&D** is scheduled in the vibrant and historic city of **Boston, Massachusetts, USA**.

BOSTON, MA

Boston, Massachusetts, is a vibrant and historic city that attracts visitors from around the world. Known for its prestigious universities, historic architecture, cultural attractions, and thriving pharmaceutical and biotechnology industries, Boston offers a unique blend of American history, academic excellence, and modern innovation. It is an ideal destination for international conferences, bringing together researchers, industry professionals, and scientific innovators.

Freedom Trail: One of Boston's most popular attractions, the Freedom Trail is a historic walking route connecting significant landmarks associated with the American Revolution. Visitors can explore historic churches, meeting houses, and monuments while discovering the city's important role in American history.

Harvard University: Located in nearby Cambridge, Harvard University is one of the world's most renowned academic institutions. Visitors can explore its historic Harvard Yard, admire the beautiful campus architecture, and experience the rich academic atmosphere that makes the Boston area a global center for education and research.

Museum of Fine Arts, Boston: A major cultural attraction, the Museum of Fine Arts features an extensive collection of artworks from different periods and cultures. Along with Boston Common and the Public Garden, it offers visitors opportunities to enjoy art, nature, and relaxation while experiencing the charm of this remarkable city.

We wish to see you at

INNOPHARM-2027

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