Biolife Solutions®

Welcome Pack

The Cell Summit '25

Aug 5-6th | Indianapolis, IN, USA

INNOVATIONS IN PROCESSING & SCALE-UP

SPONSORED BY

AZENTA LIFE SCIENCES | Entegris

Exploring the latest innovations and challenges in **biopreservation** and **cell therapy manufacturing**

WHEN

Tuesday August 5th
8:30am to 5:00pm

Wednesday August 6th
8:30am to 1:30pm

WHERE

Newfields Art Museum
4000 N Michigan Rd
Indianapolis, IN 46208

Together towards a cure

Biolife Solutions®

Welcome to The Cell Summit '25 – Innovations in Processing & Scale-Up

On behalf of BioLife Solutions, Azenta Life Sciences, and Entegris, we are delighted to welcome you to **The Cell Summit: Innovations in Processing & Scale-Up.** This exclusive event is designed to foster collaboration and innovation as we address key challenges in cell processing, biopreservation, scale-up, and commercialization.

As leaders in the advanced therapies ecosystem, we understand the complexities of ensuring cell and gene therapy products maintain quality, viability, and functionality at every stage of development and manufacturing. With the rapid growth of the industry, finding scalable, reproducible, and high-quality solutions is more critical than ever.

Throughout this event, you will have the opportunity to engage with industry experts, scientists, and thought leaders who are driving advancements in cryopreservation, cell processing, and automation. Together, we will explore cutting-edge technologies, emerging best practices, and innovative solutions that can empower your work in advancing cell-based therapies.

We encourage you to take full advantage of the interactive discussions, expert panels, and networking sessions. This is more than just a summit—it's a collaborative forum where we can learn from one another, exchange insights, and collectively push the boundaries of what's possible in advanced therapies.

Thank you for joining us. We look forward to meaningful conversations and forging new partnerships that will shape the future of cell and gene therapy.

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The Cell Summit '25

Day 1 Agenda

Tuesday August 5th

TIME	TITLE	SPEAKERS	COMPANY
8:30am	Welcome Address & Introduction	Steven Thompson	BioLife Solutions
8:40am	Preserving the Promise: Unique Challenges When Cryopreserving Starting Materials	Bruce Thompson	Kincell Bio
9:30am	Implementation of Biopreservation Best Practices in Cell and Gene Therapy Manufacturing	Alireza Abazari	BioLife Solutions
9:50am	Panel Discussion / Audience Questions	All	All
10:00am	**Coffee Break**		
10:15am	Cryopreservation in Academia: Balancing Variability, Volume, and Viability	Ashley Krull	The Ohio State University
10:30am	Comprehensive quality control analyses for gene-edited iPSCs	Xiaoxia Cui	Genome Engineering Stem Cell Center (GESC at MGI)
10:45am	Innovations in iPSC Cryopreservation	Matthew Branch	King's College London
11:00am	Mastering Formulation and Freezing for Optimal Cell Viability	Alex Sargent	Charles River Laboratories
11:15am	Enhancing T Cell Recovery Post-Thaw: Combinatorial Effects of HPL and Defined Supplements	Jake Hanks	InVitria
11:30am	Choosing the Right Cryogenic Packaging: Impacts on Process and Outcomes	Rui Li	EastWind CryoWorks
11:45am	Panel Discussion / Audience Questions	All	All
12:00pm	**Networking Lunch**		
12:45pm	Addressing industry challenges in closed system processing and automation for CGT	Terrence Rindler	Bristol Myers Squibb
1:05pm	Perfusion-powered production of over 100 CAR-T doses in a 2-litre stirred-tank bioreactor using intensified lentivirus production	Rachel Legmann	Repligen
1:20pm	Process Optimization Considerations: Storage and Controls	Erik Woods	Ossium Health
1:35pm	Proof of Concept: Fully Enclosed CAR-T Processing Without a Biosafety Cabinet	Jon Pileggi	CTMC
1:50pm	Best Practices in Thawing to Maximize Cell Recovery and Function	Olga Bukatova / Kelsey Musall	Azenta Life Sciences / Ossium Health
2:15pm	Panel Discussion / Audience Questions	All	All
2:45pm	**Coffee Break**		
3:00pm	Innovative Container Solutions for Efficient Downstream Processing	Steven Thompson	BioLife Solutions
3:15pm	Large vs. Small Volume Considerations	Donnie Beers	Entegris
3:30pm	Last Mile: Day-of-treatment CGT Dose Prep Automation in a Small, Closed System	Nikhil Joshi	Cellular Vehicles
3:45pm	Integrated Automation in Manufacturing to Improve CGT Scalability	Alex Sargent	Charles River Laboratories
4:00pm	Automated Storage: Enhancing Efficiency, Material Integrity and Compliance	Kathi Shea	Azenta Life Sciences
4:15pm	Process Optimization: Weighing Build vs. Buy in CGT Manufacturing	Alan Smith	Charles River Laboratories
4:30pm	Bringing the Power of Automated Flow Cytometry to the Cell Therapy Manufacturing Suite	Mark Rehse	Accellix
4:45pm	Panel Discussion / Audience Questions	All	All
5:00pm	**Close**		

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The Cell Summit '25

Day 2 Agenda

› Wednesday August 6th

TIME	TITLE	SPEAKERS	COMPANY
8:30am	Welcome	Steven Thompson	BioLife Solutions
8:35am	Ice Recrystallization Inhibitors: What is their Role in the Future of Biopreservation?	Jason Acker	University of Alberta
9:05am	Navigating Regulatory Challenges around Formulation and Cryopreservation	Aby J. Mathew	BioLife Solutions
9:45am	Mixing and Filling in the Manufacturing Process: Addressing Homogeneity, Settling, and Aggregation Concerns	Ryan Murray	Bayer
10:00am	Panel Discussion/ Audience Questions	All	All
10:15am	**Coffee Break**		
10:30am	Point of Care Biopreservation: The Fresh vs. Frozen Debate	Emily Hopewell	Indiana University
10:45am	Downstream processes for GMP-grade therapeutic cell products	Mandana Haack-Sørensen	Cell2Cure
11:00am	Operational scale up challenges in cell and gene	Leela Paris	Aspect Biosystems
11:15am	Regulatory in an Evolving Landscape: Standardization Challenges & Solutions	Sean Werner	BioLife Solutions
11:30am	Panel Discussion / Audience Questions	All	All
12:00pm	**Networking Lunch**		
1:00pm	Azenta facility tour **OR** Product Development Focus Group		

Choose Your Own Experience

We're offering three unique ways to continue your experience—each designed to provide valuable insights and connections based on your interests.

Tour Azenta Life Sciences

Take a guided tour of Azenta's state-of-the-art Indianapolis facilities and discover the innovative technologies driving advancements in cell and gene therapy. This behind-the-scenes look offers a firsthand view into the tools and processes supporting next-generation workflows.

Collaborate with BioLife R&D

Sit down with members of the BioLife Solutions R&D team for interactive discussions around current industry challenges and out-of-the-box solutions. This is a great opportunity to exchange ideas, explore collaborative innovations, and gain insight into the future of cell processing and cryopreservation.

Conclude Your Visit

If you prefer to wrap up your experience following the morning sessions, you're welcome to network and depart at your convenience.

Speakers

Aby J. Mathew, PhD

Executive Vice President
and Chief Scientific Officer
BioLife Solutions

Dr. Aby J. Mathew is a recognized thought leader in biopreservation for clinical applications, with extensive expertise in cell and tissue preservation technologies. He holds a B.S. in Microbiology and a PhD in Cell & Molecular Biology and is a co-developer of the industry-leading HypoThermosol® and CryoStor® biopreservation media.

A driving force in the regenerative medicine field, Dr. Mathew has been instrumental in advancing the adoption of clinical-grade biopreservation solutions. His contributions include six issued and six pending patents, along with numerous peer-reviewed journal articles that continue to shape best practices in the industry.

Alex Sargent, PhD

Director of Process Development
of Cell and Gene Therapy
Charles River Laboratories

Alex Sargent – better known as "Sarge" – is currently the Director of Process Development of Cell and Gene Therapy at Charles River Laboratories. He obtained his PhD from Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland Ohio, where he studied the challenges and promises of stem cell biology, neuroimmunology, and Cleveland sports teams. He then went on to the Lerner Research Institute at the Cleveland Clinic Foundation to continue his research in stem cell biology and neural regeneration.

Since joining the biotech industry, he has worked at several large companies on drug discovery and the research and development of groundbreaking cell and gene therapies. These include Lonza Inc., where he patented new technologies for cell therapy manufacturing and CRISPR gene editing, and AstraZeneca, where he worked to bring new chimeric antigen receptor (CAR) T-cell therapies into clinical trials. He is passionate about the challenge of curing cancer, working on cell and gene therapy process and analytical development from discovery, through regulatory submission, manufacturing, and clinical trials. He wakes up each day excited to help advance cell and gene therapy to treat and cure disease, with the steadfast goal of improving human lives.

Alan Smith, PhD

Executive Director, Global Scientific
Portfolio Management – CDMO
Charles River Laboratories

Dr. Smith has 40+ years of experience in the cell therapy and gene therapy field with experience in a wide variety of cell types and viral vector platforms. He has extensive experience in research, process development, GMP manufacturing, quality control, quality assurance, analytical and assay development, GMP facilities design, construction and operation and GMP supply chain/procurement.

He most recently served as Chief Technology Officer of Ambys Medicines, Inc. Prior to his time at Ambys Medicines, Dr. Smith served as Chief Technology Officer at Akouos, Inc., a gene therapy company focused on cures for genetic hearing defects (acquired by Lilly), and was Executive Vice President, Technical Operations at Bellicum Pharmaceuticals, Inc. Dr. Smith previously served as Vice President of Research & Development and Cellular Therapeutics for LifeNet Health, Inc. and its wholly owned subsidiary, The Institute of Regenerative Medicine.

Over the course of his career, he has been a material contributor to more than 25 successful regulatory applications for human cell therapy clinical trials and medical devices. Dr. Smith has previously held adjunct professor appointments at Eastern Virginia Medical School, California State University, Long Beach and Utah State University and has served in a number of academic advisory panel positions. He holds a B.S. in Chemistry from Southern Utah University and a Ph.D. in Biochemistry from Utah State University.

Speakers

Alireza Abazari, PhD
Senior Director, Cell Processing
BioLife Solutions

Dr. Alireza Abazari is currently the Senior Director of Cell Processing at BioLife Solutions, bringing extensive expertise in biopreservation, process development, and cell therapy manufacturing. Previously, he led process development at Pluristyx, Inc. and played a key role at Lyell Immunopharma, where he developed selection, formulation, and cryopreservation strategies for CAR-T, TCR, and TIL programs.

His tenure at BioLife Solutions also includes roles as Scientific Applications Director and Senior Application Scientist, where he drove R&D initiatives, customer consulting, and process optimization to advance biopreservation technologies. Dr. Abazari began his career as a Postdoctoral Research Fellow at Harvard Medical School, researching intracellular trehalose delivery and lyopreservation techniques. With a PhD in Cell & Molecular Biology, numerous scientific publications, and leadership in process optimization and automation, he continues to shape innovations in cell and gene therapy manufacturing.

Ashley A Krull, PhD
Associate Director, Cell Therapy Manufacturing & Engineering;
Assistant Professor, Hematology
The Ohio State University

Ashley Krull, Ph.D., received her Bachelor of Science degree in Biochemistry from the University of Iowa and her Ph.D. in Neuroscience from the University of Washington. After graduate school, Dr. Krull completed a postdoctoral fellowship in Regenerative Neurobiology within the Department of Neurology at Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota. In 2019, Dr. Krull became Mayo Clinic's second-ever Cellular Therapy Fellow and was granted an extended two-year fellowship, which she completed in 2021. This fellowship program included didactic, experiential, and project-driven training with an emphasis on directorship of a clinical cell therapy laboratory. Subsequently, Dr. Krull held an appointment as Instructor within the Department of Laboratory Medicine and Pathology and as a consultant for a joint venture biotechnology company spun out of the lab's work at Mayo Clinic. In 2022, Dr. Krull moved to The Ohio State University where she currently serves as the Associate Director of Cell Therapy Manufacturing and Engineering. She also holds an appointment of Assistant Professor within the Division of Hematology. Her work focuses on the optimization of manufacturing processes for immune effector cells and the translation of novel cellular therapies into the clinic.

Speakers

Bruce Thompson, PhD
Chief Technology Officer
Kincell Bio

Bruce Thompson, PhD., brings more than 25 years of experience to his position as Chief Technology Officer. Bruce is the Founding CEO of Kincell where he built the technical and operations team and launched Kincell's tech-savvy CDMO offerings in the marketplace. Prior to his role with Kincell, Bruce was Vice President and Technical Lead for the Cell Therapy Franchise at Resilience, Inc., where he helped to build the development and GMP manufacturing capabilities and served as a technical advisor.

Bruce has over 18 years of CMC strategy, product development and cell therapy manufacturing experience. As Vice President of Process Sciences at Lyell Immunopharma, he was responsible for Process and Analytical Development, as well as tech transfer of processes and methods to a newly built state-of-the-art cGMP facility. Before Lyell, Bruce served as the Sr. Director of the Therapeutic Products Program at Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center (FHCRC), where he led GMP manufacturing of cell and gene therapy products. He supported more than 15 active clinical programs and contributed to the filing of 6 INDs for various cell therapy programs. Bruce also spent nearly 10 years at Pfizer in the Pharmaceutical Sciences division where he gained expertise in analytical and process development. Bruce received his B.A. in Biology, an M.S. in Biochemistry from The Ohio State University and Ph.D. in Microbiology and Immunology from the University of Louisville.

Donnie Beers
Life Sciences Applications Leader
Entegris

Donnie Beers, Life Sciences Applications Leader for Entegris, Inc. has held many roles in process science and bioproduction over the last two decades and brings a wealth of collaboration and leadership experience gained during his past process sciences and commercial roles.

Donnie joined Entegris in 2019 as Sr. Product Manager for single-use products and has since taken a lead role in helping customers overcome unique challenges in cell and gene therapies leveraging his prior work in developing, implementing, and commercializing single-use and automation technology in biopharma. Donnie earned his BSc. in Biochemistry from University of Wisconsin – Madison.

Emily Hopewell, PhD
Assistant Professor of Clinical Medical and Molecular Genetics and Director of Cell and Gene Therapy Manufacturing
Indiana University

Emily Hopewell began her career at the Moffitt Cancer Center as a technologist in the Cell Therapy Facility in 2003. She received her PhD in Cancer Biology from the University of South Florida in 2012. She joined Indiana University in 2018 and is the Director of Cell and Gene Therapy Manufacturing (CGTM) and an Assistant Professor in Clinical Medical and Molecular Genetics. The CGTM group comprises the Vector Production Facility, Cell Immunotherapy and Transduction Facility, and the Bioprocess Development Laboratory. Dr. Hopewell oversees all aspects of manufacturing, from development efforts to clinical production of cell and gene therapies for use in clinical trials. She provides leadership, strategic direction and input on education, research and clinical missions within the Cell and Gene Therapy GMP Facilities, the Department of Medical and Molecular Genetics, and the Brown Center for Immunotherapy.

Dr. Hopewell is active in the field of cell and gene therapy, with a focus on educating professionals and providing career development opportunities. She holds leadership positions within the International Society of Cell and Gene Therapy and is active in the Society for Immunotherapy of Cancer and the Association for the Advancement of Blood and Biotherapies.

Speakers

Erik Woods, PhD
Executive Vice President and Chief Science Officer
Ossium Health

Erik Woods, PhD, is a recognized leader in cell therapy and biopreservation, with extensive expertise in cryopreservation, regenerative medicine, and translational research. He has played a pivotal role in advancing cell manufacturing, biobanking, and clinical applications for over two decades. Dr. Woods has held leadership positions across academia and industry, contributing to the development of novel preservation technologies and process optimization for cell and gene therapies. His work has influenced best practices in cell storage, transport, and viability, ensuring the successful delivery of advanced therapies to patients. Passionate about innovation and collaboration, Dr. Woods continues to shape the future of biopreservation and cell-based medicine through scientific research, technology development, and industry partnerships.

Jason Acker, PhD
Professor, Laboratory Medicine and Pathology
University of Alberta

Dr. Jason Acker is a distinguished leader in biopreservation, transfusion medicine, and cell therapy manufacturing, with extensive experience bridging scientific research and industry innovation. He has dedicated his career to advancing cryopreservation technologies, blood component processing, and regenerative medicine applications. With a strong background in academic research, regulatory compliance, and technology development, Dr. Acker has contributed to improving the quality, safety, and efficacy of cellular therapies worldwide. His work has led to significant advancements in biobanking, process optimization, and cold chain logistics, ensuring the integrity of biological products from lab to patient. Through his leadership, mentorship, and scientific contributions, Dr. Acker continues to shape the future of cell therapy and biomanufacturing.

Jake Hanks
Director of Business Development
InVitria

Jake Hanks is the Director of Business Development at InVitria, where he leads global strategic partnerships. He works closely with therapeutic developers from early R&D through clinical development and commercialization, helping integrate animal-origin-free, chemically defined proteins into manufacturing workflows to improve consistency, safety, and scalability of advanced therapies. Jake holds a BS in Finance and an MBA from the University of Tulsa.

Jon Pileggi
Associate Director, Process Development
CTMC (a joint venture between Resilience and MD Anderson Cancer Center)

Jon Pileggi has over 15 years of experience in biotech with a focus on adoptive cell therapy development using automated equipment and closed systems. Over the last eight years, Jon has helped to develop over 10 cell therapy programs for entry into clinical manufacturing with a variety of modalities, including CAR-T and NK programs. Prior to joining CTMC, Jon worked at MD Anderson Cancer Center, KBI Biopharma and Bellicum Pharmaceuticals. He is also a member of the Society for Cryobiology. Jon received his Bachelor of Science degree in Biology from Augusta State University.

Speakers

Kathi Shea
Repository Chief Client Solution Officer
Azenta Life Sciences

Kathi Shea is the Repository Chief Client Solution Officer at Azenta Life Sciences, bringing over 30 years of experience in repository leadership and specimen management. Her extensive career includes advising government agencies, academic institutions, and pharmaceutical companies on the design of repositories, quality systems, and optimal methods for the collection, preservation, and annotation of specimens. At Azenta, she has been instrumental in advancing automated, scalable, and quality-driven comprehensive sample management solutions, the protection of valuable inventories, and methods to realize increases in utilization and decreases in costs. She played a pivotal role in the development of Azenta's global state-of-the-art biorepository facilities, including Indianapolis and greater Boston.

Kathi is a notable figure in the International Society for Biological and Environmental Repositories (ISBER), having served on its Board for eight years in various roles, including Director, Secretary Treasurer, and President. She received ISBER's Distinguished Leadership Award in 2020.

Kelsey Musall
Director of Clinical Production
Ossium Health

Kelsey Musall is the Director of Clinical Production at Ossium Health. With nine years of experience in bioprocessing and cell therapy manufacturing, she provides leadership and strategic direction at the company's Indianapolis production site. At Ossium Health, she developed a reproducible method for the processing and cryopreservation of bone marrow from deceased donors, developed to scale from the research lab to commercial production. Kelsey also played a key role in launching the company's tissue banking program and now oversees the commercial production of two cryopreserved viable bone matrix allografts, as well as bone marrow for clinical transplant.

Leela Paris, PhD
Senior Vice President, Technical Operations
Aspect Biosystems

Leela L. Paris, PhD, is the Senior Vice President of Technical Operations at Aspect Biosystems. She was previously with Vertex Pharmaceuticals for over five years. Dr. Paris received her doctorate in Medicinal Chemistry and Molecular Pharmacology from Purdue University. Dr. Paris also worked as the Laboratory Director at Cook General Biotechnology and as Global Product Manager of Automation for Cook Regentec. She has extensive experience in manufacturing and development was the Vice President of Manufacturing and Process Engineering at Vertex Pharmaceuticals and the Executive Director of MSAT focusing on automation and business processes.

Mandana Haack-Sørensen, PhD
Director of Manufacturing
Cell2Cure

Mandana Haack-Sørensen, MSc, PhD is a leading expert in stem cell manufacturing and translational research with more than two decades of experience in cell therapy innovation. As Director of Manufacturing at Cell2Cure, she oversees the compliant production of advanced cell-based therapies for national and international clinical trials. Her expertise spans functional cell biology, regenerative medicine, quality assurance, quality control, and the development of both manual and automated cell expansion platforms.

Mandana previously held leadership roles at the Cardiology Stem Cell Centre at Rigshospitalet, where she managed stem cell production, storage, and distribution. She holds a doctorate in Health Sciences from the University of Copenhagen and a master's degree from the University of Southern Denmark. As a published scientist with over 50 peer-reviewed articles, she is also a co-inventor on a patent for adipose-derived stem cell therapy and co-founder of Cell2Cure, a company born out of the Capital Region of Denmark.

Speakers

Mark Rehse, MSc

Senior Sales Manager
Accellix

With 40+ years in biotech, Mark Rehse brings extensive research and commercial expertise. Beginning with analytical methods and immunology at Scripps Clinic, he advanced through research at Genentech and CellPro. Transitioning to commercial roles in 1996, he led European operations at CompuCyte and held sales leadership positions at Beckman Coulter and biotech startups.

After a brief retirement from Thomson Instrument Company, the allure of pioneering biotech work drew him back. Mark now serves as Senior Sales Manager for the Western US at Accellix, continuing his passion for the industry.

Matthew Branch, PhD

Postdoctoral Research Associate
King's College of London

Matthew Branch is a seasoned researcher in ocular stem cell therapy with over 15 years of experience advancing regenerative approaches for corneal and retinal repair. Currently serving as a Postdoctoral Research Associate at King's College London, Matthew leads a multidisciplinary team focused on developing GMP-compliant stem cell manufacturing processes for early-phase clinical trials. His expertise spans adult and pluripotent stem cell biology, cell culture, molecular biology, and flow cytometry. He received his PhD in Mesenchymal Stem Cells & Ocular Surface from the University of Nottingham and his MSc in Molecular Medicine from The University of Sheffield. Prior to his role at King's, he held research and technical positions at UCL, where he also managed a flow cytometry core, and at the University of Nottingham. Matthew's work continues to bridge cutting-edge research and clinical application, driving innovations in cell therapy for vision restoration.

Nikhil Joshi

Co-Founder/CEO
Cellular Vehicles

Nikhil Joshi is a Biomedical Engineer with a B.S. and M.S. in the field. As an undergraduate at UC San Diego, he served as a Research Assistant in Dr. Adam Engler's lab, where he explored methods to guide stem cells toward specific mature cell lineages. He later pursued graduate studies at Columbia University, conducting research in Dr. Clark Hung's lab focused on enhancing nutrient delivery to engineered tissue constructs for cartilage regeneration. Following his academic work, Nikhil spent over a decade in the medtech industry as both an Engineer and Product Manager, contributing to the development of several groundbreaking medical robotics platforms. Before co-founding Cellular Vehicles, he was part of the team at Auris Health that built Monarch, the world's first robotic endoscopy system. Nikhil is a co-inventor on nine patented technologies. Throughout his career, he has been driven by a core question: how can technology elevate the quality of healthcare and expand access for patients?

Olga Bukatova, PhD

Associate Director, Business Development Cell and Gene Therapy
Azenta Life Sciences

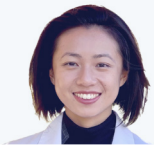
Olga Bukatova brings over a decade of experience driving innovation in GMP manufacturing for Cell and Gene Therapies. Her expertise spans key areas such as process automation, cryopreservation and thawing, isolator technologies, and aseptic fill & finish. Passionate about making advanced therapies accessible to patients, Olga has collaborated with start-ups, public institutions, pharmaceutical companies, and CDMOs.

As a member of the ISCT Cold Chain Working Group and co-host of the Bridging the Gap webinar series, she remains deeply engaged in tackling the complex challenges facing the CGT industry.

Speakers

Racheal Legmann, PhD
Senior Director of Technology, CGT Thought Leader
Repligen

Rachel has more than 25 years of experience in the field of scalable biologics and gene therapy manufacturing of therapeutic products, viral vectors and proteins for gene therapy and biologics. She completed her Ph.D. in Food Engineering and Biotechnology at the Technion-Israel Institute of Technology, Israel. Rachel joined Repligen in 2021 as a subject matter expert leading the global gene therapy organization helping customers achieve their technical and operational objectives in their manufacturing of vector-based therapeutics and vaccines with a focus on gene therapy processes including upstream, downstream, analytics and scalability. In addition to supporting global customers and building high level networks, Rachel is supporting various internal cross-functional activities and external collaborations. Prior to joining Repligen, Rachel held several scientific and leadership roles at Microbiology & Molecular Genetics department at Harvard Medical School, CRO SBH Sciences, Seahorse Biosciences part of Agilent, CDMO Goodwin Biotechnology and Pall Corp part of Danaher.



Rui Li, PhD
Principal Consultant
EastWind CryoWorks

Rui Li, PhD is cryobiologist and strategic generalist dedicated to bridging across organizations and empowering innovators in advanced therapies with adaptive preservation toolsets. With a PhD in Biomedical Engineering from the University of Minnesota, she has led R&D initiatives across academia, start-up, and corporate settings and has been instrumental in industry working groups shaping the future of advanced therapy manufacturing.

As the founder of EastWind CryoWorks, she currently consults for startups, non-profits and corporations developing cutting-edge cellular and cold chain technologies while navigating the evolving regulatory landscape.

Ryan Murray, PhD
Staff Scientist, Cell & Gene Therapy Process Development
Bayer

Ryan Murray, PhD, is a distinguished cell therapy formulation specialist with extensive experience in developing and optimizing cell therapy products for manufacturing, preservation, and delivery. With a strong academic background that includes a BA and MS in chemistry, as well as a PhD in pharmaceutical sciences, Ryan has cultivated a deep understanding of the complexities involved in the formulation of biologics and small molecules. His expertise lies in employing novel formulation strategies and various aseptic and automated processes to enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of cell therapy manufacturing.

Passionate about advancing the field of cell therapy, Ryan is dedicated to exploring innovative analytical techniques that contribute to the expansion and improvement of cell therapy products. His work not only addresses current challenges in the industry but also aims to pave the way for future breakthroughs.

Speakers

Sean Werner, PhD
Chief Technology Officer
BioLife Solutions

Sean Werner is the Chief Technology Officer at BioLife Solutions, a leading provider of bioproduction tools and services to the cell and gene therapy and broader biopharma markets. BioLife acquired Sexton Biotechnologies in 2021 where Sean was President of the company known for providing processing and handling solutions for the CGT industry.

Sean received his PhD from Purdue University in Biology followed by post-doctoral positions at the Indiana University School of Medicine and Eli Lilly. Sean has previous experience filling various roles in the scientific, global regulatory, and general management functions supporting medical devices, autologous cell therapy, and single use disposable development programs. In his 23 years working in the life science industry, he has guided regenerative medicine research programs, pre-clinical and clinical testing and submission strategies leading to global commercialization of medical devices and bioprocessing tools and successful initiation of multi-national cell therapy clinical studies.

Steven Thompson, PhD
Vice President of Sales
BioLife Solutions

Steven Thompson is a results-driven leader in cell therapies, regenerative medicine, and bioproduction tools, currently serving as Vice President of Sales at BioLife Solutions. With a PhD in Stem Cell Biology from the University of Liverpool, he combines scientific expertise with commercial acumen to drive sales, product development, and strategic partnerships.

Previously, he co-founded Sexton Biotechnologies, leading its growth until its acquisition by BioLife Solutions. His career includes roles at Cook Regentec and Sigma-Aldrich, where he specialized in business development, sales strategy, and product commercialization. Passionate about advancing bioproduction technologies, Steven is dedicated to optimizing cell and gene therapy manufacturing to improve therapeutic outcomes.

Terrence Rindler
Director of Technology Transfer, Cell Therapy
Bristol Myers Squibb

Terrence Rindler is a Director of Technology Transfer within the Cell Therapy Technical Operations organization of Bristol Myers Squibb (BMS). Terrence has spent his 20+ year career advancing cell therapy products, focused on production, aseptic operations, and automated equipment with leadership roles in Manufacturing Sciences and Technology, Validation Engineering, and Quality. At BMS, Terrence is responsible for delivering automation and technology solutions to the commercial cell therapy manufacturing network with the goal of scaling production efficiently to serve more patients.

At Seattle-based Juno Therapeutics (now BMS), Terrence led multiple engineering efforts through the development and commercialization of Breyanzi® (lisocabtagene maraleucel) for diffuse large B-cell lymphoma (DLBCL). At Dendreon, Terrence contributed to the buildout of three commercial plants enabling prostate cancer therapy Provenge® (sipuleucel-T) to become the first FDA-approved cellular therapy. Terrence earned his B.S.E. in Chemical Engineering from the University of Michigan.

Xiaoxia Cui, PhD
Director
Genome Engineering Stem Cell Center (GESC at MGI)

Xiaoxia Cui is the Director of the Genome Engineering Stem Cell Center (GESC@MGI). She holds a PhD in Molecular Biology from University of Texas at Austin. Prior to her joining the GESC as Director in March 2017, Dr. Cui spent 12 years in industry, developing programmable nuclease-based genome engineering tools for cell line and animal model creation. As the head of R&D at SAGE Labs, later Horizon Discovery, she pioneered the generation and commercialization of rodent, especially genetically modified rat models, using zinc finger nuclease (ZFN) and CRIPSR technologies. Under her leadership, the GESC has grown to be the largest core facility of its kind in the country, generating hundreds of research models each year and supporting over 150 WashU labs as well as 50 external research groups in the US and internationally.

Biolife Solutions®

The Cell Summit '25

Evening Event

Tuesday August 5th

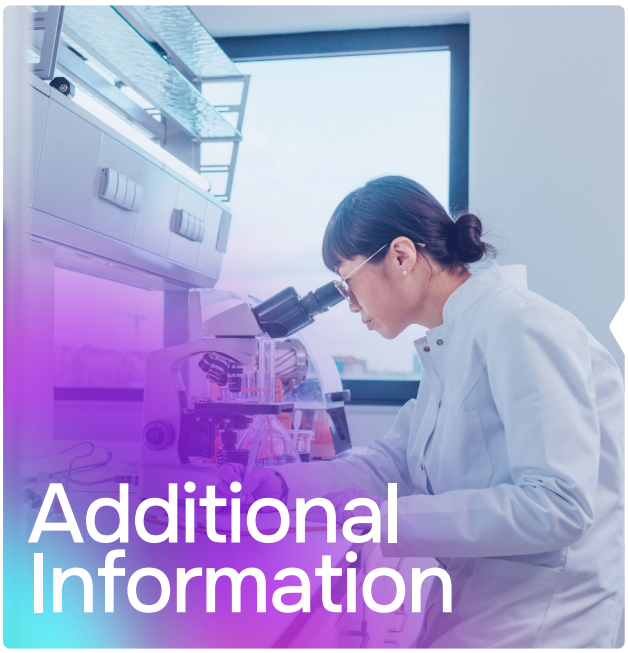
Join us for an exciting evening of baseball at **Victory Field** to see **Indianapolis Indians**

On Tuesday, August 5th, join us for an exciting evening at Victory Field, where the **Indianapolis Indians** will face off against the **Omaha Storm Chasers**.

The game begins at 6:35 PM, and we've reserved the exclusive First Base Party Terrace for our group, offering a prime viewing experience.

Located just steps away from the JW Marriott, Victory Field provides convenient access for attendees. Our private terrace will feature a catered menu of classic ballpark favorites and a selection of beers, wine and non-alcoholic beverages, ensuring a delightful experience for all.

Don't miss this opportunity to enjoy a thrilling baseball game in a vibrant atmosphere with colleagues and friends.



Additional Information

Hotel Accomodations

JW Marriott Indianapolis
10 S West St.
Indianapolis, IN 46204
317.822.8554

What to Bring

- A collaborative mindset ready to embrace new ideas.
- Questions, insights, or challenges to discuss during panel discussions.

What to Wear

- Business casual attire for sessions.
- Comfortable clothing for our Evening Event.

Notes

Notes

Biolife Solutions®

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Together towards a cure