

## North Texas Chosen for ARPA-H Customer Experience Hub



Pegasus Park Campus, Dallas Texas

The new federal Advanced Research Projects Agency for Health has selected a Texas consortium for one of three regional hubs in its \$2.5 billion health innovation network initiative. The Customer Experience hub will be physically located at Dallas' Pegasus Park.

“We’re so thrilled for Texas. We’re thrilled for the future of health in this country. We’re just really excited about the opportunity for Texas to play a significant role in this hub-and-spoke model across the country with ARPA-H. There are important discoveries that are going to be made, and we’re excited that Texas can play a role in that,” said Nicole Small, CEO of Lyda Hill Philanthropies.

[Read full press release](#)

## 2023 iC<sup>3</sup> Cheers to North Texas!

BioNTX proudly hosted its 9<sup>th</sup> annual iC<sup>3</sup> Life Science Summit last week at the Irving Convention Center at Las Colinas. The summit was a true testament to the burgeoning diversity and remarkable growth happening in North Texas at the intersection of biotechnology and healthcare innovation.

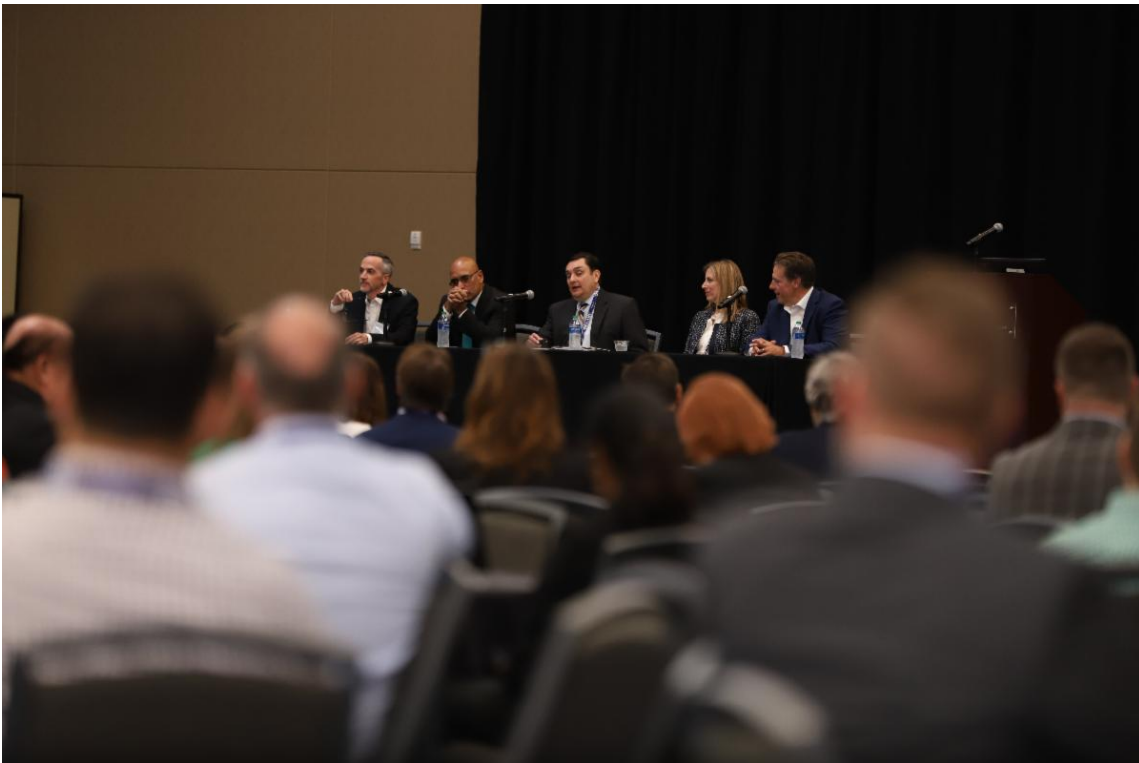
With over 550 enthusiastic attendees and a bustling 35 exhibitor booths, the event brought together researchers, start-up founders, innovators, investors and a vibrant mix of life sciences professionals from across North America, creating a dynamic and collaborative atmosphere.

The summit's success reflects the vibrancy of the industry and alludes to the exciting future that lies ahead for the region. North Texas is emerging as a hub for groundbreaking advancements, where innovation thrives and new possibilities are constantly explored.

The 2023 iC<sup>3</sup> Summit highlighted the region's commitment to fostering collaboration and pushing the boundaries of what is possible in biotechnology and healthcare.

**Stay tuned for more exciting updates  
as we collectively shape the future of biotechnology and healthcare!**







Take our Survey!

## 2023 Dennis K. Stone Award Awardee Announced



(from left to right) Kathleen M. Otto, BioNTX, Stella Robertson, PhD, Bios Partners, and Kristin Lonergan, CIC, Cadence Insurance

Every year BioNTX is proud to honor Dr. Dennis K. Stone's memory and life's work by awarding an individual who has positively influenced the North Texas biotechnology industry by exhibiting the criteria listed below:

**2023 Dennis K. Stone Award Recipient:**

- Has contributed to the formation and growth of multiple North Texas-based life science companies.

- Has served as an active champion of our region as a place to build successful life science businesses.
- Has generously contributed time and funds to help the North Texas life science community.
- Has inspired and mentored others to make their own contribution to the North Texas life science industry.

**Thank you and  
Congratulations Dr. Stella Robertson!**

[Learn more about the Dennis K. Stone Award](#)

## UTARI Scientist, Alexandra Jamieson Wins BioNTX 2023 Tech Transfer Showcase



Alexandra Jamieson

UTARI's biomedical technologies research scientist, Alexandra Jamieson, won first place at the Tech Transfer Office Showcase at BioNTX's iC<sup>3</sup> Life Science Summit on September 29, 2023. Jamieson presented on the Smart Pressure Adjusting Cushion for Pressure Injuries (SPACI). SPACI was created to prevent pressure ulcers for wheelchair users.

SPACI monitors and modulates seating interface pressure in real-time to reduce the risk of pressure ulcers among wheelchair users. The inadequacy of current preventive approaches is apparent by the occurrence and recurrence of pressure ulcers among wheelchair users. SPACI implements automated pressure redistribution. It is made with patented sensor-driven air-cell technology, enables active monitoring and creates pressure maps of a seated person in real-time. It will use the real-time pressure data to adjust the pressure of each cushion cell to offload and redistribute interface pressure to reduce both the magnitude and duration of mechanical loads on soft tissues.



[Learn more about SPACI](#)

## Biotechnology & Healthcare Industry Alliance Launches Interactive Website



This week, the Biotechnology and Healthcare Industry Alliance of North Texas (BHIANT) announced the live launch of its new website. The BHIANT works to support industry competitiveness and the development of a robust, resilient biotechnology and healthcare ecosystem by fostering collaboration, empowering innovation, developing talent, and

expanding access to valuable resources. Visit the BHIANT's website to maximize your company's regional impact.

The Alliance is an advisory comprised of business leaders and executives that represent the collective interests and efforts of Biotechnology and Healthcare in North Texas. The milestone represents a significant step forward in the mission to cultivate interconnectivity within the biotechnology and healthcare industry, develop a talented workforce, and offer valuable resources to regional companies.

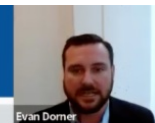
[Learn more about the BHIANT](#)

[Contact BHIANT](#)

## SMI Federal Funding Series Returns with 2nd Webinar



### WHAT SMI DOES



- 30 years of experience in Washington DC providing federal program development and appropriations services to high technology clients
- SMI supports approximately 150 clients per year and maintains an active network of 700+ companies and organizations comprised of former clients, supply chain partners of current and former clients, and laboratory and university technology providers
- SMI has secured federal funding for R&D, industrial base scale up and procurement priorities for our clients, including Congressional initiatives and competitively awarded programs

Last week, BioNTX in collaboration with Strategic Marketing Innovations (SMI) held the second installment of its webinar series. The topic on Congressional Appropriations was well received. Government Funding is available and SMI is a partner that can assist in getting to the finish line.

The next webinar with SMI is slated for January 2024 and will address congressional actions that will impact the life science industry.

**Stay tuned for more information!**

[Learn more about SMI](#)

## A Legacy Forged: 25 Years of TechFW





Last week, a vibrant Dickie's Arena in Fort Worth played host to the TechFW Innovation Showcase, marking a momentous 25 years of fostering groundbreaking technology and entrepreneurial spirit. The event, hosted by TechFW, brought together a dynamic convergence of pioneers, visionaries, and disruptors who are reshaping the future across various industries.

From the frontiers of biotechnology and medical devices to the revolution of autonomous vehicles and energy solutions, the showcase was a kaleidoscope of innovation. Entrepreneurs from every corner of the North Texas tech landscape unveiled cutting-edge developments that promise to redefine our understanding of healthcare, therapeutics, and much more.

As TechFW celebrates its 25th anniversary, this milestone is a testament to the dedication of the organization, who for a quarter of a century has nurtured a culture of innovation, enabling countless entrepreneurs to dream big, disrupt norms, and turn their visions into reality.



Congratulations to BioNTX members, **Barricade Therapeutics** for winning TechFW's Rising Star Award and to **Cx Precision Medicine** for winning the Impact Award!

## MEMBERS IN THE NEWS

### Alpha Cognition Submits New Drug Application for Alzheimer's Disease



Alpha Cognition Inc., a biopharmaceutical company developing novel therapeutics for debilitating neurodegenerative disorders, is pleased to announce the submission of a New Drug Application (“NDA”) to the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (“FDA”) for ALPHA-1062, a proprietary, patented, delayed release oral tablet formulation in development for the treatment of mild-to-moderate Alzheimer’s Disease. This submission marks a significant milestone in the company’s ongoing commitment to advancing patient care for patients suffering from Alzheimer’s disease.

[Learn more about ALPHA-1062](#)

# Island Pharmaceuticals to Start First Dengue Vaccine Trial



Island Pharmaceuticals is progressing towards a Single Ascending Dose study for its lead asset, ISLA-101, with preparatory work largely complete and key agreements signed. ISLA-101 is a well-known drug candidate that Island is repurposing for the prevention and treatment of dengue and other mosquito borne diseases.

[Read full press release](#)

## Mark Cuban Cost Plus Partners with Famlee on Affordable Fertility Medications



Famlee is revolutionizing the landscape of affordable and accessible women's fertility care by enabling women to take control of their fertility journey from the comfort and privacy of their homes. Famlee, a cutting-edge digital health fertility treatment company, proudly unveils its collaboration with Mark Cuban Cost Plus Drug Company, PBC (Cost Plus Drugs). This relationship enhances access to affordable fertility medications and empowers women to improve fertility outcomes while often avoiding the need for invasive and costly procedures like in vitro fertilization (IVF).

[Learn more about Mark Cuban Cost Plus' collaboration](#)

## Lantern Pharma Research Demonstrates Enhanced Efficacy of LP-184 in Glioblastoma



Lantern Pharma Inc., an artificial intelligence (AI) company developing targeted and transformative cancer therapies using its proprietary AI and machine learning (ML) platform, RADR®, with multiple clinical stage drug programs, today announced that in vivo data highlighting the enhanced efficacy of Lantern's drug candidate LP-184 in glioblastoma (GBM) were published in *Clinical Cancer Research*, a journal of the American Association for Cancer Research.

LP-184 is a unique small molecule with low nanomolar activity and favorable CNS penetration. LP-184 utilizes its powerful mechanism of action, known as synthetic lethality, to exploit common vulnerabilities in solid tumor and CNS cancers with DNA damage



repair (DDR) deficiencies.

[Learn more about LP-184](#)

## NORTH TEXAS NEWS

### Cowtown Angels Helps Entrepreneurs Get Their Wings



In 2012, TechFW, a startup accelerator, business incubator and entrepreneur community for Fort Worth, decided to get into the angel investing business. At the time, Fort Worth was a pretty small blip on the venture capital investment scene, according to Darlene Boudreaux, former Executive Director of TechFW and a Founder of Cowtown Angels, an affiliated investor group that has helped fund 45 companies and invested more than \$21 million.

“We love that people are noticing Fort Worth and seeing that we have a community that supports and encourages new ideas,” Boudreaux said. For local companies like Revitalize Charging Solutions, a manufacturer of electric vehicle charging stations, funding from Cowtown Angels was vital to get its concept off the ground.

[Learn more about Cowtown Angels](#)

### SMU Debuts New Facility to Advance Graduate Education and Research



The Moody School at SMU

The Moody School provides resources for new and current graduate students to support faculty-led initiatives that create groundbreaking research and offer dynamic instruction. Expanding graduate programs and funding graduate student and faculty success supports our goal to enrich teaching and research.

The landmark \$100 million gift from the Moody Foundation powers SMU's efforts to deliver transformational graduate education and support the needs of students to pursue and succeed in their advanced studies at SMU. As a direct result of this investment, PhD fellows supported by the Moody Foundation gift are creating significant impact in their fields of study through rigorous academic inquiry and faculty-mentored scholarly investigations into the world's biggest problems.

[Learn more about SMU's  
Moody School](#)

# UNT Dallas Launches New STEM Building



University leaders, healthcare professionals, elected officials and community partners broke ground on an innovative, state-of-the-art STEM complex at the University of North Texas at Dallas.

The cutting-edge complex is the next step in UNT Dallas' long-term plan to expand STEM opportunities for students and bolster the pipeline of highly skilled candidates to North Texas employers seeking STEM professionals. Specifically, it will provide a pathway for healthcare careers, including advancement to medical, nursing and pharmacy schools, and other post-graduate educational institutions focused on science, health, medicine and wellness.

Learn more about  
UNT Dallas' new  
STEM building

# TTU Brings Innovation & Entrepreneurship to Classrooms with New Faculty



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY  
Innovation Hub  
at Research Park



**DR. BINGXIN QI**  
MATHEMATICS &  
STATISTICS

**DR. HOWARD MORI**  
TTU SCHOOL OF  
VETERINARY MEDICINE

**DR. LAUREN SULLIVAN**  
TTUHSC SCHOOL  
OF NURSING

**DR. MICHELLE ALCORN**  
HOSPITALITY & RETAIL  
MANAGEMENT

**DR. XUANTONG WANG**  
GEOSCIENCES

The Texas Tech Innovation Hub announced their 2023-2024 cohort of Faculty Ambassadors for the Faculty C- Startup (Commercialization) Grant Program. This program, which has been running for 5 years, encourages faculty from the Texas Tech System to embed commercialization principles into their classrooms. It does so by awarding each faculty "Ambassador" a \$2500 grant and provides commercialization training for these faculty, so that they can serve as entrepreneurial catalysts for their respective departments.

Read full press release

# UTA Researcher Aims to Improve Precision Medicine



Suvra Pal, PhD, MS

A University of Texas at Arlington research team has received a \$450,000 grant from the National Institute of General Medical Sciences to use statistical machine learning to review patient data and better predict which patients will need additional treatments.

“With recent advances in screening, diagnosis and treatment, many diseases like cancer or cardiovascular disease can be identified in an early stage,” said Suvra Pal, associate professor of statistics in the Department of Mathematics. “Fortunately, a significant proportion of patients living with these diseases will clinically be cured, meaning they will never experience recurrence, metastasis or death due to their primary disease. Our research aims to better identify which patients will be cured so treatment teams can focus on those who will need additional interventions.”

[Read full press release](#)

# UTD Researcher Investigates How Music Education Affects Brain Development



Yune Lee, PhD

A cognitive neuroscientist from The University of Texas at Dallas School of Behavioral and Brain Sciences (BBS) is working with the Dallas Symphony Orchestra (DSO) to investigate the impact of music education on neurological development and academic performance in school-age children.

The students will undergo a yearlong assessment, which will include three EEG sessions; cognitive, language and music tasks; and socio-emotional questionnaires. An EEG measures electrical activity in the brain using small electrodes attached to the scalp. The neuroimaging will be performed using a portable device that requires about 30 minutes to collect data that will allow scientists to evaluate whether changes in the brain are connected to behavioral changes. “There is a growing body of evidence demonstrating the positive effects of music on the human mind and body across all ages,” said Lee.

[Read full press release](#)

# Texas A&M Research Teams Receive Innovation Awards



TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

Sixteen teams of Texas A&M University researchers will share awards totaling more than \$3.55 million from the university's Advancing Discovery to Market (ADM) program, the Division of Research. Launched in February, ADM supports researchers within the Texas A&M research enterprise as they develop innovations into products or demonstrate their market potential.

"I congratulate these outstanding research teams for bringing significant innovations to the cusp of the marketplace," said Gen. (Ret.) Mark A. Welsh III, interim president. "Their work is foundational to the research mission of our land-grant university: To make discoveries, refine them into products and introduce them into our society for the common good."

"Advancing any discovery from workbench to marketplace is a significant challenge for any university researcher," said Dr. Jack G. Baldauf, vice president for research. "These 16 projects offer great promise for finding commercial success through a patent, a license or a start-up company. We look forward to watching their journey toward that end."

[Read full press release](#)

## UTSW Researcher Receives NIH Director's New Innovator Award

**UT Southwestern**  
Medical Center®



Ravikanth Maddipati, MD

Ravikanth Maddipati, MD, Assistant Professor of Internal Medicine and in Children's Medical Center Research Institute at UT Southwestern, has been awarded \$1.5 million from the National Institutes of Health (NIH) to support research investigating positional heterogeneity in cancer, or how tumors in the same organ can behave differently based on where they form.

The NIH Director's New Innovator Award, disbursed over a five-year period, is from the NIH Common Fund's High-Risk, High-Reward Program. Established in 2007, the program supports early-career investigators pursuing highly innovative research with the potential to have a broad impact on biomedical, behavioral, or social sciences.

[Read full press release](#)

**FUNDING & MENTORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES**

# TMC Cancer Therapeutics Accelerator

Applications due October 13, 2023



Apply to TMC's Innovation Accelerator for Cancer Therapeutics for the opportunity to participate in a nine-month Accelerator. Participants will gain a deep understanding of market research, FDA regulations, intellectual property, licensing, finance, fundraising, legal, and other critical areas that will propel your business for long-term success.

[Apply now](#)

## Johnson & Johnson + Blue Knight™ Seek Innovative Start-ups

Applications due October 22, 2023



You are invited to learn more about BLUE KNIGHT™ and innovators can apply to participate in one on one meetings with representatives from Johnson & Johnson Innovation, BLUE KNIGHT™.

If you are interested in being considered for a one on one in-person meeting, please apply by October 22. Selected companies will be notified by email on October 30.

[Learn more about the Blue Knight™](#)

[Apply Now](#)

## HSC Next SBIR Phase 0 Program



The HSC Next SBIR Phase 0 Program provides innovative Tarrant County companies with one-on-one guidance, beginning with technology assessment. Select companies will enter a comprehensive one-month, cohort-based program that meets weekly and guides them through the grant writing processes. Additionally, participants receive one-on-one mentorship with SBIR experts that help founders fine-tune their proposals to increase the likelihood of receiving federal funding.

[Apply now](#)

## Become a Mentor: Help Students Gain Skills for Biotech Careers



LAUNCHBIO

The Biotech Career Workshop, located at Pegasus Park in Dallas, TX, is an immersive, full-day experience designed specifically for underserved students to foster their interest in biotechnology and entrepreneurship. It aims to provide students with the knowledge, skills, and resources necessary to pursue successful careers in the biotech industry while encouraging innovation and entrepreneurship.

LaunchBio is looking for volunteers to serve ninety minutes to judge students' pitches and share significant lessons acquired during their careers.

[Apply to volunteer](#)

## INDUSTRY EVENTS

### Upcoming Events & Opportunities in North Texas



#### How to Turn an Idea into a Company

Join Nucleate to hear from experts discuss how big ideas become viable biotech companies.

**October 12, 2023**

[Learn more here](#)



Bringing business and healthcare advocates together

#### Growing Healthcare Both Here and Abroad

Join Healthcare Think Tank to learn about healthcare-related topics that impact our community, the country, and even the world from the most informed presenters.

**October 12, 2023**

[Learn more here](#)



#### Dallas Cup of Capital

Join Capital Factory at their most popular coffee networking event that makes it easy for you to meet your next co-founder, investor, mentor, or Capital Factory champion.

**October 13, 2023**

[Learn more here](#)



#### Venture Dallas 2023

Join Venture Dallas to learn more about the early and growth-stage investment climate in DFW, how to capitalize on it, and what's coming next.

**October 25, 2023**

[Learn more here](#)



*BioNTX works to build a strong bioscience and healthcare innovation community through*

### **2023 Fall Policy Summit and Luminary Awards Dinner**

Join THBI to listen to discussions highlighting the innovative science being produced in Texas, the latest on groundbreaking medicine, and how Texas's policy makers can support policies that expand and protect patient access to innovation and improve health and health programs.

**October 25, 2023**

[Learn more here](#)

*collaborative peer to peer networking events  
and educational programming.*

**Let us know about your event!**

**View the North Texas community calendar  
of events**

**Look at upcoming BioNTX events**



## **Join BioNTX**

BioNTX provides opportunities for Members to connect across Texas, collaborate with others, receive industry insights and increase visibility. We are the voice and champion for the life science community in NTX.

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**October 9, 2023**

**Stay Connected!**



http://www.BioNTX.org | 5000 Riverside Drive, Building 6, Suite 100E, Irving, TX 75039

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