



2nd European Conference of Life Science Funders and Foundations

EMBL CONFERENCE

We have moved our website to embl.org/events. The content below is no longer being updated.

EMBL Courses and Conferences during the Coronavirus pandemic

With the onsite programme paused, many of our events are now being offered in virtual formats.

Registration is open as usual for many events, with back-up plans in place to move further courses and conferences online as necessary. Registration fees for any events affected by the COVID-19 disruption are fully refundable.

More information for participants of events at EMBL Heidelberg can be found [here](#).

Programme

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The actual programme is currently being finalised. A daily overview can be found below:

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Day 1 - Thursday 19 April 2018

Time	Speaker
11:00 - 11:20	Welcome Address by the Director General Professor Iain Mattaj - <i>EMBL Heidelberg, Germany</i>
11:20 - 11:40	Morning Keynote Jean-David Malo - <i>European Commission, Belgium</i>

Time	Speaker
	Session 1: The stakes and the opportunities This session explores where we stand currently, which challenges we are faced with and which opportunities are available to us. It assesses our situation and what might be possible from the scientific as well as the funding angles and sets the stage for the following sessions.
11:45 - 13:15	Session Chair: Birgitte Nauntofte - <i>Novo Nordisk Foundation, Denmark</i> Invited speakers: John O'Keefe - <i>University College London, UK</i> Ewan Birney - <i>EMBL-EBI, UK</i> Roger M. Stein - <i>Massachusetts Institute of Technology, USA</i>
13:15 - 14:15	Networking Lunch
	Session 2: Engaging the public – shared interest of scientists, public, private commercial and not-for-profit funders Research institutions, businesses as well as public entities active in the field of life sciences are united by a shared problem: Their activities are not only viewed positively by the public. Very often opinions and judgements are not grounded in actual science but guided by diffuse fears or perceptions coloured by the interests of specific groups. There is a need to cut through this and convince the public that science and scientific as well as technological progress are the only way out of current and future crises.
14:15 - 15:45	Session Chair: Henrike Hartmann - <i>Volkswagen Foundation, Germany</i> Invited Speakers: Imran Khan - <i>Wellcome Trust, UK</i> Philip Campbell - <i>Nature Publishing Group, UK</i> Ottoline Leyser - <i>University of Cambridge, UK</i>
15:45 - 16:15	Coffee break

Time	Speaker
	<p>Session 3: Building alliances between public funding, foundation funding and for-profit funding</p> <p>There is significant interest by the European Commission and Commissioner Moedas to broaden the base for scientific funding. A recent request to foundations could usher in a new phase of joint investments, potentially under the Horizon 2020 equivalent in Framework 9 that is currently being developed.</p> <p>Session Chair: Imran Khan - <i>Wellcome Trust, UK</i></p> <p>Invited speakers: Ignasi López Verdeguer - <i>La Caixa Foundation, Spain</i> Siegfried Bialojan - <i>Ernst & Young Life Science Center, Germany</i> Shiva Dustdar - <i>European Investment Bank, Luxembourg</i></p>
16:15 - 17:45	
17:45 - 18:15	Champagne Reception
18:15 - 18:45	<p>Keynote Speaker Patrick Haggard, <i>University College London, UK</i></p>
19:00 - 21:00	Conference Dinner

Day 2 - Friday 20 April 2018

Time	Speaker
	<p>Session 4: Anticipating needs, merging social and financial interests with impact for the common good</p> <p>In recent years, new models for funding large and small projects have begun to emerge and an increasing number are in the field of biomedical research. Aiming at involving larger segments of the population and seeding social progress they are operating at the junction of making money and doing good at the same time.</p> <p>Session Chair: José Neves Adelino - <i>Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation, Portugal</i></p> <p>Invited speakers: Carlo Mango - <i>Cariplo Foundation, Italy</i> Arlina Elmiger - <i>KfW, Germany</i> Matteo Mascolo - <i>European Venture Philanthropy Association, Belgium</i></p>
09:00 - 10:30	
10:30 - 11:00	Coffee break

Time	Speaker
	Session 5: How foundations and commercial investors could collaborate and spark innovation Funding innovation means making high risk investments. Mitigating the risk means to put it on broader shoulders and to arrive at joint action. How foundations and commercial investors could collaborate to hedge against risks and jumpstart innovation funding is the theme of this session.
11:00 - 12:30	Talks and Panel discussion Moderator: Jan Adams - <i>EMBL Ventures, Germany</i> Invited Speakers/Panelists: Edward Hodgkin - <i>Syncona, UK</i> Phil Smith - <i>Innovate UK, UK</i> Kevin Moses - <i>Chan Zuckerberg Initiative, US</i> Karin Kleinhans - <i>Life Science Partners, Germany</i>
12:30 - 13:30	Networking Lunch Farewell and Close Initial feedback, highlights from this and ideas for the next edition of the European Conference of Life Science Funders and Foundations.
13:30 - 14:00	Conference Organisers: Henrike Hartmann , <i>Volkswagen Foundation, Germany</i> Stuart Pritchard , <i>Wellcome Trust, UK</i> Astrid von Soosten , <i>EMBL Heidelberg, Germany</i>
14:00	Departure