

18th
Annual
Bio·IT World
CONFERENCE & EXPO '19

Welcome/Plenary Keynoter Bios

Tuesday, April 16, 2019



Cindy Crowninshield, RDN, LDN, HHC
Executive Event Director, Cambridge Healthtech Institute

Cindy Crowninshield, RDN, LDN, HHC has over 25 years of experience as an expert program developer and project leader for global business and scientific conferences. Since joining Cambridge Innovation Institute (CII) in 2005, she has been responsible for overseeing a portfolio of large-scale events. She started working on the Bio-IT World Conference & Expo in 2007 and is still the lead producer. Cindy has created and delivered over 200 highly-focused executive-level conferences and events attracting international audiences of up to 18,000 delegates, both for CII and other organizations. In addition to her conference work, Cindy has a second parallel career as a licensed registered dietitian and functional nutrition educator in private practice. She has a BS in Business Management from Fitchburg State University, completed graduate study in nutrition science at Boston University Sargent College, and completed certification with the Institute for Integrative Nutrition & Holistic Health. In 2011, she was one of the founding members of the Women in Bio - Greater Boston Chapter.

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**John Wilbanks, Chief Commons Officer,
Sage Bionetworks**

John Wilbanks is the Chief Commons Officer at Sage Bionetworks. Previously, Wilbanks worked as a legislative aide to Congressman Fortney “Pete” Stark, served as the first assistant director at Harvard’s Berkman Center for Internet & Society, founded and led to acquisition the bioinformatics company Incellico, Inc., and was executive director of the Science Commons project at Creative Commons. In February 2013, in response to a We the People petition that was spearheaded by Wilbanks and signed by 65,000 people, the U.S. government announced a plan to open up taxpayer-funded research data and make it available for free. Wilbanks holds a B.A. in philosophy from Tulane University and also studied modern letters at the Sorbonne.

Wednesday, April 17, 2019



Allison Proffitt, Editorial Director, *Bio-IT World*

Allison Proffitt is a science writer with a background in biology and chemistry, research experience in cancer biology, and an expanding repertoire in biotech, AI, and battery chemistry. She serves as the editorial director for the Healthtech Publishing media group, a growing collection of online news sites.

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Previously she worked at *Chemical & Engineering News*, *Modern Drug Discovery*, and *Today's Chemist at Work*. She has a bachelor's degree in communication of science, engineering and technology from Vanderbilt University and a Master's degree in science/medical writing from Johns Hopkins University.



Anne E. Carpenter, PhD, Senior Director of the Imaging Platform, Institute Scientist, Broad Institute of Harvard and MIT

With a strong background in cell biology, microscopy, and computational biology, Anne Carpenter's expertise is in developing and applying methods for extracting quantitative information from biological images, especially in a high-throughput manner. Carpenter directs a team of biologists and computer scientists in developing image analysis and data exploration methods and software that are open source and freely available to the public. She and her team developed CellProfiler, the first open-source, high-throughput cell image analysis software. Anne is now a pioneer in image-based profiling, the extraction of rich, unbiased information from images for drug discovery, and functional genomics. She collaborates with dozens of biomedical research groups around the world to develop and apply image analysis methods to diverse biological questions. Her team works across many of Broad's programs and platforms to help identify disease states, therapeutic potential, and gene function from microscopy images. Anne is an NIH MIRA investigator, an NSF CAREER awardee, and has received recognition and research funding from numerous other groups including the Human Frontiers in Science program and the Howard Hughes Medical Institute. Anne earned her B.S. from Purdue University and her PhD from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

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**Iya Khalil, PhD, Chief Commercial Officer and
Co-Founder, GNS Healthcare**

Iya Khalil is a technology entrepreneur and physicist with a vision of transforming medicine into a discipline that is quantitative, predictive, and patient-centric via artificial intelligence and machine learning approaches. She co-founded two big data companies, Via Science and GNS Healthcare, and is the co-inventor of the proprietary computational engine that underpins both entities. Iya's expertise spans applications in drug discovery, drug development all the way to treatment algorithms that can be applied at the point of care. She is a frequent speaker at industry events and conferences and was recognized by President Obama at a White House dinner as a leading entrepreneur in genomic medicine. She was named to the PharmaVOICE 100 list of the most inspiring people in the life sciences industry and was recognized for her ability to build bridges across the life science and healthcare industries, bringing people together to harness the power of predictive modeling to change the lives of patients. Iya serves on the board of the Accelerated Cure Project and the Scientific Advisory Board of Biocentury Innovations. Recently, she was appointed to the Massachusetts Center for Health Information and Analysis (CHIA) Oversight Council by Governor Baker and recognized by *INC Magazine* as one of the top 100 female founders.



**Mariana Nacht, PhD, CSO, Vivid Biosciences;
President, Board of Directors, WEST (Women in the Enterprise
of Science and Technology)**

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Mariana Nacht has over 20 years of experience in the biotech industry, having helped build several successful biotech companies from the start. Previously, she was vice president of cancer biology at KDAc Therapeutics, part of the founding executive management team at Padlock Therapeutics, and a member of the management team at Avila Therapeutics that advanced three novel irreversible inhibitors to oncogenic kinases into clinical development in five years. She spent the first 10 years of her career at Genzyme. Mariana is President of the Board of Directors of WEST (Women in the Enterprise of Science and Technology). She received her bachelor's degree in biology from Tufts University and her doctorate in molecular and cell biology from the University of Pennsylvania.



**Susie Stephens, PhD, Senior Director, Oncology
& Vaccine R&D Information Technology, Pfizer**

Susie Stephens is responsible for R&D IT for the West Coast for Pfizer. As such she provides support for Oncology, Vaccines, Rinat, San Diego and San Francisco Centers for Therapeutic Innovation, and Partner Lines. She is responsible for strategy and delivery of IT services, products, and processes to achieve successful outcomes for R&D. Susie has cross-disciplinary experience in informatics, science and business from leading pharmaceutical and IT companies. Prior to joining Pfizer, she was Head of In Silico Immunology, Janssen Pharmaceutical Research and Development, where she had overall responsibility for in silico science for the Immunology Therapeutic Area. She has also worked for Eli Lilly where she was responsible for Open Innovation for Research IT, Oracle where she created and guided the implementation of their product development strategy for the database for the life sciences, and Sun Microsystems where she was market segment manager for the life science. Susie has a PhD in physiology from the University of Exeter, UK, post-doctoral experience in molecular biology from the University of Manchester, UK and is an alumnus of Harvard Business School.

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**Vijay K. Bulusu, Head,
Data & Digital Innovation, Pfizer**

Vijay Bulusu is a thought leader with experience in bringing multiple disciplines together to drive radical innovation. In his current role as the Head of Data and Digital Innovation in WRD at Pfizer, he leads the creation and execution of global digital science, data sharing, and innovation programs. These programs blend recent advances in consumer technologies, data analytics, engineering, and creative thinking to develop innovative solutions. He leads a cross functional team that focuses on solving scientific challenges to accelerate drug discovery and development using advanced data and digital technologies. Past and ongoing work includes: Design and implementation of Scientific Data Cloud - a best in class data management and analytics platform for scientific and manufacturing data, Machine Learning for organic synthesis, augmented reality for manufacturing, internal innovation space, predictive science and wearable devices for labs. Prior to joining Pfizer, he has held senior level positions with global software services companies where he managed large program implementations and rollouts. Vijay has a Master's degree in business administration and a Bachelor's degree in Statistics. He enjoys playing cricket and offers free coaching to kids and adults who want to learn the game. In his spare time, he runs a makerspace, organizes public speaking classes and teaches computer programming.

Media seeking interviews with these individuals should contact Dawn Ringel at dawn@ringelpr.com, 781-449-8456 or (cell) 617-285-0652.