

Spinning out your research – the journey of an academic entrepreneur



Hosted by Cambridge Innovation Capital
in partnership with Cambridge Enterprise



17 October 2023

*Spinning out your research
– the journey of an academic entrepreneur*

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15.15 – Welcome

Professor Andy Neely, Senior Pro-Vice-Chancellor, and Professor of Manufacturing at the University of Cambridge

15.25 – Founder talk – NoBACZ Healthcare

Dr Jonathan Powell, Founder and CEO

Dr Laura Donnelly, Commercialisation Manager at Cambridge Enterprise

15.45 – Founder talk – Nu Quantum

Dr Carmen Palacios-Berraquero, Founder and CEO

Desmond Cheung, Senior Investment Analyst, Cambridge Enterprise

16.05 – Founder talk – StemBond Technologies

Dr Andrew Hodgson, Founder and CEO

Dr Jason Mellad, Founder and CEO, Start Codon

16.25 – Founder talk – Mosaic Therapeutics

Dr Adrian Ibrahim, Co-Founder and SVP

Dr Anne Horgan, Partner, Cambridge Innovation Capital

16.45 – Q&A panel – Founders

Dr Jonathan Powell, Founder and CEO, NoBACZ Healthcare

Dr Carmen Palacios-Berraquero, Founder and CEO, Nu Quantum

Dr Andrew Hodgson, Founder and CEO, StemBond Technologies

Dr Adrian Ibrahim, Co-Founder, Mosaic Therapeutics

Facilitated by Dr Phil Elstob, Commercialisation Director, Cambridge Enterprise

17.05 – Q&A panel – Accelerators, investors and advisors

Dr Laura Donnelly, Commercialisation Manager, Cambridge Enterprise

Desmond Cheung, Senior Investment Analyst, Cambridge Enterprise

Dr Jason Mellad, Founder and CEO, Start Codon

Dr Anne Horgan, Partner, Cambridge Innovation Capital

Facilitated by Dr Robert Tansley, Partner, Cambridge Innovation Capital

17.25 – Closing comments

Dr Christine Martin, Head of Seed Funds, Cambridge Enterprise

17.30 – Networking drinks



Dr Robert Tansley
Partner, Cambridge Innovation Capital



Robert is a Partner focusing on Life Sciences. After seven years working in hospital medicine, Robert worked in development and regulatory roles at Sanofi, the MHRA and Roche.

Robert then spent a decade at early stage biotech companies including Arakis (sold to Sosei Inc), founder and CEO at Treague, founding CEO of the University of Copenhagen spin -out Avilex Pharma and part of the founding management team of KalVista (Nasdaq: KALV).

Robert qualified in medicine from UCL. He is a member of the Royal College of Obstetricians & Gynaecologists and the Faculty of Pharmaceutical Medicine and has an MBA from London Business School and an M.Phil in Biostatistics from the University of Cambridge.

Welcome

Professor Andy Neely, OBE

Senior Pro-Vice-Chancellor, and Professor of Manufacturing
University of Cambridge



Andy's previous appointments include Head of the Institute for Manufacturing at the University of Cambridge, the Royal Academy of Engineering Professor of Complex Services at the University of Cambridge, the Deputy Director of the Advanced Institute of Management Research, a UK national research programme and the Director of the Centre for Business Performance at Cranfield University.

During his career, Andy has founded several major research centres and groups, including the Cambridge Service Alliance and the Centre for Digital Built Britain, both at the University of Cambridge and the Centre for Business Performance at Cranfield University. He is co-founder of Anmut, the data valuation specialists, a Non-Executive Director at the High Value Manufacturing Catapult and a member of the Board of Trustees of the American University of Sharjah.

He has written over 100 books and articles, including "Measuring Business Performance", published by the Economist and "The Performance Prism", published by the Financial Times. In 2020 he was awarded an OBE for services to research and university-industry collaboration.

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Dr Jonathan Powell

Founder and CEO, NoBACZ Healthcare

Dr Jonathan Powell is the founder and CEO of NoBACZ, a wound care company specialising in sustainable, rapid-setting liquid barrier dressings. Jonathan, a serial innovator who has many patents and publications in the area of biomineral research, has 25+ years of research experience in the translation of inorganic material chemistry into clinical applications. He is Director of Biomineral Research and Imaging, Department of Veterinary Medicine, for the University of Cambridge.



Dr Laura Donnelly

Commercialisation Manager, Cambridge Enterprise

Laura is in the Technology Transfer Team where she works to commercialise technologies from across the life sciences. She is experienced in identifying, managing, developing and commercialising a range of life sciences IP and of working in the fields of stem cell research, medical devices and drug discovery. Laura has worked on a variety of deals including a licence with a large US medical company for a technology to revolutionise diabetes treatment.



Dr Carmen Palacios-Berraquero
Founder and CEO, Nu Quantum

Nu Quantum is a leading Quantum Computer Networking company. Carmen is an award-winning quantum physicist and inventor, author of several high-impact research papers and a book based on her doctoral research. Prior to founding Nu Quantum, Carmen carried out her physics education and research at the University of Cambridge and Imperial College London. She has been the leader of several pro-equality and LGBTQIA+ visibility groups, initiatives and direct action in STEM and beyond and has been featured in Wired, Forbes, BBC, and Sifted. She serves on the Technical Advisory Board of the UK's National Quantum Computing Centre and is co-founder and director of UKQuantum, the UK's quantum industry group.



Desmond Cheung
Senior Investment Analyst, Cambridge Enterprise

Prior to joining Cambridge Enterprise, Desmond was a consultant at a technical and product development consultancy for over 4 years. He is named co-inventor on 3 patents (1 granted, 2 pending) and has led projects ranging from strategic scoping and product definition work, to concept to prototype development programmes for start-ups, multinationals and internal TTP investments in areas spanning drug delivery, digital health, advanced therapies and AI-enabled diagnostics.



Dr Andrew Hodgson

Founder and CEO, StemBond Technologies

Dr Andrew Hodgson is a founder and CEO of StemBond Technologies, a Cambridge University spinout unlocking cell culture for regenerative medicine. Andrew completed a Masters Degree in Micro- and Nanotechnology Enterprise before beginning a PhD and postdoc in Physics as part of the Chalut group at the University of Cambridge. He is using his knowledge of physics and engineering to develop novel tools for improving and translating stem cell research.



Dr Jason Mellad

Founder and CEO, Start Codon

Jason is a scientist entrepreneur passionate about translating innovative technologies into better patient outcomes. As CEO of Start Codon, a Cambridge-based venture builder, he aims to identify the most disruptive healthcare founders and innovations worldwide, seed fund them and leverage the exceptional resources of the Cambridge cluster to de-risk and drive the success of their start-ups. Previously he was CEO of Cambridge Epigenetix and Business Development Manager for Horizon Discovery's diagnostics division. He also served as an associate at Cambridge Enterprise, the technology transfer office of the University of Cambridge.



Dr Adrian Ibrahim

Co-Founder and SVP, Mosaic Therapeutics

Dr Adrian Ibrahim is a co-founder of Mosaic Therapeutics, an oncology therapeutics company dedicated to resolving cancer's complexity to power new treatments for patients. with 20+ years experience of technology development and commercialisation in cancer and genomics, Adrian is the inaugural Chair of the UK BIA Genomics Advisory Committee and his genomics company spin-outs include Microbiotica, Congenica and 14M Genomics. His genomics industry transactions include Open Targets and a £200m+ multi pharma genomic target discovery initiative.



Dr Anne Horgan

Partner, Cambridge Innovation Capital

Anne was previously a Partner at Advent France Biotechnology (now AdBio Partners), a Paris-based venture capital firm specialising in Life Sciences seed investments and company creation, and Senior Associate at Sofinnova Partners.

Anne carried out postdoctoral research at Yale University after her PhD in synthetic organic chemistry from the University of Bristol. She holds a diplôme d'ingénieur (Chemistry) from the Institut National des Sciences Appliquées de Rouen and is an inventor on eight patent families.

Q&A panel

Accelerators, investors and advisors



Dr Laura Donnelly
Commercialisation Manager,
Cambridge Enterprise



Desmond Cheung
Senior Investment
Analyst, Cambridge
Enterprise



Dr Jason Mellad
Founder and CEO,
Start Codon



Dr Anne Horgan
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Founders



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Dr Christine Martin
Head of Seed Funds, Cambridge Enterprise



As Head of Seed Funds, Christine oversees our investment activities, with the team investing over £5 million each year in young companies.

With expertise in Life Science investment, Christine has a focus on drug discovery with a broad portfolio of technologies, including University of Cambridge spin-outs Carrick, STORM, Z-factor, PhoreMost, Qkine, and PolyProX. Christine was featured in [BioBeat's 50 Movers and Shakers in BioBusiness 2018](#).

Previously, Christine worked for six years in the Life Sciences Tech Transfer team managing licensing of University IP. Christine also managed the University of Cambridge-GSK open innovation drug discovery.



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