

SelectBIO Space Summit West 2025

November 20-21, 2025 – Laguna Hills, California

Conference Day 1: Thursday, November 20, 2025

08:00 Conference Registration, Coffee, Tea, Hot Breakfast and Networking

09:00 *Welcome and Introduction by Conference Chairperson*

Kristin Kopperud, Aerospace Industry Professional, United States of America—
Conference Chairperson

****Current Trends in Low Earth Orbit (LEO) Research and Commercialization****

09:30 *Effects of Microgravity on 2D Cardiac Hetero-Cellular Cultures in Space*

Munmun Chattopadhyay, Associate Professor, Foster School of Medicine, Texas
Tech University Health Sciences Center at El Paso, United States of America

10:00 *Human Heart Cells on the International Space Station*

Chunhui Xu, Professor in the Department of Pediatrics, Emory University School
of Medicine, United States of America

10:30 Mid-Morning Coffee Break and Networking

11:00 *Streptococcus Pneumoniae (Spn) Infection of Cardiac Tissue in Space*

Palaniappan Sethu, Professor of Medicine and Biomedical Engineering, University
of Alabama at Birmingham, United States of America

11:30 *Growing and Drugging Brain Tumor Organoids in Space*

Meenal Datta, Assistant Professor, Department of Aerospace and Mechanical
Engineering, University of Notre Dame, United States of America

12:00 Networking Lunch -- Engage with Colleagues and Network

13:30 *Keynote Presentation*

*Models and Outcomes of Public-Private Partnerships on the International Space
Station National Lab*

Michael Roberts, Chief Scientific Officer, International Space Station National
Laboratory (CASIS), United States of America

14:00 *Encapsulate: NanoNest as a Universal Nanocarrier for Cancer Theranostics*

Armin Rad, CEO and Co-founder at Encapsulate Inc.; Adjunct Professor at the School of Medicine, University of Connecticut, United States of America

14:30 *Stem Cell Research and Biomanufacturing in Space*

Arun Sharma, Director, Center for Space Medicine Research, Cedars-Sinai Medical Center, United States of America

15:00 *Space Associated Stem Cell Hallmarks of Aging and Resilience (SASHA-R) in Astronauts*

Jessica Pham, Stellar Mission Specialist, Sanford Stem Cell Institute, University of California-San Diego, United States of America

15:30 Mid-Afternoon Coffee Break and Networking

16:00 *Preventing Radiation- and Microgravity-Induced Injury: A Novel Countermeasure to Protect Bone*

Melanie Coathup, Professor of Medicine and Lead, Biionix Cluster, University of Central Florida, Florida Space Institute, United States of America

16:30 *Chasing Space: My Journey as an Aspiring Astronaut and STEM Advocate*

Abigail Harrison, Starlab Research Lead, The Ohio State University and Starlab Space, United States of America

17:00 Panel Discussion Chaired by Dr. Kristin Kopperud, Conference Chairperson

17:45 Networking over Beer and Wine

18:45 Close of Day 1 of the Conference

08:00 Morning Coffee, Tea and Hot Breakfast

09:00 *Recap of Day 1 and Key Topics to be Addressed on Day 2 of Space Summit West 2025*

Kristin Kopperud, Conference Chairperson

09:15 *Implementation of Cartilage Tissue Engineering Studies in Microgravity*

Wendy E. Brown, Associate Research and Translational Specialist, University of California-Irvine, United States of America

09:45 *BioServe Space Technologies: Support for LEO and Beyond Research and Technology Development*

Stefanie Countryman, Director, BioServe Space Technologies, United States of America

10:15 Mid-Morning Coffee Break and Networking

11:00 *Unearthing Answers: Advanced, Autonomous Biomedical Research Platforms in Microgravity*

Shelby Giza, Director of Business, Applications at Space Tango, United States of America

11:30 *Scalable Commercial Biomanufacturing in Low Earth Orbit (LEO)*

William McLamb, CEO, Low Earth Orbit Biosciences, United States of America

12:00 *Starlab – The Next Generation of Low-Earth Orbit Research and Habitation*

Abigail Harrison, Starlab Research Lead, The Ohio State University and Starlab Space, United States of America

12:45 Networking Lunch -- Engage with Colleagues and Network

14:00 *An Introduction to Exosomes/Extracellular Vesicles*

Michael Graner, Professor, Department of Neurosurgery, University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus, United States of America

14:30 *Spotlight: Cosmic Brain Organoids—A Study of Neurodegeneration on the ISS*

Paula Grisanti, CEO and a Founding Member, National Stem Cell Foundation (NSCF), United States of America

Scott Noggle, Co-Presenter

15:00 *Keynote Presentation*

International Space Station: Building on 25 Years in Orbit and Update on In-Space Production Applications

Liz Warren, ISS Associate Chief Scientist, United States of America

15:30 *Advancing the Commercial LEO Ecosystem for Space-Made Therapeutics*

Mari Anne Snow, CEO & Co-Founder, Eascra Biotech, United States of America

16:00 *Harnessing Space Microgravity to Advance Nanomedicine: Enhanced Janus Base Nanoparticles for Osteoarthritis Therapy*

Yupeng Chen, Associate Professor, University of Connecticut, United States of America

16:30 *Biomanufacturing Beyond Earth: Disruption, Innovation, and Helogen's Role in the New Industrial Revolution*

Niamh McDermott, Principal Scientist, Translational Research, Helogen, United States of America

17:00 *The Emerging Commercial Space Economy*

Jana Stoudemire, Senior Executive, Commercial Growth & Innovation, Barrios, United States of America

17:30 Close of Conference