



**For Immediate Release:**

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**Media Contacts:**

Jenny Balogh, [jbalogh@davidjamesgroup.com](mailto:jbalogh@davidjamesgroup.com), (847) 867-4454

Chris Martin, [cmartin@davidjamesgroup.com](mailto:cmartin@davidjamesgroup.com), (630) 670-2745

**SLAS Ignite: Find, Fund and Formalize Research and Technology Partnerships at SLAS2018**

**CHICAGO** – Life sciences professionals and business development dealmakers from all walks of industry, academia and government have a new interchange at [SLAS2018](#) – **SLAS Ignite**, a series of programs that foster scientific innovation through collaboration, debuts at the 2018 SLAS International Conference and Exhibition (SLAS2018), Feb. 3-7, in San Diego, CA.

The highlight of the SLAS Ignite program is the [SLAS Ignite Academic Theater](#), which spotlights the promising achievements of select academic research institutions for consideration by potential research and business collaborators. Life sciences research today is an increasingly collaborative endeavor, with individuals and organizations realizing tremendous benefit by tapping into the experience, insights and capabilities of peers and complementary organizations to develop the medicines and innovations that improve the human condition.

Six academic researchers applied and were selected by a review committee to present their scientific and technological advances in the SLAS Ignite Academic Theater at SLAS2018:

**Monday, February 5, 2018, 1-2pm, Exhibition Theater**

- ***Microreactor Based Online Reaction Monitoring Using Mass Spectrometry for Structural and Elemental Measurements***; Heidi Fleischer, PhD, Senior Scientist, University of Rostock, Microreactor Based Online
- ***Label-free Raman Spectroscopy for Rapid Identification of Biologics***; Santosh Paidi, Graduate Research Assistant, Department of Mechanical Engineering, Johns Hopkins University
- ***Introduction to Disulfide Trapping, a site-directed fragment screening technology***; Michelle Arkin, Associate Professor, Pharm Chem; Co-Director, Small Molecule Discovery Center, University of California, San Francisco

**Tuesday, February 6, 2018, 1-2pm, Exhibition Theater**

- ***Identifying New Drug Targets by Illuminating the Druggable Genome***; Aaron Pawlyk, PhD, Senior Advisor, National Institutes of Health
- ***Combinatorial Drug Discovery in Nanoliter Droplets***; Paul Blainey, Associate Professor of Biological Engineering and Core Member, MIT Department of Biological Engineering and Broad Institute of MIT and Harvard

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**SLAS GLOBAL HEADQUARTERS**

100 Illinois Street, Suite 242  
St. Charles, IL USA  
P: +1.630.256.7527  
US Toll Free: +1.877.990.SLAS (7527)  
[slas@slas.org](mailto:slas@slas.org)  
[www.SLAS.org](http://www.SLAS.org)

**SLAS EUROPE OFFICE**

Boulevard du Souverain, 280  
B-1160 Brussels, Belgium  
Tel: +32 2 7393026  
[europa@slas.org](mailto:europa@slas.org)  
[www.Europe-SLAS.org](http://www.Europe-SLAS.org)

- ***A large-scale microfluidic technology for high-content screening of C. elegans using commercial imaging platforms;*** Sudip Mondal, PhD, Research Associate, The University of Texas at Austin

Another important component of the SLAS Ignite Partnership Program at SLAS2018 is hard-wired into the SLAS2018 Conference App. Conference participants and Exhibition visitors interested in meeting potential partners complete a detailed profile to be matched with others interested in collaborations. Thirty-minute meetings can be set up in the **SLAS Ignite Partnership Lounge**, located on Aisle 200 of the SLAS2018 Exhibition, a private, dedicated lounge that's available by appointment only.

“Each year, thousands of life sciences researchers rely on the SLAS International Conference and Exhibition as a platform to engage with industry professionals on the latest advancements in drug discovery and emerging technologies,” says SLAS CEO Vicki Loise. “SLAS Ignite encourages collaboration by formalizing opportunities to make important connections.” For more information about SLAS Ignite, visit [www.slas2018.org/program/slas-ignite/slas-ignite-presentation](http://www.slas2018.org/program/slas-ignite/slas-ignite-presentation).

SLAS2018 showcases scientific advances and state-of-the-art applications of new technologies via 144 podium presentations, 350+ poster presentations, 300+ multinational exhibitors, 20 short courses, a menu of personalized career services and an abundance of intelligent network-building opportunities. For more information about SLAS2018, visit [www.slas2018.org](http://www.slas2018.org).

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**SLAS** (Society for Laboratory Automation and Screening) is an international community of more than 18,000 professionals and students dedicated to life sciences discovery and technology. The SLAS mission is to bring together researchers in academia, industry and government to advance life sciences discovery and technology via education, knowledge exchange and global community building.

SLAS publishes two MEDLINE-indexed scientific journals, *SLAS Discovery* and *SLAS Technology*. For more information about SLAS and its journals, visit [www.slas.org/journals](http://www.slas.org/journals).