



For Immediate Release:

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SLAS Recognizes Paul Hung, Ph.D. of COMBiNATi, Inc. With Innovation Award at SLAS2018

SAN DIEGO, CA – SLAS recognized Paul Ju Sung Hung, PhD of COMBiNATi, Inc. this afternoon at [SLAS2018](#) in San Diego, CA with the [SLAS Innovation Award](#). Hung received the award as recognition of his exceptional podium presentation at the SLAS Annual Conference, Microfluidic Siphoning Array (MSA) – A Novel Scalable Digital PCR Integrated Platform. Hung accepted a \$10,000 cash prize as part of one of the highest honors given at the conference.

In his SLAS2018 presentation, Hung discussed how his company has developed the patented Microfluidic Siphoning Array (MSA) Technology where bulk qPCR reagents can be partitioned into “lollipops,” a novel injection molded microfluidic device coupled with a semi-permeable thin film. The advantages enabled by this platform include lowering both the workflow and cost barriers of digital PCR without compromising the performance in precision, and sensitivity. The real-time imaging capability allows background subtraction to minimize false positives, as well as digital melt analysis to improve multiplexity. Hung envisions a scalable and automatable digital PCR platform which can easily be integrated to research laboratories and extend to the clinic.

Each year, SLAS Innovation Award finalists are identified based on their submitted abstracts which demonstrate exceedingly innovative research and discovery in life sciences and contribute to the exploration of technologies in the laboratory, exceed a benchmark or milestone in screening or the lead discovery process, or demonstrate an advanced and integrated use of mature technologies. The award finalist is then selected by a panel of judges who attend and score each podium presentation on the impact the work has on life sciences and technology, originality and creativity, quality of the science, and the oral presentation.

Ten 2018 SLAS Innovation Award finalists were selected to compete for this year’s cash prize, and Hung was announced as the winner at the closing ceremony and keynote presentation at SLAS2018 today. In addition to Hung, the other nine finalists who presented their work throughout the week at SLAS2018 are as follows:

Santiago Costantino, University of Montreal
Optical tools for single-cell manipulations and sequencing

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Dennis Eastburn, PhD, Mission Bio Inc.

High-throughput single-cell DNA sequencing of AML tumors with droplet microfluidics

Olivier Frey, PhD, InSphero

Automating multi-tissue microphysiological systems using 3D microtissues

Rajarshi Guha, PhD, National Institutes of Health

Pharos – A Torch to Use in Your Journey In the Dark Genome

Shane Horman, PhD, Genomics Institute of the Novartis Research Foundation

An Ultra High-Throughput 3D Assay Platform for Evaluating T-cell-Mediated Tumor Killing

Transon V. Nguyen, Notable Labs

Combinatorial Drug Screening, High-Throughput Flow Cytometry, and Agile Integration: a Modern Platform for Personalized Treatment Discovery for Cancer Patients

Amy Rowat, BSc, MSc, PhD, University of California, Los Angeles

Label-free prediction of cancer cell invasion by single-cell physical phenotyping

Kevin Tsia, PhD, The University of Hong Kong

Ultrafast all-optical laser-scanning imaging - Enabling deep single-cell imaging and analysis

Julea Vlassakis, University of California, Berkeley/UCSF Joint Graduate Program in Bioengineering

Electrophoretic Cytometry Isolates Cytoskeleton Molecular Complexes of Single Cancer Cells

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.

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.