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## **Finalists Named for 2016 SLAS Innovation Award**

*Final round of judging and winner announced at SLAS2016*

**CHICAGO** – Nine scientists are being honored as finalists for the 2016 SLAS Innovation Award, with the winner to be identified at the closing session of SLAS2016. The winner will receive a \$10,000 cash prize along with having their name added to the prestigious list of previous winners. [SLAS2016](#), the Fifth Annual SLAS International Conference and Exhibition, will be held Jan. 23-27, at the San Diego Convention Center in San Diego, CA, USA.

The annual SLAS Innovation Award recognizes extraordinary achievement in innovative life science R&D discovery and technology. All those selected to deliver podium presentations at the annual flagship SLAS international conference and exhibition are eligible to be considered for this award. After receiving nominations for 83 SLAS2016 podium presenters, the SLAS Innovation Award panel of judges invited 22 presenters to submit extended abstracts for further consideration. Finalists were selected after the judges determined that these scientists offered especially insightful studies to develop new technology for the laboratory; a new application of technology to laboratory automation or screening; or a use of technology to solve a unique problem. The complete judging criteria can be seen on the [Innovation Award page](#) of the SLAS2016 Web site.

Listed in alphabetical order, the nine 2016 SLAS Innovation Award finalists selected to compete for the \$10,000 cash prize at SLAS2016 are:

**Tiffany Chen**, Cytobank, Inc and Stanford University  
*Identifying Druggable Cells: Automated Methods for High-Content Single-Cell Screening*

**Shana Kelley**, University of Toronto  
*New Devices for the Detection and Classification of Antibiotic-Resistant Bacteria*

**Jonathan Lin**, University of California, Los Angeles  
*A Frequency-Multiplexed Parallel Flow Cytometer for High-Throughput Screening and Drug Discovery*

**Elena Molokanova**, NTBS, Encinitas, CA  
*Graphene-Based Biocompatible Optoelectronic Platform for Light-Controlled Activation of Cardiomyocytes*

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**Sumita Pennathur**, University of California, Santa Barbara  
*Electrokinetic Micro- and Nanofluidic Technologies for Quantitative Detection of Viral Nucleic Acids*

**Anna Popova**, Institute of Toxicology and Genetics (ITG), Karlsruhe Institute of Technology  
*Droplet-Microarray Sandwiching Chip as Miniaturized Pipetting Free Platform for High-Throughput Screenings of Live Cells Based on Superhydrophilic-Superhydrophobic Surface Patterning*

**Ivan Pushkarsky**, University of California, Los Angeles  
*Elastomeric Sensor Surfaces for High-Throughput Phenotypic Screening of Cellular Force Generation*

**Glenn Smith**, CryoXtract Instruments  
*The Application of Automated Frozen Aliquotting Technology to the Bioanalysis of Labile Compounds*

**Sindy Tang**, Stanford University  
*Droplet Microfluidics: Amphiphilic Nanoparticles as Droplet Stabilizers for High-Fidelity and Ultrahigh-Throughput Droplet Assays*

Recent winners of the SLAS Innovation Award include:

- 2010 Ali Khademhosseini, Harvard-Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, MA (USA)
- 2011 Kamlesh Patel, Sandia National Laboratories, Livermore, CA (USA)
- 2012 Dan Dongeun Huh, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA (USA)
- 2013 Andrea Weston, Bristol-Myers Squibb; Hartford, CT (USA)
- 2014 Patrick P. Beattie, Diagnostics For All, Cambridge, MA (USA)
- 2015 Jonathan Wingfield, AstraZeneca, Cambridge (United Kingdom)

For more information about SLAS2016 or the SLAS Innovation Award program, visit [www.SLAS2016.org](http://www.SLAS2016.org) or contact SLAS Global Headquarters at +1.877.990.SLAS (5727) or e-mail [slas@slas.org](mailto:slas@slas.org).

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*The Society for Laboratory Automation and Screening (SLAS) is an international community of more than 20,000 individual scientists, engineers, researchers, technologists and others from academic, government and commercial laboratories. The SLAS mission is to be the preeminent global organization providing forums for education and information exchange and to encourage the study of, and improve the practice of life science research and development discovery and technology. For more information, visit [www.SLAS.org](http://www.SLAS.org).*

*SLAS2016 is the Fifth Annual SLAS International Conference and Exhibition. SLAS2016 will be held Jan. 23-27 at the San Diego Convention Center in San Diego, California, USA. This five-day event brings together more than 5,000 scientists, academicians, business leaders and students from around the globe to gain new information, ideas and insight about laboratory science and technology. SLAS2016 will feature 132 podium presentations, 300+ poster presentations, 19 short courses, 300+ exhibitors and scores of other workshops, meetings and special events. For more information, visit [www.SLAS2016.org](http://www.SLAS2016.org).*