

Come Transform Research™

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SLAS to Host Inaugural Leadership Forum in February

Two-day event dedicated to executive-level audience features prestigious panel discussion

CHICAGO – The Society for Laboratory Automation and Screening (SLAS) announced that it is hosting a first-of-its-kind Leadership Forum on Feb. 8-9 in Washington, D.C. Co-located with SLAS2015, the Society's annual international conference and exhibition, the 2015 SLAS Leadership Forum will convene a select group of researchers and executive management professionals to learn about, share perspectives and discuss topics of particular interest to life science research and development professionals.

Highlighting this inaugural SLAS Leadership Forum is a panel discussion dedicated to a [recently published paper](#) from the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences entitled, *Rescuing US Biomedical Research from Its Systemic Flaws*. Starting from a position that the current ecosystem is not sustainable and discourages prospective scientists from entering the biomedical research profession, the paper advocates fundamental changes to course correct the biomedical research industry. A panel of renowned experts, representing both industry and academic backgrounds, will address the paper's hypothesis and potential solutions at the Leadership Forum. Scheduled panelists include:

- **Donald E. Ingber**, Professor of Bioengineering at Harvard University, and Founding Director of the Wyss Institute
- **Alicia Löffler**, Associate Vice President, Innovation and New Ventures, Northwestern University
- **Rob Nail**, Co-founder of Velocity 11 and associate founder of Singularity University
- **James D. Sterling**, Interim Dean of the College of Natural Sciences; Director of Minerva Labs, Minerva Schools at KGI

The 2015 SLAS Leadership Forum program also includes access to the SLAS2015 Exhibition and opening keynote presentation by Donald Ingber, along with multiple receptions, meals and a networking breakfast exclusive for Leadership Forum participants.

"The genesis of the SLAS Leadership Forum was to provide a venue for executive level scientists and professionals to discuss strategic-caliber issues that affect not only their organizations, but the broader future of life science research as well," said Daniel G. Sipes, SLAS President. "SLAS is in a unique position to provide programming, access to peers and access to experts that addresses challenges for today, plus longer-range issues that impact the industries and professionals the Society serves. We appreciate the participation of our Leadership Forum participants, and plan to publish key takeaways from discussions that take place at the event so that others' can benefit from the experience as well."

Information on the 2015 SLAS Leadership Forum can be seen at www.slas2015.org/leadershipforum. Participation in the 2015 SLAS Leadership Forum is by invitation only, and requires a separate registration fee from SLAS2015.

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SLAS Announces Leadership Forum at SLAS2015

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The Society for Laboratory Automation and Screening (SLAS) is an international community of more than 15,000 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 laboratory science and technology. For more information, visit www.SLAS.org.