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**Contact:**

Tom Manning, Director of Marketing Communications

Telephone: +1.630.256.7527, ext. 103

[tmanning@slas.org](mailto:tmanning@slas.org)

## **SLAS Sets New Attendance Record at SLAS2016**

*Nearly 6,300 Scientific Professionals Unite in San Diego for Society's Fifth Annual Conference*

**CHICAGO** – [SLAS](#), the preeminent professional society dedicated to life sciences discovery and technology, welcomed a record-setting 6,293 participants from 34 countries to [SLAS2016](#), the Society's Fifth Annual International Conference and Exhibition, which convened from Jan. 23-27 in San Diego, California. This five-day annual event brings together scientists, engineers, academics, technology developers, business leaders and students from around the globe to gain new information, ideas and insight about technology for life sciences research & development.

"As a society, we're exceptionally pleased with the turnout, high quality of programming and tremendous professional networking that took place at SLAS2016," said SLAS President Richard Eglén. "That we established a new benchmark for participation is secondary to the highly positive feedback we have received from attendees, exhibitors and presenters as to how much they enjoyed the experience and the value they derived from attending. It's obvious that SLAS is filling an important niche for life sciences professionals and students."

SLAS2016 attendees were treated to a dynamic scientific program of 132 podium presentations, two keynotes, 19 Short Courses, and 400 posters across the following tracks: Advances in Bioanalytics, Biomarkers and Diagnostics; Assay Development and Screening; Automation and High Throughput Technologies; Cellular Technologies; Drug Target Strategies; Informatics; and Micro/Nano Technologies. Special programming included an Assay Guidance Workshop for High Throughput Screening and Lead Discovery, a special session on Biobanking, and a satellite event and facility tour of the Genomics Institute of the Novartis Research Foundation. SLAS2016 also featured an expansive exhibition with 320 multinational companies and a host of exhibitor tutorials. Special Interest Groups, career services and professional mentoring, and plentiful networking opportunities, including an exclusive evening event onboard the retired USS Midway aircraft carrier rounded out the extensive SLAS2016 program lineup.

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**SLAS GLOBAL HEADQUARTERS**

100 Illinois Street, Suite 242  
St. Charles, IL 60174, 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  
[europe@slas.org](mailto:europe@slas.org)  
[www.Europe-SLAS.org](http://www.Europe-SLAS.org)

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### Award Winners from SLAS2016

In the SLAS tradition, several prestigious awards were judged, issued and announced at SLAS2016:

#### **2016 SLAS Innovation Award**

[Nine podium presentations](#) were selected as finalists for the 2016 SLAS Innovation Award. The final round of judging took place during SLAS2016, when all nine presentations were evaluated by an independent judging committee. Following deliberations at the conference, **Shana Kelley** of the University of Toronto was selected as the 2016 Innovation Award winner for her presentation, *New Devices for the Detection and Classification of Antibiotic-Resistant Bacteria*. As part of her award, Kelley wins a \$10,000 cash prize from SLAS.

#### **New Product Awards**

320 companies participated in the SLAS2016 Exhibition, 40 of which submitted new products to be considered for the SLAS2016 New Product Award. The winners of the SLAS2016 New Product Award included:

- **LabMinds**, product: REVO
- **ALVEOLE**, product: PRIMO
- **AxionBioSystems**, products: Lumos and Maestro APEX

#### **Student Poster Awards**

- **Carrie Lovitt**, Griffith University Australia  
*Poster: Automated Evaluation of Anti-Cancer Activity in Advanced Tumor Models*
- **Joohun Kang**, Wyss Institute/Harvard University  
*Poster: Rapid Enumeration and Identification of Rare Food Contaminant Using a Magnetic Microfluidic Device and FcMBL-Conjugated Magnetic Particles*
- **Masturah Bte Mohd Abdul Rashid**, National University of Singapore  
*Poster: Synergistic Combinations Against Bortezomib-Resistant Multiple Myeloma Derived via Phenotypic Personalized Medicine (PPM)*

These posters, and hundreds of others presented at SLAS2016, can be viewed in the [SLAS2016 e-Poster Gallery](#).

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**Looking forward to SLAS2017**

SLAS2017, the Sixth Annual SLAS International Conference and Exhibition, will be held February 4-8 at the Walter E. Washington Convention Center in Washington, DC, USA. Short Courses will take place Saturday-Sunday, Feb. 4-5; the Exhibition and Conference will run Monday-Wednesday, Feb. 6-8. The latest information on SLAS2017 can be found at [www.SLAS2017.org](http://www.SLAS2017.org). For [exhibit and sponsorship opportunities](#), contact SLAS Exhibits Manager Barry Sacks at [bsacks@slas.org](mailto:bsacks@slas.org).

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***SLAS** is an international community of more than 20,000 individual scientists, engineers, researchers, technologists and students 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 sciences research and development discovery and technology. For more information, visit [www.SLAS.org](http://www.SLAS.org).*