

13th BioProNET2 Annual Meeting

Day 1 - 13 October 2026



11:45 – Lunch

Session 1: Novelty, manufacturability and regulatory acceptance: Innovation in practice -
Chair Cleo Kontoravdi

12:30 – Welcome

12:40 – **Shirley Peters** (UCB): Design and manufacturability considerations of bi- and multispecific molecules exemplified by clinically validated galvokimig

13:05 – **Zahra Jawad** (Creasallis): Re-engineering the antibody hinge region to improve solid tumour drug penetration

13:30 – **Koen Hellendoorn** (Fujifilm): Pathways to cGMP Readiness: A CDMO Perspective

13:55 – **Simone Dimartino** (University of Edinburgh): Sustainability as cost centre? What if we've been asking the wrong questions?

14:20 – 3 x 10-minute short talks from selected poster abstracts

- **Alex Darlington** (University of Manchester): Exploiting host physiology to engineer robust cell factories
- **Matthew Reaney** (Abselion): Evaluating approaches to measure tagged protein concentrations direct from crude samples
- **William Smith** (University of Manchester): Semi-perfusion repeats batch culture like phenotype daily, high resolution sampling reveals phasic metabolic, growth and productivity behaviours

14:50 – Break & posters

Session 2: AI: do bioreactors dream of electric cells? - Chair Paul Dalby

16:05 – **Mark Owen** (Sartorius): Leveraging Robotics, AI and Data for Autonomous Lab Workflows

16:30 – **Laura Marie Helleckes** (Imperial): From Lab to Scale: Bayesian Optimisation for Efficient Bioprocess Development

16:55 – **Stephen Goldrick** (UCL): Towards Intelligent Bioprocessing: Challenges and Opportunities for PAT and Digital Twins

17:20 – 3 x 10-minute short talks from selected poster abstracts

- **Liam Blakeborough** (CPI): Dynamic Feeding Strategies for CHO-K1 fed-batch Process
- **Alice Solero** (Lonza): An automated high-throughput (HTP) stable pool generation workflow for rapid screening of multi specific antibody vector variants
- **Francois Taute** (uFracton8 Ltd): Industrial-scale microfluidic separation, accessible at the benchtop

17:50 – Finish

19:00 Drinks reception

19:30 Conference Dinner



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Day 2 - 14 October 2026

08:30 –10:00 - Early careers session & coffee: **Tony Bradshaw**

Session 3: Cells: More than just a KEGG database – Chair Alan Dickson

10:00 – Francesca Ceroni (Imperial): Synthetic biology tools for improved cell engineering

10:25 – Ieva Berzanskyte (MRC Laboratory of Molecular Biology): Data-driven reprogramming towards a protein-producing phenotype

10:50 – Jan Maarten van Dijk (Groningen): Genome-reduced *Bacillus subtilis* strains as expression platforms for recombinant proteins

11:15 – Break & posters

Session 4: Upstream/downstream: A tale of two cultures – Chair Hirra Hussain

12:00 – Sarah Hudson (University of Limerick): A two-part story: (i) Spectroscopic Technologies for Sustainable Biologics Manufacturing and (ii) Formulation of a Potential Immunomodulatory Enzymatic Therapy

12:25 – Marta Costa (IBET): From process to phenotype: advances in bioprocess modulation strategies to enhance CAR T cell potency

12:50 – David Vincent (eXmoor Pharma): Optimising the Whole, Not the Parts: How Upstream, Downstream and Analytics Must Win Together

13:15 – Lunch & posters

Session 5: What will we be talking about next year: All in the fine print – Chair Mark Smales

14:15 – Alex Whale (LGC): Using Digital PCR to Characterise Viral Vector Genomes

14:40 – Alan Costello (NIBRT): Engineering tRNAs for disease agnostic gene therapy

15:05 – Zoltan Kis (University of Sheffield): RNAbox: A continuous RNA production platform process-in-a-box for rapid disease-agnostic RNA vaccine & therapeutic development and mass-manufacturing at high-quality and low-cost

15:30 – Wrap up, short presentation and poster awards

15:40 – Meeting finish

