

LSQ MONTHLY NEWS AND UPCOMING EVENTS

INDUSTRY NEWS | UPCOMING EVENTS | BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

March 2026

Dear LSQ members and friends,

LSQ has been out and about across the community this month, celebrating our people, partnerships and progress.

From International Women's Day at the **Gold Coast Health and Knowledge Precinct** and championing **Women in Life Sciences** with **AusBiotech**, to being part of the **World Science Festival**. We recognised **McCullough Robertson's** centenary as a valued foundation partner, and celebrated the opening of the **Life Sciences Incubator**.

It's been a full and energising month and a great reminder of the strength and momentum across our sector.

We wish you all a safe and enjoyable Easter break.

Same Table, New Chair

March marked an important transition for **Trent Munro** as he handed over the role of LSQ Chair to **Frank Gannon**. *"It has been a privilege to serve LSQ and support the exceptional people and companies within our ecosystem who are driving meaningful impact"*

Trent thanks our members, community, LSQ team and fellow directors for their support. He will remain on the Board, alongside his role as **General Manager of the Boggo Road Innovation Precinct**, and continue to ensure LSQ is well-resourced to support members and advance the life sciences agenda.

Meanwhile, Frank has hit the ground running, reconnecting across the sector and carrying forward the foundations set under Trent's leadership to keep LSQ's momentum moving. Frank welcomes the opportunity to connect with members and encourages you to reach out for a conversation. Get in touch with our office info@lsq.com.au to arrange a meeting.



World Science Festival Innovation Challenge

LSQ was one of seven industry partners as part of [World Science Festival](#), hosted by [Study Queensland](#) and [Queensland Museum](#). Bringing together 92 international students and graduates from across disciplines to tackle a big, future-focused question: *How can Queensland's science organisations better showcase their impact to the world?* The Honourable **Andrew Powell MP GAICD** open the event, with an esteemed panel of judges: the Queensland Chief Scientist **Professor Kerrie Wilson**, the CEO of Queensland Museum, Renai Grace, and **Michael Junger** from **Vaxxas**. Congratulations to LSQ's two teams '**CirCoolar**' and '**Biolgnight**' who pitched their bio-fuel and bio-waste solutions and finished highly commended!



McCullough Roberts 100 Year Celebration

LSQ was delighted to be part of **McCullough Robertson's** centenary celebrations joining clients, colleagues and partners to mark this incredible milestone. It was a great evening recognising the relationships and collaborative spirit that have shaped the firm over 100 years.

We also enjoyed hearing from **Deb Frecklington**. Her reflections on partnership, integrity and Queensland's future were valued. Congratulations to the McR team - we're proud to celebrate alongside you.



Life Science Incubator Launch

Congratulations **Life Science Incubator**! We had the pleasure of attending the official launch at **QIMR Berghofer**. Congratulations also - to LSQ members **Merck** who are supporting this space designed to give scientific teams, from startups to established R&D groups, the infrastructure they need to focus on what matters most. The science! We look forward to welcoming LSI to our member community next month!



Women in Life Sciences Leadership Summit and Lunch - Dolton House Sydney

At the **AusBiotech and Medicines Australia Women in Life Sciences Leadership Summit**, we heard an entertaining fireside chat with **TGA's Chief Medical Adviser, Prof Robyn Langham AM** on leading in the public eye in a candid, honest, insightful and highly relatable narrative.

The afternoon continued with an exceptional **Ausbiotech Women in Life Sciences Luncheon**, bringing together more than 650 women in life sciences in celebration of

International Women's Day. The energy in the room was a real reflection of the strength and ambition of the sector.

The program opened with **Medicines Australia CEO Elizabeth de Somer**, followed by **AusBiotech CEO Rebekah Cassidy** introducing international keynote **Dr Annalisa Jenkins OBE MBBS FRCP**. Dr Jenkins is a global biotechnology leader and former CEO of Dimension Therapeutics and delivered a compelling address on data-driven leadership, innovation and purpose.

It was an enlightening afternoon hearing the honest, personal stories of resilience and support and how real progress happens when we move forward together.



Gold Coast Health & Knowledge Precinct - International Women's Day

We were delighted to join the **Gold Coast Health and Knowledge Precinct** community to celebrate International Women's Day under the theme *Give More Than You Take – Stories, Legacy and the Power of Place*. Huge congratulations also on marking **25 years** since the vision for the Precinct was first established. As usual - a great evening!



Stay tuned for our April Newsletter, where we'll share more details on the **BCEC Bursary Event**, **LSQ's 15th Year Celebration** and the **GENE Awards**.

Best regards,
THE LSQ TEAM



LSQ and Partner Events



BCEC partners with Life Sciences Queensland to launch legacy bursary for next-generation Bio Innovation Leaders

Brisbane Convention & Exhibition Centre (BCEC) has announced a new 30th Birthday initiative in partnership with Life Sciences Queensland Ltd (LSQ) to support Queensland and Australia's research and commercial uptake in across health, biomedical and agritech bio-innovation. [Read more here](#)

See our website for more events

New and Renewing Members

A big thank you to all for your ongoing support - we're thrilled to have you as part of the LSQ community! Also acknowledging intermediate new members **Vetter Pharma** and **Seer Pharma** - welcome to our member family.

Renewing Members:



New Members:



Member and Sector News and Events

Tell us your news and upcoming events by sending an email to info@lsq.com.au.

Mater Research and The University of Queensland researchers discover genetic link to IBD

A rare genetic mutation, OTUD3, has been identified in causing ulcerative colitis, a chronic and debilitating bowel disease – offering new hope for earlier diagnosis and targeted treatment for patients.

[Read More](#)

Sanofi recognized as one of the World's Most Ethical Companies

Ethisphere, the global benchmark for ethical business practices has recognised Sanofi as one of the Worlds Most Ethical Companies in 2026.

QBiotics and Unicancer sign Letter of Intent

Under the LOI, QBiotics and Unicancer intend to negotiate a collaboration agreement to support an investigator-initiated Phase 2 trial. The proposed study will evaluate the safety and efficacy of an anti breast cancer drug.

Protagonist Therapeutics' ICOTYDE™ oral treatment for plaque psoriasis approved by U.S. FDA

ICOTYDE will be commercialised by Johnson & Johnson after US FDA approval was supported by four successful Phase 3 studies that met all primary endpoints and demonstrated favourable safety profile in 2,500 patients. [Read more](#)

PSC Biotech Announces Partnership with Blue Ocean Robotics

The partnership will bring the autonomous UV-C disinfection technology, which delivers chemical-free disinfection with minimal human intervention to pharmaceutical and life sciences facilities across the United States, Australia and Singapore. [Read more](#)

2026 Event Date Claimers



BIO Korea 2026:

Bio-Korea is South Korea's premier international biotechnology and bio-health convention, bringing together global industry leaders, researchers, investors and companies for exhibitions, business partnering and conferences. The 2026 Bio-Korea International Convention will be held **28–30 April 2026** at the **COEX Convention & Exhibition Centre in Seoul, South Korea**, serving as a key platform for innovation, collaboration and market expansion across the biotech and health sectors.



AusMedtech 2026

AusMedtech is Australia's leading medtech conference, bringing together innovators, researchers, clinicians, investors and government partners to explore the opportunities and challenges shaping the future of medtech.

AusBiotech is excited to welcome the community at **Crown Towers in Perth, Western Australia** from **19 to 21 May 2026** for three days of insights, collaboration and conversation that moves the sector forward.

Be part of the ideas, connections and momentum shaping the next chapter of Australian medtech!

[Register here](#)



[BIO International Convention San Diego](#)

BIO International Convention is the largest and most comprehensive event for biotechnology, representing the full ecosystem of biotech with 20,000 industry leaders from across the globe.

Whether you work at a public pharmaceutical company, biotech startup, academia, non-profit organization, or government agency; or you work as a researcher, business development professional or investor, BIO is where you'll make valuable connections and build relationships.

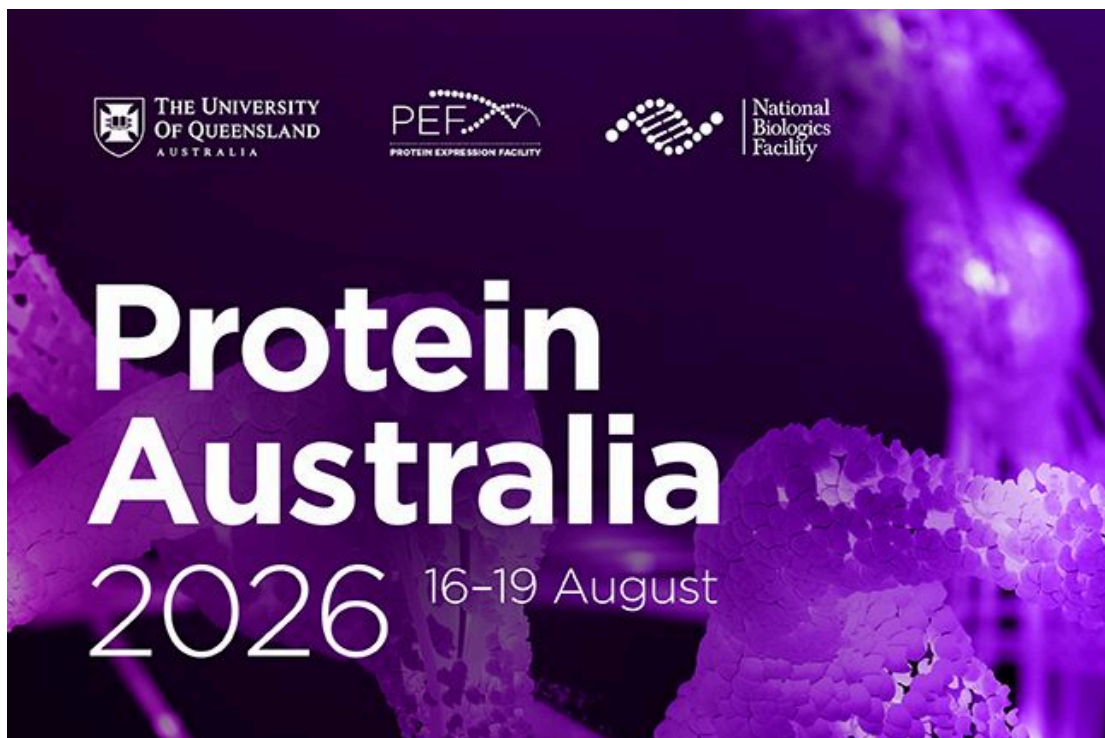
BIO International Convention will be held **22-25 June 2026** in **San Diego California**.



[AusBiotech International Conference 2026](#)

The AusBiotech International Conference is Australia's largest biotechnology conference and the flagship event of Australia's biggest week in biotech, convening the entire ecosystem and connecting Australian expertise with local and global partnerships.

This year, we will head up the coast as the the AusBiotech International Conference will take place on the Gold Coast from **20 to 23 October 2026**, hosted at the **Gold Coast Convention & Exhibition Centre**.



[Protein Australia 2026](#)

Protein Australia is the premier national meeting on protein science and technology, hosted by the University of Queensland's Protein Expression Facility (PEF) and National Biologics Facility (NBF). The event will showcase cutting-edge research in protein engineering, veterinary science, and bioproduct translation, featuring global academic speakers.

Connect with colleagues from across Australia and beyond at Protein Australia 2026, hosted at the **Brisbane Convention & Exhibition Centre** from **16 to 18 August 2026**. Submit your expression of interest [here](#)

A free, student-focused **Pre-conference Workshop** will be held **16 August 9:00am–12pm** to build early-stage bioproduction knowledge and network ahead of the main event. [Register your interest here](#)

A post-event **Professional Upskilling Masterclass** designed for both industry and academic conference attendees will be held on **19 August 9am–5:00pm** to deliver foundational insights across the rapidly evolving landscape of biomanufacturing, translation pathways, and product development. [Register your interest here](#)

Grants, funding and business opportunities

[MRFF: Clinical Trials Activity](#)

The Medical Research Future Fund Clinical Trials Activity Initiative (administered by NHMRC) provides funding to support high-quality clinical trials across a range of health

areas. Applications close **1 April**. [Read more >>](#)

[Discovery Early Career Researcher Award \(DECRA\)](#)

The DECRA scheme provides focused research support for early career researchers in both teaching and research, and research-only positions. It provides funding for three-year DECRAAs, providing a researcher with salary and on-costs, and up to \$50,000 per year in project costs. Expressions of interest close **13 April**. [Read more >>](#)

[TRI-based Therapeutic Innovation Australia \(TIA\)](#)

To support scientists in accessing advice from their Cell and Gene Therapy research projects, the Technical Feasibility Assessment (TFA), offered as part of TIA's application process, provides researchers with direction for initiating translational research, building knowledge of the process and requirements and improving early-stage decisions. Applications close **17 April**. [Read more >>](#)

[Cooperative Research Centres Projects \(CRC-P\) Program](#)

Now open for Round 19, CRC-P is supporting industry-research sector collaborations to drive commercialisation and innovation across Australia, with \$100,000 to \$3mill in matched funding for up to 3 years. Applications close **12 May**. [Read more >>](#)

[Biomedical Translational Fund](#)

This fund provides companies with venture capital to help develop biomedical discoveries into tangible products, services and outcomes. Discoveries can be therapeutic, medical or pharmaceutical. They can be a product, process, service (including digital health services), technology or procedure. [Read more >>](#)

[Austrade Go Global Toolkit](#)

Single-access point for whole-of-government information and advice, providing key market information to potential exporters and those looking to export into new markets. [Read more >>](#)

[Dust Diseases Board \(DDB\) Grants and Awards](#)

Providing \$3.5 million in funding to support innovative research and strengthen emerging and clinical talent focused on the causes, prevention, and management of dust diseases.

[Read more >>](#)

For NHMRC and MRFF grant opportunities visit [GrantConnect](#)

Our foundation supporters and partners

Heartfelt thanks for their impactful support



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