

April 2021



# ON eNews



## **'Life Sciences has a spring in its step!'**

Welcome to this month's One Nucleus eNews. I hope everyone is refreshed after the spring weekend holiday and now full of optimism as we move towards summer with pandemic-related restrictions starting to ease for many. How much easing of the restrictions will be deemed safe, and the timescale involved remains to be seen, but it does feel there is light at the end of the tunnel. In this issue, you'll find updates about our Virtual Innovation Centre, links to upcoming events and courses, feedback from last week's conference, a spotlight on Cambridge Ahead, Fish & Richardson on Biosimilars, Deal of the Month, Horizon Europe updates and available discounts. Enjoy the read!



## **Mentors, coaches, networks, collaboration and deals**

During the last week of March it was a pleasure to have delivered the inaugural Building Life Science Adventures online conference. The One Nucleus team are extremely grateful to the sponsors, supporters, speakers and of course delegates that made the event possible. More details are reported later in this issue, but for me there was the recurring theme that irrespective of terminology, the dynamism, innovation and success for any sector is predominantly about people. The event shared an immense range of insights and ideas about how we can move the sector forward, both at the entire sector and individual career level; the two being inherently linked of course.

## **Investing in Life Sciences, the story continues....**

As reported widely, 2020 saw record levels of investment into Life sciences and recent reports, such as the recent [Clarivate/BIA](#) report indicates 2021 is on trajectory to surpass that record with £830M raised by UK companies in the three months to end of February: with news of the £1Bn [UAE-UK Sovereign Investment Partnership](#) and the UK Government additional [£250M science funding announcement](#), including reference to UK participation in Horizon Europe. These latest announcements from the Government have been questioned by BIA and others however, over whether it is new, or reallocated funding, so the devil may be in the detail.

The rise in popularity of [SPACs](#) to access capital markets cannot be denied. An approach that has been around for some time but is having a renaissance right now leaving many to debate how to differentiate on their quality. A topic I am pleased will be discussed at our forthcoming event on 22 April 2021 in association with Seven Life Sciences.

## **Welcoming our network back in 2021!**

Much like the changing of the clocks, this time of year can provide an impetus to spring forward and stimulate the green shoots of the next deals and collaborations as the conference and partnering event circuit gains momentum. Face-to-face or online remains a major dilemma for many we speak to. To attend in person or not, and indeed if they do attend in person, who else will be there to meet. Surveying our network recently, the longer-term favourite appears to be wanting a mix of events, some face-to-face and some online. This option polled nearly three times higher than options of hybrid events and having all one or other format was very unpopular. I am delighted to see our network growing with new members joining One Nucleus and significant new joiners of our Partner programme this past month in [Cambridge Innovation Capital](#) and [Advent Life Sciences](#). There are more Partners to be announced soon as we continue joining the dots of our sector at scale across science & technology, investment, and talent.

## **No sector is an island**

This month for the first time it is a pleasure to include an article from [Cambridge Ahead](#), the membership group representing some of Cambridge's most influential businesses and academic organisations. Whilst it is clear Life Sciences are critical to the region's economy, it would be naïve to feel one sector alone can exert maximum influence over the policy making we all rely upon. Much greater traction is often gained when cross-sector requests are made of Government, whether national or regional. One Nucleus seeks to provide input for our members into such discussions through collaboration with Cambridge Ahead where appropriate, and their recommendations resonate with views expressed by One Nucleus members. We will be seeking to keep you updated via this regular publication of current activities at Cambridge Ahead and what that may mean for Life Sciences.

## **Your Chance To See and Be Seen Through 2021**

Next week will see the launch of the One Nucleus Annual Review 2021. After one of the most challenging years, we are looking forward to releasing the 2021 edition which will include a series of articles penned by members to discuss the state of play in biomedical research in areas such as the use of Artificial Intelligence, combatting anti-microbial resistance, provision of modern laboratory facilities, leveraging the virtual world, precision medicine adoption, innovation in drug discovery and accessing American public markets to support development activities. The authors of these articles include BioMed Realty, Catalent, Evotec, Mills & Reeve, Marks & Clerk, Precision Life and SLAS. The publication will also include the regular content, giving an overview of the region's Life Science sector, the latest One Nucleus strategies and a A-Z listing of our members.

The Annual Review is disseminated by email to our membership, international network and stakeholders, hosted on the One Nucleus website for download and serves as the cornerstone of our promotion at numerous conferences and partnering events throughout the year, whether digital or face-to-face. There are a limited number of last minute advertising spaces available should you have overlooked the opportunity to be highlighted to the network of potential clients, partners and investors. To secure one of the remaining places and pricing details please contact Natalie Keuroghlian at [natalie@onenucleus.com](mailto:natalie@onenucleus.com) at your earliest convenience.

### Looking ahead

Timing is key. It feels few are in a rush for global travel and attendance. Prioritising relatively local gatherings in the short-term, primarily for peer-to-peer networking whilst one-to-one partnering has perhaps been at least a semi-hybrid activity with pre-scheduling of meetings always taking place online ahead of a major event. I mentioned last month about our view being just because we can, doesn't mean we should, but as conditions improve, we look forward as the year progresses to welcoming our network back for face-to-face networking while retaining the advantages of online events for some aspects. Later in this issue you can check out where to meet us. There is an array of [One Nucleus sessions](#) including [ON Helix 2021](#) where each member company receives a complimentary digital pass. Further, there are numerous upcoming [external conferences](#), some of offer our members discounted access, including as BioNJ Global Partnering Conference, BioTrinity and BioIntegrates. You can also read about the EBD Group's new Connector platform.

Tony Jones

CEO, One Nucleus

5-6 July 2021 | Digital

on helix

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# Update from the VIC



The Virtual Innovation Centre is a bespoke virtual programme to support companies on their growing journey. We know that starting-up a life science company is hard but growing it comes with exponential challenges as the company becomes more operational and actively involved in deal making, leaving even less time to dedicate for reflection and seeking advice.

The VIC was developed with that mindset: offering a set of relevant sessions and access to experts in the main areas of Life Science companies' development, that can be used at any point in time by the relevant person in your company.

Thanks to our great partners, plans are progressing quickly on the programme content and strategic topics to be developed. Here is an overview of the VIC programme starting in April for 12 months:

## Developing an Operational Company

- Workshops on business operations good practice and growing lab capacity
- One-to-one sessions with legal, HR, facility and procurement experts
- Access to the One Nucleus purchasing scheme and facility consultancy

## Becoming A More Active Deal Maker

- Workshops on transactions and research collaborations addressing all aspects of partner selection, due diligence, IP, contract and alliance management
- One-to-one sessions with legal experts from the UK and the US as well as CROs' insights
- Attendance at the One Nucleus events ON Helix and Genesis as well as the EBD BioEurope and BioEurope Spring with preparation on partnering

## Steering Strategic Development

- Workshops on leadership and next phase investment strategy
- Peer learning sessions with C-suite executives

Companies joining the VIC will be able to benefit from all or a fraction of this programme depending on their interest and current development phase. A useful and fine-tuned solution if you are pushed for time, and in need of support.

## How to get involved?

- For companies interested in being actively involved in the VIC, contact [aline@onenucleus.com](mailto:aline@onenucleus.com). We're about to finalise the first set of companies but looking at onboarding new companies every 6 months.
- For companies with a specific interest in one area of the VIC, the workshop sessions will be open to a wider audience so keep an eye on the One Nucleus website. The first session will be on 28 April on leadership – [Identifying and Filling Gaps in the C-suite and Board](#)

## VIC Partners

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## A new e-networking platform...

As we have learnt from these 'stay at home' days that physical conferences are no longer the only way to meet and network - our partner EBD has just launched [Connector](#), a new digital networking platform to help you make direct connections at dedicated networking events and access on-demand content.

BioEurope Spring attendees can sign up for free, so join us for more networking!

# Building Life Science Adventures 2021 - That's a wrap!

On 30 – 31 March, One Nucleus hosted its first ever Building Life Science Adventures conference. This was set out to bridge the gap between students/career seekers, universities and employers by sharing knowledge and debating best practice to support career development. We delivered eight lively one-hour sessions on a variety of different topics and some of our panellists tuning in from different parts of the globe. We had dogs mentoring cats, “you’re on mute,” references to Bananarama and sauna networking, you name it!!

All sessions were recorded and are now available via the conference App until 28 April. From then on you will be able to access the videos via the One Nucleus On-Demand content page and our YouTube channel.

On day two of the conference, at the end of the “Food for Thought” international panel lunchtime session, we announced the winner of ‘[The Life Sciences Inspiration of the Year Award](#)’; [Claire Thompson, CEO of Agility Life Sciences](#), congratulations Claire! Well done to all the other shortlisted nominees, [Renos Savva](#), [Jane Osbourn](#), [Ian Charles](#) and [Laura Gilbey](#). We look forward to interviewing Claire about all her excellent achievements throughout her career and sharing this with you all. Thank you to our award sponsors, [SLAS \(Society for Laboratory Automation and Screening\)](#) and [Christian Parker](#) for presenting the award.

We would not have been able to deliver the conference without our incredible event Sponsors and Supporters:

[CatSci](#)

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It's not over yet! We would very much like to continue the discussions with our network to help those seeking a career to build a successful one and those who are employers to find the right people. We are therefore dedicating our upcoming networking lunch ‘[My Question is...](#)’ on [Thursday 27 April](#) to further explore key questions in this area, so that we may continue to debate best practices, share tips and connect great people!

Our ‘[My Question is...](#)’ networking meeting is a chance to gain new contacts or equally engage with known contacts, while you look to maintain networking during this challenging time. We will be selecting the best submitted questions posed by our network, and once selected, those individuals will host a small group breakout room to discuss that question, feeding back towards the end of the session.

Finally, thank you to everyone who engaged with the sessions. We hope to see you all very soon at our upcoming One Nucleus events and Building Life Science Adventures 2022! Good luck on all your future endeavours, trust the process, work hard and talk to people around you.

# Training at One Nucleus

Many rapidly growing companies overlook the need for ongoing training of their staff. One Nucleus recognises that a company's employees are its most valuable asset. We have developed a range of bespoke training courses to support the life sciences and healthcare sector, delivered both face to face and online, based on the needs of our member companies and their staff. We are constantly introducing courses on new subjects as our members' needs change. [Please do get in touch](#) if you have a particular training need that's not listed below.

Our current range of courses includes:

- BioSafety Masterclass: Building and Maintaining Competence in BioSafety
- Biological Safety: Management and Practice (IOSH Approved)
- Laboratory Health and Safety
- The Safe Use and Management of Lab Gases
- Introduction to Drug Discovery – From Idea to Clinical Candidate
- Online Introduction to Managing Life Science Projects
- Presentation Skills for Scientists



Visit the One Nucleus website to view our Upcoming Courses.

## Let us bring the training to you...

An area that has continued to grow in popularity is the development of our in-house offering – we tailor the training to suit your company and bring the course to you, this way we can train your staff on your own premises or online, saving you time and travel expenses.

## Member benefits

- Silver members receive a discount on list prices
- Members of the BIA, Bionow, SLAS and CCRA receive a 10% discount off the non-member rate

## Soft skill providers

We are proud to be working with a network of training providers to deliver a range of soft skill courses:

- Citrine Wellness
- Health & Safety Works
- Reading Scientific Services Limited (RSSL)
- RiverRhee Consulting
- Wellcome Sanger Institute

For more information please email [training@onenucleus.com](mailto:training@onenucleus.com).

# SPECIAL REPORT

# Patents and SPCs post-Brexit – pharma’s big opportunity?

[www.dyoung.com/brexit-pharma](http://www.dyoung.com/brexit-pharma)



In this special report we consider how the pharma industry should adapt its IP strategy. We examine the following key topics:

- Brexit’s impact on the supplementary protection certificate (SPC), unitary patent (UP) and Unified Patent Court systems.
- What’s in and out of the EU Pharmaceutical Strategy – and will the UK follow?
- What can the UK gain from the EU IP action plan?
- Regulatory independence for the UK – what’s the role for the MHRA post-Brexit?
- Implications of the rules of origin on the pharma industry.



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# Spotlight On Cambridge Ahead



Cambridge Ahead represents many of the most influential business and academic organisations in Cambridge and the surrounding region, advocating that quality of life, across all communities, should be the guiding principle for the sustainable growth of the city region.

We [recently published new data](#) showing that the Cambridge economy has continued to grow impressively, fuelled by knowledge intensive companies, especially the life sciences sector which has seen employment growth of a remarkable 17.6% per year over the last six years compared the average rate of employment growth in the UK of 1.6%. However, overall employment growth has begun to slow in the last three-year period before the pandemic, suggesting that the role of Cambridge as an engine for high value job creation cannot be taken for granted. This data, produced by the University of Cambridge, captures a higher level of growth than official Government statistics and we want the annual research to be used to help guide better policy making and planning decisions for the region with areas like transport and digital infrastructure being major priorities.

Alongside promoting infrastructure investment Cambridge Ahead has also highlighted the importance of making sure we are equipping young people for a new and emerging job markets, and that our skills and education system is plugged in to how the local employment picture is changing and evolving. Last year we published [research on the quality of career guidance](#) in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough. It found that in many cases career education is failing to adequately meet the needs of young people as well as the needs of employers. It highlighted that often the individual appointed to the career leader role with schools or colleges is not afforded the time or resource they need. As a result we have been advocating, alongside our local MPs and local authorities, for additional resource for career education within schools.

The research also showed the importance of employers increasing their involvement in school settings and offering opportunities for work experience, placements and engagement. In this context it was fantastic to see the One Nucleus 'Building Life Science Adventures' Careers Conference in action at the end of March, an excellent example of the kind of interactive and dynamic event that can make a real difference. At Cambridge Ahead we are also promoting stronger links between business and schools in the region, including working with our members to develop career video resources and exploring models which can create direct links between teachers and the world of work so that careers is better imbedded in the curriculum.

Jane Paterson-Todd is the CEO of Cambridge Ahead

# Upcoming Webinars & Digital Events

## One Nucleus Events

- 14 April | BioWednesday Webinar: Incentivising and Rewarding Your Team - [register](#)
- 22 April | Key Elements of a Life Sciences SPAC - [register](#)
- 27 April | My Question Is...Networking Lunch Meeting - [register](#)
- 28 April | VIC Workshop: Identifying and Filling Gaps in the C-suite and Board - [register](#)
- 05 May | BioWednesday Webinar: Opportunities for UK Life Sciences - A US Perspective - [register](#)
- 02 June | BioWednesday Webinar - [register](#)
- 05-06 July | ON Helix Digital - [register](#)

## One Nucleus Training Courses

- 14-15 April | Online introduction to Drug Discovery - From Idea to Clinical Candidate - [register](#)
- 15 April | Online Presentation Skills for Scientists - [register](#)
- 22 April | Online The Safe Use and Management of Laboratory Gases - [register](#)
- 28-29 April | Online Biological Safety: Management and Practice (IOSH approved) - [register](#)
- 03 May | Online Introduction to Managing Life Science Projects - [register](#)
- 04 May | Online BioSafety Masterclass: Building and Maintaining Confidence in BioSafety - [register](#)
- 11 May | Online Laboratory Health and Safety - [register](#)

## Industry Events

- 12 April | Intro to Pharmaceutical Microbiology - [find out more](#)
- 12-23 April | China Series: Expand in China Programme - [find out more](#)
- 13 April | Leveraging Advanced Tools to Shorten Biologic Development Timelines - [find out more](#)
- 15 April | Boehringer Ingelheim Office Hours FOCUS ON FIBROSIS - [find out more](#)
- 15 April | Patenting Antibody Pharmaceuticals at the EPO - [find out more](#)
- 19 April | Responsible Person Refresher - [find out more](#)
- 20 April | Creating an employee wellbeing strategy for your business: where to start? - [find out more](#)
- 20-23 April | **Member Discount Available:** Nordic Life Science Days Digital - [find out more](#)
- 21-22 April | 2021 BioInfect Conference - [find out more](#)
- 22 April | Diagnostics, Drugs, Data & Devices – How Will These Influence Patients & Outcomes In The Future? - [find out more](#)
- 22-24 April | Start Science - to learn the basics of Life Science start-ups - [find out more](#)
- 28 April | Untangling Important GDPR Concepts - Joint Controllers, Controllers and Processors - [find out more](#)
- 18-19 May | **Member Discount Available:** BioNJ BioPartnering Virtual Conference - [find out more](#)
- 20 May | **Complimentary registration for members :** Bio Integrates 2021 - [find out more](#)
- 25-26 May | **Member Discount Available:** Anglonordic Life Science Online Conference - [find out more](#)
- 21-25 June | **Member Discount Available:** BioTrinity 2021 Virtual Conference - [find out more](#)

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# Member Webinar Highlight



What did the US biosimilars market look like in 2020? Was the evolution of approvals and launches impacted by the pandemic? And what should be expected in the coming year? This webinar: [Biosimilars 2020 Year-in-review](#) is a comprehensive coverage of the US biosimilars landscape highlighting market trends, FDA announcements and guidance, selected court cases and appellate guidance as well as trends in IPRs.

## Deal of the Month

### Oversubscribed £38M Series B for Amphista

Amphista, a leader in next generation targeted protein degradation (TPD) approaches signs an impressive Series B investment with stellar investor leads Forbion, Gilde Healthcare and additional corporate investors Novartis Venture Fund, and Eli Lilly and Company, joining existing investors BioMotiv and founding investor Advent Life Sciences. The proceeds will be used to accelerate the company's growing pipeline of potent and selective bifunctional molecules, known as 'Amphistas' to the clinic and to extend its proprietary TPD platform.

It's a confirmation of the huge interest raised by protein degradation approaches lately and a great acknowledgment of the technology developed by the Amphista team.

The full press release can be found [here](#).

## Funding & Support

### Horizon Europe

The European multinational research and innovation programme – Horizon Europe – is back with a record €95.5 billion budget to distribute in the next 7 years and the good news is that UK entities can still access it. The scheme will include the usual mix of grants for individual scientists as well as large multinational collaborations with a focus on grand societal challenges and a more 'mission oriented' approach. This interesting evolution involves more interdisciplinary and open research as well as a boost to commercialisation with the creation of the European Innovation Council (EIC).

More information about the programme and calls being launched can be found [here](#) and a Q&A on the UK's participation at **Horizon Europe** [here](#).

### Medicines & Diagnostics Manufacturing Transformation Fund

This new £20M fund aiming to boost economic opportunities, innovation and health resilience by supporting medicines and diagnostics manufacturing investments in the UK is now open for applications until 30 June.

It is open to manufacturers of human licensed medicines, medical diagnostics and medical devices for projects with a minimum total size of £8M.

Click [here](#) for more information.