

National Foundation for Medical Research and Innovation



NFMRI

Registrations Now Open: 2016 NFMRI Conference

Early bird registrations are now open on Eventbrite and will close at 6pm on Friday, 16 September 2016. You may register by [clicking here](#). Please note that there are limited spaces available. We therefore recommend that those interested register as soon as they can in order not to miss out.

Grant making charities that wish to complete a short survey will receive a 25% discount code valid for general early bird rates only. The short survey can be found on our website here: <http://bit.ly/1pjzhzV> After completion the code will be visible and available for use by all employees of that charity.

Events

**NFMRI Medical
Research Innovation
Conference**
18-19 October 2016,
Brisbane

2016 IBS Symposium
24-27 Oct 2016,
Melbourne

AVCAL Conference
31 Aug - 1 Sept 2016,
Melbourne

2016 Grant Round Closed

Expressions of interest for our 2016 grant round closed on 22 April 2016. This year approximately 180 expressions of interest were received. We wish to thank those who applied for support and expect to be in touch with all applicants around early to mid June.

We also wish to thank those who submitted nominations for the second Dr John Dixon Hughes Medal for Medical Research Innovation. These will be reviewed by our Research Advisory Committee and Board, and we expect to make an announcement towards the end of the year.

NFMRI Medical Research Innovation Conference – 18-19 October 2016

NFMRI's second annual conference, "Supporting Biomedical Innovations: Getting Innovations on the Right Track", will take place on the 18th and 19th of October 2016 at the Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre in Queensland.

While our first conference sought to discuss and explore key issues affecting the medical research and

While our first conference sought to discuss and explore key issues affecting the medical research and innovation sector, our second conference will focus on exploring strategies and solutions to help build, support and grow the biomedical innovation sector in Australia. It will bring together local and international experts to explore four key themes focused around how private and social investments in medical research, together with different strategies and bold actions, can lead to the advancement of innovations. The program will also examine how we can increase Australia's capability and capacity to deliver results all whilst growing the local economy. This includes building a culture and funding ecosystem where industry, government, academia, venture capital and philanthropy converge to support innovations from beginning to end. Delegates will leave the conference with a better understanding of how to improve collaborations and how to build relationships between research and industry.

This year's conference will cover the following four themes:

Theme 1 – Thinking differently and being bold (18 October)

With a new national innovation agenda identified as a priority for Australia, new programs and initiatives were introduced in 2016. This theme will explore how government, academia, social and financial investors have responded to the challenges of delivering impact from medical research.

Theme 2 – Leading by example (18 October)

Whilst Australia ranks well in academic research and biotechnology in international measures, the Global Innovation Index shows that Australia is not performing well with "research efficiency" measures (i.e. the ability to convert our research into impact). This theme will provide an opportunity to discuss success and opportunities to help others do this better.

Theme 3 – Building innovation in Australia (19 October)

Most opportunities arising from biomedical research are of global significance, providing access to new medicines, diagnostics, devices and vaccines far beyond Australian borders. The ability for medical research to also create new jobs, industries and investment opportunities in Australia is also important.

This theme will explore the challenges and opportunities of how the R&D ecosystem can deliver greater impact at home as our medical innovation ecosystem matures.

Theme 4 – Partnerships and strategies for impact (19 October)

One of our favourite and recurring themes is to open up a conversation with investors (social and financial) to discuss not only why and what, but how they support, or don't support medical research opportunities.

Aligning expectations and discussing the great, good, bad and ugly can help other investors and those seeking investment or support.

Who should attend our next conference?

Management and executives from the following groups will benefit from attending the conference:

- Philanthropists
- Private and Social Investors
- Government
- Corporations and Industry Leaders
- Researchers and Knowledge Commercialisation Specialists
- Financial and Investment Services
- Universities and Medical Research Institutes
- Trusts & Foundations

Please note that speakers are always subject to change due to unforeseen circumstances.

We hope you can make it and look forward to seeing you there!

Draft Conference Program

Our draft conference program is available for download [here](#). We are updating this program as speakers are confirmed. Please note that speakers are always subject to change due to unforeseen circumstances and last minute change in availability.



Conference Sponsorship

Opportunities to support the Conference as a "Sponsor" or "Supporter" remain available and more information on sponsorship packages can be found [here](#).



Acknowledgements

We wish to thank [Griffith Hack](#) for kindly hosting a patent analytics lunch in both Sydney and Melbourne over the past few months. The session provided guests with an overview of the global IP analytics landscape and demonstrated how they could gain insights to make better business decisions.

Recent Blog Posts

- [Philanthropy: Opportunities to collaborate for success](#)
- [R&D tax incentive: encouraging investment in Australian innovation](#)
- [A new innovation agenda; benefiting impact from philanthropic grants](#)

- [Funding that makes a difference](#)
- [Biomedical funding ecosystem; shifting the balance](#)

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