

pandemic response catalyst conversations: Innovations in Diagnostics and Detection on the Road to Re-densification

Speaker Bios



Yves Dubaquier, Ph.D., senior vice president and head of Diagnostics Solutions, MilliporeSigma, oversees the business segment that provides critical raw materials for the IVD (in vitro diagnostics) industry. In this role, Dubaquier oversees all aspects of the global business franchise, including portfolio development, commercial responsibility, R&D and marketing, among other aspects.

Prior to moving into this role in July 2019, Dubaquier led Global Business Development at MilliporeSigma, where he was responsible for setting the inorganic growth strategy for the global business, including but not limited to all aspects of opportunity sourcing, deal execution and integration since January 2017. Previously, Dubaquier was Managing Director of Business & Corporate Development for GE Healthcare Life Sciences, a global \$4B division, located in Amersham, UK. Dubaquier also held several global Business Development & Licensing roles for pharma and biotech companies, including Novartis, Ironwood Pharmaceuticals and Bristol-Myers Squibb, where he successfully executed transactions in drug development and commercialization, molecular diagnostics and medical imaging technologies.

Dubaquier holds a Ph.D. in Biochemistry from the University of Basel, Switzerland. After conducting postdoctoral research at Genentech, he led pre-clinical and early stage clinical drug development teams at Bristol-Myers Squibb before transitioning into business development.



Jim Harper, Ph.D., co-founder and chief operating officer, Sonde Health, has over 25 years of experience harnessing innovative technologies to provide solutions to important biological measurement needs. Beginning at MIT and MIT Lincoln Laboratory and continuing at PureTech Health, he has built teams and solutions impacting biological sensing capabilities in broad range use domains, including biodefense, human DNA identification and characterization, and distributed human health and performance monitoring. Most recently, he co-founded Sonde Health to focus on harnessing voice as a vital sign using vocal biomarker analysis technology to measure mental and physical health directly on devices we already own.



Mariana Matus, Ph.D., is CEO and co-founder at Biobot Analytics, where she leads product and technology development. She has nearly a decade of experience leading interdisciplinary teams of engineers, biologists, chemists, and data scientists to deliver unique public health insights from sewage.

Mariana holds a Ph.D. in Computational Biology from MIT, where she specialized in the field of wastewater epidemiology and co-founded the MIT Underworlds Smart Sewers Project.



David Sun Kong, Ph.D., is a synthetic biologist, community organizer, musician, and photographer based in Lexington, MA. He is the director of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology Media Lab's new [Community Biotechnology Initiative](#). Their mission: empowering communities through biotechnology. David conducted his graduate studies at MIT's Media Lab, receiving a master's degree for developing technology for printing nanostructures with energetic beams and a Ph.D. for demonstrating the first gene synthesis in a microfluidic ("lab-on-a-chip") system. He was recognized as an emerging leader in synthetic biology as a "LEAP" fellow, served as a guest faculty member at the Marine Biology Lab in Woods Hole, MA, and is co-founder and managing faculty of "[How To Grow \(Almost\) Anything](#)," an international course on synthetic biology. He founded and chaired new Microfluidic and Hardware Tracks for the [International Genetically Engineered Machines Competition \(iGEM\)](#) and is the official iGEM DJ. He was technical staff in the Bioengineering Systems & Technologies group at MIT's Lincoln Laboratory and a founding member of the synthetic biology team.