

LIFE SCIENCES WORKPLACE

BOSTON

W

EXPLORE THE FUTURE LIFE SCIENCES WORKPLACE

650 E KENDALL STREET, CAMBRIDGE

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 5TH

09:00 - 16:30

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Samantha Cullum

Senior Conference Producer,
WORKTECH Events

A warm welcome to Life Sciences Workplace26 Boston

WORKTECH is the fastest growing forum for all those involved in the future of work and the workplace as well as real estate, technology and innovation.

You are invited to join senior professionals for an insightful program of peer-to-peer discussions and thought leadership sessions with workplace visionaries, exploring the changing landscape of work and the purpose of the workplace within the Life Science sector.

Our agenda will explore transformative shifts in work culture, technology integration, and employee expectations. Join us to gain perspectives from industry leaders and thought pioneers, on the evolving world of work in 2026.

We hope you will be able to join us and we are looking forward to welcoming you to the event at Kendall Street in Cambridge on November 5th.

Warmest regards,

Samantha

CONTENTS



SPEAKERS



SESSIONS



CONFERENCE AGENDA



VENUE



WHO ATTENDS



KEY INFORMATION

MEET THE SPEAKERS

Life Sciences Workplace26 Boston will attract some of the biggest and brightest names to debate, discuss, and divulge the latest thinking on the future of work and the workplace.

The conference will feature leading international thinkers from industry and academia. Our speakers represent some of the world's biggest brands and best universities and research departments, alongside radical visionaries from new innovative organisations.

Through interdisciplinary speakers and learning experiences, we focus on bringing cutting edge ideas and inspiration to the workplace community to enhance creativity and move thinking forward. Instead of focusing on peer to peer innovation through imitation, we aim to curate a unique programme, bringing together experts in the fields of people, place and technology and relevant adjacencies to reflect on the future of work and workplace.

Alongside the conference series, the WORKTECH Academy knowledge hub explores the future of work through six key themes: people, place, technology, design, culture and innovation. Creating leading commentary, research and publications that places scientific research at the heart of key business problems. www.worktechacademy.com

Full list of speakers

Dr. Phil Budden [MIT](#)
Ivan Cossu [Deskbird](#)
Alec Dupuis [AstraZeneca](#)
Ginena Harkins [AstraZeneca](#)
Kim te Kaat [Vecos](#)
Bill Kane [BioMed Realty](#)
Chris Leary [HOK](#)
William Lythgoe [Sanofi](#)
Beth O'Neill Maloney [Kendall Square Association](#)
Erika Reuter [HOK](#)
Phillip Youakim [Saltmine](#)

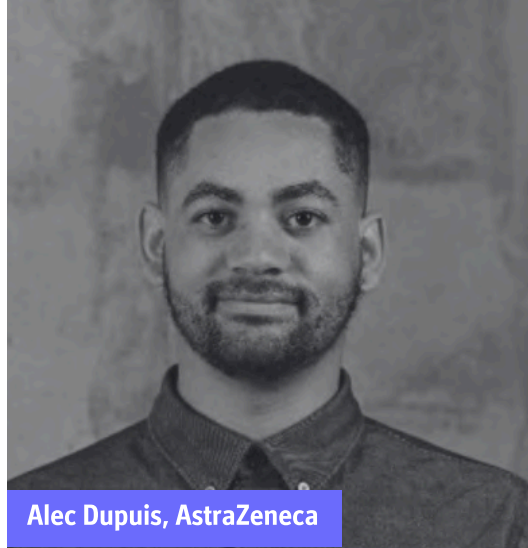
Additional speakers to be announced



William Lythgoe, Sanofi



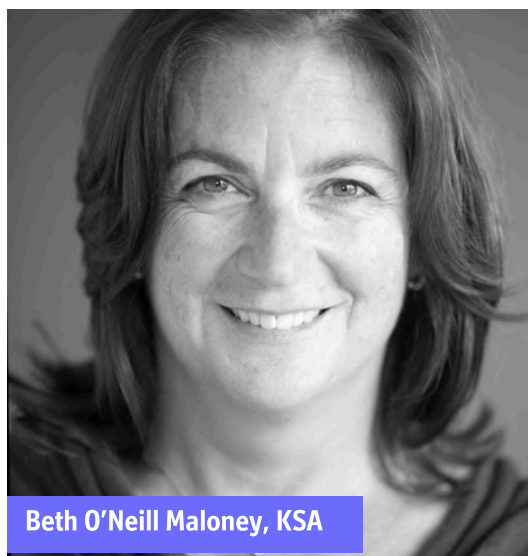
Dr. Phil Budden, MIT



Alec Dupuis, AstraZeneca



Chris Leary, HOK



Beth O'Neill Maloney, KSA



Ginena Harkins, AstraZeneca



Erika Reuter, HOK



Iva Cossu, Deskbird



Bill Kane, BioMed Realty



The Science of Innovation Ecosystems: Kendall Square — w(h)ither our innovation ecosystem?

Dr. Phil Budden, Senior Lecturer, Technological Innovation, Entrepreneurship, and Strategic Management, MIT

Innovation clusters emerge in multi-stakeholder, place-based 'ecosystems' — such as Kendall Square — for a variety of interconnected reasons. There is the supply of innovative ideas, the right built environment, the availability of enough 'risk capital' and the transformative talent of entrepreneurs, all of which can contribute to the competitive advantage of organisations within the ecosystem. Understanding this real-world phenomenon is part of MIT's research into the 'science of innovation ecosystems', with direct application into its own 'backyard'. As we face a challenging world — with accelerating technologies (like AI), uncertain funding support, and growing global competition — how do the multiple stakeholders who care about this innovation hotspot, and call it home, pull together to ensure that the ecosystem continues to thrive in the face of these challenges?

From Blueprint to Belonging: The Journey of Building a Future-Ready R&D Workplace in Kendall Square

Alec Dupuis, Associate Director, Campus Experience, AstraZeneca and Ginena Harkins, Director of Workplace Services, AstraZeneca

The creation of AstraZeneca's new Kendall Square workplace was far more than a building project. It was a multi-year transformation that brought together workplace strategy, employee engagement, change management, and operational readiness to create an environment designed to evolve alongside science. In this session, Workplace Services leaders Ginena Harkins and Alec Dupuis will share lessons learned from planning, activating, and operating a next-generation R&D workplace. Attendees will explore how thoughtful design, stakeholder engagement, and continuous adaptation can help organizations create workplaces that remain relevant long after move-in day.



Image: Boston Business



Sensing, Forecasting, Deciding: A Data-Driven Blueprint for the Workplace

William Lythgoe, Workplace Transformation, Global Real Estate & Workplace Experience, Sanofi

Workplaces have long run on a gut feel, spreadsheets, and monthly reports. This session walks through how one global real estate / workplace organization built a data backbone. From occupancy sensors and space utilization tracking to portfolio-wide capacity forecasting. To predictive maintenance on building assets, to an AI co-pilot that puts operational data directly in the hands of site leaders.

09:00 | LIFE SCIENCES WORKPLACE CONFERENCE OPENS

09:15 | CHAIRPERSON'S OPENING REMARKS

09:25 | LIFE SCIENCES WORKPLACE PULSE: TRENDS, CHALLENGES & OPPORTUNITIES



09:30 | THE SCIENCE OF INNOVATION ECOSYSTEMS: KENDALL SQUARE — W(H)ITHER OUR INNOVATION ECOSYSTEM?

Dr. Phil Budden, *Senior Lecturer, Technological Innovation, Entrepreneurship, and Strategic Management, MIT*



Innovation clusters emerge in multi-stakeholder, place-based 'ecosystems' — such as Kendall Square — for a variety of interconnected reasons. There is the supply of innovative ideas, the right built environment, the availability of enough 'risk capital' and the transformative talent of entrepreneurs, all of which can contribute to the competitive advantage of organisations within the ecosystem. Understanding this real-world phenomenon is part of MIT's research into the 'science of innovation ecosystems', with direct application into its own 'backyard'. As we face a challenging world — with accelerating technologies (like AI), uncertain funding support, and growing global competition — how do the multiple stakeholders who care about this innovation hotspot, and call it home, pull together to ensure that the ecosystem continues to thrive in the face of these challenges?

09:55 | BEYOND THE BUILDING: CREATING KENDALL SQUARE'S NEXT INNOVATION COMMUNITY

Beth O'Neill Maloney, *Executive Director, Kendall Square Association*
Additional speakers to be announced, BioMed Realty and Takeda



As 585 Kendall opens its doors, this session explores how a life sciences workplace can contribute to the wider innovation ecosystem around it. Using 585 Kendall as a live case study, BioMed Realty, Takeda and wider Kendall Square stakeholders will explore how workplace, sustainability, public realm, community and amenity can work together to create a more connected environment for people, organisations and innovation.

10:25 | IS YOUR OFFICE TRYING TO TELL YOU SOMETHING?

Ivan Cossu, *Co-Founder & CEO, Deskbird*



The new era of workplace management is being shaped by a growing volume of workplace data and intelligence. This session explores how organisations can use that intelligence to eliminate the guesswork, better understand how their spaces are being used and make more informed workplace decisions.

10:45 | NETWORKING & COFFEE BREAK

11:30 | SENSING, FORECASTING, DECIDING: A DATA-DRIVEN BLUEPRINT FOR THE WORKPLACE

William Lythgoe, *Workplace Transformation Projects, Global Real Estate & Workplace Experience, Sanofi*



Workplaces have long run on a gut feel, spreadsheets, and monthly reports. This session walks through how one global real estate / workplace organization built a data backbone. From occupancy sensors and space utilization tracking to portfolio-wide capacity forecasting. To predictive maintenance on building assets, to an AI copilot that puts operational data directly in the hands of site leaders.

11:55 | EXPERT PANEL: THE NEW LIFE SCIENCES WORKPLACE MODEL — FROM MEASURING IMPACT TO DRIVING PERFORMANCE

Speakers to be announced

As life sciences organisations rethink how their workplaces need to support science, people and business performance, what does the next-generation workplace model actually look like? This panel explores how organisations are defining and measuring impact across workplace, real estate and R&D environments, and how connected data and intelligence — from utilisation and collaboration patterns to operational performance and workforce experience — are informing decisions. Panellists will discuss how these insights are shaping workplace strategy, portfolio planning, space and investment, and how organisations are bringing together real estate, HR, technology, R&D and business leadership to deliver better outcomes.

12:25 | FAST, WRONG, AND CONVINCING: WHY AI STILL NEEDS HUMAN JUDGMENT

Phillip Youakim, VP of Customer Success, Saltmine

Saltmine

12:35 | HOW CAN A WORKPLACE BECOME TRULY ADAPTIVE?

Kim te Kaat, Director of Sales North America and Global Strategic Clients, Vecos

VECOS

12:40 | AUDIENCE INTERACTION

12:45 | NETWORKING & LUNCH BREAK

13:45 | FROM BLUEPRINT TO BELONGING: THE JOURNEY OF BUILDING A FUTURE-READY R&D WORKPLACE IN KENDALL SQUARE

Ginena Harkins, Director,
Workplace Services, AstraZeneca
Alec Dupuis, Associate Director,
Campus Experience, AstraZeneca



The creation of AstraZeneca's new Kendall Square workplace was far more than a building project. It was a multi-year transformation that brought together workplace strategy, employee engagement, change management, and operational readiness to create an environment designed to evolve alongside science. In this session, Workplace Services leaders Ginena Harkins and Alec Dupuis will share lessons learned from planning, activating, and operating a next-generation R&D workplace. Attendees will explore how thoughtful design, stakeholder engagement, and continuous adaptation can help organizations create workplaces that remain relevant long after move-in day.

14:10 | OPENING THE INNOVATION APERTURE: BUILDING PHYSICAL INFRASTRUCTURE FOR THE AI-ENABLED SCIENCE AND TECH USERS

Bill Kane, President, East Coast &
UK Markets, BioMed Realty
Chris Leary, Principal, Science &
Technology Practice Lead, HOK
Erika Reuter, Principal, Senior
Project Manager, HOK



AI hasn't actually reduced the need for physical lab space — it's instead widened who needs it. Robotics, autonomous experimentation, and computational biology are driving AI-native companies, hardware startups, and tech-enabled science ventures to find innovation environments that can accommodate a wider array of high intensity uses and foster iterative “knowledge loops” and collaboration with research partners. This session explores how a reconsideration of the traditional lab module is “opening the aperture” of legacy programing to appeal to more users in the tech industry and more uses within a tenant’s lease term.

14:40 | SESSION TO BE ANNOUNCED

15:00 | NETWORKING & COFFEE BREAK

15:30 | PEER WORKSHOP: THE WORKPLACE CHANGE CHALLENGE — ALIGNING STAKEHOLDERS & MAKING CROSS-FUNCTIONAL STRATEGY STICK



Workplace leaders across life sciences are navigating increasingly complex needs and a practical challenge: how do you align stakeholders, build buy-in and work cross-functionally to turn workplace strategy into action?

This interactive peer workshop brings an academic and practitioner lens to these challenges, creating space to compare what is working, where organisations are struggling, and how others are approaching stakeholder alignment, decision-making and collaboration across workplace, real estate, HR, technology and R&D. Through live polling and peer discussion, participants will share experiences and explore practical approaches to making workplace change work.

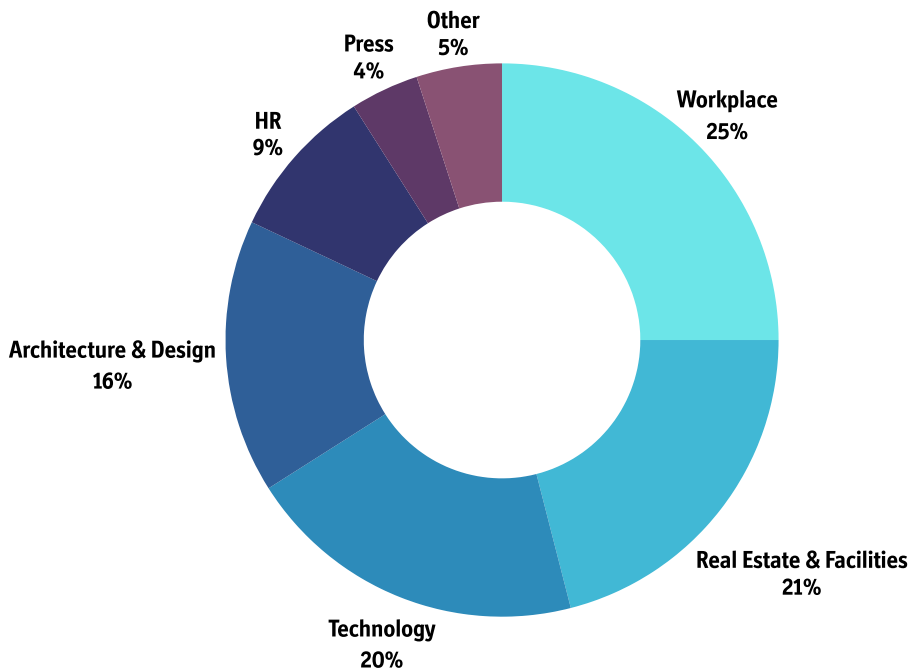
16:10 | KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE: FROM INSIGHT TO ACTION — CONNECTING THE DOTS

16:20 | CHAIRPERSON'S CLOSING REMARKS

16:30 | LIFE SCIENCES WORKPLACE CONFERENCE CLOSSES

WHO ATTENDS

Attracting senior level professionals from Workplace, CRE, IT, HR and Architecture & Design



A well-spoken and experienced group of presenters providing leading edge subjects current topics and statistics. A great place to learn about new ideas.

WORKTECH DELEGATE, DELOITTE



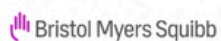
Informative, interesting views on workplace design, planning technology and workers



WORKTECH DELEGATE, BANK OF MONTREAL



PAST ATTENDEEES INCLUDE



Director, Workplace
Strategy and Design
Bristol Myers Squibb



Global Portfolio
Strategy Director
GSK



Sr. Manager,
Workplace Strategy
Seagen



Head of Global
Governance,
Standards, Best
Practice | Corporate
Real Estate
Bayer AG



Global Expert
Laboratory Workplace
Strategy
Roche



Principal Scenario &
Space Planning
Manager, Workplace
Effectiveness
Genentech



Global Senior VP, Data
& Digital Business
Transformation
Johnson & Johnson



Vice President, Real
Estate & Portfolio
Management
Pfizer



Vice President, Real
Estate
Sanofi



Director, Global Real
Estate
Amgen



Director, Workplace
Strategies
Medtronic



Director, Employee
Experience
Thermo Fisher
Scientific

LEARN MORE

www.worktechevents.com/events/life-sciences-workplace26-boston/

KEY INFORMATION

Date & Venue

When: Thursday November 5th

Where: 650 East Kendall Street, Cambridge

How to book:

Visit: www.worktechevents.com/events/worktech26-zurich/

Offer a Special Rate to Your Network

Become a marketing partner for this event and qualify for a special rate for your colleagues, complimentary passes for yourself, logo exposure for your organisation, and more.

If you are part of a group that would like to attend and are looking for a joint group rate please get in touch to arrange a bespoke ticket price.

Become a WORKTECH Ambassador

We're looking for people that love the future of work and the workplace and social media. People who are willing to become part of our team and help spread the word to the masses. There will be a free event ticket available to successful applicants. Apply here: <https://bit.ly/3lj8AsA>

For more information on the above initiatives, please contact:

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