



BHF Oxford CRE Cardiovascular Innovation Awards Kick-off Event 2026



Friday 6th February 2026, 09:00-18:00
Saïd Business School, Park End St, Oxford, OX1 1HP

Venue details

Registration, lunch, refreshments, and drinks reception - entrance hall to the Saïd Business School

Morning sessions (09:30-12:30) - Nelson Mandela Lecture Theatre

Afternoon sessions (13:30-17:10) - Rhodes Trust Lecture Theatre

Session 1 Start time 09:00	Opening session Chair: Angela Russell
09:00	Registration with refreshments Meet fellow researchers, industry representatives, translation support teams & investors
09:25 - 09:30	Angela Russell: <i>Overview of the BHF Oxford CRE and the innovation journey</i>
09:30 - 09:50	Alison Noble: <i>Insights on impactful translation from research to real-world solutions</i>
09:50 - 10:05	Weronika Slesak & Adam Winniffrith: <i>Founder journey from a research idea into a biotech start-up</i>
10.05-10:15	Session Q&A
Session 2 Start time 10:15	Identifying commercial potential in research Chair: Blanca Rodriguez
10:15 - 10:40	Mina Bekheet (Panacea): <i>Commercial potential - Investor perspectives</i>
10:40 – 11:00	Kay Penicud (Apollo Therapeutics): <i>Industry-academic partnerships to accelerate innovation to the patient</i>
11:00 – 11:30	<i>Refreshment break & networking</i>
Session 3 Start Time 11:30	Innovators unleashed: the science of entrepreneurship
11:30 - 12:00	Thomas Hellmann: <i>Entrepreneurial mindsets for scientists</i>
12:00 - 12:30	Thomas Hellmann with Molly Stevens: <i>in conversation with an entrepreneur</i>
12:30 – 13:30	<i>Lunch & networking</i>
Session 4 13:30 – 15:15	Business & Leadership skills for cardiovascular researchers Chair: Paul Leeson
13:30 - 13:55	Mo Elzek: <i>Basics of business models and leadership skills for health innovation</i>
13:55 – 14:20	Constantin Coussios: <i>The OrganOx story – from research to exit</i>
14:20 – 15:15	Fireside panel discussion on: Insights from entrepreneurs and industry on navigating the translational pathway (4 mins intro each followed by discussion) Panel: Constantin Coussios (OrganOx-Terumo), Sophie Payne (entrepreneur), Stephanie Lesage (OSPT Ltd), Ben Lacey (UK BioBank)
15:15 – 15:45	<i>Refreshment break & networking</i>
Session 5 15:45-16:00	Intellectual property - why it matters Chair: Callum Usher-Dodd
15:45-16:00	Oxford University Innovation (OUI) <i>Commercialisation and IP at Oxford</i>
Session 6 16:00 – 17:10	Pathways to phase 2: next steps and funding opportunities Chair: Elizabeth Covey-Crump
16:00 – 16:40	Fireside panel discussion on The Translational Funding Landscape Panel: Dan Swerlow (GSK), Adam Babbs (MRC), Adam Workman (OUI), Natasa Levicar (BHF) & Sanne De Jongh (OSE)
16:40 – 17:00	Case study: Translation in action – The Ultromics story - Paul Leeson (Oxford University)
17:00-17:10	Angela Russell – CIA awards and closing comments
17:10-18:00	<i>Drinks reception & networking</i>