The Innovations & Partnerships Office (IPO) at the University of Toronto is pleased to host the External Science and Innovation (ES&I) team from Pfizer.

Representatives from Pfizer will be giving a presentation on how Pfizer engages in flexible academic partnering models for drug development, sponsored research, early stage seed funding, licensing and start-up support!

**Pfizer speakers:**

- Felice Shieh, Senior Director External Science & Innovation
- Joel Klappenbach, Senior Director External Science & Innovation

**Time:**

**Thursday, October 18th, 2018 from 9am – 10:30am (1 hour Formal Presentation & 30 minutes Networking Session)**

**Location:**

**University of Toronto, OnRamp Space, 1st Floor, Banting Institute, 100 College Street, Toronto M5G 1L5**

Please register at the link below:

[https://university-of-toronto-pfizer-partnering-event.eventbrite.ca](https://university-of-toronto-pfizer-partnering-event.eventbrite.ca)
The event is open to all researchers from The University of Toronto and its affiliated hospital partners.

**There is also an opportunity to have a one-on-one meeting with Pfizer.**

Should your research areas be aligned with Pfizer’s areas of interest (see below) and you are interested in a one-on-one meeting, please send a **non-confidential one page summary of your proposed project** to Akshita Vincent (akshita.vincent@utoronto.ca) by Friday September 14th, 2018.

***Selected on-on-one meetings will take place on Thursday October 18th following the morning workshop.***

**Pfizer’s Partnering Areas of Interest:**

- **Oncology** –
  - Novel targets overcoming tumor-induced immune resistance
  - Tumor immune modulating metabolism targets
  - Oncogenic signaling mechanisms
  - RNA vaccine targets (iv delivery)
  - Targets that turn cold tumors hot, stimulate the immune system, or modulate the immune system to prolong duration on immunotherapy
  - Nucleic acid sensing
  - Novel immunomodulators
  - Cancer vaccines and oncolytic viruses

- **Inflammation and immunology**
  - Rheumatoid Arthritis
  - Targets involved in epithelial barrier function
  - Host-microbial interactions and microbiome
  - Targets involved in immune tolerance
  - Targets and novel diagnostic platforms around non-alcoholic steatohepatitis
  - Immune checkpoint receptors for auto immune disease – agonize the inhibitory receptor
- Anti-fibrotics for any organ

- **Internal Medicine**
  - Metabolic therapies for non-alcoholic, fatty liver disease and non-alcoholic steatohepatitis
  - Dyslipidemia obesity and eating disorders
  - Improving cardiac performance via metabolic reprogramming
  - Novel therapies that reduce hyperinsulinemia and hyperglycemia
  - Brain signals that regulate energy homeostasis and metabolism

- **Rare disease and gene therapy**
  - Hemophilia
  - Disease modifying therapies for sickle cell anemia and beta-thalassemia
  - Targets to neuromuscular diseases such as Duchene/Becker muscular dystrophy, Friedreich’s ataxia, ALS
  - Novel AAC vectors with strong tissue-specific tropism and with favorable transduction/expression

- **Platforms**
  - Technologies that delivery drugs asymmetrically to tumor tissues
  - Targeted nanoparticle technologies and assets
  - Translational platforms for oncology and immune-oncology, including 3D tumor cell or organoid constructs
  - Systems biology approaches and proven in silico tools to evaluate pharmacological perturbation and elucidate mechanisms of in vivo toxicity
  - Human Genetics & Functional Genomics technologies
  - Advanced Analytic technologies, capabilities and data environments, e.g., machine learning, deep learning

If you have any other inquiries regarding this opportunity, then please do not hesitate to reach out to Sonya Brijbassi s.brijbassi@utoronto.ca (416-946-3483) or Akshita Vincent akshita.vincent@utoronto.ca (416-978-3471).

**Please Note: If you are at one of the affiliated hospital sites then please get in touch with your respective tech transfer offices (TTOs) for project submissions for the one-on-one meetings.**

About The Innovations & Partnerships Office (IPO): The Innovations & Partnerships Office (IPO) helps build successful partnerships between industry,
business, government, and the University of Toronto research community and manages U of T’s portfolio of intellectual property – turning ideas and innovation into products, services, companies and jobs.

About The External Science & Innovation (Pfizer): It is the externally-focussed scientific team at Pfizer, that identifies late-breaking science that forms the basis of innovative therapies and drives collaborations that are aimed at delivering value to Pfizer, their partners and patients.