BRAINTECH2026

Thursday 15 October 2026
The Greg Craven Centre
ACU, 115 Victoria Parade, Fitzroy

8:30AM REGISTRATION

9:00AM WELCOME
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

9:10AM STARTING WITH OUR WHY?
What gets us out of bed in the morning? Why is brain health our north star?
- Professor Mark Cook – The Sir John Eccles Chair of Medicine and Director of Clinical Neurosciences, St Vincent's Hospital

9:30AM BRAINTECH 2026 STATE OF PLAY
An overview of where braintech stands today, what is changing in neuroscience, technology and investment?
- Andrew Morokoff – Neurosurgeon and Associate Professor, The University of Melbourne
- Adam Caplan – Founder and General Partner, Jumpspace Ventures

10:20AM WHAT I'VE LEARNT ABOUT WHAT COMES NEXT
John will share his view of the future while reflecting on past experiences from early days at Cochlear to building Saluda.
- John Parker

10:50AM COFFEE BREAK

11:20AM PANEL: DEPTH, BREADTH AND THE MAGIC INBETWEEN
How can breadth and depth – across disciplines, teams and lived experience – help us solve the right problems and build breakthroughs that actually reach patients and improve their brain health?
- Professor Nicholas Opie – CEO, Ultra Bionics; Founding Director, Synchron; Head of Vascular Bionics Laboratory, The University of Melbourne
- Dr Elise Jenkins – Co-founder, Coherence Neuro
- Dr Shieak Tzeng – Co-founder and CEO, Wellumio
- Moderator: Dr Erin McAllum – Director, Strategic Development & Impact, AUScelerate

12:10PM FROM DATA TO BETTER BRAIN HEALTH
How can we unlock data to enable personalised approaches to better understand individuals, predict risk, inform interventions and ultimately improve patient outcomes.
- Donna Hutchison – National Director of Service Growth, St Vincent's Health Australia
- Dr Elise Jenkins – Co-founder, Coherence Neuro
- Anton de Weger – Digital and Technology Lead, The Australian Epilepsy Project, The Florey

BRAINTECH2026

Thursday 15 October 2026
The Greg Craven Centre
ACU, 115 Victoria Parade, Fitzroy

12:50PM LUNCH AND SHOWCASE

1:40PM **PANEL: DEVICE TO PATIENT**

Why do great technologies die between the lab and the patient? Dive into the importance of derisking from the get-go and how regulatory and payment pathways go hand in hand.

- Dr Mary Beth Brinson – CEO, Wavewise Analytics
- Oona Reardon – Managing Director, Pulse Economics
- Adele Barnard – Clinical Research Director, Nutromics
- Moderator: Dr Lillian Dipnall

2:25PM **PANEL: AUSTRALIA: THE BRAINTECH CAPITAL FOR BRAIN HEALTH**

It's 2036. The headline reads – Australia becomes Global BrainTech Capital – How did we get there?!!

- Ian Meredith – Non-Executive Director, Innovation Victoria and AUScelerate
- Adam Caplan – Founder and General Partner, Jumpspace Ventures
- John Parker
- Shane Storey – Senior Research Analyst, Canaccord Genuity Australia
- Moderator: Andrew Maxwell – Chairman, Wavewise

3:20PM COFFEE BREAK

3:35PM **PROVOCATION: THE FUTURE OF BRAINTECH IS SMALL! OR DOES THE FUTURE LIE SOMEWHERE ELSE?**

Here speakers make the case for their vision of the future of Braintech, and battle it out over what comes next.

- Professor David Grayden – Clifford Chair in Neural Engineering, The University of Melbourne
- Tim Mahoney – CEO, Fluent
- Andrew Morokoff – Neurosurgeon and Associate Professor, The University of Melbourne
- Dr Diana Zhang – Founder and CEO, Preview Health
- Moderator: Ludovic Labat – CEO, Neo-Bionica

4:20PM **CONCLUDING REMARKS – ROOM VOTES ON THE FUTURE!**

4:30PM CLOSE

Please note this is a draft program and is likely to change.