

February 18, 2026 Hearing Panelist Biographies

Panelist #1 - Gregory Theyel, Biomedical Manufacturing Network

Gregory Theyel is a biomedical manufacturing engineer with over 20 years of experience helping companies with strategy, product and process design, production planning, and supply chain management. He has assisted over 500 companies as well as started and run his own companies. He has a doctorate from Clark University, has published more than 50 peer-reviewed academic articles, and has taught industrial engineering and management courses. Gregory is currently the director of the Biomedical Manufacturing Network, which maintains biomedical company databases and maps, helps biomedical companies with business and engineering planning, and conducts research on manufacturing location decision-making and supply chain traceability.

Panelist #2 – John Wenger on behalf of AdvaMed

John Wenger is a Legislative Advocate with more than 13 years of experience in both government relations and public affairs. Mr. Wenger has represented AdvaMed for 10 years, and primarily represents clients within the health care, education, insurance, energy, and transportation sectors.

Mr. Wenger graduated from California State University, Chico with a degree in Political Science and Public Administration, and completed a Master's of Science in Law (M.S.L) degree at University of the Pacific, McGeorge School of Law.

Panelist #3 - Rob Monroe, MD, PhD, VP & Chief Scientific Officer, Molecular Oncology, Chief Medical Officer, Leica Biosystems

Rob joined Danaher in January 2022 to help drive molecular oncology strategy and initiatives for the Diagnostics Platform. Prior to Danaher, Rob served as Chief Medical Officer of Bio-Techne following the acquisition of Advanced Cell Diagnostics in 2016. Prior to Advanced Cell Diagnostics, Rob served in successive roles as Chief Medical Officer at Biolmagine, a digital pathology start-up acquired by Roche in 2010, and VP of Laboratory

Operations & Medical Director at Veracyte. During his industry career, Rob also co-founded OncoMDx, a molecular diagnostics laboratory subsequently acquired by Core Diagnostics in 2012 where he served as Chief Medical Officer of the molecular lab and an international digital pathology service. Before joining industry, Rob practiced pathology in the Central Coast of California following a Medical Scientist Training Program Scholarship at Harvard Medical School and residency training in Anatomic Pathology at UCLA and Clinical Pathology at Stanford.

Rob is board certified in Cytopathology, Anatomic Pathology, and Clinical Pathology and holds a PhD in Genetics.

About Leica: [Leica Biosystems](#) is a global leader in anatomic pathology, providing advanced instruments, reagents, and digital pathology solutions that support cancer diagnosis and research. The company focuses on improving diagnostic confidence and workflow efficiency for pathologists and laboratories worldwide.

Panelist #4 - Emily Sands, Intuitive

Emily Sands is a Senior Specialist for Government Affairs & Community Engagement at Intuitive, a minimally-invasive care company, where she has spent nearly eight years developing and applying subject-matter expertise at the intersection of healthcare delivery, medical technology, and public policy, with a primary focus on local and state affairs in California. Over the course of her tenure, her work has focused on state-level policy issues affecting medical devices and innovation, including Right to Repair, artificial intelligence and machine learning in clinical decision-making, and medical supply chain resiliency.

She holds a B.S. in Political Science from Santa Clara University, with a minor in Economics, where she delivered a [TEDx talk](#) during her senior year at the 2017 TEDxSantaClaraUniversity event. Additionally, she currently serves as the Co-Chair of the State Affairs Committee at Biocom, and as the Co-Vice Chair of the Diverse Abilities ERG at Intuitive, which advocates and supports employees with disabilities at Intuitive. She is the co-author of the peer-reviewed article, [Courtroom Workgroup Dynamic and Implementation of Three Strikes Reform](#), published in the *Law & Policy* journal in 2023.

Panelist #5 - Ida Garakani Good, Co-Founder and Chief Operating Officer, Cerevia Neurosciences

Ida Garakani Good is a MedTech and NeuroTech executive, founder, operator, and strategist with deep experience advancing medical technologies from concept through clinical development, commercialization, and market adoption. She is Co-Founder and Chief Operating Officer of Cerevia Neurosciences, where she leads corporate strategy, operations, investor relations, fundraising, and government engagement for a next-generation neuromodulation platform addressing neurodegenerative and cognitive disorders. Ida works at the intersection of innovation, policy, and capital formation, engaging with federal and state government agencies, legislative offices, and public-private innovation programs to support translational research, regulatory strategy, and commercialization pathways for emerging medical technologies, including active engagement with programs such as ARPA-H.

In addition to her operating role, Ida has led investor relations, fundraising, and strategic transaction initiatives across early-stage and growth-stage MedTech and neurotechnology companies. She holds academic training in business and healthcare innovation, including two bachelor's degrees in political science and law at University of California, Irvine, and a master's in psychology at Pepperdine University. She currently sits on the Board of Directors at Cerevia Neurosciences and is frequently invited to advise and speak on MedTech & NeuroTech innovation and commercialization lifecycles.

About on Cerevia: [Cerevia Neurosciences](#) is a cutting edge medtech startup developing Ladybug, a non-invasive brain-stimulation device that uses imaging and AI to personalize treatment for dementia and other neurological conditions

Panelist #6 – Luca Springer, Numen

[Luca Springer](#) is the co-founder and CEO of Numen, a YC-backed and VC funded startup innovating at the intersection of synthetic biology and artificial intelligence. The Numen team is working on bringing lab-grade diagnostics and biomarker tracking into every American's home. Luca is an expert in network science, computational game theory, and has a strong policy background with a focus on healthcare systems. Luca previously worked at Stockdale Street, where he gathered years of experience analyzing, investing in, and helping grow healthcare, consumer, and technology companies. He holds an MSc in

Computer Science and an MSc in Global Governance from the University of Oxford where he studied as a Rhodes Scholar. Schmidt Futures has awarded Luca with a Fellowship at the International Strategy Forum, an initiative convening global leaders in geopolitics, innovation, and public leadership.