



BOARDWORK & LEADERSHIP FOR LIFE SCIENCE STARTUPS 2026

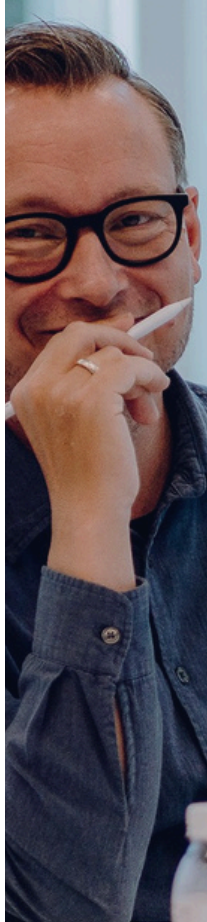
April 22nd & 23rd, 2026

CBS
EXECUTIVE
FONDEN

BOARD LEADERSHIP PROGRAMS

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The BioInnovation Institute (BII) and CBS Board Education have co-created an executive program for board members and managers in biotech startups. The program builds on knowledge and experience from the industry, including authentic business dilemmas, best practices, and current challenges — all aimed at fostering value creation and sustainability. The participants will take part in case-based learning processes in a peer-to-peer teaching format, where a faculty of experienced professors, executives, chairs and board members, as well as industry advisors, inspire and challenge participants to creative problem solving.

How do we create even more high-growth life science companies? How can we attract investors? How do we create alignment between investors? When should startups partner with big pharma? What is “strategy” in a life science startup? How do we handle conflicts of interest? When do we need a professional CEO? These are some of the decision dilemmas we cover.

Some of the decisive factors are acting in the best interest of the company, recruiting and mobilizing a high-performance board, and compliance with sound corporate governance principles. To be a leadership team member of a life science startup is an important and inspiring, yet challenging task. Focusing on company interest and value creation is challenging when there is ambiguity regarding strategy, uncertainty regarding future financing, and dilemmas in the roles and responsibilities of the managers, board members, founders, and investors.

Companies with professional boards are able to grow faster, create greater value, and realize more relevant market opportunities. To make it happen, both board members and executives need to understand their own roles as well as those played by other team members, which is why fundamental knowledge of corporate governance, company law, finance, and risk management is essential for success.

The program is developed by CBS Board Education in close collaboration with the BioInnovation Institute and experienced CBS professors, board members, investors, and founders.

On the first day, we invite you to a welcome reception. On the second day, after the completion of the program, diplomas will be presented at the farewell ceremony.



PROFILE OF PARTICIPANTS

The program is aimed at leadership teams in Life Science startups, including managers, board members, and investors, but is relevant for everyone who has the ambition to work professionally with Life Science startups, e.g., founders, venture capitalists, family offices, and advisors.

Participants typically aim to improve their tools and knowledge for enhancing value-creating board work, which they can combine with their own experiences from the Life Science startup environment.

EXPECTED FACULTY

- Trine Bartholdy, Chief Business Officer, BioInnovation Institute
- Christian S. Johansen, Partner, EY
- Claus Olesen, Co-founder STipe Therapeutics
- Hans T. Schambye, President & CEO, Calecto Inc.
- Henriette Richter, Managing Partner, Sofinnova Partners
- Inge Berneke, Consultant, SpencerStuart
- Jens Nielsen, CEO, BioInnovation Institute
- John Haurum, Synklino Chairman, CatalYm GmbH
- Kasim Kutay, CEO, Novo Holding
- Martin Bonde, CEO, Akylox Therapeutics
- Oliver Macholdt, Partner, Kromann Reumert
- Steen Thomsen, Professor, CBS
- Sten Verland, General Partner, Sunstone Life Science
- Ulla Hald Buhl, CEO, Oncology

TOPICS & TEACHING APPROACH

Led by a world-class faculty team of six experienced professors, executives, board chairs, and advisors, participants will work with seven cases during the two days, focusing on the most important tasks and dilemmas in Life Science startups. Each case discussion is initiated by a short introduction of the topic, followed by breakout group discussions where groups of participants learn to act as leadership teams. Their proposed solutions are summarized and challenged by the faculty team during intensive classroom discussions. The program is in English.

Topics:

- Board and governance fundamentals
- Classical governance issues in Life Science startups
- Founders and investors
- Creating shareholder alignment
- The next financing round
- Succession and people issues
- Board and strategy
- Business opportunities



PRICE, DATES & PROGRAM

Boardwork & Leadership for Life Science Startups 2026 is an intensive board education program spanning two days, beginning at 9 a.m. each day.

Price: 16.000 DKK excluding. vat

Place: Copenhagen Business School, CBS Executive fonden

Porcelænshaven 22, 2000 Frederiksberg

Sign up: www.cbs-executive.dk/en

Day 1: Wednesday, April 22nd, 2026

- Introduction
- Classic governance issues in Life Science startups
- Shareholders and boards in biotech
- Creating shareholder alignment in biotech startups
- Board supervision and partnering
- Keynote briefing on the Life Science funding environment
- Welcome reception and light snacks, 17:30–18:30

Day 2: Thursday, April 23rd, 2026

- Boards and strategy
- Strategy in biotech startups
- Boards and succession
- Conflicts of interest
- Certificate reception with tapas and networking, 17:30–18:30

MORE INFORMATION & CONTACT

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