

Dear collaborators, partners, and members of the MoLBi community,

May has been another exciting month for the Monash Live-Biobanking platform, marked by celebration of important milestones, new multidisciplinary collaborations, institutional engagement, and continued momentum across our translational research programs.

A major highlight this month was **the celebration of the 250-case milestone** held at Prohibition Food and Wine, generously supported by PharmaEngine (pic – right).

The evening brought together members of the MoLBi team, our consumer partners and their families, collaborators, and special guests including Professor Stephen Opat (Program Medical Director, Cancer Operations for Monash) and his wife Annette. The event provided an opportunity not only to celebrate recruitment growth and the collective effort behind the platform, but also to reflect on the community that continues to shape and support MoLBi. We extend our sincere thanks to everyone who has contributed to this journey. A special moment this month was the presentation of a commemorative plaque to our consumer partner Mark Norris (who could not attend the event – pic above), in recognition of his ongoing support, advocacy, and valued role within the MoLBi community.



May also marked the launch of an exciting new **Engineering–Nanofabrication–Medicine translational collaboration** at Monash. We were delighted to welcome [Professor Yiannis Ventikos](#), Dean of Engineering, [Professor Nico Voelcker](#), Head of the Melbourne Centre for Nanofabrication, [Professor Raman Singh](#), and [A/Professor Santosh Panjkar](#) to the MoLBi laboratories (pic – right).

This visit formally initiated a multidisciplinary program linking engineering, nanofabrication, oncology, and neurosurgery expertise. Initial collaborative efforts are focused on developing an implantable peri-cavity electric field therapy platform for glioblastoma, alongside exploration of an innovative intraosseous drug delivery system. These projects exemplify MoLBi's commitment to bringing together diverse expertise to tackle unmet clinical needs through translational innovation.



We were also pleased to host colleagues from the [Office of General Counsel](#), who visited our laboratories to gain greater understanding of the MoLBi platform, our research programs, and the evolving translational ecosystem being built across the Monash Health Translation Precinct (pic – left). These interactions are important in supporting the governance, partnerships, and translational frameworks required to enable future clinical and research initiatives.

It has also been an exceptionally busy month for grants and research development. MoLBi continues to feature prominently across several major funding initiatives, including an application for the 2026 Australian Cancer Research Foundation (ACRF) Annual Grant Scheme (The ACRF Platform for End-to-End Precision ImmunoCell Therapy [ACRF-EPIC]) led by Dr Mirja Krause-Onwukwe. The platform is also contributing to a Cancer Council Victoria Grant-in-Aid application focused on the development of a smart, targeted lipid nanoparticle therapy for minimally invasive treatment of brain cancer in collaboration with Dr Lei Bao and A/Professor Jiali (Maggie) Zhai – engineers from RMIT. These activities reflect the growing recognition of MoLBi as a clinically embedded translational research infrastructure capable of supporting innovative multidisciplinary programs across precision oncology, cell therapy, and bioengineering.

As the platform continues to evolve, we remain focused on expanding collaborative networks, accelerating translational discovery, and strengthening the bridge between patients, operating theatres, laboratories, and future therapies.

Thank you, as always, to our clinicians, researchers, students, consumers, collaborators, and partners whose continued commitment drives the success of the MoLBi platform.

With best wishes,



Dr Gwo Yaw Ho  
Founder and Chair, Monash Live-Biobanking



Professor Justin Moore  
Director of Neurosurgery, Monash Health