MONASH University

2026 MIPS Seminar Program

2 Apr 2026 | 12:00 to 1:00 pm | LT2

A LESSON LEARNED IN DRUG DISCOVERY: WE NEED MORE BIOPHYSICS!

Professor Till Maurer



Dr Till Maurer is Chief Executive Officer at Nanomol Pharmaceutical Innovations, where he leads the development of innovative drug discovery approaches grounded in biophysical science.

Dr Maurer has over two decades of experience in the pharmaceutical and biotechnology sectors, having held senior scientific leadership roles at Boehringer Ingelheim (Senior and Principal Scientist, 2001–2008), Merck KGaA (Principal Scientist, 2008–2009), Genentech (Senior Scientist, 2009–2018), Merck Sharp & Dohme (Director and Principal Scientist, 2019–2022), and IDEAYA Biosciences (Senior Principal Scientist, 2022–2024). Across these roles, he has consistently driven innovation in early-stage drug discovery.

His work has focused on targeting protein–protein interactions using advanced biophysical methods, building on his habilitation research in NMR-based characterisation of these interactions. He has been a pioneer in fragment-based drug discovery, founding and establishing state-of-the-art fragment screening platforms at multiple global organisations, and developing high-throughput, industry-aligned approaches for hit identification.

Dr Maurer has made significant contributions to challenging therapeutic areas, including RAS-targeted drug discovery, where his work helped catalyse renewed industry-wide investment and innovation. He also identified novel allosteric inhibition mechanisms for USP7, advancing understanding of ubiquitin pathway selectivity.

A consistent theme throughout his career is the application of biophysics to inform and accelerate drug discovery, with a strong emphasis on translating fundamental science into therapeutic opportunities that benefit patients.