

# HARVARD YALE SYMPOSIUM 2024

Hybrid Event  
April 23-24, 2024

## SYMPOSIUM OVERVIEW

Pre-symposium courses will be offered on April 23rd, providing detailed information about public health biosafety and the intersection of biosafety and infection control.

The event on April 24th will kick-off with presentations from leading policy makers providing an update on the current landscape in the U.S. regarding these topics and information on how existing policies must transition to keep up with the rapid advancements in science.

Other topics covered include emergency management and occupational health, high-risk research, including Dual Use Research of Concern (DURC), gain of function, transfer of drug resistance that may not be acquired naturally, altering the host range of pathogens, or enhancing a potential pandemic pathogen (ePPP).

## KEYNOTE SPEAKER

We are excited to introduce our keynote speaker, Dr. Megan Palmer, Senior Director of Public Impact at Ginkgo Bioworks, and adjunct professor of Bioengineering at Stanford University. She is a leading expert in the field who will discuss the importance of building and utilizing an evidence base and incorporating adaptive risk management in national decision making. Her keynote presentation is titled, "Synthetic Biology."

## LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- Gain awareness of the process and pathway for updating national policies for high-risk research experiments.
- Identify what should be included in occupational health plans for high-risk research.
- Review response protocols for responding to occupational exposures or laboratory acquired infections (LAI).
- Examine best practices for the review of high-risk research protocols in the absence of expansive regulations or policies.
- Gain hands-on experience in the review of Dual Use Research of Concern (DURC), enhanced Potential Pandemic Pathogen (ePPP), transfer of drug resistance projects, and other high-risk protocols.
- Experience Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBC) discussions where there are significant disagreements regarding the level of potential risks of proposed research protocols.
- Networking opportunities will be provided online and in person during and after the event.

**ATTEND IN PERSON:**  
HARVARD MEDICAL SCHOOL  
JOSEPH B. MARTIN CONFERENCE CENTER  
77 AVENUE LOUIS PASTEUR, BOSTON, MA 02115

**ZOOM LINK PROVIDED TO VIRTUAL ATTENDEES**

**AGENDA**

**REGISTRATION**

### **CONTACTS:**

Rebecca Ryan Caruso, Host  
Rebecca\_Caruso@hms.harvard.edu

Benjamin Fontes, Host  
Benjamin.Fontes@yale.edu

Matrida Neli, Planning/Vendor Relations  
Matrida\_Neli@hms.harvard.edu