



## Artificial Intelligence for *de novo* drug discovery

Wishing all our readers a joyful and prosperous 2024! We return with renewed enthusiasm to share some highlights from the final quarter of 2023.

### New CBO Announcement: Dr. Avirup Bose

Dr. Avirup Bose has joined the Iktos team as the new Chief Business Officer. Prior to joining Iktos, Avirup was Vice President and Head of Business Development at Chinook Therapeutics, where he led all aspects of business development until its acquisition by Novartis AG in August 2023. Before joining Chinook, Avirup spent 18 years at Novartis and was based in Cambridge, Massachusetts. At Novartis, Avirup led multiple drug discovery programs from target ID and validation through to clinical proof-of-concept. He then transitioned to portfolio strategy and management, and finally to business development, where he led BD for liver, renal and immune oncology. At Iktos, Avirup will lead the global business development team to drive business strategy. He will also be a member of the executive committee and will work together to develop the company strategy. We extend a very warm welcome to Avirup!

Full press release here: <https://www.globenewswire.com/news-release/2024/01/18/2811253/0/en/Iktos-announces-the-appointment-of-Avirup-Bose-as-Chief-Business-Officer.html>



## Technical Updates: Makya 3D



The Makya 3D feature is up and running! This feature significantly improves the user experience and scientific functionality of Makya. It introduces a comprehensive array of 3D modeling features in both ligand-based and structure-based pipelines. With Makya 3D, you can calculate 3D scores and seamlessly utilize them to influence generations within the Makya platform. Demo and deployment available on request. *To discover more, please follow the link: <https://iktos.ai/makya/>*



## Publications & Media



### Interviews:

Our CEO & Co-founder, Yann Gaston-Mathé was interviewed by the following:

- Santé Future: AI coupled with robotics halves the duration of research for drug candidates:  
<https://iktos.ai/2023/12/13/interview-sante-future/>
- B Smart: AI for drug discovery:  
<https://iktos.ai/2023/11/28/interview-b-smart/>



### Blogs and Articles:

- With Generative AI, Iktos wants to give a boost to pharmaceutical research:  
<https://iktos.ai/2023/12/15/article-with-iag-iktos-wants-to-give-a-boost-to-pharmaceutical-research/>
- Introducing Iktos – a CARE SME organisation:  
<https://iktos.ai/2023/11/28/blog-care/>

## Latest Collaborations

- **Bayer:**

Iktos and Bayer's Crop Science division with its industry-leading R&D pipeline and portfolio of seeds & traits, crop protection and digital farming solutions, announced a collaboration to expand the use of AI in the discovery and development of new sustainable crop protection products. *Follow the link for the full press release: <https://iktos.ai/2024/01/08/iktos-and-nerviano-medical-sciences-s-r-l-announce-collaboration-in-ai-for-new-drug-discovery/>*



- **Nerviano Medical Sciences S.r.l.:**

Iktos and Nerviano Medical Sciences S.r.l (NMS), a leading Italian clinical stage biotech discovering and developing innovative therapies for the treatment of cancer, announced a collaboration agreement in AI for unprecedented kinase project. As per the agreement, NMS will leverage Iktos's expertise in drug design services, with the goal of identifying at least one promising candidate molecule. *Follow the link for the full press release: <https://iktos.ai/2023/12/14/iktos-and-bayer-announce-collaboration-to-expand-the-use-of-artificial-intelligence-to-design-new-sustainable-crop-protection-solutions/>*



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## Profile of the Month: Marion Laguette

Marion is the Director of Strategic Planning, Corporate Development and Operations at Iktos. With a Master's in Biosciences and Biotechnology, and a background in strategic consulting, Marion is well positioned in her role to shape Iktos's strategy and orchestrate its execution.

Driven by a passion for understanding the intricacies of business and the challenges within the healthcare markets, Marion found an inclination towards strategy and corporate development. Her initial exposure to the pharmaceutical landscape ignited a deep appreciation for the intersection of science and business, emphasizing the crucial role of strategy in bringing innovative solutions to market. What Marion enjoys the most in her role at Iktos is being involved in every facet of the company's mission, thus contributing to Iktos's growth.



Outside of work, Marion competes in basketball and enjoys water painting and hiking. She is always eager to explore new restaurants, so for the inside scoop on the best dining experiences, don't bother with Google, just reach out to Marion!

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## Events



Catch us at the following events next quarter:

- Basel Healthtech Conference 2024: Basel, Switzerland | 25 January 2024
- 452nd CBI Conference: Online | 26 January 2024
- 4th Alpine Winter Conference on Medicinal and Synthetic Chemistry: Anton, Austria | 28 January-01 February 2024
- SLAS 2024: Boston, USA | 3-7 February 2024
- The 144th Annual Meeting of the Pharmaceutical Society of Japan: Yokohama, Japan | 28-31 March 2024

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