

## **More than 300 participants in the 9<sup>th</sup> Dutch Life Sciences conference 2013**

The ninth Dutch Life Sciences Conference which took place on 9 December 2013 was a huge success. More than 300 businesses, researchers and investors in the life sciences and pharmaceutical sectors met up at De Lievekamp Theatre near Pivot Park in Oss to consider the theme 'Creating Value in Life Sciences'.

Under the chairmanship of Willem van Weperen (to-BBB), perspectives on value creation were given by Steven van Helden (Pivot Park Screening Centre), Sjaak Vink (myTomorrows) and Dirk Zoutewelle (BG Sports). One striking similarity between these speakers is that they all recognise the importance of a cross-sectoral approach. Looking beyond existing boundaries enhances the opportunities for increasing added value, both for investors and for end users. Of course, just having an innovative idea is not enough to ensure success. It's all about the execution!

In the afternoon some of the visitors toured Pivot Park to inspect the facilities, which make this new complex such a valuable life sciences community for its tenants. Other participants opted to follow an informative workshop on the entrepreneur-investor relationship, or a session on the possibilities of cross-sectoral product and business development.

To conclude the event, Anja Garritsen (Innatoss Laboratories), Chrétien Herben (Netherlands Genomics Initiative), John de Koning (LSP), Renske Landeweert (ClearDetections), Bart Wuurman (Lanthio Pharma) and Wietse Mulder (KimerDX) divulged their secrets for successful entrepreneurship. Some of the most important ingredients were revealed to be power of realisation, the capacity to adapt to changing circumstances despite clear objectives, and the insight that it is not just the entrepreneurs that make the difference – it ultimately all comes down to the quality of the team they manage to create.

In view of the many positive reactions to the conference, we are confident that we are moving in the right direction. We therefore hope to welcome you all again next year at the Dutch Life Sciences Conference 2014.

See you next year!

Miranda de Regt / Leon Mur

Iventus: organiser of the Dutch Life Sciences Conference