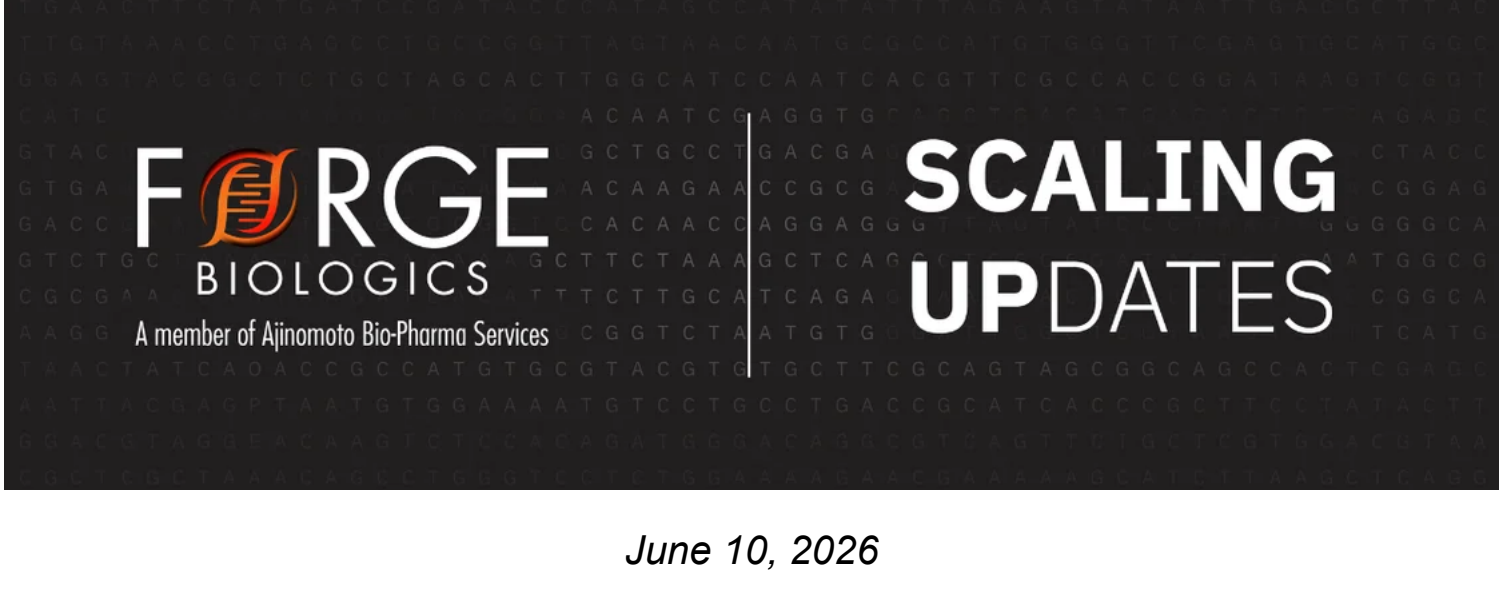




June 10, 2026

This month's newsletter is 545 words—a 3-minute read.



David Diemuke
Chief Technical Officer

Welcome to the June issue of *Scaling Up(dates)*. Coming off an inspiring ASGCT 2026 in Boston, we saw the field advancing on multiple fronts, from AI-enabled capsid design and commercialization-focused manufacturing strategies to promising late-stage clinical outcomes. Here are three presentations I keep coming back to:

1. *AI-guided capsid discovery is moving from R&D to IND-stage programs.*
Adrian Veres, M.D., Ph.D., from Dyno Therapeutics was invited to present and proves this shift is real. Look up his presentation, "AI-guided design of bispecific AAVs for targeted delivery."
2. *On advancing late-stage process characterization, "From Development to Commercialization: Late-Stage Process Characterization for rAAV Manufacturing," by Forge's own Keerthana Subramanian.*
3. *Many clinical programs generating inspiring late-stage data, such as Solid's "Update on the INSPIRE DUCHENNE Phase 1/2 Study of the Next-Generation Microdystrophin Gene Therapy Candidate SGT-003 for Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy," by Kevin Flannigan, M.D.*

Hope you find them insightful as well!

- **From the Lab:** Missed Forge's presentations at ASGCT? Stream them.
- **"Viral" News:** Forge's Jen Kelly and Katie Saunders honored with awards.
- **Ember Events:** Meet with our team at BIO this month.
- **Dr. Barrett's Bench to Batch Advice:** Stability by design.
- **Genes of Interest:** Dorothy Klueener on her passion for EHSS.
- **Top Trending Post:** Lt. Gov. Jim Tressel visits Forge.
- **Gene-ius Jobs:** Seeking a Technical Training Manager.

From the Lab

Forge's presentations at ASGCT are available on demand through July 15



ASGCT packed a tremendous amount into one week. If you missed our symposium, which explored Forge's approach to process innovation and late-phase manufacturing frameworks, including a case study from Ascidian Therapeutics on their process development strategy, the recording remains available [on demand](#) to registered attendees through July 15, 2026.

"Viral" News

The latest and greatest news about Forge

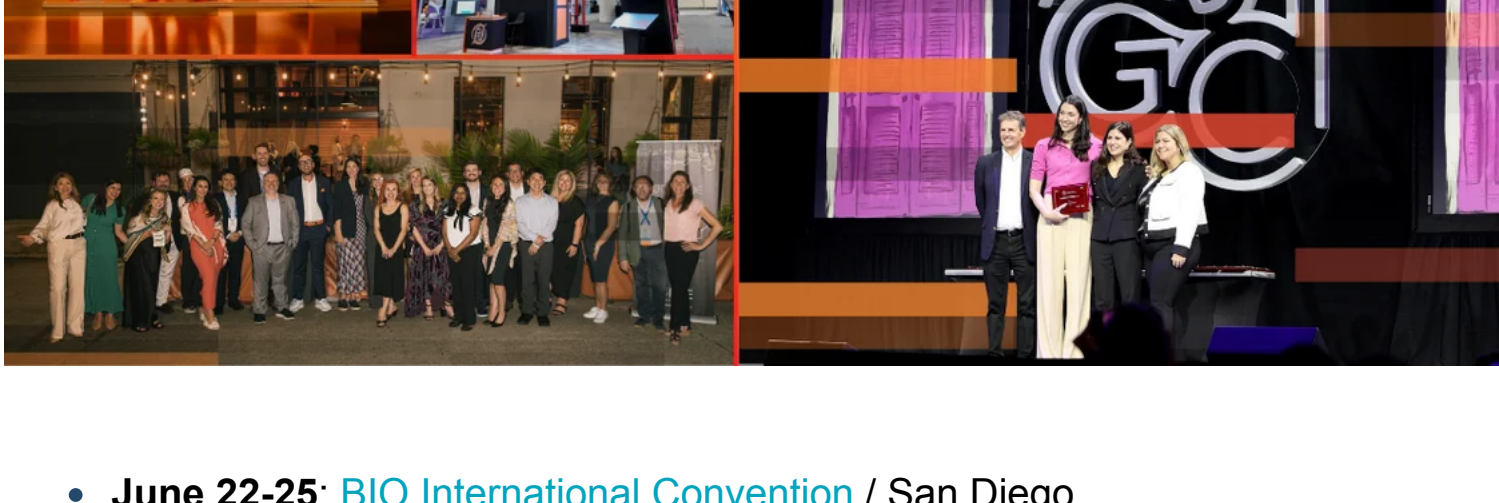


- **June 1, [HR Impact Awards: Here are the 10 honorees for 2026](#)** (Columbus Business First)
- **May 21, [Women of Influence Awards: Here are the 31 honorees for 2026](#)** (Columbus Business First)
- **May 7, [Companies join forces to speed production of 1-time treatment for FSHD](#)** (Muscular Dystrophy News)
- **May 6, [Epicrispr Biotechnologies Partners with Forge Biologics for EPI-321 Manufacturing](#)** (Pharma Source)

You can always find the latest Forge news [here](#).

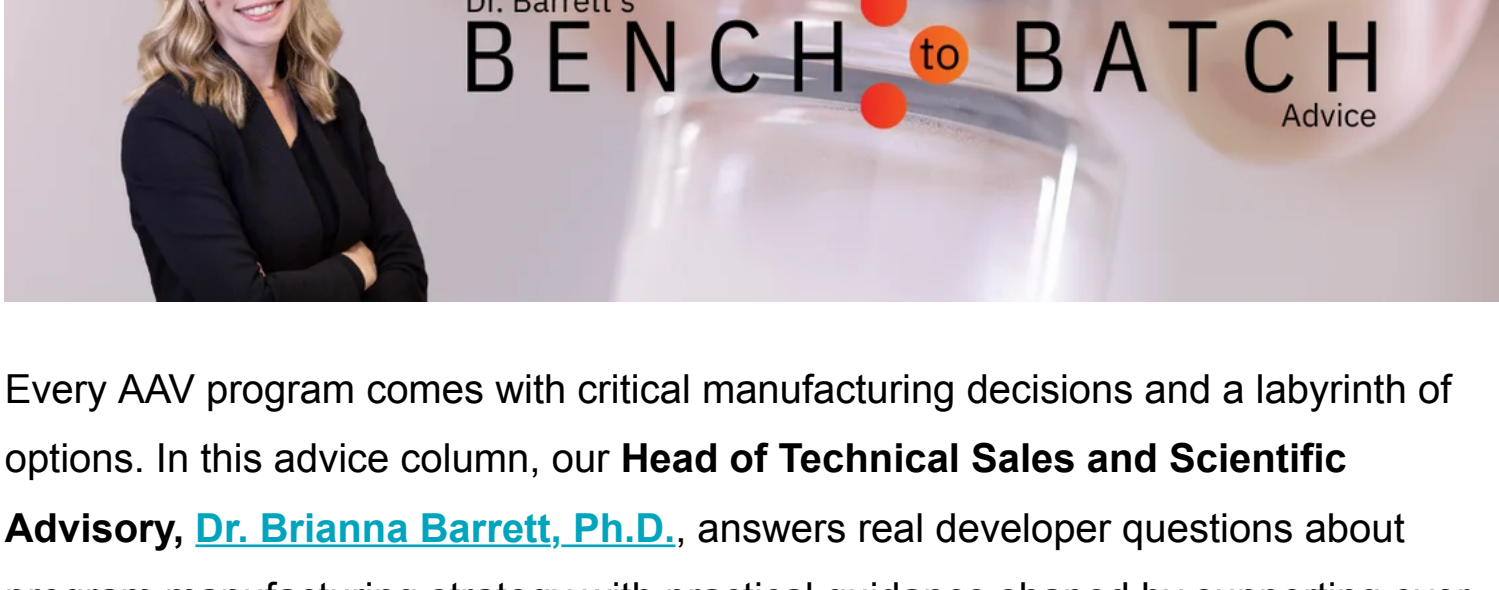
Ember Events

Opportunities to connect with our team live at these events



- **June 22-25: [BIO International Convention](#)** / San Diego
- **July 23-25: [JSGCT](#)** / Tokyo

Can't make it to an upcoming event? Connect with us [virtually](#).



Every AAV program comes with critical manufacturing decisions and a labyrinth of options. In this advice column, our **Head of Technical Sales and Scientific Advisory**, [Dr. Brianna Barrett, Ph.D.](#), answers real developer questions about program manufacturing strategy with practical guidance shaped by supporting over 60 gene therapy programs. Consider it direct access to a manufacturing strategist from early planning through delivery.

Dear Dr. Barrett,

We are preparing for our first preclinical AAV manufacturing run and thinking through formulation development activities. What considerations should we make to ensure vector stability when designing our formulation?

— *Stability by Design*

Dear Stability by Design,

You are thinking of this at the optimal time in your product development!

AAV capsid stability is governed by a complex interplay of ionic strength, pH, cryoprotectants, and non-ionic surfactants, all of which contribute to minimizing aggregation and preserving infectivity.

Here is a brief guide to the common elements within all AAV formulations, with the largest section for the star of the show: salt.

Salt: The AAV capsid is composed of 60 protein subunits with a mix of positive and negative surface charges. Salts provide the ionic strength needed to reduce particle-to-particle interactions and prevent aggregation. Unlike the simplified textbook view that increased salt promotes aggregation, AAV formulations generally benefit from higher ionic strength due to the complex charge distribution of the capsid and the presence of nucleic acid impurities. Maintaining approximately 150–200 mM salt is widely recognized as critical for stability during storage and handling. Common choices include NaCl, MgCl₂, and KCl, with overall ionic strength often being more important than the specific salt selected.

Buffer: Pairing your chosen salt(s) with a buffering agent that will hold the product in a narrow neutral window (pH 7-8) helps keep the capsid away from its aggregation prone isoelectric zone. Buffering agents such as Tris or phosphate-based solutions are common choices.

Cryoprotectant: Sugars and polyols protect capsids during freezing and thawing while helping offset freeze-induced pH changes. Common selections are sucrose, trehalose, sorbitol and glycerol.

Non-ionic surfactants: Surfactants reduce vector loss to vials, tubing, and syringes while limiting aggregation caused by interfacial stress. Poloxamer 188 and polysorbate 20/80 are commonly used.

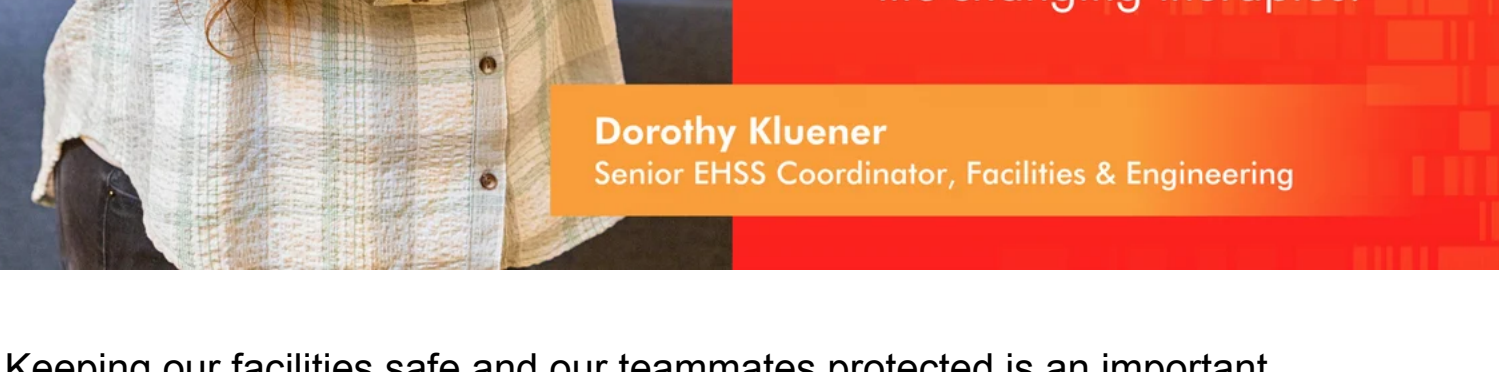
A good starting point is reviewing formulations reported for similar AAV products or target tissues. [Here is a handy cheat sheet](#) created by Philipp Beck. Good luck with your studies, and remember, your pre-emptive approach to stability means you are early enough to pivot if needed!

— *Dr. Barrett*

Got a question? [Email Dr. Barrett](#)

Genes of Interest

Our employee spotlight showcasing the individuals behind Forge that make our team unique



Dorothy Klueener
Senior EHSS Coordinator, Facilities & Engineering

Keeping our facilities safe and our teammates protected is an important responsibility, and one that Senior Environment, Health, Safety, and Sustainability (EHSS) Coordinator **Dorothy Klueener** is passionate about.

Guided by our core values of Hardworking and Purpose-Driven, Dorothy helps ensure our teams have the knowledge, equipment, and environment they need to safely develop life-changing therapies.

Outside of Forge, Dorothy's passion for music and movement shines through. A founder of the swing dance scene in Dayton, she still enjoys teaching and dancing too.

Get to know Dorothy in our latest [Genes of Interest](#) spotlight!

Top Trending Post

Ohio Lieutenant Governor Jim Tressel visits the Hearth



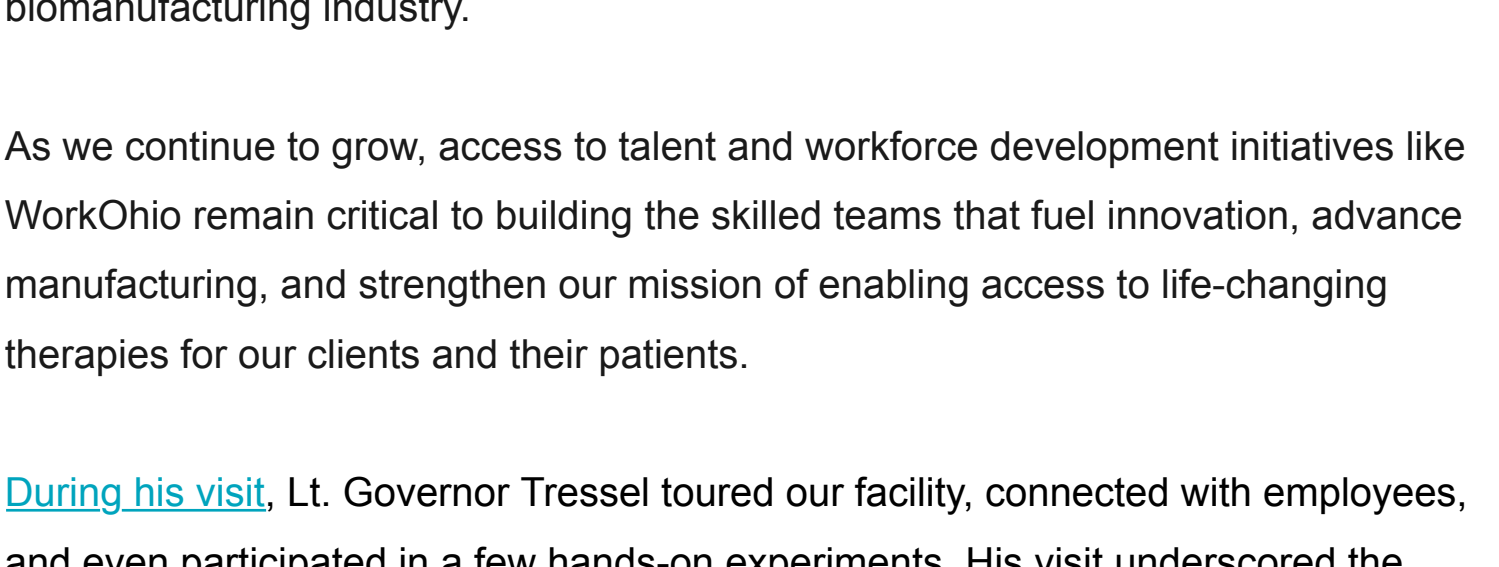
We were honored to host **Lt. Governor Jim Tressel** recently for a firsthand look at the people and career pathways helping drive Forge and Ohio's growing biomanufacturing industry.

As we continue to grow, access to talent and workforce development initiatives like WorkOhio remain critical to building the skilled teams that fuel innovation, advance manufacturing, and strengthen our mission of enabling access to life-changing therapies for our clients and their patients.

[During his visit](#), Lt. Governor Tressel toured our facility, connected with employees, and even participated in a few hands-on experiments. His visit underscored the momentum building across Ohio's life sciences sector and highlighted how the future of gene therapy manufacturing is taking shape right here in the Buckeye State.

Gene-ius Jobs

Featuring the latest career opportunities at Forge



We're seeking a **Technical Training Manager for cGMP AAV Manufacturing** to lead hands-on instruction, classroom facilitation, and one-on-one coaching, ensuring manufacturing team members are trained, qualified, and confident in executing critical AAV manufacturing processes.

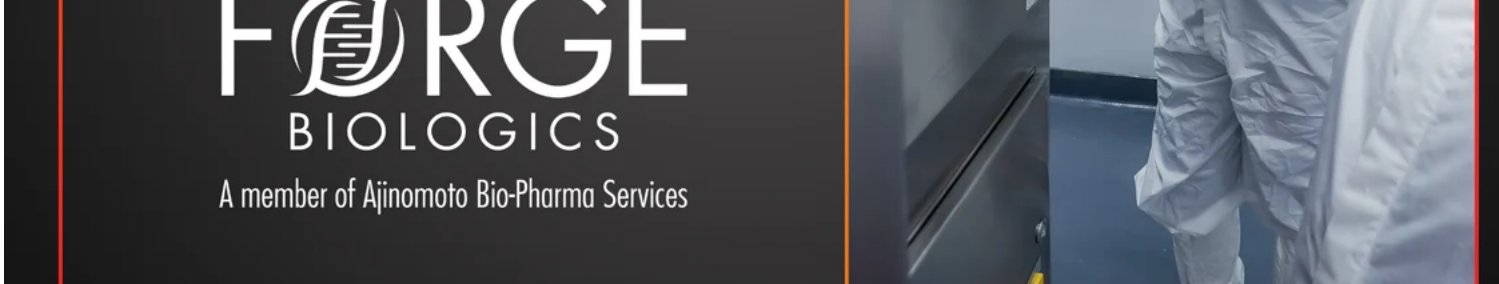
You'll serve as a subject matter expert, guiding team members through qualification and verbal qualification activities while reinforcing cGMP/GDP compliance and operational excellence. This is an opportunity to make a direct impact on both team member development and manufacturing success.

Take a look at the job description and browse the latest career opportunities at Forge. [Apply now!](#)

Did someone you know (perhaps a *genius*) forward this email to you, and you want to get it, too? [Subscribe here to receive the Scaling Up\(dates\) newsletter straight to your inbox.](#)

Stay inspired, stay curious, and keep the fires of innovation burning!

Warm regards,
The Forge Team



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