

Andy Zaayenga

Andy Zaayenga has been involved in laboratory automation and robotics since 1989, first as an engineer at Zymark (now PerkinElmer), a pioneer in laboratory automation; then as CEO of TekCel (now Hamilton Storage Technologies), a technology forerunner in sample management automation in drug discovery; then as Director of REMP (then a business unit of Tecan Group), a market leader in life sciences sample management, then as Vice President of Business Development at HighRes Biosolutions, a leader in the design and construction of innovative robotic systems and laboratory devices. Presently he is Managing Director of SmarterLab, a consultancy for laboratory automation.

Andy is Executive Chair of the nonprofit Laboratory Robotics Interest Group (LRIG). Since his election to the board in April 1996 the group has grown from a regional membership of 200 to a global presence of over 10,000.

He serves as a Board Director of the Society for Laboratory Automation & Screening (SLAS).

He is past Scientific Program Chair, and past Board Director of both the Association for Laboratory Automation (ALA) and the Society for Biomolecular Sciences (SBS), and a member of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE). Andy is a Councilor of the International Society for Biological and Environmental Repositories (ISBER) and is on the Pharmaceutical Industry Repositories Committee and the Marketing Committee, and serves as Chair of the Automated Repositories Working Group. He is a member of P3G, the Public Population Project in Genomics. He served on the Program Committee of the Microplate Technology and International Conference on Automation and Robotics (MipTec-ICAR). He was an editor of the Dmoz Open Directory Project for the categories of Laboratory Automation and Robotics; Laboratory Refrigeration and Cold Storage; Laboratory Hoods; and Pipettors, Automatic and Manual. Andy has served as an Officer of the American Chemical Society Laboratory Automation National Division. He has moderated scientific sessions at LabAutomation, MipTec-ICAR, Laboratory Robotics Interest Group, American Chemical Society, and ScreenTech meetings. He moderates the Laboratory Equipment Control Interface Specification (LECIS) Discussion Group and Tecan Programming Discussion Group, and is on the editorial advisory board of several scientific journals.

Andy holds three patents and has published as well as collaborated and assisted in several scientific papers. He maintains an active network of over 8,000 connections on LinkedIn and moderates the LRIG, ISBER, Biorepository Hub, and Assay Development & High Throughput Screening (HTS) groups there.

His knowledge of the life science tools business, laboratory processes and automation as well as the people and companies involved in it is extensive due to his years in the industry and participation in LRIG, SLAS, SBS, ALA, ISBER as well as other focus groups.