

**Plenary Session:**  
**Can A Semantic Web for Life Sciences Improve Drug Discovery?**

**Dr. Eric K. Neumann**  
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**Biography**

Dr. Neumann recently assumed the position of Global Head of Knowledge Management at Aventis Pharmaceuticals, the U.S. pharmaceuticals business of Aventis, a world leader in pharmaceuticals and human vaccines. Prior to that he was Vice President, Strategic Informatics and Head of Knowledge Research at Beyond Genomics, a privately owned life sciences research company founded in the fall of 2000 and committed to realizing the full potential of a Systems Biology approach to drug discovery.

Dr. Neumann has nearly fifteen years of experience in life science informatics. He joined Beyond Genomics from 3rd Millennium, Inc. where he was Vice President of Life Science Informatics. He is founder and organizer of the international BioPathways Consortium and is an advisory member of Sun's Life Sciences Open-Platform Initiative (I3C).

Over the past ten years Dr. Neumann pioneered the development of new models for use in proteomics, gene profiling and pathway informatics, as well as ontologies that link major aspects of life sciences' data. Dr. Neumann has extensive experience developing and implementing integrated bioinformatics solutions with top pharmaceutical companies. Prior to 3rd Millennium, Inc., Dr. Neumann worked for NetGenics and Bolt, Beranek, and Newman, Inc (now Verizon).

Dr. Neumann received his PhD from the Department of Developmental Genetics and Neuroscience at Case Western Reserve University.