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UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN
Department of Chemistry
2017 Convocation
May 14, 2017
Professor Scott Silverman
Arbutus Biopharma, Inc.
Chief Scientific Officer and Co-founder

Speech Realm
James R. Eisner Endowed Chair

Professor Feng Sheng Hu
Dean, College of Liberal Arts & Sciences

Introduction of Speaker
Professor John Katzenellenbogen

Dr. Michael J. Sofia
Chief Scientific Officer and Co-founder
Arbutus Biopharma, Inc.

Dr. Michael J. Sofia is the Chief Scientific Officer and co-founder of Arbutus Biopharma, Inc., a company focused on discovering and developing a cure for chronic hepatitis B virus infection.

Dr. Sofia is a native of Baltimore, MD. He received a B.A. degree from Cornell University and then obtained his Ph.D. in Chemistry from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Subsequently, he went on to complete an NIH postdoctoral fellowship at Columbia University.

For his contributions to the field of drug discovery, Dr. Sofia has received numerous awards including the ACS Heroes of Chemistry Award, the 2015 IUPAC-Richter Prize, the 2015 Economist's Innovation Award and the 2016 Lasker-DeBakey Clinical Medical Research Award.