

August 2008

[Georgia Life Sciences Summit Features Stellar Line-up of Speakers](#)

Only 26 days until the Georgia Life Sciences Summit. You won't want to miss this event September 24 at the Georgia World Congress Center. [Click here](#) to register and review the complete program.

The 2008 Summit will be the best ever, thanks to the leadership of Tom Callaway, M.D., Summit Planning Committee Chair and President of Life Science Partner, and his executive committee, Alexis Pezzullo, Director of Advisory Services for KPMG; and Program Chairs Carol Gallagher, PharmD, and Robert McNally, Ph.D., President and CEO of Geovax.

Make sure you check-in at the registration desk before 8 am. Atlanta Mayor **Shirley Franklin** will kick-off the Summit with a Welcome address. The other morning plenary speakers, in order of appearance, are Biotechnology Industry Organization (BIO) President and CEO **James C. Greenwood**; US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Chief Science Officer **Tanja Popovic**, M.D., Ph.D.; Solvay Pharmaceuticals President and CEO **Stephen A. Hill**, BM, BCh, MA, FRCS; and Morehouse School of Medicine President Emeritus **Louis W. Sullivan**, M.D.

Georgia Governor **Sonny Perdue**, DVM, will deliver his keynote speech in the afternoon, about 4:20 pm. His talk will be followed by a special program honoring Senator **Bob Dole**, Special Counsel with Alston & Bird, for his role in adoption of the 1980 Bayh-Dole Act. This landmark federal legislation enabled universities to license their innovations to the private sector, spurring development of the biotechnology industry. [Keep Reading](#)

[ELN Feature: Rejection is Painful, But Perseverance Pays Off](#)

By Karen Ventii, Ph.D., Emory University

Rejection is a key part of job hunting that prevents many people from actively pursuing the jobs they desire. Still, rigorous networking remains the best way to identify potential employers.

Prity Patel, a registered nurse working at Saint Joseph's Hospital, was ready for a career change and faced the daunting task of finding a new job in a new industry, namely the pharmaceutical industry.

By networking through Georgia Bio and its Emerging Leaders Network (ELN), Prity's task was made a bit easier. In a few short months, she landed a job as the clinical trials manager at **Wynden Pharmaceuticals** in Alpharetta. [Keep Reading](#)

[Georgia Bio Convenes Inaugural Forum on Preparing Life Science Workers: Morehouse School of Medicine's Dr. David Satcher to Deliver Keynote Address](#)

Georgia Bio will hold its first *Life Science Workforce Forum 2008: A Catalyst for Transforming Georgia's Bioscience Talent*, Monday, November 17, at the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). The event will begin at 1:00 pm with a keynote address by **David Satcher**, M.D., Ph.D., former CDC Director, Surgeon General, and President of Morehouse School of Medicine. [Keep Reading](#)

[Report on Educating Biotechnicians for Future Industry Needs Available](#)

The final report of the conference of the National Science Foundation-supported Educating Biotechnicians for Future Industry Needs is available on the Georgia Bio website or [by clicking here](#). [Keep Reading](#)

[Upcoming Events: Stay in the know, GaBio Industry Events Page](#)

Upcoming Events

[Georgia Bio BioBash](#)

September 2, 2008
The Globe, Atlanta, GA

[BioPharm America](#)

September 9-10 2008
Atlanta, Georgia

[GT Biotechnology Career Fair](#)

September 11, 2008
Georgia Tech, M Building

[Georgia Life Sciences Summit 2008](#)

September 24, 2008
Georgia World Congress Center, Atlanta, GA

[BioContact](#)

October 1-2, 2008
Quebec

[Cocktails with Gorillas-ELN 3rd Anniversary Gala](#)

October 10, 2008
Zoo Atlanta
Sponsorships Available

[GaBio Breakfast Meeting: HIV Update/GeoVax](#)

October 15, 2009
Villa Christina, Atlanta, GA



CHAMPION SPONSORS

ALSTON + BIRD LLP



FISH & RICHARDSON



KING & SPALDING



Georgia Life Sciences Summit Features Stellar Line-up of Speakers

Only 26 days until the Georgia Life Sciences Summit. You won't want to miss this event September 24 at the Georgia World Congress Center. Visit www.gabio.org/summit2008 register and review the complete program.

The 2008 Summit will be the best ever, thanks to the leadership of Tom Callaway, M.D., Summit Planning Committee Chair and President of Life Science Partner, and his executive committee, Alexis Pezzullo, Director of Advisory Services for KPMG; and Program Chairs Carol Gallagher, PharmD, and Robert McNally, Ph.D., President and CEO of Geovax.

Make sure you check-in at the registration desk before 8 am. Atlanta Mayor **Shirley Franklin** will kick-off the Summit with a Welcome address. The other morning plenary speakers, in order of appearance, are Biotechnology Industry Organization (BIO) President and CEO **James C. Greenwood**; US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Chief Science Officer **Tanja Popovic**, M.D., Ph.D.; Solvay Pharmaceuticals President and CEO **Stephen A. Hill**, BM, BCh, MA, FRCS; and Morehouse School of Medicine President Emeritus **Louis W. Sullivan**, M.D.

Georgia Governor **Sonny Perdue**, DVM, will deliver his keynote speech in the afternoon, about 4:20 pm. His talk will be followed by a special program honoring Senator **Bob Dole**, Special Counsel with Alston & Bird, for his role in adoption of the 1980 Bayh-Dole Act. This landmark federal legislation enabled universities to license their innovations to the private sector, spurring development of the biotechnology industry.

After Senator Dole make his comments, Emory University President **James W. Wagner**, Ph.D., and University of Georgia President **Michael F. Adams**, Ph.D., will participate in a panel discussion exploring the impact of Bayh-Dole on their institutions and the current challenges in technology transfer. Georgia Research Alliance President and CEO C. Michael Cassidy will moderate the discussion.

Immediately after lunch at 12:45 pm, a plenary presentation will feature advances in neuroscience by leading researchers associated with the Center for Behavioral Neuroscience, a National Science Foundation funded consortium of seven institutes in Atlanta. CBN scientists from these universities will discuss their research into one of science's last and most daunting frontiers – the brain. Their work holds great promise for understanding brain function and treating illnesses such as Alzheimer's disease and post traumatic stress disorder.

There also will be eight breakout sessions, four in the morning and four in the afternoon. These sessions will focus on agricultural biotechnology and bioenergy as well as biomedicine, medical devices, unique public-private partnerships between technology companies and hospitals; and business and regulatory issues. A total of 70 speakers will participate.

In addition, the 2008 Summit will kick-off the excitement of hosting the 2009 BIO International Convention, May 18-21, 2009 in Atlanta. This is the largest biotech conference in the world with more than 20,000 professionals from 70 nations and 48 states. BIO's convention team will attend the Summit and will be available to answer questions about participating in next year's event.

The annual Georgia Life Sciences Summit -- whose theme is Molecules, Materials and Minds: Building Georgia's Innovation Economy -- is in its eighth year and has become the premier showcase in the Southeast of the latest science and product development from universities and companies. We expect more than 800 professionals from across Georgia and the nation. The Exhibit Hall is sold out featuring more than 60 companies, universities and other organizations; and more than 70 university and company researchers have entered the scientific poster competition.

A gala with a Casino Night theme will conclude the event, beginning at about 6:30 pm at the Georgia World Congress Center. The Summit is the one-time each year Georgia's life sciences community gathers to showcase its progress in tackling some of the world's greatest challenges in healthcare, agriculture and bioenergy. Thank you to all the Summit sponsors for making this exciting event possible and for supporting GaBio in its efforts to promote the interests of Georgia's life sciences industry. See you September 24.

ELN Feature: Rejection is Painful, But Perseverance Pays Off

By Karen Ventii, Ph.D.
Emory University

“Searching for a job is like asking someone out on a date - if the answer is no, it's rejection and that's painful.” -- James C. Gonyea. Author

Rejection is a key part of job hunting that prevents many people from actively pursuing the jobs they desire. Still, rigorous networking remains the best way to identify potential employers.

Prity Patel, a registered nurse working at Saint Joseph's Hospital, was ready for a career change and faced the daunting task of finding a new job in a new industry, namely the pharmaceutical industry.

By networking through Georgia Bio and its Emerging Leaders Network (ELN), Prity's task was made a bit easier. In a few short months, she landed a job as the clinical trials manager at Wynden Pharmaceuticals in Alpharetta.

Wynden Pharmaceuticals is a private, specialty pharmaceutical company led by CEO Chris Offen. The company focuses on developing and commercializing treatments for drug-induced magnesium deficiency, which is common in patients taking certain oncology and cardiovascular medications. These medications are critical to the successful treatment of underlying cancer, heart failure or hypertension. Specific drugs causing magnesium deficiency includes diuretics and EGFR inhibitors.

Chris was looking for a new clinical manager and had expressed this interest to ELN Co-Chair Sapna Hornyak. Likewise, on a separate occasion, Prity had informed Sapna about her ongoing job hunt. Sapna immediately recommended that they attend an upcoming ELN networking event at Gordon Biersch.

“For me, the event at Gordon Biersch was my first ELN function,” said Prity. For Chris, attending GaBio/ELN events had become part of his overall strategy of staying in touch with the “Bio Scene” in Atlanta.

“For pharmaceutical companies in Atlanta it is important to have organizations like GaBio and ELN that pull industry leaders together in one place,” he said. This, Chris explained, makes it easier to identify service providers and potential employees.

Chris now has the clinical manager he was looking for and Prity has the kind of job she desired.

The goal of GaBio is to promote the interests and growth of the life sciences industry in Georgia. ELN, a division of GaBio, is devoted to promoting networking between emerging and established professionals within the Georgia life sciences community.

Georgia Bio Convenes Inaugural Forum on Preparing Life Science Workers Morehouse School of Medicine's Dr. David Satcher to Deliver Keynote Address

Georgia Bio will hold its first ***Life Science Workforce Forum 2008: A Catalyst for Transforming Georgia's Bioscience Talent***, Monday, November 17, at the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). The event will begin at 1:00 pm with a keynote address by David Satcher, M.D., Ph.D., former CDC Director, Surgeon General, and President of Morehouse School of Medicine.

Dr. Satcher currently is the Director of the Satcher Health Leadership Institute and the Director of the Center of Excellence on Health Disparities at Morehouse School of Medicine. He also holds the Poussaint-Satcher-Cosby Chair in Mental Health.

The November Forum is intended to bring together pre- and post-secondary educators, employers, and economic developers to communicate current and future issues and challenges in developing the workforce to grow the life sciences sector in Georgia. The discussions will identify common needs and trends, and suggest ways in which the participants may work together to address those challenges and needs.

The Forum will include a snapshot of the life science workforce by a panel of regional industry and economic researchers, addressing trends and projections identified through recent studies. Employers will then share perspectives on their unique experiences. The event will conclude with a closing address and networking reception at 5 pm.

The event is free of charge however participants must register in advance due to CDC security requirements. Watch for detailed registration and program information on the Georgia Bio website: www.gabio.org

Report on Educating Biotechnicians for Future Industry Needs Available

The final report of the conference of the National Science Foundation-supported Educating Biotechnicians for Future Industry Needs is available on the Georgia Bio website under Education Outreach.

Georgia Bio's Director of Education Programs Cinda Herndon-King, Ph.D., participated in the planning and development of the conference in which 50 key individuals from higher education, secondary education, industry, government, and professional organizations discussed their ideas on the best ways to educate technicians for the rapidly-changing U.S. biotechnology industry.

The conference, held in April in Scottsdale, Ariz., specifically addressed industry needs for the next five years within the areas of healthcare, medical, agricultural, industrial and environmental biotechnology. Also included in the discussions were emerging areas such as micro-electromechanical systems, nanotechnology and personalized medicine.

The attendees developed recommendations aimed at high school, two-year and four-year college programs, government agencies, and the biotechnology industry. In addition to the recommendations, the report summarizes key points from five panel discussions focusing on how the biotechnology industry will grow during the next five years, the skills that technicians will require to meet workforce needs, and their experiences with educational practices.