

October 2008

Early Registration for 2009 BIO International Convention Now Open

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Here is the link to the registration site: <http://convention.bio.org/attendees/registration/>

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Innovation Crescent Showcased as Model for Promoting Biotech Education

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Georgia Bio Expands Teacher Training on Biotech to DeKalb H.S. Teachers

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Emerging Leader's Network Celebrates Third Anniversary

Georgia Bio's Emerging Leader's Network (ELN) marked its 3rd anniversary with a celebration at Zoo Atlanta October 10.

With a backdrop of shenanigans from the zoo's famous gorillas, the evening's gala brought together emerging and established professionals from all across the life sciences industry. The event celebrated ELN's three years of continued growth and development. Since its inception in 2005, ELN has emerged as the premier networking organization for young professionals in Atlanta's burgeoning life sciences industry.

On October 28, the ELN held another in its series of Biotech in Athens programs. This event featured a panel discussion among professionals working in startup biotechnology companies in the Athens area. [Keep Reading](#)

Upcoming Events

BioBash

November 4, 2008 - 6:00 PM to 08:00 PM
The Lobby at TWELVE, Atlantic Station, Atlanta

2008 GaBio Life Science Workforce Forum (Free event)

November 17, 2008 - 1:00 PM to 5:00 PM
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

GaBio Breakfast Meeting Featuring Sciele Pharma

November 19, 2008 - 7:30 AM to 9:00 AM

Villa Christina

Georgia Bio Annual Awards Dinner -More Details Coming Soon-

January 22, 2009 - 6:00 PM

The Property at Villa Christina

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Four days of breakout sessions with more than 1,000 speakers who explore pressing issues in all areas of the life sciences industry. Super sessions highlight hot topics in more detail and plenary sessions feature national and international figures in business, science, and public policy. Specialized sessions focus on diversity in the life sciences industry, translational research, biofuels, cleantech and agriculture.

The BIO Business Forum is your ticket to one-on-one discussions with senior executives in business development and finance from the world's leading companies. During four days of partnering at the 2008 BIO Convention in San Diego, 6,000 participants from more than 1,500 companies held 14,500 meetings. The opportunities to initiate collaborations with so many potential partners are unparalleled in the business world and well worth the price of registration.

The convention exhibit hall, covering more than 200,000 square feet, is a world's fair of biotechnology and your introduction to the latest technological advances from San Francisco to Shanghai. It's an international exposition of the challenges humankind faces in healing, fueling and feeding the world.

In the biotech industry, business networking is part of the culture and at the 2009 BIO Convention in Atlanta, you will have many chances to continue discussions and start new ones at special events, evening receptions, and focused forums. For job seekers, the career fair is also an international event.

If you've attended the BIO International Convention before, you know how valuable it can be for your business and professional development. If you haven't, don't miss out on the opportunity to engage the world's biotech community in your own backyard.

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Cinda Herndon-King, PhD., Georgia Bio’s Director of Education Programs, and Faatimah Muhammad, DeKalb County Schools’ High School Science Coordinator, showcased education and workforce development partnerships created in the Innovation Crescent, a thirteen county region spanning Atlanta to Athens.

In this region, which is home to about 85 percent of the state’s life sciences companies, Georgia Bio and its partners are launching high school biotechnology courses, implementing biotechnology tasks in existing middle and high school science classes, and fostering connections among secondary and post-secondary institutions to create seamless career pathways. [Click here for the Georgia Bio press release.](#)

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Teachers from Avondale, Cedar Grove, Chamblee, Clarkston, Columbia, Cross Keys, Lithonia, M.L. King Jr, Ronald McNair Sr., Southwest DeKalb and Towers High Schools learned how to conduct an Enzyme-Linked ImmunoSorbent (ELISA) assay in the classroom to solve a simulated hepatitis B outbreak. They solved a mystery using a simulated DNA fingerprinting exercise, and developed techniques to extract DNA from various cell types. The teachers also learned about the bioscience industry in Georgia, and what types of careers are available for their students.

The 25 high school teachers were the first of 160 high school and middle school teachers from DeKalb and the Atlanta Public Schools to be trained in 2008-2009 with support from U.S. Department of Education.

On October 4, 20 middle and high school teachers from Barrow, DeKalb, Gwinnett and Walton Counties were also trained on the biotechnology tasks. These teachers, who in turn will train other teachers in their school districts, were taught how to integrate the tasks into their sciences classes by representatives of the national Biotechnology Institute, of Alexandria, Va. Support for this effort was provided through a Work Ready Region Grant from the Governor's Office of Workforce Development.

The teacher-training in biotechnology is being piloted in the Innovation Crescent, a 13-county region from Atlanta to Athens that is home to about 85 percent of Georgia's life sciences companies. Following the Innovation Crescent pilot program, the goal is to expand the training statewide.

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The program was aimed at young professionals looking for career opportunities outside academia. They received the inside scoop on what it takes to work in a small biotech business in the Athens area.

Panelists included:

- **Clifton Baile**, Ph.D., Georgia Research Alliance Eminent Scholar in agricultural biotechnology at University of Georgia, Distinguished Professor in Animal Science and Foods & Nutrition, and founder of Insectigen and Angionics
- **Dave Machacek**, Ph.D., Research Scientist at Aruna Biomedical
- **Paul Montello**, President, Millennium Cryogenics
- **Paul Price**, Ph.D., Director of Research and Development, Abeome
- **Branson Ritchie**, D.V.M., Ph.D, Professor of Veterinary Medicine at University of Georgia and founder of Molecular Therapeutics
- **Mike Wanner**, President and CEO, Abeome