

Georgia Bio E-Chronicle

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Upcoming Events

BioBash

November 3 6:00-8:00pm
Lobby at 12, Atlantic Station
Atlanta, GA

Job & Social Networking---More Science Than Art
November 4 6:00-7:00pm
Coverdell Building
Rm S175 Athens, GA

2009 Life Science Workforce Forum
November 17 12:00-

→ Workforce Forum to Feature NIH Science Education Director

On November 17, Georgia Bio will host its second annual Life Sciences Workforce Forum at the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The Forum, entitled "Stronger Together: Enriching Science Education through Partnerships," is designed to engage employers, educators, and economic developers in a dialogue on the development of Georgia's life science workforce.



Opening the afternoon Forum will be Dr. Bruce Fuchs, Director of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) Office of Science Education. Dr. Fuchs, who is responsible for monitoring and advising NIH on a wide range of science education policy issues, will discuss the critical role science education plays in maintaining U.S. competitiveness. Dr. Fuchs is currently serving on both the Innovation and Competitiveness and the Education Subcommittees of the National Science and Technology Council, and has served on working groups of the Department of Education's Academic Competitiveness Council.

Following the keynote, a panel of leading employers and educators will provide insights and lessons on how they have implemented and benefited from educational partnerships. Panelists include:

- **Ann Cramer**, Director Americas, IBM Corporate Citizenship and Corporate Affairs
- **Jeff Mathews**, Principal, Gwinnett School of Mathematics, Science and Technology
- **David Roland**, President, National Health Museum
- **Dell South**, Executive Director, Southeast Regional Business Unit, Medical Affairs, Pfizer, Inc.
- **Chris Moder** (moderator), ICAPP Program Director, Office of Economic Development, Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia

The closing keynote will feature **Dr. L. Tony Beck**, Program Officer of NIH's Science Education Partnership Award (SEPA) Program. Since 1991, SEPA has funded competitive grants that create partnerships among researchers, educators, and community groups to share their knowledge, expertise, and enthusiasm about health and science research with K-12 students and the general public. Dr. Beck will share his experiences and perspectives on creative approaches to developing, managing and sustaining such partnerships.

5:00pm
CDC

Atlanta, GA

Special Augusta
Program Features
MCG Discovery
Institutes
November 18-19
6:00pm
Augusta, GA

The Future of
Innovation in
Healthcare Reform

December 10
1:00-5:45pm
Piedmont Hospital

Smart Links

Shaping Infinity
2009

-
Georgia Companies

-
Education Website

BIO Business
Solutions

The Forum, beginning with lunch at noon, will include ample time for networking among attendees, and will conclude with a networking reception. Attendees are encouraged to bring literature about their programs or organizations for display. Registration is required due to U.S. CDC security regulations [Click Here to Register.](#)

→ From Bench to Business: A Biotech Commercialization Workshop

By Lydia Morris, ELN Communications Coordinator, Ph.D. Candidate, Genetics and Molecular Biology, Emory University

Commercializing life science research takes science out of the lab and puts it into the market. For many research scientists, the marriage between life science and business can be an exciting venture, but there has traditionally been a divide between the two worlds. Thus, there is a need to help researchers bridge the gap between academia and entrepreneurship.

Through the new Bench to Business workshop, moderated by the Emerging Leaders Network (ELN) division of Georgia Bio (GaBio), select Georgia life science researchers sponsored by their universities can gain hands-on, expert-directed guidance through the biotechnology commercialization process. Participants in the once per month, seven-month long workshop will come ready to put their technologies to the test as experts discuss various topics from assessing science and technology as a business opportunity to understanding sources of capital and how to secure funding.

When describing the goals of the workshop, organizer **Jim Heitner** of Georgia Venture Partners emphasized the focus on a practical and interactive approach. **Jim McDonough** of Fish & Richardson, another Bench to Business organizer elaborated, "Participants will be required to complete assignments between workshops to continue moving the ball forward" At the end of the series, he further explained, participants will have the opportunity to present to and have their technology assessed by industry experts.

In addition to navigating scientists through commercialization, another major emphasis of the workshop is to expose researchers to the realities of technology commercialization. "We want them to learn to deal with day to day issues entrepreneurs face in commercializing biotechnology," Mr. McDonough said. By networking with experts throughout the course of the series, the scientists can get help in real-time.

Although the Bench organizers are still in the recruitment phase with a goal of 10-15 participants from Emory University, Georgia State University, Georgia Institute of Technology and University of Georgia for the first session, the ultimate goal is to expand the program to Georgia-wide academic research institutions as well as to Georgia corporations. To learn more email eln@gabio.org.

The ELN division of GaBio provides emerging and established professionals with opportunities for developing contacts and

mentorships through networking and educational programming.

→ Special Augusta Program to Feature MCG Discovery Institutes

Join the greater Augusta business community and Medical College of Georgia scientists and administrators November 18-19 for a special program highlighting MCG's Discovery Institutes and the life sciences industry cluster in Augusta.

The program begins with an evening reception November 18, 6 pm to 9 pm, at the Augusta Country Club. In addition to scientists from the Discovery Institutes, this is an opportunity to meet MCG's new interim President **Dr. James Thompson** and the Dean of the medical school, **Dr. Douglas Miller**. The featured speaker will be **State Rep. Ben Harbin** of Augusta, who is the Chair of the Georgia House Appropriations Committee.

On November 19, 8:30 am to 10 am, the Georgia Bio Augusta Breakfast Meeting will feature Dr. Miller discussing MCG's new Discovery Institutes and opportunities for collaboration with industry. There are five institutes focusing on therapeutic research in the areas of Brain & Behavior, Cardiovascular, Diabetes & Obesity, Immunologic, Vision Science and Education. [Click here to learn more about the Discovery Institutes.](#)

The breakfast meeting will be held at the Augusta Marriott Hotel & Suites, Two 10th Street, Augusta, Georgia 30901. Georgia Bio has reserved a block of rooms at the hotel for people who attend the November 18 evening reception and want to stay overnight for the November 19 breakfast. When making a reservation please reference the Georgia Bio room block to get the discount rate of \$119. There is no charge for the evening reception and the breakfast meeting. [Click here to register.](#)

→ Emory Launches Graduate Degree Program in Bioethics

Emory University has launched a new master of arts degree program in bioethics, which will provide advanced interdisciplinary study for professionals and students interested in the social and ethical challenges facing medicine and the life sciences.

"I am very pleased to be launching our master's program in bioethics," says **Paul Root Wolpe**, director of Emory's Center for Ethics, which is the academic home of the program.

"We have designed the program to give the students a thorough grounding in bioethics while providing hands-on experience in institutions like the Centers for Disease Control, NASA, the Health Care Ethics Consortium of Georgia, and Emory's superb medical, nursing, public health, law, business and theology schools," says Wolpe. "The program is so innovative and exciting I wish I could take it myself."

Faculty of the Center for Ethics who are teaching in the program

include scholars and practitioners in a variety of disciplines, such as medicine, nursing, public health, law, theology, business, the life sciences, philosophy, religion, sociology and psychology. Courses began this fall with six students enrolled in the inaugural class. The program anticipates strong interdisciplinary interest as recruitment for fall 2010 begins. [Click here to learn more.](#)

→ Conference to Explore Future of Innovation in Healthcare Reform

Georgia Bio, Piedmont Healthcare and other partners have joined together to present a half-day conference, December 10, from 1 pm to 6 pm, exploring the Future of Innovation in Healthcare Reform. The other partner organizations are the American Cancer Society, Alston & Bird, CardioMEMS, DeKalb Medical Center, Georgia Association of Healthcare Executives, Georgia Hospital Association, Gwinnett Medical Center and UCB.

More than 15 speakers will share their insights on the potential impact of the nation's historic debate over healthcare reform. Speakers include **Charles Evans**, Chair of the American College of Healthcare Executives and President of International Health Services Group; **Michael Johns, M.D.**, Emory University Chancellor and Executive Vice President for Health Affairs, Emeritus; **Joel Miller**, Senior Vice President of Operations for the National Coalition on Healthcare; **Parker H. "Pete" Petit**, President of The Petit Group and President and CEO of MiMedx Group; **Timothy Stack**, President and CEO of Piedmont Healthcare; and **Jay Yadav, M.D.** Chairman and CEO of CardioMEMS.

The conference will be held at the Piedmont Hospital Auditorium, Thursday, December 10, from 1 pm to 6 pm. A reception will follow from 6 pm to 7:30 pm at the hospital. The event is designed to focus on patients and the role of innovation in improving patient outcomes. Among the patient advocates participating are **Lee McDaniel**, a photojournalist; **Ross Mason**, Founder of the Healthcare Institute for Neuro-Recovery and Innovation Ventures; **Tommy Nobis**, former Atlanta Falcons star linebacker and Founder of the Tommy Nobis Center; and **Phylecia Wilson**, Chair of the International Relay for Life Advisory and Training Team, and a member of the Georgia Governor's Council for Women's Health.

Other featured speakers represent the spectrum of the healthcare industry, from R&D to delivery of services. They are **Nicolas Chronos, M.D.**, Chief Medical and Scientific Officer of St. Joseph's Translational Research Institute; **William Custer, Ph.D.**, Associate Professor in Georgia State University's Institute for Health Administration; **Leigh Hamby, M.D.**, Chief Medical Officer of Piedmont Healthcare; **Kirk McGhee**, Vice President and Regional Counsel for Kaiser Permanente; and **Margaret Offermann, M.D., Ph.D.**, Deputy National Vice President for Research at the American Cancer Society.

[Click here for more information and to register.](#)