

Georgia Bio E-Chronicle

FEBRUARY 2010

ALERT! QUESTION ABOUT CLINICAL TRIALS IN GA

The Georgia Department of Economic Development has received an inquiry from a company outside Georgia interested in talking with Georgia companies that have products in Phase III or Phase IV clinical trials in the following areas: anti-infectives, gastrointestinal, pain management, cardiology, diabetes, and immunizations and vaccines, especially for children.

If you are willing to assist in this effort, please email contact Maria Thacker (maria.thacker@gabio.org) or Charles Craig (Charles.craig@gabio.org) and we will send your contact information to GDEd.

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UPCOMING EVENTS

BioBash
March 2
6:00 - 8:00pm
Sponsored by
DPR Construction

Georgia BioBusiness Center Tour

→ **Submit Your Program Proposals for the 2010 Georgia Life Sciences Summit**

Georgia Bio is seeking your expertise and insight in assembling the program for the 2010 Georgia Life Sciences Summit, which be held October 28, 2010, at the Atlanta Marriott Marquis. This year's theme is "Innovation for a Healthier World... Meeting the Challenge." The program will address current business challenges and opportunities and generate insights into how lifesciences organizations will meet the evolving economic, political and societal challenges.

We invite you to submit an idea for a panel, a case study, a fireside or roundtable discussion, or other interesting or interactive session format. The Call for Sessions deadline is March 9. There are four general tracks: Med Tech / Device; the Role of Life Sciences in Public & Global Health; Therapeutics, Diagnostics and Vaccines; New and Exciting Science in Georgia. [Click for instructions.](#)

There are also numerous sponsorships available. The Summit is the premier life sciences conference in the Southeast, and an unparalleled opportunity to identify your organization as an industry leader and promote your business. Here is a link to the [Summit Sponsorship Prospectus](#).

Contact Maria Thacker at Georgia Bio with any questions: maria.thacker@gabio.org; 404-920-2042.

→ **Cobb Workforce Board Learns Biotechnology at South Cobb High School**

The Cobb Workforce Investment Board headed back to school this week to experience first-hand the biotechnology curriculum implemented at South Cobb High School in partnership with the Innovation Crescent Work Ready Region. The board members worked with student lab teams in their Introduction to Biotechnology class to diagnose a simulated HIV infection.

Students in the class of Dr. Ellen Katzowitz taught Cobb Board members about HIV and how it is detected, then performed an ELISA to identify the positive samples. The class was filmed by TV23, Cobb County's government access channel, for broadcast in early March.

South Cobb High School is the eighth high school in the Innovation Crescent region, spanning 13 counties from Atlanta to Athens, to launch the biotechnology course. The program was supported by a \$400,000 grant

March 12
1:30pm - 2:30pm
Athens, GA

Leading Sales in a Challenging
Market
April 28

2:00pm - 5:00pm
GTRI-Atlanta, GA

FEATURED INDUSTRY
EVENT

Illuminate: 2010 Holy Cross
Cardiovascular Symposium

April 10 and 11, 2010
Ft. Lauderdale, FL

Hosted by Holy Cross Hospital &
Saint Joseph's Translational
Research Institute

<http://hcsymposium.svcmbarite.com>

QUICK LINKS

[Events](#)

[News](#)

[Georgia Companies](#)

[BioBusinessSolutions](#)

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awarded to the Innovation Crescent Work Ready Region from the Governor's Office of Workforce Development to accelerate development of the bioscience workforce in Georgia. Georgia Bio is leading implementation of the career pathway activities under the grant.

**→ Fort Valley State Launches MS Degree Program in
Biotechnology**

Fort Valley State University (FVSU) believes biotechnology is the future and the future is now. The FVSU College of Agriculture, Family Sciences and Technology established a Master of Science degree in Biotechnology in 2009.

“We aim to enhance graduate enrollment to meet employment needs of the booming biotechnology, pharmaceutical and phyto-pharmaceutical industries in Georgia and across the nation,” said Anand K. Yadav, Ph.D., Director of Biotechnology & Graduate Programs. “We will prepare students for biosciences Ph.D. degrees, enhance their bioscience skills for successful biotechnology-related employment, and prepare future leaders for our technologically advanced society. The program includes courses in animal and plant biotechnology, cellular and molecular biology, industrial biotechnology, nanobiotechnology, food biosafety and environmental biotechnology.

FVSU fulfills a unique role in Georgia higher education by providing excellent opportunities for rural Georgians and other under-represented groups in graduate programs. The M.S. degree in Biotechnology also benefits non-traditional students already employed but looking forward for better employment opportunities. This new program delivers traditional classroom lectures and laboratory experience along with required thesis research and planned distance learning and internships.

Courses are offered on every-other-year or as-needed basis on weekdays, evenings and weekends to accommodate non-traditional and on-the-job students. FVSU has financial support for African American and low income American students. To earn the M.S. degree students will need more than 36 semester-hours with six hours for thesis research.

The FVSU biotechnology faculty has expertise and extensive national and international experience in undergraduate and graduate teaching, research, and outreach programs not only in agricultural biotechnology but also in other sciences. FVSU is opening a 45,000-square-foot Academic Science Building this year that will provide state-of-the-art classrooms and laboratory facilities. An 8,000-square-foot biotechnology building also is scheduled to open in 2010.

The M.S. Biotechnology Program has three expertise options:

- **Plant biotechnology** highlights tissue culture for in vitro regeneration and micropropagation; genetic transformation and gene expression; and genomics and proteomics for production and improvement of plants for food, feed, health, and bioenergy development.

- **Animal biotechnology** employs cell and tissue culture; animal health and growth; animal products quality; genetic transformation; gene expression; genomics and proteomics; as well as food safety and testing.
- **Applied biotechnology** emphasizes the industrial and bioprocess biotechnologies; drug discovery, development, and delivery; environmental biotechnology; nanotechnology; public health issues; bioremediation; biocontrol; biorefineries; bioplastics; synthetic biology, and bioterrorism.

For information on the FVSU program, contact Dr. Yadav, Director of Biotechnology & Graduate Programs and Professor of Specialty (Medicinal/Nutraceutical) Plants Biotechnology, College of Agriculture, Family Sciences and Technology, Fort Valley State University, 1005 State University Drive, Fort Valley, GA 31030-4313; Phone: 478-825-6807, Fax 478-825-1126 and email, yadava@fvsu.edu.

GaBio Board Adopts 5-Year Strategic Plan, New Mission Statement

Georgia Bio is embarking in new directions to assist members in navigating the ever-more demanding regulatory and market environments. It also is mobilizing to take advantage of the excitement generated by the 2009 BIO International Convention in Atlanta. To build on this success, the Board of Directors has adopted a 5-year strategic plan with an aggressive new mission: Advance the growth of the life sciences industry and foster strategic partnerships that can create a healthier world.

[Click here details of the strategic plan.](#) Contact GaBio President Charles Craig (charles.craig@gabio.org; 404-920-2043) for a presentation of the plan and its objectives to your organization.