



Georgia Biomedical Partnership Newsletter

October 2006 E-Chronicle

2007 GBP Annual Awards Dinner Scheduled for January 12

Deadline for Submitting Nominations is November 17

The 2007 Georgia Biomedical Partnership's Annual Awards Dinner will be held Friday, January 12, at the InterContinental Buckhead Hotel.

Awards will be made in three categories. The Biomedical Growth Award honors people who make an extraordinary contribution to the growth of Georgia's biomedical industry. Two leaders, one from the public sector and the other from the private sector, are recognized for their achievements.

The Deal of the Year Awards recognize company transactions, such as financings, partnering agreements and mergers and acquisitions, that are significant in the development of Georgia's biosciences industry. The third category, Biomedical Community Awards, honor individuals, companies or institutions for significant contributions to Georgia's biosciences industry.

The GBP Awards Committee, chaired by Phil Moise of Sutherland Asbill & Brennan, is requesting nominations from GBP members in all three categories. Click here [HERE](#) to download a copy of the 2007 form. Deadline for submitting nominations is Friday, November 17, 2006. Contact GBP Marketing and Project Manager Maria Thacker (maria.thacker@gabio.org) with questions.

GBP Welcomes 120 New Members in Past Two Years

Renew Membership and Update Company Info Online

Membership in the Georgia Biomedical Partnership has more than doubled over the past four years and growth has accelerated since 2005. In the past two years, more than 120 companies and organizations have joined the GBP as new members, bringing the total number of companies, institutions and other organizations to more than 270.

Joining the GBP and renewing membership in the organization can be done online at the GBP website (www.gabio.org). The site has secure e-commerce capabilities designed to make joining and renewing more convenient.

For members who haven't visited the website recently, here's how the renewal process works: Before your membership expires, you receive up to three email reminders of the expiration date. You will also receive a courtesy call from a GBP staff member the week your membership is due to expire.

To renew, go online and log in to your personal account by clicking on *Member Login*. Next simply enter your email address and password; if you have forgotten your password or have never logged in before, click the *Forgot Password* selection and a password will be emailed to you. Once logged in, you can select a membership level and pay via credit card.

Other features of your online member account include your personal profile, your member company profile and a list of your company contacts. Each of these features can be updated by you anytime.

If you prefer to be invoiced for your membership, simply contact the GBP business office at 404-221-0617. Please contact GBP Marketing and Project Manager Maria Thacker (maria.thacker@gabio.org or 404-920-2042) with any questions.

ELN Career Panel Proves to be a Success

ELN's New Booth at the Georgia Life Sciences Summit Was Bustling

For the second year in a row, ELN was well represented at the Georgia Life Sciences Summit. With new flyers, new business cards, and a short PowerPoint presentation, many passers-by were prompted to stop for more information about ELN. In fact, numerous individuals decided to join the network as a result of this event. The success and momentum ELN has experienced over the past year will hopefully continue providing value for emerging professionals in the Georgia Life Sciences community in the future.

Career Panel Enlightening

The second annual ELN career panel event on October 24th featured four industry speakers, three who are involved in the life sciences outside of the lab, and one who still considers himself a "lab rat". The first speaker was Bob Schmiedt who is the Southeast Regional Manager for State Government Affairs at UCB, Inc. Mr. Schmiedt and his department deal with legislation affecting the company and industry as a whole, such as access to medicines, stem cell research and tort reform.

Eric Marston spoke about his experiences as the Associate Director of Project Management for Clinimetrics Research Associates. Mr. Marston began his career working in the laboratory, but soon realized that he had the desire to see product through to fruition. He now manages phase I and II clinical trials for his clients.

Tiffany Salmon, PhD, is a patent agent for Fish & Richardson P.C. She enjoys the variety of technologies she is exposed to in her job, as well as the customers.

Finally, Jeff Hutchins, PhD, is the Director of Antibody Development for Inhibitex Inc, a local biotechnology company. Still in the lab, Dr. Hutchins previously worked for a larger company and now enjoys the camaraderie of a smaller one.

Notably, none of the panelists, when they began their careers, thought they would end up where they are today. They emphasized the need to be flexible, to hone your people skills and to love what you're doing and be able to "sell" it. The discussion was very well received by all attendees and individual discussions continued after the close of the session.

Upcoming events

IEEE Engineering in Medicine and Biology Society Speaker

Join us for the next meeting of the Atlanta chapter of the IEEE Engineering in Medicine and Biology Society. The speaker will be Dr. Melody Moore Jackson from the Georgia Institute of Technology in the College of Computing. The title of her talk is: [Direct Brain Interfaces: Communicating with Brain Signals](#). The event will be held on Monday, October 30th at Golden Corral Steakhouse in Duluth.

Small Dinner Series

The next small dinner series will take place on November 2nd with Dr. John Cale Lennon. Dr. Lennon is the associate director of the Emory Technology Transfer department and will be discussing licensing in academia. Please direct inquiries to Jorge Gomez at (jagomez@gmail.com).

December Social Mixer

ELN social mixers are great places to become acquainted with people in your field, or in a field you're looking to break into. As all who attended the October 24th ELN career panel can attest, the importance of networking was echoed among the panelists.

For more information on ELN, see www.gabio.org/cmt_emerging_leaders_ntwk.asp.

GBP Establishes Significant Milestones in 2006

Awards Dinner an Opportunity to Celebrate

Registration for the Georgia Biomedical Partnership's 2007 Annual Awards Dinner on Friday, January 12, will be available soon. Check the GBP website and watch for email alerts.

The Awards Dinner will be held at the Intercontinental Buckhead Hotel and will give us an opportunity to recognize outstanding accomplishments of GBP members and celebrate what has been a breakthrough year in efforts to reinvent the GBP as a more proactive and dynamic organization representing the bioscience industry. Sponsorship opportunities are available for the Awards Dinner. Contact GBP Marketing and Project Manager Maria Thacker or GBP President Charles Craig for information.

There are still two months left in 2006, but the year already has been a memorable one. Less than a month ago, the 6th Annual Georgia Life Sciences Summit established a new high for program excellence and set another record for revenues under the leadership of Summit Chair Eric Tomlinson, president and CEO of Altea Therapeutics and a GBP vice chair, and Program Chair John Richard, managing director of Georgia Venture Partners and a GBP Board member. For the second consecutive year, the Summit drew more than 700 attendees. Speaker presentations from the Summit are available on the GBP website (www.gabio.org).

The GBP's Government Affairs Committee, in collaboration with other groups, particularly patient advocacy organizations, defeated an attempt by Georgia legislators to criminalize therapeutic cloning and embryonic stem cell research during the General Assembly session this past winter.

The GBP established a Stem Cell Task Force that commissioned a statewide poll. The survey of registered voters was conducted in early September by Republican pollster and public affairs researcher Dr. Whit Ayres of Ayres McHenry Associates in Washington, DC. The poll found that a significant majority of Georgians favor embryonic stem cell research and therapeutic cloning. Complete poll results are available on the GBP website.

Also in 2006, the GBP's Economic Development Committee, in association with the Selig Center for Economic Growth at the University of Georgia's Terry College of Business, produced the first-ever profile of the private sector life sciences industry in Georgia. The report, *Shaping Infinity*, demonstrates that Georgia's life sciences industry is growing rapidly and has enormous potential. A copy of the full report can be downloaded on the GBP website. Printed copies are available at the GBP office, 75 Fifth Street NW, Suite 860, Atlanta, Ga. 30308.

The findings of *Shaping Infinity* confirm that the governor and state's economic development officials are on the right track in identifying life sciences as the top strategic industry for the state's growth. To help the state tap the potential of the life sciences industry, the GBP is challenging the elected officials to think big.

The GBP's Corporate Leadership Council, chaired by Russell Medford, president and CEO of AtheroGenics and GBP chair, has proposed a 5-year, four-pronged \$1 billion strategy that will differentiate Georgia from all other states in life sciences economic development, particularly through the proposed establishment of a unique venture capital fund and commercialization institute.

All these accomplishments are the result of a team effort led by the GBP's Board, Executive Committee and 12 other committees. Members who want to get involved in GBP committees should contact GBP President Charles Craig (charles.craig@gabio.org) or GBP Marketing and Project Manager Maria Thacker (maria.thacker@gabio.org).

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