



Georgia Biomedical Partnership Newsletter

2006 Summit Sessions Highlight Georgia's International Connections, VC's hottest Technologies and Medical Device Sector

Early Registration Ends Friday, September 1st

The 2006 Georgia Life Sciences Summit will feature CEOs of international companies discussing their global business along with scientists and financiers examining advances in medical devices and the hottest technologies emerging in Georgia and the Southeast.

Register online for the Georgia Biomedical Partnership's annual Summit at <http://www.informedhorizons.com/summit2006/registration.aspx>. **Early registration ends September 1.**

The Summit, October 4, 2006, at the Georgia World Congress Center, has become the premier gathering of life sciences professionals in the Southeast. More than 750 senior executives, scientists, investors, and public officials from throughout the nation, Europe, Canada and Australia are expected to attend.

More than 20 expert speakers discussing business, science and public policy will be featured during the day-long conference, organized under the leadership of Summit Planning Committee Chair **Dr. Eric Tomlinson**, president and CEO of Altea Therapeutics and vice chair of the Georgia Biomedical Partnership.

The Summit program line-up promises to be the best ever and will include six focused panel sessions from late morning to early afternoon.

Among them is **Georgia: International Gateway for Life Sciences Companies**. Senior executives will examine the challenges they face running global businesses and the advantages of operating in Georgia. Panelists are **Dr. Kevin T. Schultz**, chief scientific officer and head of research and development for Meril. The company, a joint venture between Merck & Co. and France-based Sanofi-Aventis, is one of the largest animal healthcare products companies in the world. Joining Dr. Schultz are **Dr. Hari Nair**, managing director and CEO of Life Therapeutics, an Australian specialty biologics and diagnostics company; and **Dr. Harold Shlevin**, president and CEO of Tikvah Therapeutics and former president and CEO of Solvay Pharmaceuticals, a Belgian pharmaceutical company.

Another session on **Financing the Life Sciences Industry** will feature the nation's top financiers discussing the hottest technologies that have captured their imaginations and funding. Panelists are **Dr. Bruce Robertson**, managing director of H.I.G. Ventures; **Ryan Schwarz**, managing director of The Carlyle Group; and **Jessica Chutter**, managing director of Morgan Stanley.

A third session, **Georgia: An Innovative Environment for Medical Device Entrepreneurs**, will examine the state's unique assets for supporting start-up medical device companies with insights from researchers and venture capitalists. Featured are **Dr. Nicolas Chronos**, medical director and chief scientific officer of the American Cardiovascular Research Institute; **Charles E. Larsen**, vice chairman of the Innovation Factory; and **Dr. Robert M. Nerem**, director of the Petit Institute for Bioengineering and Bioscience at the Georgia Institute of Technology.

Two other sessions will showcase Georgia's leading bioscience companies and a third session will feature **Dr. Shuming Nie**, director of Cancer Nanotechnology at Emory University's Winship Cancer Institute, and other scientists exploring advances in nanobiotechnology applications for cancer treatment.

For more information on the Summit program, registration, exhibiting and sponsorship opportunities, please visit <http://www.informedhorizons.com/summit2006/>.

Kauffman Foundation Program Open to GBP Entrepreneurs

Emerging Company Committee Supports Participation

The GBP Emerging Company Committee urges bioscience entrepreneurs to take advantage of a Kauffman Foundation program called FastTrac TechVenture.

The comprehensive business training program addresses the needs of start-up entrepreneurs with high potential business concepts or early stage businesses. GBP members will receive a \$50 discount on the \$595 per person cost. The program meets for 10 Tuesdays, 6 pm to 9:30 pm, starting Sept. 12.

The goal of the program is to enable entrepreneurs to develop an effective elevator pitch, business plan and investor presentation.

This licensed program of the Kauffman Foundation is presented by The Advanced Technology Development Center (ATDC) at Georgia Tech in partnership with the Technology Association of Georgia (TAG).

For more information and to apply for the program visit www.atdc.org/fasttrac. Contact Lee Herron, biosciences director for ATDC and chair of the Emerging Company Committee, at lee.herron@innovate.gatech.edu.

ELN Student Goes to MA for a Taste of Industry

More Internships at GA Companies Encouraged

Chris Lessing, academic sector chair of the Georgia Biomedical Partnership's Emerging Leaders Network (ELN), and a PhD candidate in the Department of Biomedical Engineering at the Georgia Institute of Technology, will have the unique opportunity this fall to use his education in an industrial setting. Chris will join the team of Depuy Spine in Raynham, Mass., for the fall semester to help with two exciting new projects spearheaded by the company. The internship is part of Chris' recent selection as a trainee on the Cell and Tissue Engineering NIH Biotechnology Training Grant administered by Dr. Andres Garcia at Georgia Tech.

DePuy Biologics, an organization within Johnson & Johnson, focuses on inventive regenerative therapies. The company was seeking an intern that could contribute to two early stage projects involving in vitro investigation of therapies for Parkinson's disease and congestive heart failure. Chris' background in modeling traumatic brain injury in the lab of Dr. Michelle LaPlaca at Georgia Tech gives him insight into some of the neurodegenerative pathways that could be involved in Parkinson's disease. Additionally, his experience in tissue engineering made him an attractive candidate to look at therapies for congestive heart failure.

While this is an amazing opportunity, it is often difficult for graduate students to remove themselves entirely from research for an extended period of time, as it disrupts the flow of progress and timeliness of many experiments. Chris stresses that it would be ideal if, "more local companies could sponsor us [the students on the training grant]", or any other graduate students wishing to gain this type of experience.

Local internships could allow continued progress on students' PhD research, while providing exposure to the industry environment. Furthermore, internships also help recruit and retain young talent in the Georgia life sciences industry. Thus ELN encourages any young professionals that are aware of internship opportunities within their companies to bring them to the attention of ELN and to encourage the selection of the many qualified ELN student members for these positions. It is likely that these internships do exist, but the students "just don't know about them," says Chris. With its mission of bridging the gap between life sciences professionals, ELN would like to help make these connections.

When Chris returns to Georgia Tech in January, he will have gained knowledge, connections and perspective that many who wish to enter into industry may appreciate. As chair of the academic wing of ELN, Chris is a very active member and will be available to ELN members wishing to hear about his experiences.

For more information on the ELN please email eln@gabio.org.

Bioscience Companies Urged to Participate in Georgia Tech Career Fair

Workshop Features Students and Faculty

The second annual *Georgia Tech Biotechnology Career Development and Recruitment Workshop* will be held on **October 25, 2006**. This workshop will provide company representatives with an opportunity to interact with Georgia Tech students and faculty in multiple formats.

Participating companies will receive:

- Exclusive access to Georgia Tech's resume database for Biomedical, Bioengineering, and Bioscience students
- Private rooms to interview senior undergraduate and graduate students (BS, MS, PhD)
- Space for a booth to highlight your company and meet informally with students and faculty
- Private luncheon with key faculty and staff to hear about the unique skill sets of our students and how they translate to the workforce
- Opportunity to help shape the future of our department by giving input to our faculty and students about what skills are needed to succeed in your organization

The *Biotechnology Career Development and Recruitment Workshop* is sponsored by the Wallace H. Coulter Department of Biomedical Engineering (ranked 3rd by US News and World Report) and the Parker H. Petit Institute for Bioengineering and Bioscience. At last year's workshop, company representatives interacted with over 150 senior undergraduate and graduate students from the Biomedical Engineering, Bioengineering, Biology, Chemistry, and Biochemistry programs at Georgia Tech. This year we hope to be even larger.

This event will be held on Georgia Tech's campus on the afternoon of Wednesday, October 25, 2006. Company registration is only \$50 and can be completed online at our website: <http://bcdr.bme.gatech.edu>. The deadline for registration is September 15, 2006. If you have any questions, please contact Claire Honeycutt and Sally Gerrish at bcd_r@bme.gatech.edu. We hope to see you in October!

This email was sent by the Georgia Biomedical Partnership.
To unsubscribe, [click here](#).