



Georgia Biomedical Partnership Newsletter

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Summit Early Registration Deadline Midnight Tomorrow

Features Include First-Ever Industry Report, BIO 2009 Kick-Off Ceremony

The Georgia Biomedical Partnership's 2006 Georgia Life Sciences Summit begins and ends Wednesday, October 4, with two new features.

In between are seven hours of thought-provoking presentations from more than 30 experts, including international bioscience industry leaders, top investment analysts and renowned scientists, sharing insights on trends and issues, ranging from Georgia's surging global business connections to startling discoveries in the battles against heart disease, cancer, drug-resistant bacteria and viral infections.

This conference is the one-time each year the Georgia life sciences community gathers to showcase the best science and product development. The early registration discount deadline is midnight tomorrow. Go to the GBP website (www.gabio.org) for registration and program information.

The Summit will kick-off at 8:30 am October 4, in the Georgia World Congress Center with the State of the State address by GBP Chair **Dr. Russell Medford**, president and CEO of AtheroGenics Inc. Dr. Medford will release findings from the inaugural Georgia Life Sciences Industry Report, titled *Shaping Infinity*.

This report, to be produced annually in association with the Selig Center for Economic Growth in the Terry College of Business at University of Georgia, is the first-ever comprehensive economic survey of the state's burgeoning bioscience industry. The 2006 study of more than 250 life sciences companies was sponsored by Georgia Power and the Georgia Research Alliance. Copies of the report will be available to all conference registrants.

The day-long conference will conclude with a Gala Reception from 5 pm to 7 pm at the Georgia Aquarium. The event will include a ceremony to kick off the countdown to the Biotechnology Industry Organization's BIO 2009 International Conference in Atlanta. BIO President Jim Greenwood will join us in celebrating the excitement of hosting what has become an annual world's fair of the life sciences, attracting more than 20,000 bioscience professionals from more than 60 countries.

The 6th Annual Summit, organized under the leadership of Summit Chair **Dr. Eric Tomlinson**, President and CEO of Altea Therapeutics and GBP vice chair, promises to be the best ever. The Summit has become the premier bioscience conference in the Southeast, attracting more than 750 bioscience professionals from across the nation, Europe, Canada and Asia-Pacific. An exhibit hall will house more than 70 companies and organizations displaying their latest technological advances.

The theme of the Summit is the Future of Biomedicine. In addition to Dr. Medford's presentation, there will be keynote speeches by **William A. Hawkins**, President and Chief Operating Officer of Minnesota-based Medtronic; **Dr. Roch Doliveux**, CEO and Chairman of the Executive Committee of Brussels-based UCB Inc.; and **Dr. Raymond F. Schinazi**, Emory University Professor of Pediatrics and Chemistry.

The afternoon scientific forum will feature three distinguished Georgia-based scientists: **Dr. Guy L. Reed**, a Georgia Research Alliance Eminent Scholar and Kupperman Chair in Cardiovascular Disease at the Medical College of Georgia; **Dr. Jeffrey Skolnick**, a Georgia Research Alliance Eminent Scholar and Director of the Center for the Study of Systems Biology at the Georgia Institute of Technology; and **Dr. Fred Tenover**, Associate Director for Laboratory Science, Division of Healthcare Quality Promotion, at the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Concurrent panel sessions in the morning and afternoon will explore the challenges of operating a global life sciences company, trends in financing, advances in medical devices, and nanobiotechnology. In addition, two sessions, one in the morning and the other in the afternoon, will showcase Georgia's cutting edge life sciences companies.

July Dinner Program Focuses on Careers in Biomedical Sciences

ELN to Celebrate One Year Anniversary September 15

A diverse group of 8 ELN members took advantage of the opportunity to garner advice from Joseph D. Miller, PhD, over dinner at Park Tavern in midtown Atlanta. Dr. Miller, a consultant for Booz-Allen-Hamilton, uses his expertise in the biomedical sciences to work on projects for the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Among those who attended this dinner were Georgia Tech, Emory and University of Georgia graduate students, a realtor and a consulting business owner.

Topics discussed at the dinner included how to make oneself an attractive candidate for a consulting career, how to prepare for the interview process and how skills acquired in graduate school are transferable to the field. Dr. Miller stressed that doctoral students wishing to enter the consulting world do not necessarily need an MBA, a welcome piece advice to the PhD students in the crowd who have already committed to an average of six years in university. An MBA would certainly not hurt, however, and if one chose to take this path, Dr. Miller emphasized the clout that a school with a “name” would carry.

The analytical and problem solving skills honed in graduate school are invaluable in a consulting career. The projects encountered are wide-ranging and ideal for those who enjoy learning new topics quickly and often.

To prepare for this vocation, there are numerous books and on-line sources where one can prepare for the case interview, a rigorous process whereby the candidate is presented with scenarios and must logically and sequentially identify solutions. Dr. Miller also suggested becoming involved in Community Consulting Teams, or CCT, which is an all-volunteer, non-profit organization aiming to help individuals prepare for a career in consulting. These teams provide hands-on experience in developing projects and participating in business plan competitions. Receiving criticism and learning how to work in teams are critical to this field.

The small group setting provided peers with an intimate atmosphere to network. This was the second in the series of ELN dinner programs. With the increasing popularity of the series, many more speakers are planned throughout the year and popular topics will likely be repeated.

In other news...

ELN will be celebrating its one-year anniversary! In honor of its success, a Martinis and IMAX® celebration will be held on September 15th at the Fernbank Museum. Martinis and Networking will begin at 6pm and the IMAX® movie will be shown at 8pm. For more information see www.gabio.org.