OKBio
OklahomaBioScienceAssociation

OKLAHOMA BIO NEWS

Oklahoma Biosciences Thriving Despite National Recession

The state of Oklahoma can say something that most states can't say: its economy is stable. While the US as a whole is facing a deep recession, Oklahoma has seen slow and steady gains. While it's true that no state is completely immune to the changes happening around the country, Oklahoma is standing firm, looking ahead and making great plans for the future.

Oklahoma's low cost of doing business is a significant factor in its strong economy. Oklahoma has an overall total cost of business that ranks fifth lowest in the US, with labor costs that run well below the national average. It also has one of the lowest per capita tax rates in the nation.

Oklahoma's bioscience industry is one of the industries growing and thriving in the Oklahoma economy. More than 44,000 people are directly employed in Oklahoma's bioscience industry, for a direct economic impact of $1.95 billion (according to a regional bioscience plan completed by Battelle Technology Partnership Practice). The industry has key assets throughout the state, and encompasses a wide range of research and business specialities. This year several companies are expanding and adding employees.

A key ingredient in Oklahoma's bioscience momentum is the symbiotic relationship between clinical researchers, academic investigators, public and private investors, economic development officials and other service providers – something that has paid off not only in economic terms, but also in exciting new drugs and medical advances that are now saving lives around the world.

Another ingredient to success is the industry's significant public and private support. The Oklahoma Bioscience Association (OKBio), created in the spring of 2008, promotes the growth of biosciences in the state through partnership building, education and outreach, networking and policy development. OKBio's membership and support comes from entrepreneurs, research institutions, foundations, economic development organizations and individuals from across the state who want to see Oklahoma's emerging bioscience sector grow and gain

Continued on page 2

CONTENTS

Oklahoma Biosciences Thriving Despite National Recession

continued from page 1

national and international attention.

With a strong outlook ahead, Oklahoma will continue to charge forward with the momentum it has created. With high-quality, affordable facilities; cutting-edge technology in life, plant, animal and energy research; and a bioscience cluster that spans across the state, including Ardmore to the south; Edmond, Norman and Oklahoma City in central Oklahoma; and Stillwater, Ponca City and Tulsa in the northeast, Oklahoma will continue to focus on and grow its bioscience sector.

If you are interested in learning more, please stop by the Oklahoma BIO Pavilion (#1333), or contact Josh O'Brien at 800-616-1114 or jobrien@okcchamber.com or Sheri Stickley at the Oklahoma BioScience Association, 405-271-7773 or info@okbio.org.

ORGANIZATION LIST

Advanced Center for Genome Technology
Allergy Laboratories, Inc.
Alexion Pharmaceuticals, Inc.
Alpha BioPartners
Altheus Therapeutics
American Health Partners
Analytical Research Laboratories/DNA Solutions
Anethyst Research, Inc.
Anglin Public Relations
Ardmore Development Authority
Astellas Pharma, Inc.
Bank of Oklahoma
Bio-Cide International, Inc.
Biolytx Pharmaceuticals Corp.
Charlesson, L.L.C.
Children's Medical Research Institute
Choncept, L.L.C.
CoMentis, Inc.
COR Clinical Research, L.L.C.
Core Oncology
Crescendo Bioscience
CP Kelco
CritiCare, Inc.
Cytovance Biologics
Dean McGee Eye Institute
Diatonic, Inc.
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Oklahoma Capital Investment Board
Oklahoma Center for the Advancement of Science and Technology
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Oklahoma Dept. of Commerce
Oklahoma Food & Agriculture Products Research
Oklahoma Foundation for Digestive Research
Oklahoma Health Center Foundation
Oklahoma Life Science Fund
Oklahoma Medical Research Foundation
Oklahoma Nanotechnology Initiative
Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education
Oklahoma State University
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One Net
Onconos
OrthoCare Innovations
PanCagen, Inc.
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Ponca City Development Authority
Presbyterian Health Foundation
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Theramet ics, L.L.C.
The Samuel Roberts Noble Foundation, Inc.
Tomlinson & O'Connell
Transtimulation Research, Inc.
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OKBio: Advancing the Growth of Oklahoma's Bioscience Sector

From biotech and pharmaceuticals to medical devices and biofuels. Human health, veterinary medicine and plant science. Across the state, Oklahoma's bioscience sector is vibrant, diverse and growing. OKBio is at the center of it all – the focal point for Oklahoma's emerging bioscience cluster.

OKBio is the new statewide Oklahoma Bioscience Association, dedicated to advancing the growth of the state's bioscience sector. OKBio's membership includes Oklahoma's most exciting bioscience companies, leading research institutions, largest foundations, future-oriented economic development organizations and quality service providers.

In its inaugural year OKBio made great strides, establishing an impressive founding board, securing substantial annual funding commitments, and creating key committees. OKBio made its debut at BIO in 2008. In addition, OKBio conducted seminars on relevant topics including workforce and executive recruiting, trends in big pharma, legislative issues, and recent developments at some of the state's key bioscience companies.

OKBio members:

- Learn from experts at workshops and conferences geared to the varied interests of Oklahoma's diverse bioscience community
- Network with other companies, professionals and service providers from Oklahoma and across the country
- Exchange insights with colleagues and gain valuable information at member forums
- Educate the media and opinion leaders on the importance of Oklahoma's bioscience sector
- Stay informed on issues, legislation, events and stories that affect bioindustry
- Advance policies that promote the success of the bioscience industry
- Work with statewide partners to gain better access to workforce and capital
- Participate in key committees to build a stronger organization
- Access valuable resources through OKBio's affiliation with BIO

More is in store this year at BIO, as OKBio, along with the Oklahoma Department of Commerce and the Oklahoma Business Roundtable, hosts an evening of fun and music at Oklahoma's reception at the Hard Rock Café.

Back in Oklahoma, OKBio will continue to grow, with a new website, upcoming topical seminars, more networking opportunities, and more publicity for Oklahoma companies and research.

For more information, visit www.okbio.org, or contact Suzanne McCombs at smccombs@okbio.org.

Altheus Therapeutics
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Anglin Public Relations
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HealthAide, Inc.
Heparinex, L.L.C.
Hyalose, L.L.C.
i2E, Inc.
Inoveon Corporation
InterGenetics Incorporated
JKA Genomics
Oklahoma Business Roundtable
Oklahoma City Community College
Oklahoma Department of Commerce
Oklahoma Life Science Fund
Oklahoma Medical Research Foundation
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Onconos, L.L.C.
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Presbyterian Health Foundation
Pure Protein, L.L.C.
Round Hill Capital Advisors
Samuel Roberts Noble Foundation
Selexys Pharmaceuticals Corporation
Siwa Biotech Corporation
The State Chamber
Tulsa Community College
Tulsa Metro Chamber
University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center
William K. Warren Foundation

Members of OKBio as of April, 2009

Technology Start-Ups Find a Myriad of Assistance in Oklahoma

Oklahoma is proud to be known as a state that is home to established, pioneering biotech companies, but also a state that goes out of its way to bring in, foster and grow technology start-ups.

Oklahoma is considered "a pioneer in state venture capital programs," according to former National Seed and Venture Funds Association CEO Sue Strommer, whose organization has picked Oklahoma City to host its 16th annual conference in 2009. "It's important to grow innovation capital for promising entrepreneurs, and Oklahoma has put a great deal of creativity and energy into expanding this important sector," said Strommer. Start-up companies looking to do business in Oklahoma will find a wealth of support through organizations such as i2E (Turning Innovation into Enterprise), the Oklahoma Center for the Advancement of Science and Technology (OCAST), the Oklahoma Life Science Fund, the Presbyterian Health Foundation, the Michael S. Morgan Accelerator Building, the EDGE Fund and the Oklahoma Capital Investment Board.

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>
> *Sue Strommer*
> *Former CEO, National Association of Seed and Venture Funds*

Turning Innovation into Enterprise

i2E, (Turning Innovation into Enterprise) Inc. is a private, not-for-profit corporation dedicated to facilitating the start-up of new advanced technology companies in Oklahoma. Created in 1998, i2E enterprise directors have reviewed more than 1,000 technologies leading to the formation of numerous new start-ups in Oklahoma. It has become the interface between sources of technological innovation and sources of capital for Oklahoma technology-based companies.

Biotechnology and life science opportunities together represent one-third of i2E's annual portfolio. Annually, i2E's Innovation Services Department reviews an average of 44 bio and life science opportunities for commercial potential at various research institutions in Oklahoma. An additional 24 bio and life science commercial opportunities are assisted with business development and access to capital each year.

Oklahoma Center for the Advancement of Science and Technology

An agency looking to assist start-ups on their road to success is the Oklahoma Center for the Advancement of Science and Technology (OCAST), a technology-based agency. OCAST received $15.3 million in funds in 2008, with 104 patents filed and 183 inventors assisted. Since 1987, OCAST has funded 2,137 projects.

This agency works closely with its strategic partners to improve conditions for Oklahoma's technology businesses. Long-standing programs at OCAST include applied research, health research, small business research assistance and research and development intern partnerships - $18.47 is returned to the state for every dollar Oklahoma has invested through OCAST since its beginnings in 1987. i2E manages its programs through OCAST.

The Oklahoma Life Science Fund

The Oklahoma Life Science Fund (OLSF) was created in 2000 to take advantage of investment opportunities in the Oklahoma life sciences, and has $15 million under management. The fund finances the most promising early-stage life sciences companies in Oklahoma. It stands apart because most life science companies receiving venture capital from OLSF are at the earliest stages of company formation and development. This fund has provided venture capital to bioscience start-ups in

two separate rounds.

The investors in and members of OLSF include the Presbyterian Health Foundation, Noble Foundation, Kerr Foundation, Oklahoma Medical Research Foundation, FLD, LLC, McClendon Ventures, Hall Brothers, and Advancia Corp. Since its inception, OLSF has funded companies such as ForHealth Technologies which recently sold to Baxa Corp and Zapaq, which signed a $760 million co-development agreement with the Japanese Pharmaceutical company Astellas Pharma. This represents the third largest Pharma/Biotech co-development agreement ever done.

Presbyterian Health Foundation

Since beginning in 1985, Presbyterian Health Foundation has funded more than $100 million in grants to bioscience research and programs and built a biotechnology research park, which is home to 50 tenants and valued at more than $100 million.

In the last five years, researchers, whose 37 chairs or professorships received PHF funding, have brought more than $390 million of out-of-state income to Oklahoma. The PHF Research Park is an important conduit for incubating new companies in Oklahoma.

The Michael S. Morgan Accelerator Building

The Michael S. Morgan Accelerator Building is a 26,000 sq. ft. multi-tenant facility within the Oklahoma Technology and Research Park (OTRP) in Stillwater, Oklahoma. This facility is a next step for companies coming out of an incubator, allowing additional time for development. With a lab and office configuration, this facility offers emerging companies the opportunity to collaborate with Oklahoma State University and other area technology companies while providing a professional atmosphere. OTRP is a 170-acre planned development focused on fostering partnerships between emerging technology companies and Oklahoma State University.

EDGE Fund

The Economic Development Generating Excellence (EDGE) Fund is a legislatively authorized state agency. In 2006, the Oklahoma Legislature provided $150 million to start EDGE to fund research projects in areas such as aerospace, biotechnology, sensor research, advanced materials, weather sciences, energy, agriculture and telecommunications.

Oklahoma Capital Investment Board

For the past 15 years, the Oklahoma Capital Investment Board (OCIB) has cultivated the venture capital industry in this state—launching Oklahomans as venture capitalists and drawing outside venture firms to the state. When OCIB was established in 1992, there were three local venture capital firms. Today there are more than 15 Oklahoma-based venture firms and that many more out-of-state firms investing in Oklahoma companies. Applied Economics' updated analysis of OCIB's programs conservatively estimates that these programs have generated in excess of $1.1 billion in economic activity for Oklahoma.

If you are interested in learning more, please stop by the Oklahoma BIO pavilion (#1333), or contact Josh O'Brien at 800-616-1114 or jobrien@okcchamber.com.

Oklahoma Moving Forward with New Facilities

In the face of an uncertain economy, many states are seeing slowed growth. But Oklahoma is watching its companies and research organizations grow and build new, state-of-the-art bioscience facilities.

Noble Foundation Ardmore Campus Expansion

The Samuel Roberts Noble Foundation concluded an eight-year, $100 million construction project on its Ardmore campus in 2007. During the construction, the Noble Foundation more than doubled its infrastructure, finishing the project at more than 500,000 square feet of research and administration space. The Noble Foundation's greenhouse is the crown jewel of the campus expansion. At more than 47,000 square feet, it is one of the largest research greenhouses in the United States. It is also one of the most technologically advanced greenhouse facilities in the Western Hemisphere.

Oklahoma State University Sensor Facility

Ponca City and Oklahoma's sensor industry opened the OSU University Multispectral Laboratories (UML) in summer 2008. UML is a national center focused on the test, evaluation and implementation of defense, homeland security, energy and intelligence systems. Owned by OSU and operated by Triton Scientific, a Ponca City-based business, UML brings researchers together with government and industry to advance new technologies and capabilities.

PHF Research Park

Presbyterian Health Foundation (PHF) Research Park in Oklahoma City, a 25-acre, 700,000-square-foot complex that supports biomedical technology, completed its seventh building on the park's campus in the summer of 2008. The five-story building was a $20 million project that added 130,000 square feet of class A office and wet-lab space to the complex. A total of 35 biotech companies and more than 1,400 employees call the complex home.

University of Oklahoma Research Campus

The University of Oklahoma is home to a new 271-acre University Research Campus in Norman, Oklahoma, that brings together organizations where cutting-edge research into life science fields is taking place. It also houses private sector and University organizations encompassing areas ranging from weather and hydrology to applied social research and geospatial information technologies. Now under construction is a third building, which will house 30 state-of-the-art chemistry and biochemistry research labs among other entities. Combined, more than 650,000 square feet will be available when building is complete.

University of Oklahoma-Tulsa Schusterman Center Clinic

The Schusterman Center Clinic, in Tulsa, opened in June of 2007 and is a $35 million facility designed to improve patient care and access as well as provide opportunities for additional medical research. This clinic expansion allowed the OU School of Community Medicine to increase patient visits by approximately 25 percent. The clinic's estimated economic impact for the Tulsa area is $1.5 billion over 15 years.

Dean McGee Eye Institute

In July 2006, Dean McGee Eye Institute (DMEI) broke ground on a $38 million building expansion in Oklahoma City. The 78,000 square-foot state-of-the-art science laboratory, clinical research and patient care space is expected to be complete in July 2010. The five-story building will double the size of the existing Institute, and will address increasing demand for ophthalmologic eye care services and opportunities for research regarding blinding conditions and eye diseases.

Cytovance Manufacturing Facility

Cytovance Biologics is currently in the very late planning stages of expanding within the 44,000 square-foot manufacturing facility located in the PHF Research Park. Cytovance specializes in the execution of clinical production of antibody and recombinant protein products derived from cell culture and will produce at scales up to 3,000L (w/v) from batch, fed-batch and perfusion processes. Cytovance is also increasing capabilities to include microbial fermentation at the 100L scale.

The Oklahoma Health Center

Currently, the Oklahoma Health Center, in Oklahoma City, is undergoing a transformation with $420 million of new construction occurring across the 300-acre campus. Construction includes the Oklahoma Medical Research Foundation Tower, the Harold Hamm Oklahoma Diabetes Center, the OU's Children's Physician's Building, OU's College of Allied Health Building, the OU Cancer Center and new space for the Oklahoma Blood Institute.

Oklahoma Medical Research Foundation Tower

Oklahoma Medical Research Foundation (OMRF) has plans to build a 180,000-square-foot, eight-story research center, in Oklahoma City. The building was designed around "green" features and will be completely energy-efficient. The $125 million project will have state-of-the-art scientific and administrative space, dozens of new laboratories and a broad array of core facilities. The tower will essentially double OMRF's size and is planned to open in 2010. The project is expected to attain LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Gold certification.

Harold Hamm Oklahoma Diabetes Center

A former medical office building is being retooled into a $2 million diabetes center, the Harold Hamm Oklahoma Diabetes Center in Oklahoma City. The center was established by the University of Oklahoma with the goal of promoting the well-being of all people with, or at high risk of, diabetes in Oklahoma, regardless of ethnic background or financial status.

University of Oklahoma Children's Physician's Building

The OU Children's Physician's Building is under construction and is expected to open this year in Oklahoma City. This $115 million project provides the first free-standing, pediatric multi-specialty physicians' building in the state. It will expand and improve the facilities available to Oklahoma's children and their families, as well as OU Physicians, scientists and staff involved in pediatric health care.

University of Oklahoma College of Allied Health Building

The OU College of Allied Health is building a new, high-tech, 114,000-gross-square-foot building. The $26 million new facility, in Oklahoma City, will house student areas, classrooms and class laboratories, distance education and computer facilities, clinical and research space, the Lee Mitchener Tolbert Center; the John W. Keys Speech and Hearing Center; children's hearing impaired day-care laboratory, faculty and staff offices, building support spaces and multi-purpose space.

University of Oklahoma Cancer Center

Hope for cures and treatment is coming closer to home. The University of Oklahoma (OU) is in the process of building the first and only NCI-Designated Cancer Center in the state of Oklahoma, which is set to open in 2010 in Oklahoma City. This is the gold standard for cancer research and care in the United States. There are only 63 such designated institutes serving 50 states in the US. Members of the OUCI, including faculty from OU Health Sciences Center, OU Norman, OU Tulsa and the Oklahoma Medical Research Foundation -- conduct innovative and nationally-funded cancer research in the basic, clinical and population sciences.

Oklahoma Blood Institute

The three-story, $12 million, 47,493 square-foot building will house a new donor center, designed with the comfort of donors in mind. The Oklahoma City building will also feature a 2,500-square-foot conference center and approximately 16,000 square feet of space available for lease by outside organizations.

If you are interested in learning more, please stop by the Oklahoma BIO pavilion (#1333), or contact Josh O'Brien at 800-616-1114 or jobrien@okcchamber.com.

Biotechnology Companies Prosper in Ardmore

Located 97 miles south of Oklahoma City and 112 miles north of Dallas, TX, the city of Ardmore, Oklahoma has proven that proximity to a major metropolitan area does not dictate success in the biotechnology sector.

Samuel Roberts Noble Foundation Forages Sustainability

The Samuel Roberts Noble Foundation, a world class agricultural consultation and research organization, focuses on enhancing agriculture production and plant improvement. The Noble Foundation experienced tremendous success both organizationally and on the biotechnology front in 2008. The Noble Foundation broadened its efforts in plant science and agricultural production by initiating collaborations with Forage Genetics International, LLC, and BASF Plant Science. The Noble Foundation will work with Forage Genetics International, a Land O'Lakes subsidiary, to improve alfalfa for a broad range of applications, including forage, silage and industrial uses. The BASF collaboration will focus on crop productivity. The collaboration's aim is to develop traits that help improve plants' health and yield by using a model plant, *Medicago truncatula* (commonly called barrel medic).

In 2008, the Noble Foundation ranked in the top 10 in two national surveys conducted by *The Scientist* magazine. The Noble Foundation ranked eighth in the "Best Places to Work for Postdocs" survey in March and again earned the eighth spot in the "Best Places to Work in Academia" survey in November. The Noble Foundation competed against more than 75 research and academic institutions from across the country in each survey. This spring, the Noble Foundation participated in the "Best Places to Work for Postdocs" survey and improved its ranking to fourth.

IMTEC Becomes Part of the 3M Company

In 2008, IMTEC became a wholly-owned subsidiary of 3M and became known as IMTEC, a 3M Company. The acquisition gives 3M ESPE access to two of the fastest growing segments in the dental industry and enables a digital 'total restorative'

approach with more options than ever, including IMTEC implants, 3M ESPE Lava crowns and 3M's advanced digital workflow solutions.

IMTEC's primary focus is on dental applications and the development of new technology to simplify dentistry. IMTEC's ILUMA system is a leader in Cone Beam Computed Tomography for dentistry and medicine. With this technology and IMTEC's groundbreaking applications, its customers can access the power of three-dimensional radiography in the convenience of their own offices. IMTEC, a 3M Company has approximately 200 employees at its Ardmore location.

Amethyst Research, Inc. Develops New Technology for the Defense and Bio-Medical Industries

Amethyst Research, Inc. develops advanced process technologies that significantly improve the performance of infrared detectors and sensors at substantially reduced production costs. This technology has significant applications to both the defense and bio-medical industries. The company, which began in 2006 with two employees, has grown to nine full-time employees.

For more information, visit www.ardmoredevelopment.com or contact Brian Thorstenberg at bthorstenberg@ardmore.org.

OCAST Supports Charlesson on the Road to Eradicating Eye Disease

Imagine not being able to see your daughter on her wedding day or not experiencing your grandchild's first facial expressions. Simple, yet necessary tasks such as driving, reading or recognizing faces suddenly become impossible.

An estimated 1.75 million Americans over age 50 have developed loss of vision or blindness due to diabetic macular edema, one of several causes of age-related macular degeneration. And of the more than 200,000 Oklahomans living with diabetes, 90 percent will develop an eye disease. Unfortunately, for 95 percent of individuals suffering from these debilitating retinal diseases, there is no cure.

With the support of OCAST, Oklahoma City-based Charlesson LLC is developing innovative treatments for weakening and blinding eye diseases. Current treatments require a monthly injection in the retina. Charlesson is developing nanotechnology-based pharmaceuticals that can reduce the dosing frequency to every four to six months. The company is also developing eyedrop formulations for its drugs that could even eliminate any injection into the eye whatsoever.

These revolutionary treatments will provide more comfort for patients, can be used by individuals who do not have a treatment option, and will slow or stop the disease process to prevent vision loss. The current standard of care is to utilize FDA-approved drugs to treat the symptoms of the disease, but Charlesson's drug treatments may actually prevent the disease before symptoms, such as vision loss, occur.

Charlesson has leveraged funding provided by OCAST to attract grants from the National Institutes of Health. With more than $8 million in research grants, the company has annual revenues of nearly $600,000 through contracts with national pharmaceutical companies. The company has expanded from two to 19 employees in two years and anticipates hiring three high-level scientists in 2009.

Age-related macular degeneration affects about 8 million Americans age 55 and older, according to a study by the Wilmer Institute at Johns Hopkins University.

Charlesson provides a number of ophthalmic preclinical services to pharmaceutical companies and academic researchers. Their skilled team of retinal surgeons and scientists perform experiments on a contract basis. Charlesson's team has extensive experience in developing drug treatments for nearly all types of ocular diseases. These services can provide the proof-of-concept data required by the FDA prior to initiating human clinical trials.

For more information, check their Web site at www.charlessonllc.com

In addition to health and quality of life issues, OCAST investments have other economic benefits for Oklahoma's citizens. For instance:

$15.3 million - Amount awarded in FY08 to Oklahoma universities, non-profit research foundations and businesses.

$46,441 - Average Salary reported by participants in OCAST supported programs is $46,441 – 33 percent above the per capita income in Oklahoma.

18:1 - Since inception in 1987, OCAST awards leveraged an average return of 18:1 in federal government funds, business financials and private investment.

$3 billion - Cumulative, leveraged financial impact of OCAST supported programs.

104 - Number of patents filed in FY08 by Oklahomans funded through an OCAST program.

2,137 - Total number of projects funded by OCAST since 1987.

183 - Number of inventors assisted by Inventors Assistance Service in FY08.

583 - Number of jobs created or retained by OCAST supported organizations in FY08.

For more information, visit www.ok.gov/ocast, or contact Dan Luton at dluton@ocast.state.ok.us.

Oklahoma Bioenergy Center Plants World's Largest Site of Switchgrass

In 2008, Noble Foundation researchers and agricultural specialists planted 1,000 acres of switchgrass near Guymon, Oklahoma, on behalf of the Oklahoma Bioenergy Center (OBC). These production-scale demonstration fields are the world's largest site of switchgrass devoted to cellulosic ethanol production.

"Cellulosic ethanol from sources such as switchgrass is noncompetitive with food sources for animals and humans," said Oklahoma Secretary of Energy David Fleischaker. "More importantly, this dedicated land will allow us to demonstrate the advantages of switchgrass."

Switchgrass is a different type of energy crop. It has a higher relative energy output than corn. It is a perennial grass that is naturally drought resistant and grows on marginal cropland.

The OBC demonstration fields will provide academia and industry a unique "living laboratory" to understand the production and long-term impact of bioenergy crops, as well as experiment with new production techniques and critical harvest, collection and transport methods. The fields also will serve as a "living classroom" where agricultural producers, policy makers and the general public can see and experience these crops which will play a key role in the United States' energy future.

"These fields are vital for the continued development and understanding of dedicated energy crops," said Michael A. Cawley, President and Chief Executive Officer of the Noble Foundation. "This is more than just a research project that ends in the field. It has a market endpoint."

A cellulosic biorefinery currently being constructed by Abengoa Bioenergy in Hugoton, Kansas will be less than 35 miles from the Panhandle switchgrass fields. The parties are developing a contract to enable a future supply of the material to the biorefinery. The Abengoa Bioenergy facility is expected to be operational in 2010.

"The value of the Oklahoma Bioenergy Center to the cellulosic ethanol industry cannot be overstated," said Gerson Santos-Leon, Executive Vice President, Abengoa Bioenergy New Technologies. "The early and aggressive establishment of 1,000 acres of switchgrass will provide researchers, scientists, agricultural producers and industry – not only in Oklahoma, but across the nation – with important information that will help establish the emerging cellulosic ethanol industry."

The 1,000 acres of switchgrass leverage the extensive agricultural infrastructure and farming expertise located in Oklahoma's Panhandle. This undertaking is made possible through a lease arrangement with Hitch Enterprises, Inc., one of the region's most renowned agriculture operations. A family-owned and managed agricultural company, Hitch Enterprises has conducted extensive cattle feeding, cattle production, pork production and agricultural operations near Guymon for more than 110 years. Agricultural researchers for the Noble Foundation will manage the 1,000 acres as part of Noble's OBC-related activities.

A state initiative championed by Governor Brad Henry, the OBC brings together Oklahoma's comprehensive higher education institutions – the University of Oklahoma and Oklahoma State University– with the plant and agricultural research expertise of the Noble Foundation to initiate a biofuels industry within Oklahoma.

For more information, visit www.noble.org, or contact Adam Calaway at jacalaway@noble.org.

OMRF Building is Model of Environmentally Efficient Architecture

When officials at the Oklahoma Medical Research Foundation (OMRF) began planning a significant expansion project, they took a novel approach. Rather than focus on design, their first consideration was how to incorporate green features into the new building. From the beginning, architects and engineers were charged with designing a unique building that would stand as a model of environmentally efficient architecture, energy conservation and resource preservation.

"Our first question was, how do we make this building green?" said OMRF president Dr. Stephen Prescott. "We chose the green features first and designed the rest around them."

Soon, an eight-story, energy-efficient tower unlike any research building in North America will rise in the center of OMRF's campus. With 185,000 square feet of state-of-the-art scientific and administrative space, it will house dozens of new laboratories and a broad array of core facilities, essentially doubling OMRF's size.

The tower's design will bring natural daylight deep inside to reduce the use of electrical lighting. A living roof and rain garden will reduce storm water waste, and condensation from air-handling equipment will be captured for use in a decorative water feature at the building's entrance. Natural finishes and recycled or renewable materials will be used throughout, and landscaping with native grasses will help lower water usage and maintenance.

But the structure's defining feature will be 24 custom-designed vertical wind turbines that will crown the tower. In addition to their energy-generation function, the vertical turbines are designed to mimic the DNA double helix symbolizing OMRF's research mission.

The project is expected to attain LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Gold certification, making it only the second building in Oklahoma to receive this rating. "With this building, we want to demonstrate that expansion can be bold and responsible at the same time," Prescott said.

Most importantly, it will serve as a home to hundreds of new scientists, technicians and staff, who will tackle society's most pressing medical problems.

A new wave of researchers has recently joined OMRF's scientific staff as part of the foundation's expansion plan. The new researchers came from a variety of institutions across the U.S. and beyond, including Yale University, Duke University, the National Institutes of Health and London's Imperial College of Medicine.

More researchers will mean more groundbreaking discoveries and more life-saving treatments for diseases like cancer, heart disease and Alzheimer's—illnesses that touch the lives of people everywhere.

"The most precious resource in biomedicine is human capital," said Prescott. "This unique research facility will be key to bringing some of the world's most talented biomedical scientists to Oklahoma."

For more information, visit www.omrf.org, or contact Shari Hawkins at hawkinss@omrf.org.

Greater Oklahoma City Chamber Fostering Bio Growth in Oklahoma

The Greater Oklahoma City Chamber is the voice of business and the visionary organization in Oklahoma City. The Chamber works to create a business climate that attracts new businesses and enhances growth and expansion opportunities for existing businesses. Ultimately, it is committed to creating a community with an irresistible quality of life.

Oklahoma City's Growing Bioscience Industry

Oklahoma's bioscience sector is emerging as one of the state's key economic forces with its economic impact already exceeding $1.95 billion. The Greater Oklahoma City area is the hub of the state's biosciences. Predominant within the sector are:

- Research, testing and medical laboratories
- Medical devices and equipment
- Drugs and pharmaceuticals
- Agriculture feedstock and chemicals

Among the facilities located in Oklahoma City are the Oklahoma Health Center complex which includes the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center, Presbyterian Hospital, the Oklahoma Medical Research Foundation, Veterans Administration Hospital, OU Medical Center, and the Dean McGee Eye Institute.

Across the street is the Presbyterian Health Foundation (PHF) Research Park. A study prepared in 2008 by Larkin Warner, Professor Emeritus of Oklahoma State University, and Robert C. Dauffenbach, Director of the Center for Economic and Management Research at the University of Oklahoma, revealed that PHF has an annual direct economic impact of $93.8 million on the Greater Oklahoma City region.

The Chamber's Role

In 1999 the Chamber took its the first delegation of Oklahomans to the BIO Convention. Since then, the group has grown to 80 delegates representing 50 organizations.

The Chamber played a key role in the formation of the state's bioscience organization. In 2008, the Chamber commissioned the Battelle Bioscience Study which recommended the formation of what is now the Oklahoma BioScience Association (OKBio). This group's mission is to promote the growth of biosciences in Oklahoma through partnership building, education and outreach, networking, policy development and publicity.

As the visionary organization in Oklahoma City, the Greater Oklahoma City Chamber will continue to focus on the state's growing bioscience industry. With its already incredible economic impact, it is vital that the Chamber does all it can to ensure this industry's continued growth.

If you are interested in learning more, please stop by the Oklahoma BIO pavilion (#1333), or contact Josh O'Brien at 800-616-1114 or jobrien@okcchamber.com.

GREATER
OKLAHOMA CITY
CHAMBER

PHF Research Park Biotechs Translating Scientific Discovery into Health Solutions

Presbyterian Health Foundation (PHF) Research Park in Oklahoma City, a 25-acre, 700,000-square-foot complex that supports biomedical technology, is home to 55 tenants, including 35 biotech companies and more than 1,400 employees. Working in cooperation with federal, state and city agencies, the Research Park has been developed by the Presbyterian Health Foundation, a not-for-profit private foundation.

Charlesson LLC
Therapeutics: Diabetic Retinopathy, Macular Degeneration and Ocular Inflammation

Emergent Technologies (Three companies)
Hyalose
Biomedical polymers for use with various surgeries
Choncept LLC
Production of Chondroitin via recombinant technology
Heparinex, LLC
Novel recombinant synthesis of anticoagulation products (vis-à-vis Heparin)

Cytovance Biologics
cGMP biologics manufacturing of therapeutic protein products

Selexys Pharmaceuticals
Therapeutics for inflammatory and thrombotic diseases

CoMentis
Production of molecule inhibitors of beta-amyloid enzyme (Alzheimer's)

Lifetone Technology
Innovative products for home security, safety and health monitoring

Pure Protein
Discovers new targets to prevent and treat infectious disease and cancer

OrthoCare Innovation
Prosthetic and medical device research and development

Analytical Research Laboratories (ARL)
Forensics Analysis and Drug Development Consul

DNA Solutions
DNA testing, forensics, research and development

Altheus Therapeutics
Innovative therapeutics for Crohn's and Ulcerative Colitus diseases

Advancia
Technical services for government and private agencies

Alexion Pharmaceuticals Inc.
Therapeutics for various life threatening diseases

Biolytx Pharmaceuticals, Corp
Novel Antibiotic Peptide for hospital infections

College of Public Health, American Indian Diabetes Center
Research and health related studies with American Indian groups

Crescendo Bioscience
Diagnostics related to autoimmune and inflammation diseases

Genzyme
World leader in development of therapeutic and diagnostic products

Inoveon
Medical devices for detecting and monitoring eye diseases

Intergentics
Molecular diagnostics and targeted therapy for cancer

LabCorp
One of world's largest Pathology companies

Lipid & Lipoprotein Laboratory
Pathophysiology research of human plasma lipoproteins

Lupus Multiplex Registry and Repository
World's largest registry of lupus patients

MedEncentive
Bolt on program to increase effective and efficient medical care

Nomadics
Development of advanced sensors detecting land mines

Nova Venture Services
Consultation and management of biotech startup companies

Oklahoma Medical Research Foundation
Research focus on cardiovascular, cancer, and aging diseases

RX Prescription Solutions
Counseling and analytical services

Productive Technologies
Technology services for Health Care companies

Siwa Biotech Corporation
Development of male non-hormonal contraceptive "pill"

Swaasth Inc.
Botonically based cost-effective disease prevention

Therametics LLC
Dermatologic therapeutics for a variety of skin disorders and skin care

Transtimulations Research Inc.
Gastric electrical stimulator for reflux disease

VigiLink
Sensors for monitoring equipment systems

For more information, visit www.phfokc.com, or contact Judy Jones at jjones@phfokc.com.

Core Values Drive ETI, Portfolio Companies' Relationships

Truth, trust and transparency: These are the core values of life sciences venture firm Emergent Technologies, Inc.

Nowhere is there clearer evidence that this value system works than in ETI's decade-long relationships with its Oklahoma-based portfolio companies and inventors Heparinex, L.L.C. and Choncept, L.L.C. (Paul DeAngelis, Ph.D.), Hyalose, L.L.C. (DeAngelis and Paul Weigel, Ph.D.) and Pure Protein, L.L.C. and its subsidiaries (William Hildebrand, Ph.D.).

"Each of those values come into play at every step of the relationship," says ETI CEO Tommy Harlan.

"University-based, entrepreneurial-minded scientists are intrigued by the possibilities of commercializing their innovations because they can solve problems, take their humankind-benefitting discoveries to market, and make money. But they also must become company chief scientist while continuing their scholarly endeavors. And they must come to terms with the perception of some peers that they are abandoning pure science for its own sake. We work through all of those issues with them honestly and objectively."

Communication is key throughout the process, both between management and scientist and between those partners and the outside world. "Not all scientists are good communicators," says Harlan, "but these three men have the talent and skill to articulate complex science to business people, stakeholders and other scientists."

The ETI management team teaches the inventors about the business side. "As we engage in industry relationships together, they see how the business side complements the academic side," says Harlan. "We learn from each other, which enables us to be thoughtful and flexible in how we move forward."

He calls the experience of partnering with these inventors a marvelous and exceptional one. "We've begun to fulfill their dream of moving their products into the marketplace. And my dream of working with world-class scientists has more than come true."

Nicole Menteer at nmenteer@etibio.com.

For more information, visit www.etibio.com, or contact

ODOC Transforms Ideas into Emerging Enterprises

Oklahoma is one of America's most energetic and innovative states for bioscience research and technology commercialization. As the state's lead economic development agency, the Oklahoma Department of Commerce works to ensure Oklahoma is a place where bioscience entrepreneurs are successfully transforming their ideas into emerging enterprises. The state's world-class scientists, best in class research and development facilities, and a competitive cost business environment are the foundation of Oklahoma's biotech success.

Oklahoma possesses the ideal infrastructure to support cutting-edge biotechnology research and development. This infrastructure, which includes a consortium of medical facilities, universities, foundations, and public and private businesses, has attracted hundreds of millions of dollars in grants that have led to important advances in everything from nanotechnology to plant genomic research to prosthetic limb development to potentially life saving research in cancer, sickle cell anemia and infectious diseases.

Oklahoma is helping to lead the way to a bright future of biotechnology, with bold initiatives that are energizing economic development, promoting public-private partnerships, and creating an attractive business environment for biotechnology firms of all kinds. The access to technical assistance includes: the EDGE Endowment, which funds large-scale, multi-year projects with strong commercial potential; the Oklahoma Center for the Advancement of Science and Technology (OCAST), which provides grant funding and technical assistance; and the i2E Inc. organization, which assists technology start-ups with pre-seed financing, seed capital fund and technical assistance for commercialization.

One unique advantage in Oklahoma is the aggressive legislation that helps transfer technology from the university lab setting to the commercial enterprise. State constitutional amendments allow Oklahoma universities and their researchers to obtain patents for their developments, and then commercialize those developments through business ventures.

OKLAHOMA
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
OKcommerce.gov

For more information, visit OKcommerce.gov, or contact Jason McCarty at jason_mccarty@okcommerce.gov.

i2E
TURNING INNOVATION INTO ENTERPRISE

The OCAST Technology Business Finance Program has provided "make-or-break" financing for 92 high-tech Oklahoma companies since 1998.

Many of them are involved in commercializing biotechnology or life sciences technologies developed on the Oklahoma Health Research campus.

The $100,000 TBFP funding and required matching grant often attract other investors who have placed more than $200 million of additional investment in the Oklahoma companies.

Biotech companies for which the OCAST TBFP brought critical funding include Novazyme Pharmaceuticals (now a subsidiary of Genzyme), Selexys Pharmaceuticals, Altheus, Riley Genomics (now Crescendo Biosciences), DNA Solutions, ARL Laboratories, InterGenetics, Biolytx and MedEncentive.

OCAST TBFP funding is at work to help bring treatments for inflammatory bowel disease, sickle cell disease, rheumatoid arthritis and much more from the laboratory to clinical use.

Unlike a traditional grant, the OCAST TBFP includes a payback provision for companies that begin to earn revenue from their technologies.

To date, 18 companies have repaid more than $3 million that can be used to provide additional OCAST TBFP funding and start the capital life cycle for future technologies not even developed yet.

The OCAST TBFP program is managed by i2E, Inc., the OCAST –funded not-for-profit corporation that mentors many of Oklahoma's technology-based startup companies.

For more information, visit www.i2e.org, or contact Sarah Seagraves at sseagraves@i2e.org.

New OSU Thrives in Different Biotechnology Disciplines

Oklahoma State University is nationally known for research in several biotechnology disciplines. With four campuses, more than 1,000 faculty members, and facilities throughout the state, OSU possesses a wealth of resources for the bioscience community.

The National Institute for Microbial Forensics and Food and Agricultural Biosecurity (NIMFFAB) is housed on OSU's main campus in Stillwater, OK. The NIMFFAB supports national and regional biosecurity, law enforcement communities and the U.S. agricultural enterprise by identifying, prioritizing, and addressing issues of agricultural biosecurity and forensic capabilities. Led by Dr. Jacque Fletcher, the institute conducts the only research of its kind in the country.

The OSU University Multispectral Laboratories, located in Ponca City, OK, is a 70,000 square-foot facility created to test and evaluate sensors and safety and security systems for a wide range of biodefense applications. Committed to bringing researchers together with government and industry to rapidly and efficiently advance new technologies and capabilities to the marketplace, the UML offers indoor and outdoor testing facilities and serves as a "trusted agent" for research, development, testing and evaluation.

In addition to these unique facilities, OSU researchers are also developing cutting-edge technologies. Recently, an OSU research team developed a novel technology for detecting prostate cancer. Using trans-rectal, near-infrared optical tomography, the device has the potential of imaging unique tissue-specific contrast. This technique takes advantage of the different absorption of the near-infrared light by the tumor over normal tissue, which provides accurate quantification and "highlighting" of the prostate lesion. The technique has the potential to significantly increase the accuracy of prostate biopsy guidance, which will dramatically reduce the number of unnecessary biopsies.

Oklahoma State is committed to the advancement of central Oklahoma's bioscience cluster and supports ongoing collaborations with industries, national laboratories, medical facilities and other university research groups. For information on projects and resources available through OSU, please contact us.

For more information on projects and resources available through OSU, please visit vpr.okstate.edu, or contact Kelly Green at kelly.green@okstate.edu.

Oklahomans Earning College Degrees at Record Levels

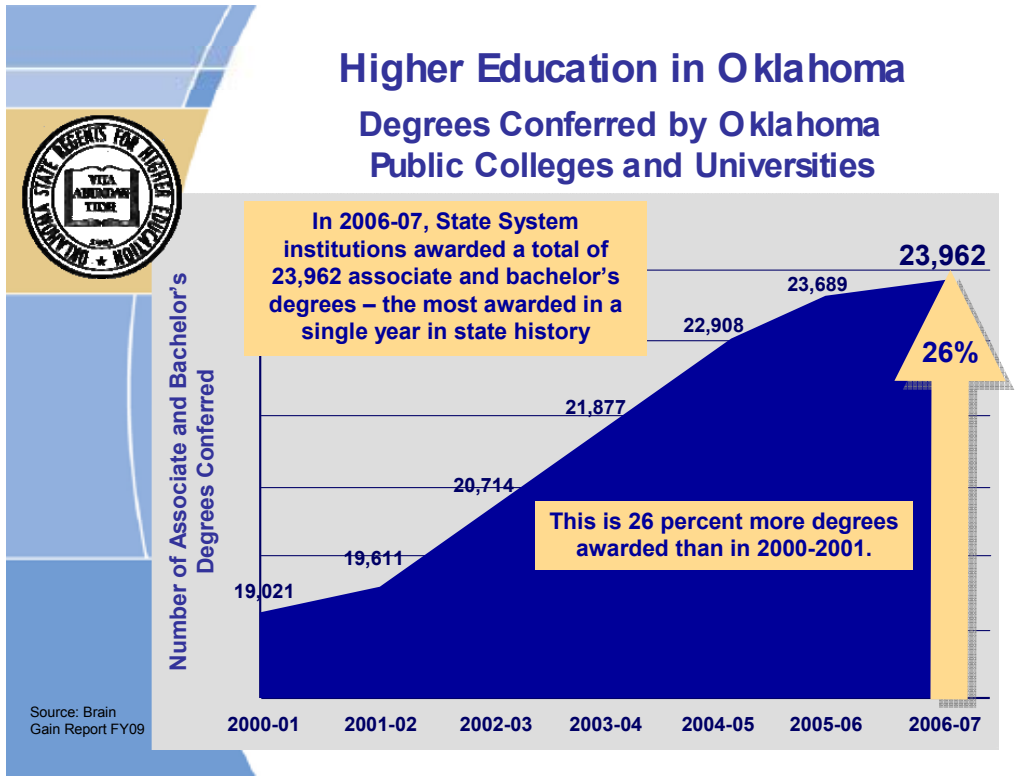
When it comes to a growing educated workforce, Oklahoma is in rare company.

Considered a national leader in comprehensive college preparation outreach and innovative degree completion strategies, the state is currently ranked 10th in the nation in the percentage of the population enrolled at public colleges and universities.

Oklahoma is one of only 12 states experiencing increases in the percentage of adults with bachelor's degrees. In fact, the state has set a record the last five years and has enjoyed a startling 26 percent increase in associate and bachelor's degrees conferred since 2000-01.

And, these graduates must like what they experience while they earn their degrees because the vast majority – 82 percent with bachelor's degrees and 84 percent with professional degrees – stay to live and work in the state one year after graduation.

For more information, visit www.osrhe.edu, or contact Ben Hardcastle at bhardcastle@osrhe.edu.



Prosperity Stimulates Expansion at Cytovance Biologics

You may recall last year's excerpt, "If you build it they will come" from "Cytovance Biologics: Producing the Building Blocks for Tomorrow's Cures." This year we can proudly announce they have come. It is this stimulation that paved the way for expansion at Cytovance Biologics.

Cytovance is currently in the very late planning stages of expanding within the 44,000 square-foot manufacturing facility located in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. Cytovance Biologics currently specializes in the execution of clinical production of antibody and recombinant protein products derived from cell culture at scales up to 500L (w/v) from batch, fed-batch and perfusion processes.

When the expansion is complete we will be able to produce at 3000L scales. Cytovance continues to provide process creation and development, phase I, II, and III clinical trials and establishing regulatory robustness to support validation and commercial market launch for therapeutic proteins and monoclonal antibodies.

Cytovance was selected to develop processes and cGMP manufacturing of Selexys Pharmaceuticals Corporation's product HPL1 Monoclonal Antibody (Mab). "Selexys is pleased to announce the selection of Cytovance Biologics as our contract manufacturer for our lead drug candidate for Crohn's disease. Cytovance brings substantial expertise in biologics manufacturing that will serve to advance our lead drug candidate into clinical development." said Scott Rollins, President and CEO Selexys Pharmaceutical Corporation.

Late in 2008 the Economic Development Generating Excellence (EDGE) Fund, an Oklahoma state funded endowment, granted $2 million to the recipients Hyalose and Cytovance Biologics® to partner to produce sugar-based therapeutics for evaluation, sale and licensing for an Oklahoma glycol-manufacturing facility. This enables Cytovance to offer Microbial Fermentation at the 100L scale.

For more information, visit www.cytovance.com, or contact Fawn Meeks at fmeeks@cytovance.com.

Bank of Oklahoma: Innovative Commercial Banking Provider

Bank of Oklahoma (BOk) is the largest bank headquartered in the state of Oklahoma. BOK Financial Corporation (BOKF) is the financial holding company for BOk operating seven bank subsidiaries with full service locations in eight states throughout the Midwest, Southwest and Rocky Mountain regions. BOKF operates three primary lines of business. The Commercial Banking division provides loan and lease financing, as well as cash management services to small and middle-market businesses. BOk is an innovative commercial banking provider for the healthcare industry and nonprofit organizations. This division also includes TransFund, an ATM and debit card network with more than 1900 ATMs in 13 states. The Consumer Banking Division provides a full line of services while the Wealth Management Division provides, trust, private banking and brokerage services. Bank of Oklahoma is a high-performing, well-capitalized regional bank that did not require government capital assistance.

For more information, visit www.bankofoklahoma.com, or contact Katie Price at kprice@bokf.com.

The Oklahoma Nanotechnology Initiative Focuses on Applications of Nano

The Oklahoma Nanotechnology Initiative is leading the nation in helping companies bring nano enhanced products to the marketplace. The Oklahoma Nanotechnology Sharing Incentive Act provides a mechanism for the Oklahoma Nanotechnology Applications Program (ONAP). This program provides funding to assist Oklahoma companies to acquire, license or partner with nanotechnology IP holders from anywhere in the world in order to improve existing products or create new ones.

Since the inception of the ONAP program in 2007, Oklahoma has grown from six nano companies to nearly 50 companies that are involved in making commercial products with nanotechnology. Oklahoma companies produce nano products from oil and gas valves, to sunscreen, to medical equipment lenses.

These companies are located in small towns and large cities across the state.

For more information, visit www.oknano.com, or contact Jim D. Mason at jmason@okstatechamber.com.

Tulsa Community College Biotechnology Extravaganza

Tulsa Community College (TCC) is committed to encouraging high school students to consider a career in the science field. Annually, the College holds a Biotechnology Extravaganza with the hopes of enticing students into this type of career.

For this year's Extravaganza, 100 students were selected from high schools in Tulsa to participate. The event is funded by a National Science Foundation grant which TCC received in 2006. The grant focuses on introduction to biotechnology for students, and provides funding for summer academies for teachers and students.

During the Extravaganza students learned how to extract DNA from a strawberry, and identify viral DNA fragments. Students also got the chance to talk with a world-renowned Forensics Specialist, among other key speakers.

Just three years ago TCC unveiled the Health and Sciences Biotechnology Learning Center. This new building offers three Biotechnology degree programs. The program currently has more than 30 students, and each year is seeing an increase in enrollment.

For more information, visit www.tulsacc.edu, or contact Dr. Joe D. Parli at jparli@tulsacc.edu.

Stillwater Facility Serves as Incubator for New Companies

The Michael S. Morgan Accelerator Building is a 26,000 sq. ft. multi-tenant facility within the Oklahoma Technology and Research Park. This facility is a next step for companies coming out of an incubator, allowing additional time for development of the company. With a lab and office configuration, this facility offers emerging companies the opportunity to collaborate with Oklahoma State University and other area technology companies while providing a professional atmosphere.

The Oklahoma Technology and Research Park (OTRP) is a 170-acre planned development focused on fostering partnerships between emerging technology companies and Oklahoma State University. Once the park is completed it will contain nearly 1 million square feet of office and lab space.

Also within OTRP is Venture 1, a high-tech multi-tenant office/lab facility with more than 36,000 GSF. Adjacent to OTRP is Meridian Technology Center which provides customized training and houses the Center for Business Development (technology based incubator).

For more information, visit www.stillwaterchamber.org, or contact Joshua McKim at josh@stillwaterchamber.org.

Eradicating Eye Disease Through Visionary Therapeutics

Charlesson is an ocular biopharma company in Oklahoma City focused on treating retinal diseases, including diabetic macular edema (DME) and dry age-related macular degeneration (AMD). The company focuses on underserved markets, and develops solutions that are less invasive than other drugs in development. It operates a specialty ocular Contract Research Organization (CRO), which is growing and expanding internationally. Founded in 2004, Charlesson expects its first Investigational New Drug (IND) application in 2010. The company has been able to generate more than $10MM in startup capital without having to raise any equity or debt funding.

For more information, visit www.charlessonllc.com, or contact Mike Moradi at mmoradi@charlessonllc.com.

Charlesson

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For an organization to succeed, it must communicate effectively and build relationships. Anglin Public Relations helps clients with big ideas achieve their potential for greatness. We help businesses find and communicate more effectively with customers, potential customers, business partners, media, regulators and elected officials.

For more information, visit www.anglinpublicrelations.com, or contact Debbie Anglin at danglin@anglinpublicrelations.com.

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The Oklahoma Health Center is Hub for Biomedical Research and Academics

The Oklahoma Health Center is a hub for biomedical research and academics – home to organizations that have gained worldwide recognition. The Oklahoma Health Center Foundation supports excellence in all aspects of the Oklahoma Health Center and helps drive its potential to attract and develop biomedical and biotechnical industries in Oklahoma. Currently, the Oklahoma Health Center is undergoing a transformation with $420 million of new construction occurring across the 300-acre campus.

For more information, visit www.oklahomahealthcenter.com, or contact Terri Folks at trfolks@cox.net.

Oklahoma Health Center Foundation

OKBio
Oklahoma BioScience Association

OKLAHOMA
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DISCOVER OPPORTUNITY

This publication was produced by the Greater Oklahoma City Chamber for the Oklahoma Bioscience Association.For more information, visit www.okbio.org, or contact:

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