



KANSASBIO

KANSAS BIOSCIENCE ORGANIZATION

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 15, 2008

Contact: Kelly Pierce
(785) 296-3363

KANSAS ANNOUNCES 2008 "BIG THINKERS" IN BIOSCIENCE

LENEXA, Kan. - In preparation for the 2008 BIO 2008 International Convention in San Diego June 16 – 20, 2008, KansasBio has named seven industry and policy leaders as Kansas Bioscience "Big Thinkers." The Kansas Bioscience Big Thinkers are individuals whose groundbreaking leadership in bioscience innovation has contributed to bioscience research, commercialization, policy, investment, industry growth and expansion in the state. The Kansas Bioscience Big Thinkers are part of Kansas' strategy to showcase its historical strengths and new innovation in biosciences at the world's largest bioscience convention.

The 2008 Kansas Bioscience Big Thinkers are: Mr. **Michael Beckloff**, President of Beckloff Associates, Inc.; Ms. **Trish Brasted**, President & CEO of Wichita Technology Corporation; Mr. **Rick DeLuca**, President of Fort Dodge Animal Health; Mr. **Bruce Ferguson**, Chairman, President & CEO of Edenspace Systems Corporation; **Dr. Roy Jensen**, Director of the University of Kansas Cancer Center; **Dr. Olga Koper**, Vice President Technology and Technical Services and Chief Technology Officer of NanoScale Corporation; and Mr. **Tracy Taylor**, President & CEO of Kansas Technology Enterprise Corporation.

The 2008 Kansas Bioscience Big Thinkers announcement builds upon the excitement generated by the strong list of Big Thinkers announced in 2007.

"Kansas has an abundance of bioscience Big Thinkers who can best tell the world of the state's strengths and opportunities and help map out Kansas' path for growth in this important industry sector," said Angela Kreps, President, KansasBio. "It is our intention to honor new Big Thinkers each year and create a Big Thinker Hall of Fame filled with names of the best and brightest talent Kansas has to offer in the biosciences. These individuals are truly shaping the future of Kansas' economy."

- more -

Kansas Announces Big Thinkers
May 15, 2008
Page 2

With Kansas gaining the bioscience industry's attention over the past few years with its strong delegation presence at the BIO International Convention, Kansas will strategically focus its 2008 convention message on a core issue of importance to all of Kansas' bioscience industry members -- talent recruitment. Kansas' theme for this year's BIO convention, "Come Home to Kansas, Home of Champions," focuses on Kansas' efforts to recruit bioscience and information technology professionals and investors to Kansas. The premiere feature of the "Come Home to Kansas" initiative is a one-stop website (www.comehometokansas.com) that aggregates thousands of current technical job openings in the state. The website also features business leader and entrepreneur video testimonials, Kansas cost-of-living data and economic development resources. "Come Home to Kansas" is aimed at professionals, graduates and investors with ties to the state, as well as non-residents who have never lived in Kansas but are looking for "home."

"I am extremely proud of this strong list of 2008 Kansas Bioscience Big Thinkers," said Kansas Governor Kathleen Sebelius. "Each of these bioscience leaders has a very unique success story, but they all have one thing in common, too -- they all chose Kansas as the place they wanted to live and grow. I will do everything in my power to encourage more bioscience leaders to call Kansas 'home.'"

The 2008 Big Thinkers will be featured at numerous events during the BIO International Convention in San Diego, including a Kansas reception on June 17 and a virtual press conference linking media outlets throughout the state on June 18.

"The key to our success in Kansas for growing a strong bioscience industry is the high level of collaboration we have between the private, public and academic sectors," said Michael Beckloff, President, Beckloff Associates, Inc. "I am honored to be a part of the Kansas Bioscience Big Thinkers who will continue to promote Kansas bioscience industry strengths to the rest of the world. Kansas continues to gain momentum, and we have no plans to slow down."

For more information about BIO 2008 or for information on how to join the Kansas delegation, please visit: www.kansasbio.org.

###

KansasBio is a unified voice representing the biosciences in Kansas. Across the human, plant, animal and industrial biosciences, KansasBio is focused on enhancing the business and research climate and working with leaders across the state to attract and retain bioscience talent and companies. Learn more at www.kansasbio.org.



KANSASBIO

2008 Kansas Bioscience BIG THINKERS

MICHAEL C. BECKLOFF
President
Beckloff Associates, Inc.

Michael C. Beckloff is President of Beckloff Associates, Inc. (BAI), a Cardinal Health company. Founded in 1976, BAI assists pharmaceutical and biotechnology clients in bringing new products to market. Beckloff leads a team of scientists and project managers with extensive international regulatory experience that have successfully supported worldwide drug development across a broad range of therapeutic categories and virtually all types of product formulations. Beckloff, a second-generation entrepreneur, inherited the company from his father who founded the company after a career at Marion Labs.

Beckloff earned his B.S. degree in cellular biology from the University of Kansas and is a member of the International Society for Pharmaceutical Engineering, the American Association of Pharmaceutical Scientists, American Chemical Society, Drug Information Association, and the Regulatory Affairs Professionals.

Beckloff regularly provides mentorship to emerging entrepreneurs in the bioscience industry. His service as Chairman of the Kansas Bioscience Organization and selection as Mentor of the Year for the KTEC PIPELINE are further acknowledgement of Beckloff's commitment and contributions to the bioscience industry's growth.

PATRICIA (TRISH) BRASTED
President & CEO
Wichita Technology Corporation
Managing Member
Wichita Technology Ventures, L.L.C.

Ms. Brasted is the President/CEO of Wichita Technology Corporation and also serves as Managing Member of Wichita Technology Ventures. Under the leadership of Ms. Brasted, the WTC organization has consulted with hundreds of entrepreneurs, assisted in raising over \$80 million dollars from private investors leveraged into 40 technology companies that represent over 60 patented technologies. Ms. Brasted's leadership in the area of assisting emerging companies has been recognized nationally – recently being selected as Chair of the National Association of Seed and Venture Funds (NASVF).

Ms. Brasted is a founding member of the first angel organization in Kansas, the Midwest Venture Alliance (MVA), which later created a branch in Southeast Kansas to serve the Pittsburg market. Also dedicated to engaging rural areas – Ms. Brasted has launched the "Rural Kansas Angel Initiative" to engage investors and entrepreneurs

all across Kansas. She also served as founding member of the Great Plains Capital Conference, the only Kansas specific based capital conference, which has now evolved to aggressively seek out bioscience companies for funding.

As the state has added the biosciences to its portfolio of technology based economic development, Ms. Brasted has worked to ensure Wichita and the surrounding area is fully integrated into the biosciences – significantly contributing to the Kansas Bioscience & Innovation Roadmap process and serving as a founding member of the “Kansas Day of Innovation” which is in its third year of gathering capital, technology and bioscience leaders in Wichita. Additionally, Ms. Brasted is working with regional leaders to develop the strategic plan for the Center of Innovation in Biomaterials and Orthopedic Research and is an advisor to the KTEC PIPELINE program, which supports bioscience and technology entrepreneurs in Kansas.

Ms. Brasted holds a Masters of Business Administration from Baker University and is a CPA. Ms. Brasted is also a frequent speaker on accessing venture capital and angel investing and serves on the Boards of several private technology companies.

RICHARD R. DeLUCA
President
Fort Dodge Animal Health

Richard DeLuca, President of Fort Dodge Animal Health, joined Wyeth in 1988. Richard has held positions of increasing responsibility, including Chief Operating Officer, Fort Dodge Animal Health; Executive Vice President, Finance/Administration and Chief Financial Officer, Fort Dodge Animal Health; Vice President, Finance, Wyeth Pharmaceuticals; and Vice President, Finance, Wyeth Research.

DeLuca is a member of the Wyeth Management, Operations, Law/Regulatory and Human Resources and Benefits Committees. He is a certified public accountant, a certified management accountant and holds a bachelor’s degree in business administration and accounting.

Fort Dodge Animal Health, a division of Wyeth, is a leading manufacturer and marketer of animal health products for the companion animal, livestock, equine, swine and poultry industries. With nearly 3,400 employees worldwide, Fort Dodge Animal Health serves the U.S. and International markets, distributing products to more than 100 countries.

Fort Dodge Animal Health is recognized for its breakthroughs in veterinary medicine and new product development. The company is headquartered in Overland Park and in 2009 will open a new \$40 million research and development facility as an anchor tenant in the Kansas Bioscience Park in Olathe, significantly expanding the company’s footprint in the state.

BRUCE FERGUSON
Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer
Edenspace Systems Corporation

Bruce Ferguson co-founded Edenspace Systems Corporation in 1998. Edenspace is a

plant biotechnology company that is developing innovative crops for energy and environmental applications, including enhanced corn for low-cost production of cellulosic ethanol. The company recently announced completion of a \$10 million Series A financing package that includes construction of a new state-of-the-art laboratory and headquarters facility in Junction City, Kansas with an interim headquarters in Manhattan, Kansas. The company currently has annual revenues of \$1 billion and more than 2,500 employees.

Ferguson is a member of the Kansas Innovation Consortium formed in 2008 by Governor Kathleen Sebelius and is a member of the Center for the Study of the Presidency's 2008 Study Group on Presidential Science and Technology Advisory Assets.

Ferguson is a Harvard Business School graduate and while in school co-founded Orbital Sciences in 1982. Orbital is a \$500 million-a-year public company traded on the NYSE. Fortune has referred to Ferguson as a CEO "known for out-of-this-world concepts that make money" and a "green pioneer."

ROY JENSEN, MD
Director
University of Kansas Cancer Center

Roy A. Jensen, MD, combines exceptional experience in the laboratory and international leadership in pathology to lead the University of Kansas Cancer Center. Since becoming director in 2004, he has recruited a world-class leadership team and implemented a vision toward achieving the National Cancer Institute's (NCI) designation as a Comprehensive Cancer Center.

Dr. Jensen has been at the forefront in the characterization of premalignant and malignant breast lesions. His laboratory was instrumental in demonstrating the role of BRCA1 in the growth control of normal and malignant cells and in how loss of BRCA1 function contributes to the development of breast cancer.

Dr. Jensen was born in Gardner, Kansas and earned his bachelor's degree in Biology from Pittsburg State University and his Medical Degree from Vanderbilt University. Following his fellowship training, Dr. Jensen joined the faculty of Vanderbilt.

Dr. Jensen assumed the position of director of the University of Kansas Cancer Center in 2004. He also serves as director of the Kansas Masonic Cancer Research Institute (KMCRRI), the research arm of the cancer center. Dr. Jensen is the first recipient of the William R. Jewell, MD Distinguished Kansas Masonic Professorship in Cancer Research. He serves as professor of pathology and laboratory medicine, and professor of anatomy and cell biology at the University of Kansas School of Medicine and holds an adjunct professorship in molecular biosciences at the University of Kansas.

OLGA B. KOPER, Ph.D.
Vice President Technology & Technical Services, Chief Technology Officer
NanoScale Corporation

Dr. Koper earned her M.S. in Chemistry from Silesian University in Katowice, Poland and her Ph.D. in Inorganic Chemistry from Kansas State University with specialization in reactive metal oxide nanoparticles. As the first full time employee of NanoScale, joining the company in 1996, she played a key role in the start-up and growth of the company that currently employs 50 associates. In April 2007 Dr. Koper was promoted to Chief Technology Officer. Dr. Koper has developed her experience in the synthesis and optimization of novel reactive nanomaterials for chemical and bio related applications, including environmental remediation, odor control, and destruction of chemical and biological warfare agents.

She has authored and co-authored more than 20 papers and co-holds seventeen patents for composition and applications of nanomaterials. At NanoScale she directs chemists, microbiologists, engineers and technicians, oversees research and development, as well as supporting marketing endeavors. A member of the 2006 Charter Class of KTEC PIPELINE Innovators, a fellowship program dedicated to promoting entrepreneurship, innovation and economic growth of the state, she was chosen as the Innovator of the Year 2008.

TRACY B. TAYLOR
President & CEO
Kansas Technology Enterprise Corporation (KTEC)

Tracy B. Taylor serves as President and CEO of Kansas Technology Enterprise Corporation (KTEC), a private-public partnership dedicated to stimulating technology-based economic development in the state, a role he has held since March 2002. KTEC's goal is to commercialize technology and, in turn, create high-paying jobs while diversifying the Kansas economy. Since its inception in 1986, KTEC has served as a national model for other states' economic development initiatives.

Taylor provided the leadership role in creation of the Kansas Economic Growth Act (KEGA) in 2004, including the bioscience initiative and the Center for Entrepreneurship. Taylor's focus on insuring Kansas is at the forefront of technology oriented economic development has led to creation of innovative programs such as KTEC PIPELINE, which identifies Kansas' top technology entrepreneurs and supports their leadership development.

Taylor's extensive corporate and entrepreneurial experience began in corporate finance at Ford Motor Company, followed by work in mergers and acquisitions at United Telecom. Taylor was selected to a 12-person team to develop a business plan for what became the Sprint Corporation. As Sprint grew into a Fortune 100 company, Taylor served as Treasurer of US Sprint and as Vice President of Administration for Sprint Corporation as he led the site selection for Sprint's World Headquarters in Overland Park.

Taylor, born and raised in western Kansas, graduated from Bethany College and received his master's degree in business administration from the University of Kansas. He co-founded the Kansas Bioscience Organization in 2004 and continues to serve on the KansasBio board of directors. Taylor is currently working to form a similar Software and Information Technology industry organization in Kansas.

