

The Bioscience Brief

A National Bioscience Newsletter

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Welcome to the Fifth Edition of the BiMonthly BioscienceBrief!

We here at the Bioscience Brief wish to inform you about what's happening in bioscience sectors across the country. We understand your concerns about Spam and assure you that our newsletter is not intended to be as such. You have received the Bioscience Brief Newsletter as a result of your RSVP to one of our events that took place in your state and were sponsored by our national partners: the Biotechnology Industry Organization (BIO), the Pharmaceutical Research & Manufacturers of America (PhRMA), the National Venture Capital Association (NVCA), the United States Chamber of Commerce and our the Association of University Technology Managers (AUTM). If you wish to no longer receive this newsletter, we have an unsubscribe feature at the bottom.

Thank you,

Bioscience Brief Staff

National Partner Spotlight: PhRMA

The biotechnology industry is an integral part of the social and economic fabric of society. It is imperative that politics not interfere nor create roadblocks to providing the best health treatments possible.

Price controls are an illusion only a magician may conjure up for an audience. The free market business model takes into consideration research successes and failures. Orphan therapies prove there isn't one magical cure for all diseases. Success cannot and should not be controlled by price or by the illusion of negotiation by the federal government. Interfering in this process would not only contaminate the process but it would also stall the synergy necessary for all parts of this industry to work successfully together.

The federal government already has the legal authority to approve new prescription medicines and at the same time impose regulations. If negotiating what price and ultimately which drugs would be included in the Medicare formulary, it is possible a single national list of drugs would be created. Potentially, this list and the new "negotiated prices" would lead directly to the rationing of drugs that are not included on the national formulary.

For example, take Alzheimer's disease, which affects 10 percent of those over 65 and half of those over 85. If the government decreed that a drug designed to alleviate Alzheimer's be sold at a below-market price, drug research companies wouldn't be able to recoup their investments. With caps on prices, research centers would focus on markets unaffected by price controls and shift resources to developing drugs for cosmetic desires or non-life threatening conditions.

A measure of success for the industry is finding solutions to the critical life threatening health complications. By forcing the nation's pharmaceutical industry to sell drugs below their market value, Washington's efforts would come with a host of other unintended consequences.

Conference Focuses on Using Ohio's Strengths to Expand Pharmaceutical Industry

More than 100 of Ohio's economic development leaders, elected officials, venture capitalists and academics gathered last March for "BioPharma in Ohio: A Prescription for Growth." The conference was part of the BizBio series of PhRMA-sponsored biotechnology events and focused on expanding the pharmaceutical industry in Ohio. State partners included Omeris, a non-profit organization designed to build and accelerate bioscience industry, research and education in Ohio, as well as the Ohio Chamber of Commerce, The Ohio Manufacturers Association, the Ohio Economic Development Association, and the Ohio Department of Development.

The idea of capitalizing on Ohio's strengths to attract the pharmaceutical industry was the conference's main topic. Keynote speaker Gino Santini, the senior vice president of Corporate Strategy & Policy at Eli Lilly and Company, said that Ohio is a top ten state by some important measures in biopharmaceuticals. But, he added that Ohio seemed to lag somewhat in building economic output on top of its foundation of basic research and scientific talent. During the conference, panel discussions focused on technology transfer issues, the best practices to attract the pharma industry, filling the pipeline through Ohio's university research programs and biotech start-ups, and how Ohio's strengths in manufacturing and supply are becoming more important among pharmaceutical and biotech companies.

The next conference, set for later this month, will take the idea of capitalizing on Ohio's strengths to its natural next step. Discussions among participants are expected to explore aggregate bioscience research currently underway in the state and options for collaborations. Such a resource would enable pharmaceutical development executives to more easily find out about emerging technologies at Ohio's universities and research facilities. Likely discussion topics include intellectual property issues and the ethical dilemmas involved in creating this type of resource.

This event, "BioPharma in Ohio II: Positioning Ohio as a Pipeline State," will be held on February 28th at the Hyatt on Capitol Square in Columbus. Dr. David Rosen, DVM, Head, Development & Commercial Strategic Alliances, Pfizer Global Research & Development is the keynote speaker. Go to www.biopharmaohio.org to learn more about this event and register to attend – space is limited.

State Partner Highlight: Vulcan Real Estate

From its world-renowned research centers to its unparalleled quality of life, Seattle's leadership in the bioscience industry has grown from a glimmer to a global force as the fifth largest biotech community in the country. Seattle's South Lake Union neighborhood is at the center of a growing cluster of leading life sciences research organizations that are spearheading breakthrough discoveries and profoundly impacting global health, including the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center, ZymoGenetics, UW Medicine, and Seattle Cancer Care Alliance – just to name a few.

Vulcan Inc., a Paul G. Allen company, owns approximately 60 acres in South Lake Union and is leading one of the largest urban revitalization efforts in the U.S. that will consist of nearly 10 million square feet once completed. Its vision for the area is to partner with the community to create a vibrant, mixed-use neighborhood that blends a diversity of housing, lively shops, innovative offices and biotech research space, recreation and public transportation – a dynamic 24-7 environment that also helps recruit and retain top life sciences talent.

Vulcan's development portfolio includes several state-of-the-art buildings in South Lake Union that are home to some of the world's top life sciences research organizations, including the University of Washington School of Medicine, Seattle Biomedical Research Institute, Children's Hospital and Regional Medical Center and Merck/Rosetta Inpharmatics - fostering a highly collaborative cluster of biotech organizations in the neighborhood that are at the forefront of driving a new economic engine for the region.

Contributing greatly to the success of Seattle's biotech leadership is the presence of the University of Washington – the

number one public research institution in the nation. To help meet the needs of UW Medicine's growing research programs, Vulcan worked with UW Medicine to develop a phased expansion plan that could total more than 800,000 square feet upon completion. The first phase of UW Medicine's research hub opened in late 2004 that now houses nearly 300 UW researchers and employees, and the second phase is currently under construction that will bring another 900 employees to the new buildings being developed by Vulcan.

For more information, visit www.vulcanrealestate.com.

Upcoming Events

National/Regional Events:

BIO-Europe Spring 2007

March 5 – 7, 2007

Location: Milano Convention Centre, Milan

For more information, click visit www.ebdgroup.com/bes/index.htm

World Congress on Industrial Biotechnology & Bioprocessing

March 21 – 24, 2007

Location: Orlando, FL

For more information, visit www.bio.org/worldcongress/reg

BIO Windhover 2007

April 9 – 11, 2007

Location: The Ritz-Carlton, Washington, DC

For more information, visit www.biowindhover.com

BIO International Convention

May 6 – 9, 2007

Location: Boston, MA

For more information, visit www.bio2007.org

State Events:

Biopharma in Ohio II: Positioning Ohio as a Pipeline State

February 28th, 2007

Location: Hyatt on Capital Square, Columbus, OH

For more information, visit www.biopharmaohio.org

*Look for a Biz/Bio event in your state!
Next stops are: Colorado, California and North Carolina just to name a few.*

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