

Colorado Bioscience Legislative Report

The 2008 legislative process has been nothing but exciting for Colorado's bioscience industry. We began this year's legislative process with a request of 3.5 million dollars a year for the Bioscience Research Grant Program (House Bill 1001) for five consecutive years. As the bill made its way down the long and winding road to become law, the Colorado House of Representatives had a big surprise in store for us.

The Colorado House added funds to the program for a total of \$26.5 million in economic incentives available in grants to Colorado's research institutions and to Colorado's early stage bioscience companies. This expansion of the grant funding will provide \$5.5 million for the current year, \$4.5 million for the second year and \$5.5 million for the following three years of the program.

House Bill 1001 advances the Bioscience Research Grant Program which was created by House Bill 1360 in 2006 and expanded by

House Bill 1060 in 2007. The current legislation will continue the efforts for the next five years, and adds a third component for eligible funding.

There are three main components included in the legislation, the first of these being the proof-of-concept funding. The proof-of-concept funding, originally implemented in the first Bioscience Discovery Grant Program legislation, will be continued with up to \$150,000 to the offices of technology transfer to match funds on a 1:1 ratio from research institutions to advance disclosed technologies that have not been obligated to a commercial entity at this time.

The bill will also provide grant funding to early stage companies within the state. The grant will provide up to \$250,000 to early stage bioscience companies that will also be matched on a 1:1 ratio from money other than founders' funds.



Denise Brown introduces Governor Bill Ritter, Jr.

The third and final element of the Bioscience Discovery Grant Program will support an infrastructure designed to grow bioscience companies in Colorado. The Infrastructure projects will require a partnership between the industry and research institutions in order to be funded. No more than 40% of the HB 1001 funds will be used for this component.

House Bill 1001 will undoubtedly have a significant impact on the bioscience industry of Colorado. Results have already been seen from House Bill 1360 funding. Of the 26 research projects funded in 2006, nine will be spun out into commercial entities by the end of 2008.

Governor Bill Ritter signed HB 1001 into law on April 24, 2008 with more than 50 bioscience supporters in attendance.

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Governor Bill Ritter, Jr. signing HB 1001.

Curious about how the bioscience industry in Colorado compares to the rest of the nation, or what the region's strengths and weaknesses are? Well, in just a few short months you have the chance to find out.

The Colorado BioScience Association has once again hired the Battelle Memorial Institute to update our "State of the Industry" plan and find out how much the state has improved since the original 2003 industry report.

In 2003 the Governor's Office of Innovation and Technology partnered with representatives from the industry and the Battelle Memorial Institute to develop a plan on what the bioscience industry of Colorado must do in order to become an industry hub.

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The original report identified three main strategies to grow the bioscience cluster. These included creating a business climate conducive to the growth of bioscience companies, creating an entrepreneurial culture that turns research discoveries into new products, services and companies and expanding the research base and building excellence.

The merger of the Colorado Biotechnology Association and the Colorado Medical Device Association into the Colorado BioScience Association was the initial step the industry took in order to have a more unified front. The CBSA is now the support system that helps the bioscience industry grow through a variety of efforts.

The research institutions of the state have made large strides within their technology transfer divisions. The collaboration between the industry and research institutions is a valuable asset that Colorado has focused on growing, and through this collaboration the process of taking research discoveries to commercialization is streamlined.

While these are only two examples of the progress made since the 2003 report, the current report will help refocus attention into different areas requiring improvement. Battelle will take a fine toothed comb through the bioscience industry of Colorado and will concentrate on four main areas.

The first of these topics will be the focus on economic and risk capital analysis. The study will show how Colorado ranks among all states, and compare Colorado's metropolitan areas to each other. This study will also show growth trends in Colorado's bioscience industry.

Updating the core competency analysis will be the second

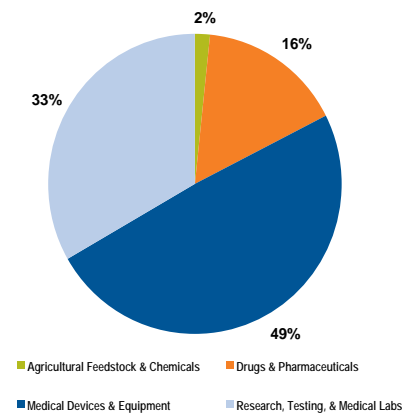
focus of the study. Battelle will completely analyze Colorado's existing and emerging research strengths and compare this report to the 2003 plan.

By interviewing key leaders within the industry and holding focus groups, Battelle will also be able to pinpoint where the industry needs to reach for improvement and where our strengths lie.

The final topic for Battelle's 2008 study will be a benchmark update and a competitive positioning analysis. This portion of the study will compare the bioscience industry of Colorado to the most competitive states, and provide examples of useful best practices.

Through this in depth analysis of the "state of the bioscience industry," everyone will be able to see where Colorado shines above the rest and areas of the industry

State Bioscience Jobs 2006



that need more attention. With the exponential growth since the 2003 survey, it will be interesting to see how much Colorado will grow in another five years.

BioWest Newsflash
World-class filmmaker, adventurer, and mountaineer David Breashears is confirmed as the speaker for the Annual Awards Dinner during BioWest

You asked for it...you've got it. Over 200 members responded to the CBSA's communications survey and your requests have been put into action.

The quarterly surveys distributed by the CBSA provide each member with a platform for their opinions to be heard. The communications survey, distributed to members during the first quarter of 2008, focused on the CBSA website, newsletter and magazine.

As the survey results began to roll in, the CBSA got to work and began to alter the communication styles in order to fit members' needs. The requests were tallied and included some items that were improved upon immediately, but some requests will take a bit longer.

For the past four months members have received online news briefs that have provided you with a "weekly review" of what is going on in the bioscience world.

These weekly online reports have focused on providing members with information on the bioscience industry, news regarding individual members, legislative updates and other information of interest.

While these weekly updates are delivered directly to your inbox, the quarterly newsletters from the past will still be delivered directly to you through the US Postal Service. Inside these newsletters you will find news and information about the association.

The magazine is another source of CBSA communications, and this too is getting a face lift. While most of the results suggested only minor changes to the magazine, the CBSA has decided to tweak the look of the magazine while keeping the main content. The coveted directory and informative articles will continued to be found within the pages.

With a quick visit to the CBSA website you are sure to find a few changes, and more are soon to

come. The most noticeable change to the website will be found on the first click, when you open up the homepage. The video that would play has now been taken down and replaced with the association's current top story.

We also intend to condense the homepage of the website. While company news and updates will still remain on the front page, the variety of information will be placed into the drop-down menus located on the left hand side of the website.

While these are only a few changes that were made from the responses collected through the first survey of 2008, there are many more to come throughout the year. So, the next time you see a CBSA survey arrive in your email just remember each response gives the association a chance to improve and benefit you.

The following members joined the CBSA in the past four months.

Check them out on the web site at

www.CoBioScience.com/membershipdirectory.php

3QMatrix
Advanced Headache Intervention, Inc.
Astellas Pharma US, Inc.
Bonfils Blood Center
Boulder Innovation Center
Boulder Statistic, LLC
Casey Demchak Copywriter & Consultant
CBL BioPharma
Cochlear Americas
Commissioning Agents
Covidien
DarkHorse Technologies
Eldon James Corporation
Employers Solutions, Inc.
Facility Planning
First Century Development, LLC
Fritsche Capital Group
Fulbright & Jaworski, L.L.P.
GBA (George Butler Associates)
Gevo, Inc.
Great Basin Scientific
Hensley, Kim & Holzer, LLC

Jones Lang LaSalle
Lohocla Research Corporation
Kaleidoscope Group
Marsh Fischmann & Breyfogle LLP
mBio Diagnostics (division of Precision Photonics Corp.)
McWhinney
MEDdevice Acquisition Group
MycoLogics
NextGen Pharma Technologies, Inc.
OakBridge, Inc.
Promotech
Pyxant Labs, Inc.
Regenerative Sciences, Inc.
Root Rosenman Architects
Six & Geving Insurance Inc.
Solbourne/Oracle
Source MDx
South Metro Denver Chamber of Commerce
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Richard Hansen
Michael Hart
Steve Heim
Kelsey Magnuson
Dick Pankoski
Joseph Turner
Stan Willie, Ph.D.
Tim Vlach

CBSA's

Events

CBSA's Programs Designed to Benefit You. . .

Each invitation that arrives in your email is an invitation for improvement. Whether the invitation is there to improve your knowledge on a subject, show you what other companies are doing, or to help your business flourish, the Colorado BioScience Association provides over 60 programs a year to help you grow.

As the first quarter of 2008 comes to a close, the CBSA has provided more than 1,000 individuals the chance to learn something new during one of their programs, and we are just getting started.

Bioscience Discovery Grant Program

One of the most exciting events of the year is just around the corner. The CBSA is implementing 6 events in May that will provide elementary through secondary school teachers with an opportunity to find out first hand how the Bioscience Discovery Grant Program is influencing the bioscience industry in Colorado. At each of these programs, grant recipients will present their research and extend their knowledge into local schools.

The last, BEST golf tournament of the year

The 2008 Bioscience Bogie, will be held on September 15, at the Omni/Interlocken Golf Course. This golf tournament will include more golfers, more sponsors and an even better time for everyone involved.

Blossoms and Bordeaux

The largest joint networking event of the year will include members of both the CBSA and the CSIA. The 2008 Wine Tasting will be housed at a different and equally exciting location. On July 22, the Denver Botanic Gardens will blossom into an event to remember.

Rocky Mountain Region's Premier Annual Bioscience Conference

When you think the year is almost over, the CBSA is just getting started. The highly anticipated BioWest Conference will take place on November 13th and 14th at the Grand Hyatt Hotel in Denver. The

Email Alerts

Be sure to check you spam filters to ensure your event invitations are reaching you!

conference will include high profile speakers and panelists with the focus on how the new U.S. President will affect the bioscience industry.

While this is just a glimpse into the 2008 year of bioscience events, there are many other events that both members and non-members of the CBSA can look forward to. Each of these events will be delivered to your email inbox, but keep up to date by checking the www.cobioscience.com website regularly to insure you don't miss out on any of these valuable opportunities.

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