

CBSA NEWS IN REVIEW



A BRIEF OVERVIEW OF COLORADO'S MEDICAL DEVICE AND BIOPHARMA INDUSTRIES

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COMPANY SPOTLIGHT

- **Zynex** (Littleton), provider of pain management systems and electrotherapy products for medical patients with functional disability has filed an application for a listing on the American Stock Exchange.
- The winners of the Boulder County Business Report's 9th annual IQ Awards were announced. First place in the Medical & Health category went to **Tensegrity Prosthetics** (Louisville) for their next generation prosthetic foot. Other finalists included **Array Biopharma** (Boulder) and **Corgenix Medical** (Broomfield).

FINANCE

- Ian Orme, Professor in the Department of Microbiology, Immunology and Pathology in the College of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences at Colorado State University received a \$1.25M award from the **Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation** to fund ongoing tuberculosis research.
- Colorado State University was awarded two grants from the **Metro Denver Workforce Innovation in Regional Economic Development Initiative** to support training to move biomedical research into the marketplace and to care for animals involved in research. The university was awarded a one-year, \$99,000 grant to establish a center that will help local businesses develop medications, vaccines and diagnostic tests from their research. The grant will help students, professors and industry scientists learn about and comply with regulatory and product development involved in bringing inventions to market. The Regional Training Center for Product Translation will provide educational and job placement opportunities.

PEOPLE

- ARCA *biopharma* (Broomfield) a biopharmaceutical company developing genetically-targeted therapies for heart failure and other cardiovascular diseases, announced the appointment of **William Hiatt, MD**, as Director of Clinical and Regulatory Strategy. In this newly created position, Dr. Hiatt will be responsible for developing strategic regulatory and clinical initiatives designed to support the company's lead product candidate, Gencaro™ (bucindolol hydrochloride), a pharmacologically unique beta-blocker and mild vasodilator in late-stage development for heart failure and other indications.
- **Judith Gault, Ph.D.**, psychosis researcher and assistant professor of Neurosurgery at the University of Colorado Denver School of Medicine has recently been named the recipient of the Young Investigator Award, a \$60,000 grant to advance research exploring biomarkers in blood samples—research that may help advance the treatments for disorders such schizophrenia. The award is from National Alliance for Research on Schizophrenia and Depression, the world's leading charity dedicated to mental health research. The Young Investigators Award is given to 220 researchers in the United States and 11 other countries.
- The University of Colorado Cancer Center has awarded \$178,990 to nine researchers for promising new research projects. The funding comes from UCCC's American Cancer Society Institutional Research Grants, internal seed grant funding and special funding from its Cancer and Aging program. The awardees are: **Adrie van Bokhoven, PhD** Pathology, UC Denver \$20K for

"Prognostic Value of Gene-Translocations in Prostate Cancer" **Virginia Borges, MD, MMSc** Medical Oncology, UC Denver \$20K for "Biologic Subtype of Breast Cancer Defines its Host Immunologic Impact" **Marissa A. Ehringer, PhD** Behavioral Genetics & Integrative Physiology, UC Boulder \$19K for "Functional Characterization of Nicotinic Receptor Genes Associated with Smoking Behavior in Lung Cancer" **Antonio Jimeno, MD, PhD** Medical Oncology, UC Denver \$20K for "Generation of a Head and Neck Squamous Cell Cancer Direct Xenograft Model" **James R. Lambert, PhD** Pathology, UC Denver \$18K for "Suppression of PTEN-mediated Prostate Cancer Tumor Initiation and Progression by Prostate Derived Factor" **Robert A. Sclafani, PhD** Biochemistry & Chemistry, UC Denver \$20K for "Natural Plant Polyphenols as Potentiators of Radiation Therapy in Head and Neck Cancer" **Jessica K. Tyler, PhD** Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics, UC Denver \$20K for "Novel Pathway of Aging that is Dependent on Histone Acetylation" **Deborah S. Wuttke, PhD** Chemistry & Biochemistry, UC Boulder \$20K for "KEOPS: A New Conserved Complex Involved in Transcription and Telomere Regulation" **Hang "Hubert" Yin, PhD** Chemistry/Biochemistry, UC Boulder 20K for "Multidisciplinary Analyses of the Activation Mechanism of EBC-LMP-1"

SQUARE PEGS

- In a retrospective study of 174 tuberculosis patients treated at **National Jewish Health**, patients with extensively-drug-resistant tuberculosis (XDR-TB) were almost eight times as likely to die as patients with multi-drug resistant tuberculosis (MDR-TB). The study, published in the August 17, 2008, issue of *The New England Journal of Medicine*, highlights the need for optimal management of multi-drug resistant cases to prevent the progression to XDR-TB, associated with poorer outcomes, including greater risk of death from tuberculosis.
- The EDC reviewed and approved the Strategic Fund and the Revised Performance Incentive Fund (PIF) guidelines with a few modifications. Along with a few items noted below, we have attached the Fact Sheets detailing the new guidelines and incentive tables for your reference.

STRATEGIC FUND

- Businesses interested in requesting a Strategic Fund commitment should work with their local economic development representative and contact OEDIT's Business Development or Business Finance Staff to determine if the business meets the Strategic Fund requirements.
- If requirements are met, the business and the local economic development representative will work with OEDIT Business Finance Staff to complete an application (including financial analysis and final structuring requirements).

PERFORMANCE INCENTIVE FUND

- An updated application will be published in November along with a training schedule. In the meantime, businesses may submit an application under the old guidelines or wait until November to take advantage
- Don't miss out on the next gala **BioBeers** bio-networking event on 3 September. For more information and to RSVP be certain to visit <http://BioBeers.com>.