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For more than 25 years, member insurers of the Chubb Group of Insurance Companies ("Chubb") have been providing cost-effective risk management and insurance protection tailored to the unique requirements of biotechnology companies. Chubb's insurance professionals specialize in the biotech market; they understand the issues and develop solutions for unique insurance needs. This experience and expertise, coupled with Chubb's financial strength and superior claims service, were the reasons BIO selected Chubb as its Property and Casualty insurance partner.

News

Georgia Bio Scores Wins for Industry, Life Sciences Economic Development

Georgia Bio's Government Affairs Committee, which includes representatives from 30 organizations and the team of Brock Clay Attorneys, ended the General Assembly session March 29 with big wins for the Georgia Bio membership and for the state's economic development.

One of the biggest wins was passage of [SB 402](#), which will allow for the investment of state employees' retirement funds in a variety of different accounts including private investment funds, warrants, venture capital funds, leveraged buyouts, options, recapitalizations, privatizations, and mezzanine funds. The Teachers Retirement System is exempt from the provisions of the legislation. SB 402 was a major initiative on Georgia Bio's legislative agenda.

Enactment of SB 402 will bring more venture capital companies to Georgia. It will create the potential for greater investment in Georgia's start-up life sciences companies, including those emerging from our universities, and will help keep these companies in Georgia.

After SB 402 passed the Senate last month, some House members expressed concern. The bill's sponsor, Senator Tim Golden (R-Valdosta), asked Georgia Bio to contact House leadership to encourage passage of the measure. Thank you to all Georgia Bio members who made calls and sent emails in support of SB 402.

Two tax related bills that were adopted also were high on Georgia Bio's legislative agenda. [HB 386](#) will phase out the state sales tax on energy used in manufacturing over the next four years, resulting in significant savings for Georgia Bio companies with manufacturing operations. [HB 868](#) will extend the popular jobs tax credit to the biomedical and alternative energy industries. However, the House Ways and Means Committee removed the provision that would have made the credit applicable to smaller businesses with as few as 15 employees. The bill limits eligibility to companies with a minimum of 50 employees.

Georgia Bio also successfully advocated to restore funding to the [Georgia Medical Center Authority](#) in Augusta. The biobusiness accelerator houses three companies that have generated more than 60 high-paying jobs, with an average salary of nearly \$80,000, over the past five years. State budget cuts threatened to shut down GMCA. In another budget-related initiative, Georgia Bio and its member companies worked with the Department of Community Health and legislature to provide adequate funding to fully reimburse physicians for single-dose vials of injectable drugs.

In addition, the Senate passed [SR 1053](#), which will create a Senate Science and Technology Innovation Study Committee to be comprised of the chair and vice-chair of the Senate Science and Technology Committee, one appointee by the Lt. Governor, and various members of the private sector. The study committee will continue work on a Georgia's Science and Technology Strategic Plan begun last year by the Georgia Science and Technology Strategic Initiative Joint Study Commission. Steve Dickinson, Merial's Director of Global External Communications, represented Georgia Bio on the commission.

To find out more information about how Georgia Bio's legislative activities can help your organization, contact President Charles Craig (charles.craig@gabio.org; 404-245-0591).

Georgia Bio Selects Student Finalists in Biotechnology Research Competition

Georgia Bio has named two finalists and two runners up in the [U.S. National BioGENEius Challenge](#). Ten U.S. National finalists will be selected to join students from Canada and Australia to compete in the [International BioGENEius Challenge](#). The U.S. National and International BioGENEius Challenges are competitions for high school students who demonstrate an exemplary understanding of biotechnology through science research projects.

Finalists in the Georgia statewide competition include **Aprotim Bhowmik**, a sophomore at Parkview High School, Lilburn, Georgia, and **Julia Abelsky**, a junior at North Springs Charter High School in Sandy Springs, Georgia. Receiving Honorable Mention were **Raja Selvakumar**, a junior at Milton High School, Alpharetta, Georgia, and **Tushar Mittal**, a sophomore at Dutchtown High School, Stockbridge, Georgia.

The Georgia competition was organized by Georgia Bio, the state's life science industry association in partnership with the Biotechnology Institute, and **sponsored by UCB, Inc.** It was held on March 30, 2012 at the Georgia Science and Engineering Fair in Athens, Georgia, and included 19 students from all over the state. UCB, of Smyrna, Georgia, is sponsoring the Georgia finalists' participation in the U.S. National and International BioGENEius Challenges in Boston.

"It is critical for the growth of the life sciences industry in Georgia that we ensure a pool of talented, skilled graduates who are enthusiastic about biotechnology and the sciences," said **Greg Duncan**, UCB's President of North American Operations, and a Georgia Bio board member and National BIO board member. "At UCB, we are very pleased to be able to support this program that aims to encourage that scientific excellence. We wish our finalists well in the competition and look forward to seeing further development of their projects."

Judges were **Ralph L. Cordell**, PhD, Scientific Education and Professional Development Program Office, U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; **Michael Ensslin**, Ph.D., Senior Engineer, Aderans Research Institute, Inc.; and **Melinda Welch**, PhD, Medical Science Liaison II, UCB, Inc.

SUPPORT THE ELN



ELN Happy Hour
featuring a
Resume & Interview
Clinic sponsored by
Aerotek
April 26 at 6pm
[Click here for details.](#)

The Emerging Leaders Network (ELN), a division of Georgia Bio (GaBio), is devoted to promoting networking between emerging and established professionals within the Georgia Life Sciences Community. ELN's programs are designed to facilitate the growth and development of Georgia based biotechnology academic institutions, industries and service providers.

[Learn More](#)

JOIN OUR LINKED IN GROUP



BIO Opens Call for 2012 Biotech Humanitarian Award Nominations

Do you know an individual who is working to harness the potential of biotechnology to heal, fuel or feed the planet? If so, nominate them today for the Biotech Humanitarian Award by visiting [here](#).

This is the fourth year in a row that BIO will showcase the ground-breaking work being done in the biotechnology sector. The 2012 Biotech Humanitarian Award will recognize the contributions individuals have made to significantly reduce human suffering or enhances the human experience in a way that has a clear and direct benefit to society.

Through this Award, we will honor an individual who is translating biotechnology into solutions to our world's most pressing challenges. We encourage you to nominate an innovative individual whose work has begun to harness biotechnology's potential to provide health and medical, industrial and environmental, or agricultural improvements to communities all over the world.

Qualified nominees for the Biotech Humanitarian Award will be professionals in the biotechnology field from across the United States; including scientists, researchers, academics, entrepreneurs, financiers, philanthropists, educators, advocates and others who have added value to society through their pursuit of biotechnology processes. All nominations must be [submitted here](#) by April 13, 2012, in order to be considered.

A panel of judges will evaluate nominees based on four criteria: Impact on future generations; Impact on contemporary society; Contribution to the field of biotechnology and Level of innovation exhibited. Judges will pay additional consideration to approaches that are at a turning point and may potentially have immeasurable influence.

The 2012 Award, along with a prize of \$10,000 to help further their work, will be presented to the Honoree at the [2012 BIO International Convention](#) in Boston, June 19 – 21.

Nominations are open to all individuals and can be [accessed here](#).
Nominate a friend or colleague today!

Upcoming Events

BIO Fly-In 2012

April 24-25, 2012

Washington, DC

[More Details & Online Registration](#)

Each year, the Biotechnology Industry Organization (BIO) hosts the Legislative Day Fly In, inviting biotechnology executives from across the country to come to Washington D.C. for a day and a half of legislative briefings and advocacy.

In 2012 BIO welcomes industry leaders back to Washington D.C. on April 24th-25th to engage with Members of Congress and their senior staff on the most important legislative issues facing the biotechnology industry. BIO will schedule all congressional meetings and provide attendees with a robust legislative briefing prior to their visits on Capitol Hill. Attendees meet in small groups with the congressional members and senior staff of

the attendee's congressional delegation. Each group will be accompanied by a BIO staff representative to all visits.

RAPS Atlanta Chapter: Spring Break Networking Reception

April 26, 2012

Uncle Julio's - Sandy Springs, GA

[More Details & Online Registration](#)

Join your regulatory colleagues from across the Atlanta area for an evening of networking in an informal setting, on April 26th from 5:30-8:30pm at Uncle Julio's Mexican Restaurant on Hammond Dr. This event is sponsored by the RAPS Atlanta Chapter and is intended to promote and facilitate networking among local regulatory professionals.

ELN Happy Hour with Resume & Interview Clinic

April 26, 2012

Gordon Biersch-Buckhead - Atlanta, GA

[More Details & Online Registration](#)

Join colleagues for a biotech networking event for students, young and seasoned professionals that provides a casual atmosphere in which you can relax, meet others in the industry and exchange ideas.

Practice your interview skills and get your resume updated for applying for jobs and internships at the [Aerrotek](#) resume and interview clinic. *Advance registration suggested.*

BioPharm America™ 2012—5th Annual International Partnering Conference

September 19–21, 2012

Boston, MA

[More Details & Online Registration](#)

BioPharm America™ is where biotech industry partnerships get started. This three-day conference provides a proven and highly productive format for establishing new business relationships. Meet face-to-face with biotech and pharma executives from around the world to identify and enter strategic relationships. Equipped with partneringONE®, the world's leading web-based partnering system for the life science industry, BioPharm America is the only event in North America based on the same reputable formula as EBD Group's acclaimed European events BIO-Europe® and BIO-Europe Spring®. In 2011, BioPharm America attracted 950+ delegates from 588 companies who participated in 2,550+ scheduled one-to-one meetings.

Drug Development Boot Camp

November 14-15, 2012

Harvard Club, 374 Commonwealth Avenue, Boston, MA

[More Details & Online Registration](#)

Co-hosted by Harvard University Office of Technology Development and Speid & Associates, Inc.

Drug Development Boot Camp will be an intense, fun, energized program for hands-on learning about the drug development process. The material presented will be reinforced with examples, case studies, puzzles, and workshops.

This is not an entry level program. It is intensive and intended for executive level individuals who make drug development decisions on a daily basis.

Flyer: <http://www.drugstomarket.com/harvarddrugbootcamp/>

Georgia Bio Member Discount

We are very pleased to be able to announce a \$100 USD discount off the advertised price if you mention that you are a member of Georgia Bio when you sign up to take the Boot Camp. Contact Dr. Lorna Speid at lspeid@sndtm.com or telephone number 858 793 1295.

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