



NEWS UPDATE

News & Information from California's Biotechnology Leaders

Biotechnology Medical Breakthroughs

Oncology Summit Explores Meaningful Cancer Care Policy

The California Biotechnology Foundation and Assemblymember Henry Perea recently held an Oncology Summit in Sacramento with about a dozen lawmakers to address how policymakers can support better patient access to the next wave of cancer treatments. Participating in the discussion was a distinguished group of cancer researchers, patient advocates, health policy experts and statewide leaders committed to helping Californians affected by cancer. [Learn more.](#)

CIRM Commits \$30 Million Toward Clinical Trials for Stem Cell Therapies

A \$30 million effort from California's stem cell research funding agency will distribute grants to help biotech or pharmaceutical companies or venture capital firms take research into early clinical trials. [Read More.](#)

Why the FDA Needs a Chief Innovation Officer

America's leading life sciences industry organization is advocating for a "Chief Innovation Officer" to be named at the U.S. Food and Drug Administration to examine whether the number of drug rejections is reasonable, or whether it is stunting innovation. [Read More.](#)

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Biotechnology Workforce Development

Bio-Rad Named One of the '2012 Best Places to Work' in the Bay Area

Bio-Rad Laboratories, Inc., was recently named one of the "2012 Best Places to Work in the Bay Area" by a joint project of the San Francisco Business Times and the Silicon Valley/San Jose Business Journal. [Read More.](#)

Biotech Partners Wins Prestigious *Innovations in Life Sciences* Prize

Biotech Partners has won the esteemed *Innovations in Life Sciences* prize from the Howard Hughes Medical Institute for their "innovations that promote partnerships between scientists and science educators at middle and high schools in the life sciences." [Read More.](#)

Scripps Research Institute High School Program Receives CIRM Grant

The Scripps Research Institute will receive a \$206,000 grant from the California Institute for Regenerative Medicine to expand its high school summer internship program on the La Jolla campus. [Read More.](#)

Member Spotlight

BioCollaborative

Helping to save lives and promote green sustainability through industrial training

Life science trade associations have become vital as a neutral catalyst to develop and articulate the vision of the nation's future that is founded in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math). BIOCOM, the largest regional life science industry association in the world, is a trusted advisor in Southern California with over 550 member companies. Building on BIOCOM's long history of serving this community, the BIOCOM Institute is a charitable non-profit subsidiary created to support STEM education and workforce development. The BIOCOM Institute has had a great deal of success building low-cost programs that have proven results.

The BIOCOM Institute went directly to the life science industry to create training based on their needs. Early on, the BIOCOM Institute implemented a strategy to engage employers to identify priority needs and develop a collaborative approach to accelerate application. The result is employment and continued research to solve our world's biggest challenges.

The BIOCOM Institute and partners have raised \$9 million to provide training services to incumbent, dislocated, and unemployed workers in Southern California. To date, these grants have served over 600 individuals. One of the pioneering programs enhanced by these funds is called the BioCollaborative, a revolutionary online platform for delivering life science education with the ultimate goal of employment in the life sciences industry. Created by leading business and science industry practitioners, this learning system equips today's workforce to be both business and science savvy.

The BioCollaborative provides information and resources to those Californians in career transition. This unique portal includes certificate programs and instructional resources designed to prepare participants for the next phase of their careers. They are able to upload and download tools and materials, access information, and engage in interactive forum discussions via the BioCollaborative interactive portal. The site also highlights up-to-the minute industry news and trends, and, more importantly, connects unemployed members to career opportunities.

More than that however is the fact that the BioCollaborative is transforming lives, by helping displaced workers retool to find jobs and incumbent workers move up the corporate ladder. Just one example is that of Fred Zeller who found himself looking for a new position but was unsure how to navigate his job search. Since his completion of the BioCollaborative Life Science Immersion Program, Fred has found a rewarding life science job, and is using

his new skills in a position he may not have had the expertise to execute prior to his experience with the BioCollaborative.

Life science is one of the fastest growing sectors in the state's economy. The BIOCOM Institute looks forward to helping life science innovation at all levels through its targeted training and resources. To learn more about the BioCollaborative and view a short demo please visit: www.biocollaborative.com.

This Month's Digital Media Picks

Below is a list of social media platforms that feature California's life sciences industry. Consider using these tools to track news, industry trends, facts, and connect directly with industry leaders:

- **KQED Quest Blog:** <http://science.kqed.org/quest/blog/>. Features the latest trends and issues of the biotechnology and life sciences industry in Northern California.
 - **The BIO YouTube Channel:** http://www.youtube.com/user/biochannel?feature=results_main. Features information from industry leaders and conferences from the world's largest biotechnology organization.
 - **QB3 Twitter Account:** @QB3. Follow San Francisco-based QB3 - an innovative company that connects industry and academia to help entrepreneurs start successful biotech companies.
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Educational Material

California Biotechnology Foundation Workforce Guide

[Click here](#) to view the CBF Workforce Guide or go to www.cabiotech.org.

BIOCOM Institute

The BIOCOM Institute serves as a bridge between learning institutions and life sciences companies to create comprehensive and diverse education initiatives that advance science literacy. The BIOCOM Institute website is a "one-stop-shop" for life sciences career resources. Key features include a searchable database containing more than 800 life sciences career descriptions and 300 degree and professional development programs offered by educational institutions within Southern California.

www.biocominstitute.org

BayBio Institute

The BayBio Institute (BBI) was established in 1990 to support innovation, entrepreneurship, science education, life science career development and the Northern California life science industry. BBI is a comprehensive resource for educators, startup companies and life science professionals throughout Northern California to ensure that the economic and intellectual power of the region's life science industry and its employees remains strong. www.baybioinstitute.org.

California Society for Biomedical Research

The California Society for Biomedical Research works to develop and conduct public outreach and educational programs that increase understanding of biomedical research, foster students' knowledge of the scientific method and biomedical research, increase literacy in the sciences, help teachers implement life-science curriculum, and encourage students to pursue careers in the life sciences. www.ca-biomed.org/csbr.

Calendar

Health Happens in the Workplace - June 6, Mountain View, CA

Join more than 200 Silicon Valley companies and experts in health and business as they discuss the economic and health benefits of the investment in preventative care for employees and their families. The conference - hosted by the Silicon Valley Leadership Group - will feature Johnson & Johnson's pioneering workplace wellness program. In addition to analyzing best practices, the conference will kick off "Let's Move Silicon Valley Businesses" a new program as part of First Lady Michelle Obama's Let's Move Initiative to fight childhood obesity. <http://svlghealth2012.eventbrite.com/>

BIO International Convention - June 18-21, Boston, MA

Hosted by the national Biotechnology Industry Organization, this event will feature more than 125 sessions and 13 educational tracks addressing the state of global industry, emerging trends and best practices for international biotech executives, investors, scientists, policy leaders, and media. <http://convention.bio.org/>

2012 SoCalBio Workforce Summit - July 19, Los Angeles, CA

This summit will provide an opportunity to enhance the partnerships among bioscience industry executives, workforce development professionals, educators, and other state and local partners to help Southern California bioscience companies address their workforce issues and remain competitive. <http://2012-socalbio-workforce-summit.eventbrite.com/>

Thank You

Thank you for reading this edition of the *California Biotechnology News Update*. Be sure to check out the CBF website at www.cabiotech.org for the latest news and information regarding California's biotechnology industry.

Sincerely,
Patty Cooper
California Biotechnology Foundation