

July 24, 2008

**CSU receives a Notice of Award (\$280,000) from the Small Business Administration for Biotechnology Training Program**

The CSU has received notice of a Small Business Administration (SBA) earmark grant award to establish a Biotechnology Training Center based in Pasadena, California. The California State University (CSU) Pasadena Biotech Training Center is a private-public partnership between the eight CSU campuses in the greater Los Angeles region, the Southern California Biomedical Council, the Pasadena Bioscience Collaborative, and Pasadena City College. To address needs articulated by the Los Angeles region's life science industry, the Center will have a dual mission: 1) to better coordinate workforce delivery systems and 2) to provide industry-specific training to bridge the gap between current educational offerings and the skill sets needed by biotechnology companies. The method by which the partners will address these goals is to jointly and collaboratively offer timely, industry-responsive programs and resources built upon existing curriculum offerings, technology platforms and faculty expertise. The specific outcomes over the next three years are to: 1) build a website to not only advertise and coordinate existing life sciences industry-specific curriculum offerings, but also articulate ladders and pathways to careers in bioscience companies throughout the California State University and California Community College systems, 2) design and implement two new Biotechnology Project Management certificates, one in Quality Assurance and one in Clinical Trials and, 3) establish a networking center for both connections with and outreach to small biotech businesses in the region.

*For more information, contact:*

Susan Baxter

Executive Director

California State University Program for Education and Research in Biotechnology

(619) 594-2822

[sbaxter@mail.sdsu.edu](mailto:sbaxter@mail.sdsu.edu)

*This project is funded by a grant from the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA). SBA's funding should not be construed as an endorsement of any products, opinions, or services. All SBA-funded projects are extended to the public on a nondiscriminatory basis.*

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