



News Release

Office of Communications

A&M System Building • 200 Technology Way, Suite 2043 • College Station, Texas 77845-3424
Phone 979.458.6023 • Fax 979.458.6025 • Web tamus.edu • Email syscomm@tamu.edu

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MAY 19, 2011

Contact: Jason Cook

(979) 458-1729

Syscomm@tamu.edu

Texas A&M University System Seeks to Establish National Biosecurity Center in Texas

COLLEGE STATION, Texas –The Texas A&M University System today announced that it will seek to establish a National Center for Innovation in Advanced Development and Manufacturing. The purpose of the Center will be to develop medical countermeasures and ensure domestic vaccine manufacturing surge capacity for emerging infectious diseases, pandemic influenza and other threats during public health emergencies utilizing flexible, multiproduct technologies.

The Center will also provide research, education, and workforce development programs for students entering diverse careers related to vaccine and medical countermeasure development, manufacturing, testing, and approval. The A&M System effort is in direct response to a U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) request for proposals published on March 30, 2011.

The A&M System is in discussion with strategic partners including world-class academic, commercial, and non-profit institutions to contribute to the proposed Center. The A&M System's potential team includes:

- Bavarian Nordic (Copenhagen, Denmark)
- Baylor College of Medicine (Houston, Texas)
- Blinn College (Brenham and Bryan, Texas)
- Caliber Biotherapeutics, LLC (Bryan/College Station, Texas)
- deltaDOT Ltd. (London, United Kingdom)
- GlaxoSmithKline Biologicals (Rixensart, Belgium)
- Kalon Biotherapeutics (College Station, Texas)
- Lovelace Respiratory Research Institute (Albuquerque, New Mexico)
- Mary Crowley Research Center (Dallas and Bryan, Texas)
- PPD, Inc. (Wilmington, North Carolina)
- Sartorius (Goettingen, Germany)
- The Sabin Vaccine Institute (Washington, DC)
- Texas A&M Institute for Preclinical Studies (College Station, Texas)
- Texas A&M University (College Station, Texas)
- Texas Biomedical Research Institute (formerly Southwest Institute for Biomedical Research) (San Antonio, Texas)
- Texas Children's Hospital (Houston, Texas)
- Texas Engineering Experiment Station (College Station, Texas)
- Texas Engineering Extension Service (College Station, Texas)
- Texas Veterinary Medical Diagnostic Laboratory (College Station, Texas)
- University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston – Galveston National Laboratory (Galveston, Texas)

Additional team members will be announced in the coming weeks.

“This team represents some of the world’s finest scientists, engineers, corporations, and educators in the field. I believe that this distinguished group offers the best opportunity for our country, and indeed the globe, to achieve security against pandemics and bioterror threats, and in the process, significantly improve global health,” said Dr. Brett Giroir, Vice Chancellor for Strategic Initiatives at the A&M System and Project Director.

###

About the A&M System

The A&M System is one of the largest systems of higher education in the nation, with a budget of \$3.3 billion. Through a statewide network of 11 universities, seven state agencies and a comprehensive health science center, the A&M System educates nearly 115,000 students and makes more than 22 million additional educational contacts through service and outreach programs each year. Externally funded research expenditures exceed \$730 million and help drive the state’s economy. The Texas A&M University System has made recent significant investments in the life sciences including the Institute of Innovative Therapeutics™ - a unified biomedical enterprise designed to improve global health through research, development, demonstration, and commercialization. <http://tamus.edu/>