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Georgia Life Sciences Summit Showcases State's Innovation

ATLANTA (September 5, 2008) –The 8th Annual Georgia Life Sciences Summit, September 24, at the Georgia World Congress Center, will feature more than 70 speakers showcasing the most advanced life science research and product developments not only in biomedicine and medical devices, but also in agriculture and bioenergy.

Georgia **Governor Sonny Perdue** will deliver a keynote address preceding a special program in the afternoon honoring **Senator Bob Dole**, Special Counsel with Alston & Bird, for his role in the 1980 Bayh-Dole Act, which enabled universities to license inventions and spurred development of the biotechnology industry.

Other featured speakers at the 8th annual Georgia Life Sciences Summit include, Atlanta **Mayor Shirley Franklin**; Biotechnology Industry Organization President and CEO **James Greenwood**; US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Chief Science Officer **Tanja Popovic**; Solvay Pharmaceuticals President and CEO **Stephen Hill**; and Morehouse School of Medicine President Emeritus **Louis Sullivan**.

The Summit also will include breakout sessions covering topics ranging from global healthcare to bioenergy; and a scientific session hosted by the Center for Behavioral Neuroscience, featuring university scientists discussing recent advances in neuroscience research. This research is pushing the envelope on one of science's last and most daunting frontiers — the brain. The panel participants are **H. Elliott Albers**, Ph.D., Georgia State University; **Dennis Choi**, M.D., Ph.D., Emory University; **Stephen DeWeerth**, Ph.D., Georgia Institute of Technology and Emory University; **Gaylen Edwards**, DVM, Ph.D., University of Georgia; **Peter MacLeish**, Ph.D., Morehouse School of Medicine; **Walt Wilczynski**, Ph.D., Georgia State University; and **Robert Yu**, Ph.D., MedScD, Medical College of Georgia.

The theme of Georgia Bio's Life Sciences Summit is "Molecules, Materials and Minds: Building Georgia's Innovation Economy." The Summit has become the premier life sciences conference in the Southeast and one of the largest state biotechnology showcases in the nation. More than 800 professionals from Georgia and across the U.S. are expected to attend. The Summit also includes an exhibit hall with companies and university displaying their latest technology advances, and a scientific poster contest for university and industry researchers. For more information on the program, registration, exhibit hall, and sponsorship visit www.gabio.org/Summit2008.

The 2008 Summit also will kick-off the excitement surrounding the 2009 Biotechnology Industry Organization's (BIO) International Convention, May 18-21, 2009, in Atlanta. This is the largest biotech conference in the world, expected to attract more than 20,000 professionals from 70 nations and 48 states. GaBio, the state affiliate of BIO, and the State of Georgia are local co-hosts of the convention.

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Editor's note: Registration is complimentary for credentialed members of the news media.
Contact Maria Thacker (maria.thacker@gabio.org; 404-920-2042) to register.

Georgia Bio (www.gabio.org) is the private, non-profit association representing the life sciences industry in Georgia. Its 300 members include pharmaceutical, biotech and medical device companies, universities, research institutes, government groups and other business organizations involved in the development of products that improve healthcare, agriculture, industrial and bioenergy production and environmental management.

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