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TECHNOLOGY, BIOSCIENCE AND CAPITAL LEADERS ANNOUNCE KANSAS DAY OF INNOVATION

Wichita, Kan (Aug. 24, 2006) - Kansas technology, bioscience and capital leaders have announced the first **Kansas Day of Innovation** on September 7, 2006 at the Wichita Marriott in Wichita, Kan. Designed to celebrate the state's commitment to innovation, the daylong event will highlight the Great Plains Capital Conference, the KTEC PIPELINE and Kansas Bioscience Organization's "State of the Bioscience State" event.

The daylong series of innovation events will begin with the third annual **Great Plains Capital Conference**, bringing together the region's leading venture capitalists, angel investors, bankers, accounting and legal professionals for presentations by emerging businesses seeking funding. Companies are each seeking venture capital from several hundred thousand to \$5 million.

"The Great Plains Capital Conference is designed to benefit high growth technology companies and investors in Kansas by bringing the best deals to the forefront," said Trish Brasted, President and CEO of the Wichita Technology Corporation. "Engaging our counterparts across the state is a high priority to ensure success. Joining with KansasBio and the KTEC PIPELINE for this Kansas Day of Innovation is a tremendous way to bring more attention and deal flow into the conference."

Immediately following the capital conference, the **KTEC PIPELINE** will unveil its charter class of technology entrepreneurs at 5:30 p.m. Kansas stands out in the field as the only state that is systematically identifying their top technology talent and connecting them to become future leaders. Technology entrepreneurs from across the state have applied for this competitive selection process. The charter class of Innovators will be on-hand to visit with the attendees after spending their first day together as a group.

The Kansas Day of Innovation will conclude with the **Kansas Bioscience Day** dinner and "**State of the Bioscience State**" forum hosted by KansasBio. Kansas leaders from the private and public sectors will discuss opportunities, challenges, developments and recent success stories in the Kansas bioscience landscape.

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The panel will include: Dave Vander Griend, President and CEO of **ICM**; Michael Beckloff, President of **Beckloff Associates**; Dr. Olga Koper, Vice President of **NanoScale Materials**; Dr. Cary Christensen, Senior Director of Business Development at **Bayer Healthcare, Animal Health Division**; Jim Millis, Director of Industrial Bioproducts at **Cargill**; Clay Blair, Chairman of the **Kansas Bioscience Authority**; **Kansas Secretary of Agriculture**, Adrian Polansky; and Scott Deeter, President and CEO of **Ventria Bioscience**.

KansasBio will continue its Bioscience Day with a public information forum at noon on Friday, September 8 at the Kansas State Fair in Hutchinson, Kan. The panel of agricultural and bioscience leaders will discuss the biosciences and the industry impact on the future of the Kansas agricultural community. The public forum panel will include the above-referenced industry experts, plus state officials and leading scientists from Kansas research universities including Dr. Fred Cholick, Dean of the College of Agriculture at **Kansas State University**; Dr. Ted Knous, Associate Vice Chancellor of Research Administration at **Kansas University Medical Center**; Dr. David McDonald, Associate Vice President of Research at **Wichita State University**.

Attendees can select a full day registration or register for individual portions of the day. For general information, attendees can visit the Web sites of each organization or call the Kansas Day of Innovation hotline at 785.296.3363.

The **Great Plains Capital Conference** brings together the region's leading venture capitalists, angel investors, bankers, accounting and legal professionals for presentations by eight to ten emerging businesses seeking funding. Presenting companies are seeking venture capital from several hundred thousand to \$5 million each. For more information, visit www.greatplainscc.com.

The **KTEC PIPELINE** is an innovative new program, designed to identify talented technology entrepreneurs in Kansas, match them with best-in-class training, resources and mentors and encourage them to pursue their careers in Kansas. For more information, visit www.ktec.com/pipeline.

KansasBio is a unified voice for the Kansas bioscience community representing the bioscience research to commercialization process; accelerating the growth of the human, animal, plant and industrial biosciences; enhancing the state's bioscience business and research climate; and encouraging and enabling the attraction and retention of bioscience talent and companies. For more information, visit www.kansasbio.org.

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