



BIOISLAND & BAYBIO STRATEGIC ALLIANCE ADVANCING LIFE SCIENCES

Governor Aníbal Acevedo-Vilá announced a new **Agreement of Partnership** between the **Commonwealth of Puerto Rico** and **BayBio**, northern **California's** leading Life Sciences industry trade association. This strategic alliance will establish an ongoing dialogue between **Puerto Rico** and **BayBio**; it will further the concept of **BioIsland** while allowing government and industry to share best practices, exchange ideas and promote investments in biotechnology. "We look to the **Bay** area as a model of success in the life sciences industry, and we certainly hope that **Puerto Rico** can strongly complement the work already being done here," said **Governor Acevedo-Vilá** during a recent visit. "We also look forward to sharing some of the ways that the government of **Puerto Rico** is building its biotechnology foundation, particularly as the sector expands into new markets in **Latin America**." **Governor Acevedo-Vilá** visited the Bay area in January 2007 to share best practices, exchange knowledge of the biotechnology industry with business leaders there and sign the **BioIsland - BayBio** agreement. Demonstrating **Puerto Rico's** strong commitment to the Island's biotechnology development, he was joined by a delegation of leaders, including: **University of Puerto Rico President Antonio García Padilla**, **PR Government Development Bank President Alfredo Salazar-Conde**, **Department of Economic Development and Commerce (DEDC) Secretary Ricardo Rivera Cardona**, **Puerto Rico Industrial Development Company (PRIDCO) Executive Director Boris Jaskille**, and **The Pharmaceutical Industry Association of Puerto Rico (PIA-PR) Executive Vice President Agustín Márquez-Veglio**.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES INTRODUCE BILL #3278

In a bipartisan initiative, **House of Representative Finance Commission Chairperson Antonio Silva Delgado (NPP, Bayamón)**, **Socio-Economic Development Commission Chairperson José Chico Vega (NPP –at large)** and **House Minority Leader Héctor Ferrer (PDP, at large)** introduced **House Bill 3278** to amend **Section 21** of the **Tax Incentives Law of 1998, aka Law #135 of December 2, 1997**. The amendment will extend the benefits of the law through **December 31, 2009**. **PIA-PR** supports this bipartisan initiative to help promote the economic development of **Puerto Rico** and to strengthen the island's international image as the best jurisdiction in which to do business.

HEALTH SECRETARY INITIATES ADVISORY BOARD TO PROMOTE CLINICAL TRIALS IN PUERTO RICO

Puerto Rico Secretary of Health Dr. Rosa Pérez-Perdomo has set up an **Advisory Board** to promote **Clinical Trials** in **Puerto Rico**. The **Advisory Board** was part of a series of recommendations made at the **First Clinical Trials Summit Meeting**, held at the **Westin RíoMar** on **October 30, 2006** and attended by more than 300 local and national researchers. At the activity, chaired by **Dr. Pérez**, **Puerto Rico Governor Aníbal Acevedo Vilá** announced the government's public policy to promote **Research & Development** on the island. The other key presenters and their respective topics follow: **Pan American World Health Associate Director Joxel García, Background on Current Research and Prospected Research in Puerto Rico and Latin America**; **Center for Disease Control Public Health Director Robert Spengler, Health Protection Research Guide - 2006-2015 and Current CDC Research Initiatives in Public Health**; **University of Puerto Rico Professor Marcía Cruz, The Role of Academia in Clinical Trials**; **Merck Executive Director of Clinical Research Jorge Guerra, The Role of the Pharmaceutical Industry in Clinical Trials**; **NAGNOI Principal Néstor Figueroa, Health on Line: Data Warehouse**; and, **PIA-PR Executive Vice President Agustín Márquez Veglio, Background Information on the Pharmaceutical Industry Association of Puerto Rico**. The activity was sponsored jointly by the **Department of Health** and **PIA-PR**.

The **Advisory Board to Promote Clinical Trials in Puerto Rico**, chaired by **Dr. Pérez**, is composed as follows: **UPR Medical Sciences Campus Epidemiologist Ana Patricia Ortiz, PhD**; **University of Puerto Rico Research and Technology Vice President Dra. Emma Fernández Repollet**; **Behavioral Sciences Research Institute Medical Sciences Campus Director Glorisa Canino, PhD**; **Universidad Central del Caribe Professor and Researcher Héctor Colón, PhD**; **Recinto de Ciencias Médicas Human Research Subjects Protection Office Director Idith R. Ortiz-Ortiz, MD, MPH**; **INDUNIV Executive Director Ing. Iván Lugo**; **University of Puerto Rico Medical Sciences Campus Professor José M. Umpierre, PhD**; **Pfizer Caribbean Clinical Director Miguel A. Vázquez, PhD**; **Medical Sciences Campus Biomedical Sciences Associate Dean and Graduate Studies Director Walter I. Silva, PhD**; **Abbott Laboratories Medical and Clinical Affairs Department Director and PIA-PR Medical Committee Chairperson Carlos R. Rivera, MD, FAAP**; **Office of the Secretary of Health Research and Statistical Information Epidemiologist Orville M. Disdier Flores, BS, MS**; and, **PIA-PR Executive Vice President Agustín Márquez Veglio**.

Mark Your Calendar — PIA-PR General Managers Meeting
Tuesday, February 20, 2007, 5:30 PM, at the Bankers Club
Guest Speaker: House Speaker José A. Aponte

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PIA-PR – PR SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND RESEARCH TRUST MEETING

On Friday January 26, 2007, the **PIA-PR Board of Directors** met with **Puerto Rico Science, Technology and Research Trust (Trust) Executive Director Luis Rodríguez, Esq.** to become familiar with **Trust** goals and objectives and identify areas of common interests for collaboration. The **Trust** mission is to (1) define and implement the **Commonwealth of Puerto Rico's** public policy on science and technology research and development (**Sci-Tech R&D**) and (2) serve as an agent to promote investment and financing of activities that strengthen **Sci-Tech R&D** in **PR** that will translate into Island economic, social and educational development. Initially, the **Trust** will concentrate its efforts in the areas of pharmaceuticals, biotechnology, medical instruments and information and communications technology, including electronics. Its short-term goals are to (1) strengthen public and private contributions to the **Trust's** fund; (2) promote the collaboration between government, academic and industrial sectors; (3) develop and promote a culture and infrastructure that will recognize the value of science and technology **R&D** in the economic and social development of **PR**; (4) promote technology transfer and the commercialization of products that result from local research; and, (5) finance and create coherent strategies to attract worldwide, leading researchers to the Island and create new initiatives. The **Trust's Board of Trustees** is composed of 11 members—five of them are public officials: **DEDC Secretary Hon. Ricardo Rivera Cardona**; **University of Puerto Rico President Antonio García Padilla, Esq.**; **Government Development Bank President Alfredo Salazar**; **PRIDCO Executive Director Boris Jaskille, Esq.**; and, **Office of Budget and Management Executive Director Guillermo Dávila**. The other six members, named by the **Board** come from the academic sector and the biotechnology industry. They are former **US Army Medical Research and Materials Command Commanding General Dr. Lester Martínez**; **AMGEN Global Manufacturing Senior Vice President Dr. Fabrizio Bonanni**; **Yale University Professor of Pathology and Agilix Corporation Scientific Advisory Board Cofounder, Director and Chairperson Dr. Paul Lizardi**; **Duke University Professor of Molecular Genetics and Microbiology and Duke Center for RNA Codirector Mariano García-Blanco, MD, PhD**.

PIA-PR AFFILIATE MEMBERS

In 1997, **PIA-PR** incorporated the **Affiliate Membership** concept and invited a select group of pharmaceutical industry suppliers, vendors, consultants and professionals to participate to forge a mutually beneficial long-term alliance. Chosen because of their tradition of support to the pharmaceutical industry, these organizations are representative of our business partners and have enriched our member companies with their quality products and services. We take this opportunity to express our appreciation for their traditional support to the **PIA-PR Mission**—which is to strengthen, enhance and attract biopharmaceutical industry to **Puerto Rico**. **PIA-PR Affiliate Members** are **Action Services** (janitorial services); **Brighton Consulting** (regulatory documentation services); **Caribbean Architects** (engineering); **Caribbean Industrial Construction** (industrial construction); **Caribbean Project Management** (project planning, architectural, design); **Clarkston Consulting Group** (strategic business consultants); **Fiddler, Gonzalez & Rodriguez** (law firm); **Lopito Ileana & Howie** (advertising agency); **Grupo Ferré-Rangel** (newspaper); **Guardsmark** (security); **Hewitt Associates** (compensation services); **Hewlett Packard** (electronics solutions for Life Sciences); **IBM Life Sciences** (systems integration services); **IMS Health** (pharmaceutical and healthcare industry information solutions); **Kelly Services** (temporary placement services); **Medical Card System** (MCS- Health life insurance); **Pharma Serve** (Regulatory-Validation services); **Ricoh PR** (office equipment); **RxER Communications** (medical services); **Triple-S** (health insurance); **Waters Corporation** (water treatment systems); and **Zaycor** (Regulatory consulting services). Thank you all.

PIA-PR SUPPLIERS VENDORS CONSULTANTS DIRECTORY

PIA-PR is in the process of updating its **Web Page** to include a pharmaceutical industry suppliers, vendors and consultant directory. An orientation session on “**How to do business with the pharmaceutical industry**” will be held on **Thursday March 29, 2007** from **8:30 AM** at the **Bankers Club**. If you are currently a supplier, vendor or consultant to the pharmaceutical industry, and would like to participate, please visit the **PIA-PR Web Page** (www.piapr.com) under members and suppliers section or contact **Aracelis Viera** (787) 792-5353 / (787) 299-4088.

PFIZER GLOBAL MFG AMERICAS AREA ORGANIZATIONAL ANNOUNCEMENT

Pfizer Global Manufacturing Vice President/Team Leader, Americas Area Jay Cayado announced the consolidation of the current four geographic regions, **Latin America, Midwest, Puerto Rico** and **US East/Canada** into two geographic Regions: **US/Canada** and **Puerto Rico/Latin America**. Current **Vice President/Regional Leader - Puerto Rico Carlos H. del Río** will lead the **Puerto Rico/Latin America Region** as **Vice President/Regional Leader – Puerto Rico/Latin America**.

JAMES SANABIA

It is with deep sadness that we inform you that **James Sanabia** passed away on Sunday, January 21, 2007. James retired as **AMGEN General Manager** after a long career in the pharmaceutical industry. He was also a former member of the **PIA-PR Board of Directors**.

*PIA-PR Annual Meeting
 November 1-4, 2007, El Conquistador, Fajardo*