



## BIOTECHNOLOGY BUSINESS CATALYSTS

ISSUE 7, JANUARY 2007

The North Carolina University (UNC) system along with the North Carolina Biotechnology Center (NCBC), and the Council for Entrepreneurial Development (CED) are progressively leading the way in biotechnology entrepreneurial development. The University of North Carolina at Pembroke (UNCP), and the University of North Carolina at Wilmington (UNCW) are in collaboration with community colleges to support the advancement of biotechnology in educational studies, and biotechnology business development. According to the North Carolina Biotechnology Center, "The state has the nation's third largest biotechnology industry and a deep infrastructure to support it...North Carolina has the lowest cost to doing business."

The future workforce and entrepreneurs coming from this region will have the competitive edge over other states. Biotechnology Business start-up support is plentiful at the Council for Entrepreneurial Development. The planned concentrated effort by these organizations are paying off exponentially.

## Newsletter Spotlight

Regional Center for Economic, Community, and Professional Development is on target with getting the message out that—it's about boosting this regions economy through science & business development—

The University of North Carolina  
<http://www.northcarolina.edu>

North Carolina Biotechnology  
Center  
<http://www.ncbiotech.org>

Council for Entrepreneurial Development  
<http://www.cednc.org/>

## BIOTECHNOLOGY: WHERE IS THE ACTION ?



The Council for Entrepreneurial Development Opportunity conference was held on December 4 & 5, 2006. The biotechnology component started with an overview of what biotechnology is and what it means to North Carolina. The opportunity for business expansion and development were universal themes throughout the presentation. Some of the companies presenting in biotechnology were: Novozymes, which is a leader in the development of sustainable solutions and the world's largest producer of enzymes and microorganisms. (<http://www.novozymes.com/en>), and Quintiles Transnational Corporation, which is a global provider of pharmaceutical services. Quintiles statement of purpose is "to improve healthcare worldwide by providing a broad range of professional services, information and partnering solutions to the pharmaceutical, biotechnology and healthcare industries. The company recently announced an expansion of services that will bring 1,000 new jobs to North Carolina (<http://www.quintiles.com/>).



The Women in Biosciences (WIB) series has had another successful response from students, faculty, and administrators at UNC Pembroke. On November 14, 2006, Dr. Tatyana I. Smirnova presented her work in Electron Paramagnetic Resonance (EPR) spectroscopy as a novel tool in biophysics. There was standing room only for this presentation; Her presentation provided an introduction to modern magnetic resonance methods that are becoming popular tools in biophysical studies. Smirnova encouraged students to consider graduate school and informed them of opportunities at North Carolina State University's Chemistry Department.

Smirnova also participated in a professional discussion at a banquet in her honor on that evening. The evening event topic was, "How Electrostatic Interactions and Hydrogen Bonding Shape Membrane Proteins." The success of this event was largely due to assistance from UNC Pembroke Professor Shanna Harrelson; Dr. Smirnova was Harrelson's advisor in graduate school and Harrelson wanted future scientists from Pembroke to experience the magnetic energy of Smirnova. The next WIB event will be in February 2007



Left: Dr. Tatyana Smirnova; Center:  
Shanna May Harrelson  
Blue shirt: Gary Chadwick  
(Graduate Student NCSU)  
Dr. Alex Smirnova (Husband)



## TRAINING IN THE BIOTECHNOLOGY COMMUNITY

UNC Pembroke has expanded its professional development outreach to biotechnology businesses and their employees; through a collaborative agreement, suppliers are able to assist in upgrading their employees skills through UNC Pembroke. Sartorius, which is a biotechnology equipment supplier has participated in several trainings this year. Sartorius presented a downstream processing training to the general public on May 25, 2006 and Wyeth Vaccines on October 17, 2006. There were 40 employees in attendance at Wyeth and there will be more training in the future with Wyeth. <http://www.wyeth.com> Sartorius presented a Disposables Process Technologies seminar on November 28, 2006. The disposables seminar was a collaborative venture with btec, Biomanufacturing Training & Education Center, NC State University, and UNC Pembroke. Sartorius is only one of many biotechnology businesses supporting UNC Pembroke through Project BIO. <http://Sartorius.com>

To remove your name from our mailing list, please [click here.](#)

Questions or comments? E-mail us at [biotech@uncp.edu](mailto:biotech@uncp.edu) or call 910-775-4014