

Tarleton State Digs In, Enters Next Chapter of Research & Economic Development

TEXAS A&M
AGRI LIFE



THE TEXAS A&M
UNIVERSITY SYSTEM



(from left to right) Vic Seidel, Executive Associate Vice Chancellor and Chief Operating Officer for Texas A&M AgriLife; Dr. Cliff Lamb, Director of Texas A&M AgriLife Research; A&M System Chancellor John Sharp; Tarleton President Dr. James Hurley and Dr. Rupa Iyer, Vice President for Tarleton's Division of Research, Innovation and Economic Development.

Tarleton State University, a founding member of the Texas A&M System, celebrated with excitement last week as they broke ground on a new 10,000-square foot, state-of-the-art Research Building in Stephenville, TX. Here researchers from three distinct entities will be working and collaborating together. The groundbreaking comes on the heels of a grant from the U.S. Department of Commerce EDA which will enable Tarleton State to operate as an EDA University Center - the only one in North Texas and one of just 73 nationwide.

The historic alliance between Tarleton State's Division of Research, Innovation and Economic Development, the Texas A&M's Agricultural and Life Sciences School and the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Agency will create an innovative ecosystem that promises to accelerate research and allow Texas agriculture and life sciences to reach new heights.

"This is a momentous groundbreaking for Tarleton State, Texas AgriLife and the entire Texas A&M System," said Tarleton University President James Hurley. "Today marks the beginning of the next chapter in our 124-year commitment to academic distinction and community connections that lift the living standard, empower the workforce and drive economic prosperity."

[Read full press release](#)



Here to Stay: The North Texas Life Science Building Boom

SMITHGROUP

SmithGroup is a healthcare, higher education, science & technology and workplace design firm responsible for creating some of the most innovative buildings in North Texas. Most recently, the firm celebrated the Grand Opening of the UTSW - UTD Texas Instruments Biomedical Engineering Building last week in Dallas' vibrant medical district.



(from left to right) SmithGroup Team: Amol Kane, Shuhong Sun, Clint Menefee, Patrick Jones, Amanda Key, Randall Daniel, Jared Smith, and Ashley Hall

With a legacy of award-winning design, SmithGroup is helping shape the Life Sciences landscape across the country and represents North Texas' collective investment in the future of scientific research and discovery.

"Projects like the UTSW-UTD Texas Instruments Biomedical Engineering Building and those of all the great academic research institutions we have in North Texas are filling the need to increase the research talent pipeline to ensure those ideas that spur out of these amazing research facilities remain in North Texas," said Patrick Jones, Principal, SmithGroup.

[Learn more about SmithGroup](#)

Become a Catalyst for

BIONTX INVITES YOU TO JOIN THE **ARPA-H CUSTOMER EXPERIENCE HUB**

ARPANET-H, is a new nationwide health innovation network which will take a human-centered approach to designing products and services for all Americans.

The Customer Experience Hub forms part of the ARPANET-H nationwide health innovation network and is dedicated to the needs of the people: listening to, learning from, and building trust with communities to enable access to critical health innovations for all Americans.

Learn more about the
ARPANET-H

Join the ARPA-H Customer
Experience Hub

Industry Alliance Reports Future is Bright for North Texas

BHIANT

BIOTECHNOLOGY & HEALTHCARE INDUSTRY ALLIANCE OF NORTH TEXAS

BHIANT

BIOTECHNOLOGY & HEALTHCARE INDUSTRY ALLIANCE OF NORTH TEXAS

Quarterly Meeting



October 2023

The Biotechnology and Healthcare Industry Alliance of North Texas (BHIANT) held its Quarterly Meeting last week at MEDNA Scientific, in Irving, Texas. The meeting convened leaders and executives representing the myriad of biotechnology, AI, healthcare systems, manufacturing, medical device, therapeutics, and research & development companies that call North Texas home.

Formed as an industry-sector partnership, the BHIANT serves as an executive leadership roundtable to create meaningful change and advance regional biotechnology and healthcare interests. Laboring since June and through the summer, the Alliance presented its Quarterly Report highlighting the progress made in the group's priority areas of Talent Pipeline Development, Career Awareness and Pathway Development, and Capital Investment.

Join the Alliance

View BHIANT report

Siemens to Invest in New Manufacturing Site in Fort Worth

SIEMENS

Siemens to invest in U.S. manufacturing for 21st century infrastructure. With accelerated growth in the adoption of generative AI, the new Fort Worth and Grand Prairie extensions will meet booming demand.

“There’s never been a better time to invest in critical infrastructure and green mobility to support the decarbonization of innovation and resilience. The hardware and software we offer – produced through our expanded U.S. manufacturing presence – will ensure that growing industries can meet demand while continuing to make progress,” said Roland Busch, President and CEO of Siemens AG.

The news comes at the heels of several high-profile investment and employment announcements in North Texas including Alcon, Eden Green Technology, and Evolve Biologics. BioNTX is proud to be involved in building a qualified bioinformatics workforce.

[Read full press release](#)

McDermott & Deloitte Launch North Texas BIO Break Happy Hour



In celebration of the recent North Texas ARPA-H Hub designation, Deloitte and McDermott Will & Emery, launched the inaugural BIOBreak Happy Hour for North Texas Life Sciences.

The inclusive event brought together a diverse gathering of start-ups, researchers, investors, and consultants to celebrate North Texas and the promising future that lies ahead for the region.

A blend of camaraderie, inspiring discussions, and newfound connections; the BIOBreak Happy Hour was a reminder of the remarkable milestones we can all reach and achieve

through collaboration. Thank you for joining us!

See you on December 7th at the Holiday Happy Hour!

Jon Weidanz Joins BioNTX Board of Directors



Jon Weidanz, Ph.D

BioNTX, the bioscience and healthcare innovation trade organization in North Texas, is proud to announce the appointment of Jon Weidanz, MPH, Ph.D., as its newest member of the Board of Directors. Dr. Weidanz brings an impressive wealth of experience, including extensive knowledge in immunology and immunotherapy research, a distinguished teaching career, a visionary biotech leader, and as a successful biotech entrepreneur. His addition to the board underscores BioNTX's commitment to innovation and excellence in the biotechnology industry.

"I am excited and honored to join BioNTX and contribute to its mission of advancing healthcare through cutting-edge biotechnology," expressed Dr. Jon Weidanz. "I look forward to collaborating with BioNTX's accomplished team and leveraging our collective expertise to drive innovation in the field."

[Read full press release](#)

BIONTX MEMBERS IN THE NEWS

Articulate Labs Reinforced with Military-backed Funding



The Orthopaedic Research and Education Foundation, in collaboration with the Medical Technology Enterprise Consortium and the Department of Defense's (DoD) U.S. Army Medical Research and Development Command's (USAMRDC) Military Operational Medicine Research Program, announced it has awarded \$1.3 million to the consortium of Articulate Labs, the Henry M. Jackson Foundation for the Advancement of Military Medicine, the Keller Army Community Hospital.

The award will provide non-dilutive funding for a study evaluating the use of Articulate Labs' novel KneeStim™ devices at KACH to speed return to duty for Cadets recovering from anterior cruciate ligament reconstruction (ACLR) surgery, all of which will be facilitated by HJF.



[Read full press release](#)

Caris Life Sciences & Pramana Inc. Collaborate to Digitize Pathology Slides



Pramana, Inc., an AI-enabled health tech company announced a multi-year agreement with Caris Life Sciences to digitize approximately 1.5 million slides per year with its family of intelligent scanning systems and advanced software, bringing efficiency to digital operations and increasing access to resources for scientific research.

[Learn more about Caris' partnership](#)

OncoNano Touts Positive Findings in ON-BOARD IL-12 Program



OncoNano Medicine announced their positive preclinical data on delivery of interleukin-12 (IL-12) with the ON-BOARD™ platform technology at the 38th Annual Meeting of the Society for Immunotherapy of Cancer (SITC).

The study demonstrates that encapsulation of a therapeutic IL-12 fusion protein (IL-12Fc) for tumor specific delivery and pH-dependent activation was achieved using the ON-BOARD™ polymeric micelle technology. The findings demonstrate a potent anti-tumor efficacy and durable anti-tumor memory in colorectal cancer models.

[Learn more about OncoNano's ON-BOARD platform](#)

Bracane Awarded



Pamela Nelson, RN, PhD

At the heart of transformative healthcare research and innovation, Bracane Company, Inc. has again demonstrated its unwavering commitment to diversity and excellence. Bracane Company was awarded the Category II Supplier of the Year 2023 at the National Minority Supplier Development Council (NMSDC) National Conference in Baltimore, MD.

This minority-owned research organization continues to lead by example, showcasing how strategic partnerships and a dedication to core values can powerfully impact the healthcare industry. Bracane Company is one of 16,000 companies certified by the NMSDC. With a reputation for excellence and an array of prestigious certifications, Bracane Company continually seeks opportunities to support projects aligning with its mission to reduce health disparities and increase diversity in research and development.

[Read full press release](#)

Meet the Baylor Lab Making Accessible Science Mainstream

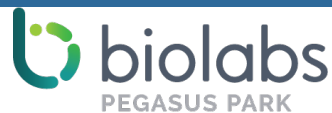


Dr. Mona Minkara, a bioengineering professor at Northeastern University in Boston, was in Waco — a long way from the campus she calls home. The reason for her trip? To join Baylor Chemistry’s Dr. Bryan Shaw in his lab, demonstrating to students from the Texas School for the Blind and Visually Impaired (TSBVI) what she longed to hear at their age.

“I’ve been blind since I was a kid, and all I wanted to do was be a scientist,” Minkara says. “And all I heard was that I couldn’t be a scientist. So, to get to the point where we’re training the next generation to have the option to choose science? I can’t even describe to you in words how that hits me.” Some of Shaw’s approaches are high-tech, using advanced robotics to help measure, pour and conduct precise experiments. TSBVI students utilized a number of common lab techniques without the equipment, and then with it — and their delighted reactions to being able to conduct chemistry research told the story. TSBVI students also enjoyed experiences with microscopy, protein purification and other tasks they could conduct as a college student. But in Shaw’s lab, they found a setting designed with them in mind.

[Read full press release](#)

BioLabs: The House Life Sciences Built



The establishment of a “marquee” location in Dallas for BioLabs Pegasus Park, initiated by Lyda Hill Philanthropies, helped the organization attract a robust number of early stage

life science companies in its first year. Because BioLabs Pegasus Park is a university- and institution-agnostic incubator, there is no perception that it has a bias towards any one organization. It offers a level playing ground for life science innovation.

BioLabs works closely with BioNTX, the regional affiliate of BIO, a global biotech trade association.

[Read full press release](#)

Free Healthcare? UNTHSC Partnership Launches in North Texas



Four prestigious North Texas universities are joining an initiative this year to provide free health care at a clinic offered by The University of North Texas Health Science Center at Fort Worth and RAM®, a national nonprofit provider of free health clinics.

HSC and RAM have partnered on the clinic for the past two years, and are joined by Texas Christian University's Harris College of Nursing, Texas Woman's University, Texas A&M University School of Dentistry and The College of Health Care Professions.

[Read full press release](#)

NIH Funding Brings Next Generation Imaging to UTA



Piya Ghose, PhD, MS (in foreground) with members of her lab.

UTA will soon add a new piece of cutting-edge equipment to its already impressive and growing research arsenal—a type of super-resolution microscope (SRM) that allows biologists to see structures within a cell in even finer detail.

“We are really excited to bring this advanced imaging technology to our lab and UTA,” Ghose said. “We believe this will strongly position us to make important discoveries in the field of cell death and cell biology in general. My team and I are extremely excited to start imaging at this level.”

[Read full press release](#)

[Learn more about the Ghose Lab](#)

UTD Researchers Honored for Stroke Rehabilitation Research



(from left to right) Dr. Michael Kilgard, Dr. Robert Rennaker and Dr. Seth Hays are three of the principal behind the innovation of vagus nerve stimulation to treat a variety of neurological issues, including poor hand function after a stroke.

The University of Texas at Dallas researchers who adapted vagus nerve stimulation (VNS) to improve the effectiveness of physical rehabilitation after a stroke have been recognized by the journal *Molecular Medicine* for their fundamental discoveries that have led to ongoing advances in clinical care.

The journal’s Anthony Cerami Award in Translational Medicine will be awarded to Dr. Michael Kilgard, the Margaret Fonde Jonsson Professor of neuroscience in the School of Behavioral and Brain Sciences; Dr. Robert Rennaker, professor of neuroscience and the Texas Instruments Distinguished Chair in Bioengineering; and Dr. Seth Hays, associate professor of bioengineering and Fellow, Eugene McDermott Professor in the Erik Jonsson School of Engineering and Computer Science.

[Read full press release](#)

On the Frontlines: UTA & UTSW Advance



Hanli Liu, PhD, MS

A University of Texas at Arlington bioengineering professor is collaborating with a clinical translational intensivist at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center to determine when brain swelling in neonatal newborns is in danger of occurring.

Hanli Liu, a UT Arlington bioengineering professor, is working on a mathematical analysis that can help determine when a baby is at risk of hypoxic-ischemic encephalopathy (HIE), which is damage that occurs when oxygen or blood flow to the brain is reduced or stopped at birth. HIE can cause cerebral palsy, intellectual disabilities, behavioral disorders, hearing impairments, visual disabilities, speech disorders, motor deficits, developmental disabilities and seizure disorders.

[Read full press release](#)

NORTH TEXAS NEWS

ACS BrightEdge Announces 1st Oncology Accelerator in Texas



BrightEdge LLC, the American Cancer Society's (ACS) venture capital and impact investment arm, received its largest donation to date from Dallas-based Lyda Hill Philanthropies to establish the ACS BrightEdge Texas Accelerator, a two-year pilot innovation acceleration program hub. The \$5.25M gift will allow for the funding of translational research grants and early-stage equity investments in emerging oncology

start-up companies.

“We are excited to launch this first-of-its-kind program with Lyda Hill Philanthropies,” said Alice Pomponio, vice president of innovation and impact investing and managing director of BrightEdge. “This transformational gift establishes our first regional accelerator designed to bring innovative ideas to market faster. By leveraging vibrant cancer research funding across public and nonprofit sectors, we hope to deepen patient-centric impact and drive towards a future where discovery conquers cancer.”

[Read full press release](#)

SMU & NASA Collaborators Granted Virtual Research Assistant Patent



Jia Zhang, PhD, MS

Jia Zhang, the Cruse C. and Marjorie F. Calahan Centennial Chair in Engineering and professor in the Department of Computer Science in SMU Lyle's School of Engineering, was recently awarded a patent along with NASA collaborators for developing an intelligent, virtual, personalized assistant for Earth science research. MATA, which is the Sanskrit name for the Earth, provides conversational computing that allows users to type or verbally ask questions through a computer or mobile phone.

[Read full press release](#)

Moving Science, Safeguarding Progress

CARTER

Carter, Inc. is selling two NuAire LabGard® ES NU-545 Class II, Type A2 Biosafety

Cabinet and one Protector Premier Laboratory Hoods, and can deliver and install the equipment at your location.



NuAire LabGard® ES NU-545 Class II, Type A2 Biosafety Cabinet

The NuAire NU-545 Class II, Type A2 BioSafety Cabinet elevates the core LabGard® biological safety cabinet design to meet the needs of the most sophisticated applications by monitoring performance with two airflow sensors, displaying current and historical data on a touch panel interface, and allowing users to schedule automatic operation.



Protector Premier Laboratory Hoods

Protector Premier Laboratory Hoods incorporate a sleek interior with a molded one-piece fiberglass liner. The one-piece liner of specially-formulated, fiberglass-reinforced polyester offers corrosion and fire resistance and easy clean up. These hoods are suitable for providing personal protection needed for general chemistry applications involving fumes and vapors.

Contact Carter, Inc. for more details

FUNDING & MENTORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

T2RF Research Foundation Opens 4th Cohort

Applications due November 9, 2023



The T2RF Grant Cycle 4 awards provide essential funding for seed or pilot research projects, fostering the exploration of groundbreaking research concepts. These awards support initial testing phases, allowing researchers to embark on smaller-scale endeavors. The emphasis lies in evaluating feasibility and refining methodologies, shaping the trajectory of potential larger-scale studies. Through the T2RF Grant Cycle 4, they empower researchers to take innovative ideas from conception to a vital stage of validation, contributing to the advancement of knowledge and discovery.

Apply now

SXSW Applications Portal is OPEN

Applications due November 12, 2023



Apply to SXSW's Pitch Competition for an opportunity to present your latest ideas across eight categories to a panel of industry experts, early adopters, and representatives from the investment community.

[Apply now](#)

ARPANET-H Network Activation Call: Stakeholder Intelligence for ACTR Initiative

Application ends on December 1, 2023



The Advancing Clinical Trial Readiness (ACTR) initiative seeks to improve the nation's ability to conduct clinical trials safely, quickly, and equitably. The ACTR initiative will develop, evaluate, and integrate new tools and technologies to enable faster, less expensive, decentralized trials operating closer to/at points of care that are more representative across geography, age, gender, race, ethnicity, and socioeconomic status.

[Apply now](#)

PSC Grants Funds for New Therapy Discovery

Application ends on January 15, 2024



PSC Partners and affiliate PSC Partners Canada award annual grants that drive research to identify treatments and a cure. Their Research Grants Program seeks to encourage investigators to conduct research in promising new areas, with the goal that data generated will lead to further seed funding from additional sources.

[Apply now](#)

HSC Next SBIR Phase 0 Program



The HSC Next SBIR Phase 0 Program provides innovative Tarrant County companies with one-on-one guidance, beginning with technology assessment. Select companies will enter a comprehensive one-month, cohort-based program that meets weekly and guides them through the grant writing processes. Additionally, participants receive one-on-one mentorship with SBIR experts that help founders fine-tune their proposals to increase the

likelihood of receiving federal funding.

Apply now

INDUSTRY EVENTS

Autumn Happy Hour at Cresa

BIONTX



The BioNTX Facilities Committee invites you for an evening of networking at Cresa Real Estate's office overlooking the Cowboys practice field in The Star.

We'll be joined by special guest, Gloria Salinas, Vice President and Jeremiah Anderson, Director of Innovation at the Frisco Economic Development Corporation.

Thank you for your support!



Register now

Upcoming Events & Opportunities in North Texas



Lily in Bloom



Global Entrepreneurship Week

Join the Gwen Lily Research Foundation for a day of Awareness and Empowerment as panelists explore the importance of preventative care and the impact of clinical research.

November 11, 2023

[Learn more](#)

Global Entrepreneurship Week (GEW) is a celebration of entrepreneurship and welcomes communities around the world to get involved.

Meet passionate people changing the world as they continue to celebrate local entrepreneurship and global connections.

November 13 - 19, 2023

[Learn more](#)



Equity 101

Join LaunchBio to learn the knowledge and tools needed to make informed decisions about their ventures' financial strategies.

November 14, 2023

[Learn more](#)



Golden Ticket Competition and Celebration Reception

Join the American Cancer Society BrightEdge to hear pitch competition finalists compete to win one year of free lab space at BioLabs Pegasus Park in Dallas.

November 14, 2023

[Learn more](#)



EmpowHERment Pitch Competition

Join Eosera for their second-annual pitch competition where 3 small businesses will pitch live to compete for the first-place \$15,000 prize and second-place \$10,000 prize!

November 14, 2023

[Learn more](#)



Southwest Regional Meeting

Join the American Chemical Society to discuss strengthening connections between the private sector and academia.

Oklahoma City, OK

November 15 - 18, 2023

[Learn more](#)



HiFi Data to Insights: Characterization, AI and More for Accelerated Gene Therapy

Join Form Bio to learn more about HiFi Data and AI can help reveal invisible issues that can significantly impact the safety, efficacy, and manufacturability of cell and gene therapies.

November 15, 2023

[Learn more](#)



DFW Small Business Tech Day

Join TriQuest Technologies, Inc. to listen to well-known business leaders, tech experts and leading minds showing small businesses how to compete and succeed in many aspects of their business with a concentration on utilizing technology to be productive, profitable and protected.

November 16, 2023

[Learn more](#)



Dallas Cup of Capital

Join Capital Factory at their most popular coffee networking event that makes it easy for you to meet your next co-founder, investor, mentor, or Capital Factory champion.

November 17, 2023

[Learn more](#)

techstars

Techstars Startup Weekend Fort Worth

Join Techstars to learn how to launch a business in one weekend, create relationships and build your network, get coached by great mentors who have launched their own businesses and get access to valuable startup resources.

November 17 - 19, 2023

[Learn more](#)

Inspiring Tomorrow's Breakthroughs with AI Innovation

Fostering Innovation with Artificial Intelligence

RSVP

January 25, 2023
3:00pm - 5:00pm

TTU Innovation Hub
3911 4th Street
Lubbock, TX 79415



Join us for an exciting and informative event that explores the dynamic intersection of artificial intelligence and innovation. In a world driven by constant technological advancements, AI has become a powerful catalyst for change and creativity. This event is designed to inspire, educate, and empower individuals, businesses, and organizations to harness the full potential of AI in their quest for innovation.

[Learn more](#)

November 6, 2023

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