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Convergence: The Life Sciences Leaders Forum To Bring Together Industry Leaders From Across the Northeast

BOSTON, June 14, 2004 – Future Forward Events LLC will be hosting *Convergence: The Life Sciences Leaders Forum* June 24 – 26 at the Ocean Edge Resort and Golf Club in Brewster, Massachusetts. The invitation-only event will bring together high-level life sciences players from around the Northeast to discuss and debate the most pressing topics of interest to the industry. Forging strong corporate partnerships, attracting funding from private and public sources, building successful research organizations, streamlining product development and approval, understanding the convergence of biology, software, and medical devices, and staying ahead of regulatory changes are just a few of the topics that will be covered at Convergence.

Convergence, which begins the afternoon of Thursday, June 24 and runs through the afternoon of Saturday, June 26, will feature roundtables, networking and panel discussions. Attendees will include investors, thought leaders and entrepreneurs in life sciences brought together to discuss the issues that are currently facing the industry. The most up-to-date list of speakers includes such notable members of the life sciences community as:

- Robert Langer, ScD - Kenneth J. Germeshausen Professor of Chemical and Biomedical Engineering, MIT
- Lee Brettman, MD, FACP - President and CEO, Dynogen Pharmaceuticals
- Alan Crane - CEO, Momenta Pharmaceuticals
- Errol De Souza, PhD - CEO, Archemix
- Maggie Flanagan, PhD - Global Alliance Director, Global Sciences and Information, AstraZeneca Pharmaceuticals
- Lenny Guarente, PhD - Novartis Professor of Biology, MIT; Co-founder, Elixir Pharmaceuticals
- Peter Hutt - Partner, Covington & Burling; former FDA chief counsel
- Dean Kamen - President, DEKA Research
- John Maraganore, PhD - CEO, Alnylam Pharmaceuticals
- Vicki Sato, PhD - President, Vertex Pharmaceuticals
- Michael Rosenblatt, MD - Dean, Tufts School of Medicine

Unlike most conferences with formal, pre-defined presentations, *Convergence: The Life Sciences Leaders Forum* provides a rapid-fire stream of ideas, advice, lessons-learned and important industry insights to those who attend,” said Shayne F. Gilbert, President of Future Forward Events LLC. “Most business conferences in the life sciences industry are held to primarily benefit members of the Wall Street community. This forum is unique because it delivers tangible business strategies that benefit the executives, company founders, heads of R&D, chief business officers and partnership executives who attend as well as providing practical industry insights to those investors who attend. *Convergence: The Life Sciences Leaders Forum* is a gathering designed for the people who make news and build companies in the life sciences field.”

Sponsors for the *Convergence: The Life Sciences Leaders Forum* include Wilmer Cutler Pickering Hale and Dorr LLP, J. Robert Scott, Alexandria Real Estate Equities, Inc. and Weber Shandwick Worldwide. The full agenda and speaker list are available online at www.convergenceforum.com.

About Future Forward Events LLC

Founded by industry veterans, Future Forward Events LLC delivers executive programs for the high technology and life sciences industries. *Convergence: The Life Sciences Leaders Forum* is the third high-level gathering produced by Future Forward Events LLC. The first two have become must-attend events for influential players in the innovation economy.

Now in its fifth year, the Nantucket Conference on Entrepreneurship & Innovation, www.nantucketconference.com, is an annual sold-out gathering of the New England region's most influential high-tech entrepreneurs, executives and investors. Speakers at the Nantucket Conference have included Lotus founder Mitch Kapor; Motorola CEO Ed Zander; Celera Genomics founder Craig Venter; 3Com Corp founder Bob Metcalfe; Dan Bricklin, co-inventor of the spreadsheet; and Forrester Research CEO George Colony. Supporters of the program have included Bingham, McCutchen, Ernst & Young, and Silicon Valley Bank.

Future Forward, www.futureforward.com, now in its fourth year, is an annual gathering of entrepreneurs, C-level executives (CIOs, CTOs, CEOs), investors and service providers interested in how new technologies are developed by start-ups and how they are applied in large corporate settings. Supporters of the program have included Deloitte and Touche, Microsoft and Nixon Peabody.

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