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GaBio Convenes Inaugural Life Science Workforce Forum *Morehouse School of Medicine's Dr. David Satcher to Deliver Keynote*

ATLANTA, GA (November 11, 2008) – Georgia Bio will hold its first **Life Science Workforce Forum** Monday, November 17, 1pm to 5pm, at the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention with a keynote address by **David Satcher**, M.D., Ph.D., Director of the Satcher Health Leadership Institute and the Director of the Center of Excellence on Health Disparities at Morehouse School of Medicine (MSM). He also holds the MSM Poussaint-Satcher-Cosby Chair in Mental Health.

The theme for the event is ***Life Science Workforce Forum 2008: A Catalyst for Transforming Georgia's Bioscience Talent***. The forum will bring together pre- and post-secondary educators, employers and economic developers to explore issues and challenges in developing the skilled workforce to support growth of the life sciences sector in Georgia. The discussions will identify common needs and trends, and suggest ways in which the participants can work together to improve Georgia's life sciences workforce. Nearly 200 attendees are expected to participate in the event.

The Forum will include a snapshot of the life sciences workforce by a panel of leading regional industry and economic researchers, addressing trends and projections identified through recent studies. Employers will then share perspectives on their unique experiences.

Dr. Satcher, who formerly served as CDC Director, Surgeon General and President of Morehouse School of Medicine, will kick-off the event at 1pm. Other featured speakers include:

- **Laurence Downey**, M.D., President of Berkshire Pharma Consulting and Co-Chair of Georgia Bio's Education and Workforce Development Committee.
- **Albert Heacox**, Ph.D., Senior Vice President of Research and Development at CryoLife.
- **Jeff Humphreys**, Ph.D., Director, Selig Center for Economic Growth in the University of Georgia's Terry College of Business.
- **Marcia Jones**, Ph.D., Public Service Associate in the Center for Agribusiness and Economic Development at the University of Georgia.
- **Jennifer Maffia**, Senior Account Executive with Aerotek Scientific.
- **Mark Pevey**, Ph.D., Senior Executive Director for P-16 Data and Operations with the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia.
- **Stephen Thacker**, M.D., M.Sc., Director, Office of Workforce and Career Development at the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.
- **Lavetra Tydus**, Associate Director of Clinical Operations at Quintiles Transnational.
- **Jan Youtie**, Ph.D., Manager Policy Services in the Enterprise Innovation Institute at Georgia Institute of Technology
- **Stuart Zola**, Ph.D., Director of the Yerkes National Primate Research Center at Emory University.

The Forum is a program of Georgia Bio's Education and Workforce Development Committee, and is intended to be the first in an annual series to connect educators and employers on issues of quality and quantity in Georgia's efforts to expand the skilled workforce necessary to grow this strategic industry sector.

The event is being co-sponsored by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the Georgia Bioscience Technology Institute, the Yerkes National Primate Center, and Resonance Marketing.

Georgia Bio (www.gabio.org) is the private, non-profit organization in Georgia representing 300 pharmaceutical, biotech and medical device companies, universities, research institutes, government groups and other business organizations involved in the development of products that improve the health and quality of life people worldwide.

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