

## Major Innovation Announcement Planned, SC Life Sciences Conference Shatters Registration Record

Partnering, Virtual Exhibit Hall Add Draw for Conference Feb. 16-17

Executive Partnering, Virtual Exhibit Hall Add Draw for Power of Us Conference Feb. 16-17

GREENVILLE, SC, USA, February 11, 2021 /EINPresswire.com/ -- With conference registration surging more than 20% past prior record levels and the addition of a "singularly significant innovation announcement focused on cancer treatments and precision medicine advancement", SCBIO's "The Power of Us" virtual conference Feb. 16-17 is preparing for its largest gathering ever next week... delivered virtually to registrants from across the Palmetto State plus 25 states and 8 countries.



next week

Adding to the excitement is a just-scheduled "major innovation announcement" by a South Carolina company, in tandem with West Coast and German allies, that has significant implications for cancer diagnosis and treatment on a global level, organizers say.

Already in excess of 500 registrants from across America and around the globe, the acclaimed SCBIO conference – the annual gathering of South Carolina's life sciences community – will also celebrate the rapid growth of the industry and the contributions of its 800+ organizations in helping America and the world overcome the brutal COVID-19 pandemic.

South Carolina life sciences has seen a doubling of firms and 40% increase in life sciences' direct employment since 2017, which combine to make it the fastest growing industry sector in the

state, according to recent data provided by Dr. Joseph Von Nessen, the state's research economist and noted economic development expert with the Moore School of Business at the University of South Carolina.

"Dr. Von Nessen's data validates that the life sciences industry in South Carolina is experiencing stunning growth, thanks to the combined efforts of our state's economic development teams, industry partners, research universities, elected officials and other partners," said SCBIO CEO Sam Konduros. "It's an exciting time to be a part of an industry that is saving lives and improving quality of care."

The industry has a \$12+ billion economic impact in the Palmetto State, with more than 800 firms located in 42 of 46 counties across the state and over 43,000 professionals employed directly or indirectly in research, development and commercialization of innovative healthcare, medical device, industrial, environmental and agricultural biotechnology products.

Organizers are tight-lipped about the Innovation Announcement details, which will be unveiled at 8:30 a.m. on the second day of the conference—February 17.

"We will say that the implications of the announcement include a new technology that has the ability to detect cancers at the earliest time ever, to further lifespans, and to unlock a new era of precision medicine," said Mr. Konduros.

Adding to the draw of the conference are scores of organizations from across America showcasing their capabilities in a virtual exhibit hall, direct 1-to-1 executive meetings on demand via a Partnering Portal, major industry awards and – naturally – top speakers.

Committed presenters include BIO Global CEO Dr. Michelle McMurry-Heath; Microsoft Vice President Jamie Harper, who leads the global team supporting higher education and K-12 initiatives; and Bill Stadtlander, Commercial Leader of Verily, the Google subsidiary focused on life sciences and use of health data and AI to improve lives.

Also speaking at SCBIO 2021 are Courtney Christian, Senior Director of Policy and Research at PhRMA and former leader of the Black Women's Health Imperative; Dr. Harris Pastides, former USC President and outgoing chair of the SC Institute of Medicine and Public Health; Dr. Pat Cawley, CEO of MUSC Health; and Dr. Marjorie Jenkins, Dean of the USC School of Medicine - Upstate and Chief Academic Officer of Prisma Health Upstate, among others.

Themed "The Power of Us," the 2-day SCBIO 2021 virtual event will feature sessions on The Power of Innovation, The Power of Partnership, and The Power of People – each a fundamental force which drives the state's surging \$12 billion industry that is a key contributor to South Carolina's expanding knowledge economy.

The conference will also feature SCBIO CEO Sam Konduros delivering the "State of South

Carolina's Life Sciences Industry" address, and release of SCBIO's 2020 annual report.

Leaders already registered to attend include executives from Presenting Sponsor Vikor Scientific, Champion Sponsor Nephron Pharmaceuticals, Keynote Sponsor Medpoint, Pinnacle Awards Sponsor Softbox and others. Leading biotech and med-tech industry brands participating include BIO, Johnson & Johnson, AVX, PhRMA, AdvaMed, Poly-Med, VWR, Ritedose Corporation, Rhythmlink, ZEUS, Patheon Thermo Fisher, Zverse, Abbott, Alcami, SSOE – Stevens & Wilkinson, and more. All of South Carolina's research universities – MUSC, Clemson and the University of South Carolina – are represented, as are major healthcare systems, the South Carolina Department of Commerce, SCRA, South Carolina Hospital Association and others.

Registration is open online at the 2021 Virtual Conference section of <a href="www.scbio.org">www.scbio.org</a>. Registration is free to employees of most SCBIO investors and supporters as well as to students interested in life sciences careers, while faculty and teachers can attend the entire conference for \$25. General admission tickets are available for as little as \$75. Virtual Exhibit space and sponsorships are also available by inquiring at info@scbio.org.

For additional information on SCBIO or to register for SCBIO 2021, visit www.SCBIO.org.

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