

# BioLines Weekender

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To Our New Jersey Life Sciences Community:

Welcome, everyone, to another edition of *The Weekender*.

Choose New Jersey made a strong choice yesterday in selecting NJEDA CEO Michele Brown to fill the very big shoes left by Tracye McDaniel as the new Choose New Jersey CEO. We look forward to working with Michele to bring more life sciences companies to New Jersey.



This week, two New Jersey institutions made important announcements. BioNJ Member Rider University, located in Lawrenceville, announced that they have created a new degree in Health Care Management and Golda Och Academy in West Orange is planning to build a center to educate its upper school students in the STEM - science, technology, engineering, and mathematics - curriculum. The fostering of education from younger to older individuals will only help strengthen our New Jersey ecosystem. Thank you to both institutions, as well as all the other New Jersey institutions for their commitment to making the New Jersey ecosystem as strong as it can be.

Don't forget that BioNJ's Annual Dinner Meeting and Innovation Celebration is only a few short weeks away on February 5. Make sure you [register today](#) to take advantage of **Early Bird Rates that end today**.

For more important news on the New Jersey Life Sciences ecosystem, keep reading this week's edition of *The Weekender*!

Because Patients Can't Wait!

The BioNJ Team

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## BioNJ Calendar

***The Gateway Gala  
BioNJ Annual Dinner Meeting and Innovation Celebration***

*February 5, 2015  
Hilton East Brunswick  
East Brunswick, NJ*

[Register Now](#)

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## BioNJ News

**Sponsorship Opportunities Available for NJ Pavilion at BIO 2015**

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Shouldn't your brand be featured at the largest biotech industry meeting in 2015?

Consider one of the varied sponsorship opportunities available through the NJ Pavilion, sponsored by BioNJ and Choose New Jersey!

There are plenty of opportunities available, able to accommodate all budgets. Please email Debbie Mennito at [DMennito@BioNJ.org](mailto:DMennito@BioNJ.org) for more information about the NJ Pavilion sponsorship opportunities. Make sure your brand is front and center for thousands of eyes to see.



## **BioNJ Joins Hosts of 17th Annual Legislative Reception**

On behalf of the Biotech, Chemistry, Pharmaceutical and Medical Device Industries, it is our pleasure to invite you to participate in the Chemistry Council of New Jersey's 17th Annual Legislative Reception in Washington, DC to be held on February 19, 2015.

Please join us from 7:30-11:00 p.m. for an evening filled with wonderful food, great company, and excellent conversation with colleagues and representatives from New Jersey congressional delegation.

Please [click here](#) to read the full press release.

## ***NJ Industry News***

### **Choose New Jersey Names Michele Brown as President and CEO**

The Board of Directors of Choose New Jersey, Inc., a privately funded and operated organization that works to grow investment and jobs in the Garden State, announced on January 22 that Michele Brown will serve as the nonprofit's new president and chief executive officer.

Please [click here](#) to read the full press release.

### **Acute Myeloid Leukemia Therapy Granted Fast Track Status**

BioNJ Member Celator Pharmaceuticals, located in Ewing Township, announced that the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has granted Fast Track status to CPX-351 (cytarabine:daunorubicin) for the treatment of elderly patients with secondary acute myeloid leukemia (AML).

Please [click here](#) to read the full press release.

### **Golda Och to Build New STEM Facility**

Golda Och Academy in West Orange is planning to build a center to educate its upper school students in the STEM - science, technology, engineering, and mathematics - curriculum, according to a press release issued by the school.

The new, state-of-the-art STEM Center on the Eric F. Ross Campus will be named in honor of Dr. Lynne B Harrison, community philanthropist and school grandparent, who donated \$1 million toward the facility.

Please [click here](#) to read the full press release.

### **Advaxis Announces FDA Acceptance of Its Investigational New Drug Application to Commence First-in-Human Clinical Trials of ADXS-HER2**

Advaxis, Inc., a BioNJ Member located in Princeton, announced on January 22 that the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has cleared its Investigational New Drug (IND) application to conduct a Phase I clinical study of ADXS-HER2 (ADXS31-164) for the treatment of patients with metastatic HER2 expressing solid tumors. The clinical trial, which will be the first-in-human study of Advaxis's lead Lm-LLO immunotherapy product for HER2 expressing cancers, is expected to begin patient enrollment in the first half of 2015. In May 2014, Advaxis was granted orphan drug designation by the FDA for ADXS-HER2 in osteosarcoma.

Please [click here](#) to read the full press release.

### **Novartis Announces FDA Approval For First IL-17A Antagonist Cosentyx (secukinumab) For Moderate-To-Severe Plaque Psoriasis Patients**

BioNJ Member Novartis, located in East Hanover, announced on January 21 that the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has approved Cosentyx (secukinumab) for the treatment of moderate-to-severe plaque psoriasis in adult patients who are candidates for systemic therapy (a drug that is absorbed into the bloodstream and distributed to all parts of the body) or phototherapy (light therapy). Cosentyx is the first approved psoriasis medication to selectively bind to IL-17A and inhibit interaction with the IL-17 receptor.

Please [click here](#) to read the full press release.

### **Cornerstone Pharmaceuticals Receives Funding through New Jersey's Technology Business Tax Certificate Transfer Program (NOL)**

BioNJ Member Cornerstone Pharmaceuticals, Inc., located in Cranbury, announced on January 21 that it has received funding through the State of New Jersey's Business Tax Certificate Transfer Program for the year 2014. This is the fourth year that Cornerstone has been selected to participate in the program.

Please [click here](#) to read the full press release.

### **Akers Expands U.S. Sales Efforts With Key Leadership Additions**

Akers Biosciences, Inc., a leading designer and manufacturer of rapid diagnostic screening and testing products, announced on January 20 the recruitment and deployment of a full-time, pan-U.S. sales and marketing team under the direction of the newly appointed Executive Vice President, Sales and Marketing, John C. Cheneval.

Please [click here](#) to read the full press release.

### **Princeton Drug Development Company Appoints President of Technology**

Princeton-based Certara announced Tuesday that it has appointed Gavin Nichols to the newly created position of president of technology. Nichols, who will be based in the drug development consulting company's North Carolina office, will also head Certara's software business unit.

Please [click here](#) to read the full article.

### **Cancer Genetics, Inc. Launches Digital Platform to Enable Collaboration with Community Hospitals and Laboratories**

Cancer Genetics, Inc., a BioNJ Member located in Rutherford, announced on January 20 the launch of their ExpandDx collaborative testing program. CGI's ExpandDx program, which utilizes VENTANA digital pathology technology from Roche, allows community-based hospitals and pathology labs to partner with CGI through remote consultations, and enables access to a broader range of tests that expand the clinical testing capabilities of community labs and hospitals. The technical-only testing service provides community hospitals and pathology labs with the most advanced testing technologies available, and facilitates increased collaboration on both atypical and difficult cancer cases.

Please [click here](#) to read the full press release.

### **Immunomedics Reports Phase 1/2 Results with Sacituzumab Govitecan (IMMU-132) in Patients With Metastatic Gastrointestinal Cancers**

Morris Plains-based BioNJ Members, Immunomedics, Inc., announced on January 20 that sacituzumab govitecan, the Company's lead investigational antibody-drug conjugate (ADC), produces partial response (PR) in some patients with metastatic esophageal and colorectal cancers who had been heavily pretreated. Extended periods of stable disease were also noted in some patients with pancreatic and gastric cancers, with time-to-progression (TTP) exceeding that of last prior therapy in many cases.

Please [click here](#) to read the full press release.

### **Agile Therapeutics Announces \$20 Million Private Placement and Provides Clinical Trial Update**

BioNJ Member Agile Therapeutics, Inc., located in Princeton, announced on January 20 that it has entered into a definitive stock purchase agreement with a group of institutional accredited investors, including both existing and new investors, for the private placement of approximately

3.4 million shares of common stock at \$5.85 per share yielding expected gross proceeds of \$20.0 million.

Please [click here](#) to read the full press release.

### **Advaxis to Host Analyst & Investor Day on February 3, 2015**

BioNJ Member Advaxis, Inc., located in Princeton, announced on January 20 that it will host and webcast its Analyst & Investor Day on Tuesday, February 3, 2015.

Please [click here](#) to read the full press release.

### **WHILS 2015 Exhibit Opportunity -- Application Deadline January 31**

The 2015 Women's Healthcare Innovation & Leadership Showcase (WHILS) will bring together more than 350 professionals from across the spectrum of healthcare to share ideas and discuss innovation strategies for advancing women's healthcare.

A key part of the program will be 12-14 exhibits that will be curated for quality and diversity. In addition, WHILS 2015 will feature a keynote by Nieca Goldberg, MD, Medical Director for The Joan H. Tisch Center for Women's Health at New York University Langone Medical Center.

Please [click here](#) for more information about the event.

## *NJ University/Institution News*

### **Rider University Now Offers Degree in Health Care Management**

Students can now earn a bachelor's degree in health care management from Rider University, officials announced on January 19.

The new major is being offered by the university's College of Business Administration and provides education in business combined with topics in health care management.

Please [click here](#) to read the full article.

## *Purchasing Consortium News*

### **What Savings Opportunities Are You Overlooking?**

The BioNJ Purchasing Consortium has been working hard to secure discounts on products and services that our Members want and need at greatly reduced pricing! In addition to our newest offering of IT Services by Dynamic Strategies, big things are happening at your Purchasing Consortium.

Look for new programs in Meeting and Event Planning, Payroll and Health Insurance, an enhanced UPS offering, Environmental Health and Safety Services and Executive Liability Insurance, just to name a few!

Please [click here](#) to see available Member Benefits.

For more information about the Purchasing Consortium, contact Linda Pontell at [LPontell@BioNJ.org](mailto:LPontell@BioNJ.org) or visit the [Purchasing Consortium website](#).

## *BioNJ Talent Network*

### **Job Leads**

View the latest jobs from our Talent Network, featuring jobs from Regeneron and Rutgers NJ Medical School.

Please [click here](#) to see the list of available jobs.

## *BioNJ Tweets of the Week*

- [@reporterbmakin](#) tweeted, "[@ChooseNJ web tools helping #GardenState #businesses grow...via @MyCentralJersey](#)"
- [@RutgersResearch](#) tweeted, "[As Ebola Deaths Rise, @RutgersU Researcher Sees Parallels with Devastating Medieval Plague | Rutgers-Newark](#)"

Please contact BioNJ at [BioNJ@BioNJ.org](mailto:BioNJ@BioNJ.org)  
or [609-890-3185](tel:609-890-3185) with any questions.

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