# TEXAS LIFE SCIENCE LEGISLATIVE DIRECTORY



2021





In 2021, Texas Healthcare and Bioscience Institute (THBI) will celebrate 25 years of working to promote effective legislation and a steady regulatory environment at the state and federal levels. With a focus on using advocacy as a tool to create a more favorable business environment for various healthcare entities, we work with government and industry leaders to attract new participants in the life sciences.

The Texas life sciences industry is committed to expanding the boundaries of science by discovering, developing and delivering innovative and needed medications to patients. It is the patient that is the ultimate beneficiary of such advances. The membership of THBI is dedicated to creating an environment where such discoveries flourish and thrive.

Our members not only have a voice at the Capitol through our respected legislative team, but they also benefit from extensive networking in the healthcare space across Texas. THBI is the leading health policy voice in the state, influencing legislation that has led to economic investment and medical breakthroughs for 25 years. To learn more about getting involved, email info@thbi.com.

## JOIN THE CONVERSATION

**SOCIAL MEDIA GUIDE** 



Texas Healthcare and
Bioscience Institute



@TxHBI

#THBISummit #Innovation

#txbioscience #txlege

## **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

Texas Life Science Week Proclamation	4
Capitol Exhibit	5
Life Science Week Sponsors	
THBI Legislative Priorities	
THBI Leadership	10
THBI State-Federal Legislative Committee	11
THBI Members	23
Sponsor Ads	24

## TEXAS LIFE SCIENCE WEEK

## **RESOLUTION**

**WHEREAS,** The Texas life sciences industry is committed to expanding the boundaries of science by discovering, developing, and delivering innovative and needed diagnostics, therapies, and treatments to patients.

**WHEREAS,** The life sciences industry in Texas includes thousands of private firms employing tens of thousands of workers, dozens of world-class research universities and institutions with an increasing expertise in commercialization and technology transfer, a burgeoning life sciences investment ecosystem, significant state support programs, a growing network of economic development organizations focused on the life sciences, and the largest medical complex in the world.

WHEREAS, Texas' bioscience industry continues to grow at a rapid pace, increasing its employment by 11.5 percent since 2016 to reach just over 100,000 jobs in 2018 across 6,263 business establishments. Texas is among the top tiers of states not only in the size of its industry but in several key measures of the industry's innovation ecosystem, including: academic research & development expenditures at \$3.5 million in 2018; National Institutes of Health funding at nearly \$1.4 billion in 2019; in venture capital investments at \$2.3 billion from 2016-19; and in patent awards where 4,950 were awarded to state inventors since 2016.

**WHEREAS**, Texas ranks number 2 in the nation for the number of clinical trials, with approximately 28,624 underway. Clinical trials provide both clinical and economic value to the State. When more clinical trials are underway in Texas, more Texans have access to experimental therapies which can ultimately lead to innovations that bring much needed cures to our patients and families.

WHEREAS, The pandemic has placed a spotlight on the importance of nurturing bioscience research & development and innovation ecosystems. The current situation illustrates the importance of proactive investment in these ecosystems and the underlying infrastructure and talent that powers them—resources that can be directed toward innovating solutions when a global challenge arises. The capacity of the global biopharmaceutical community to develop and produce diagnostic tests, vaccine candidates, and potential antiviral agents, and to then scale-up their clinical trials, manufacturing, and distribution, is the direct result of investments in the science, technologies, and skilled people that drive innovation.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** by the House of the State of Texas, that the members of this body join together to commend the industry, which includes the innovative biopharmaceutical ecosystem and front-line health care workers, for their dedication and sacrifice to protect, treat, and find cures for Texans during the COVID-19 pandemic, and recognize March 8th – March 12th as Texas Life Science Week at the state capitol.

## CAPITOL EXHIBIT

## **MARCH 8-12, 2021**

The following banners will be on display at the Capitol during Life Science Week.



Texas is among the top tier of states not only in the size of its industry but in innovation ecosystem, including:

- · Academic R&D Expenditures of nearly \$3.5 billion
- · Nearly \$1.4 billion in NIH Funding
- 4,950 patent awards to Texas inventors
- \$2.3 billion in bioscience venture capital investments





Since its inception after a 2007 constitutional amendment, the Cancer Prevention and Research Institute of Texas (CPRIT) has awarded 1,576 grants totaling more than \$2.64 billion for cancer research and prevention.





Texas runs the second most clinical trials of any state, totaling more than 29,000 trials as of February 2021. These trials allow more Texans to access experimental therapies, boost the state's economy, and facilitate the development of new treatments





#### **Pandemics and Infectious Diseases**

The pandemic has placed a spotlight on the importance of nurturing bioscience R&D and innovation ecosystems. The current situation illustrates the importance of proactive investment in these ecosystems and the underlying infrastructure and talent that powers them-resources that can be directed toward innovating solutions when a global challenge arises. The capacity of the global biopharmaceutical community to develop and produce diagnostic tests, vaccine candidates, and potential antiviral agents, and to then scale up their clinical trials, manufacturing, and distribution, is the direct result of investments in the science, technologies, and skilled people that drive innovation.





"Texas has become a global leader in the development of life science companies and products because of the momentum of regional partners: BioAustin, BIO El Paso-Juarez, Bio North Texas, BioHouston, BioMedSA, Brazos Valley Economic Development Corporation, BioMedRGV and THBI. These regions are comprised of more than 6,200 life science businesses and over 100,000 employees in related fields.

Patients are the beneficiaries from the successes of the industry." Tom Kowalski, President and CEO, THBI



## LIFE SCIENCE WEEK SPONSORS

## THANK YOU TO OUR GENEROUS SPONSORS

## PRESENTING SPONSOR











The rising STAR of Texas

## THBI LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

## **87TH TEXAS LEGISLATIVE SESSION**

The Texas life sciences industry is committed to expanding the boundaries of science by discovering, developing, and delivering innovative and needed diagnostics, therapies, and treatments to patients. It is the patient that is the ultimate beneficiary of such advances. The membership of the Texas Healthcare and Bioscience Institute (THBI) is committed to creating an environment where such discoveries flourish and thrive. To that end, THBI supports the following initiatives in the 87th Texas Legislative Session.



## PANDEMICS AND INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The pandemic has placed a spotlight on the importance of nurturing bioscience R&D and innovation ecosystems. The current situation illustrates the importance of proactive investment in these ecosystems and the underlying infrastructure and talent that powers them—resources that can be directed toward innovating solutions when a global challenge arises. The capacity of the global biopharmaceutical community to develop and produce diagnostic tests, vaccine candidates, and potential antiviral agents, and to then scale-up their clinical trials, manufacturing, and distribution, is the direct result of investments in the science, technologies, and skilled people that drive innovation.



## PATIENT ACCESS AND INNOVATION

- THBI is committed to safeguarding and preserving timely patient access to new diagnostics, therapies, and treatments while maintaining the integrity of those who utilize the latest innovations to create these products.
- It is critical that all patients fighting diseases have access to needed treatments and cures that allow patients to live longer, healthier, and more productive lives.
- Expansion of the newborn screening program and the inclusion of new conditions to the state's newborn screening panel within two years of Recommended Uniform Screening Panel (RUSP) approval.
- Rare disease prevalence in Texas access to therapies
- Vaccination access and education
- Preserve and foster Texas' investments to continue to grow a productive infrastructure.
- Robust venture capital community to provide critical funding needs to the Texas biopharmaceutical industry
- Diversity, equity, and inclusion across all areas of the life sciences industry.



# APPROPRIATE FUNDING FOR HIGHER EDUCATION/RESEARCH

- Encourage the Texas Legislature to support a consistent and transparent mechanism to fund research at our Texas Institutions of Higher Education.
  - Full funding of the Texas Research & Incentive Program (TRIP).
- Encourage the Texas Legislature to meaningfully fund research to ensure national competitiveness and to improve the ability for our Texas Institutions of Higher Education to continue a robust technology transfer system and product development process.
- Passage of tuition revenue bonds (TRBs) for continued progress and growth on university campuses
- Enhanced formula and non-formula funding for Texas' Health Related Institutions



# CREATE A THRIVING TEXAS LIFE SCIENCES ENVIRONMENT

- Policies to keep Texas' life science entrepreneurs and small businesses healthy and flourishing.
  - 70% of innovative clinical programs are being led by small companies.
  - 90% of clinical programs ultimately fail to lead to an FDA approval.
  - 92% of biopharmaceutical companies are unprofitable at any given time.
  - 10-15 years is the average time it takes to secure FDA approval of a new medicine at an average cost of \$2.8 billion.
- Continue to support state programs and incentives like:
  - Texas Enterprise Fund (TEF)
  - Governor's University Research Initiative (GURI)
  - Product Development & Small Business Incubator Loan Program (PDSBI)
  - Cancer Prevention and Research Institute of Texas (CPRIT)
  - R&D Tax Credits
  - Initiatives to further train our next generation of Texas' biopharmaceutical workforce.
  - Encourage and support STEM education to further prepare future biopharmaceutical scientists.



# RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT/ MANUFACTURING

- Preserve and foster Texas' investments to continue to grow a productive infrastructure.
- Texas institutions, investors and innovators are collaborating in unprecedented ways to create innovative treatments and cures and strengthen the Texas economy.
- Protect global supply chain
- Retain Chapter 313

## THBI LEADERSHIP

## **STAFF**



**Tom Kowalski** President and CEO



Meredith Armstrong Policy Director



Patricia Shipton Government Affairs Consultant



Julia Perkins Director of Membership and Programming



Virginia Rothenflue Director of Operations

## THBI STATE-FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER BY COMPANY NAME



## **ALEXION PHARMACEUTICALS**

alexion.com

Alexion is a global biopharmaceutical company focused on serving patients and families affected by rare diseases and devastating conditions through the discovery, development and commercialization of life-changing medicines. As a leader in rare diseases for more than 25 years, Alexion focuses its research efforts on novel molecules and targets in the complement cascade and its development efforts on hematology, nephrology, neurology, metabolic disorders, cardiology, ophthalmology and acute care. Headquartered in Boston, Massachusetts, Alexion has offices around the globe and serves patients in more than 50 countries.

#### **PRIMARY CONTACT**



**Brian Shank** Director, State Government Affairs Brian.Shank@alexion.com



## **AMGEN** amgen.com

Amgen is one of the world's leading biotechnology companies. Amgen is a value-based company, deeply rooted in science and innovation to transform new ideas and discoveries into medicines for patients with serious illnesses



**Justin Hudman** Senior Manager, State Government Affairs jhudman@amgen.com



## ASTELLAS PHARMA

#### astellas.com

Astellas Pharma Inc. is a pharmaceutical company conducting business in more than 70 countries around the world. We are promoting the Focus Area Approach that is designed to identify opportunities for the continuous creation of new drugs to address diseases with high unmet medical needs by focusing on Biology and Modality. Furthermore, we are also looking beyond our foundational Rx focus to create Rx+® healthcare solutions that combine our expertise and knowledge with cutting-edge technology in different fields of external partners. Through these efforts, Astellas stands on the forefront of healthcare change to turn innovative science into value for patients. For more information, please visit our website www.astellas.com

#### PRIMARY CONTACT



Rebecca Waldrop
Director, State Government Affairs
rebecca.waldrop@astellas.com



## **ASTRAZENECA PHARMACEUTICALS**

astrazeneca.com

**PRIMARY CONTACT** 

Francesca Plendl

Senior Director, Federal Government Affairs

francesca.plendl@astrazeneca.com



Established in 1997, BioMarin is a world leader in developing and commercializing first- or best-inclass therapies for rare genetic diseases. We take pride in going where the science lead us, pioneering breakthrough treatments for debilitating and life-threatening conditions where we can significantly improve upon the current standard of care.

**PRIMARY CONTACT** 

**Ken Sprague** 

Associate Director, Government Affairs

ken.spraque@bmrn.com



## **BOEHRINGER INGELHEIM**

## boehringer-ingelheim.com

Improving the health and quality of life of humans and animals is the goal of the research-driven pharmaceutical company Boehringer Ingelheim. The focus in doing so is on diseases for which no satisfactory treatment option exists to date. The company therefore concentrates on developing innovative therapies that can extend patients' lives. In animal health, Boehringer Ingelheim stands for advanced prevention. Founded in 1885, Boehringer Ingelheim is a family-owned and privately held global corporation with 55,000 employees. To ensure we have a robust pipeline, the company invests over 21% of its net sales back into R&D. On the animal side of business, BI is the leader in the companion animal space and a leader in the livestock area. Bl is a leader in human health focused on respiratory, diabetes, oncology and autoimmune diseases.

## PRIMARY CONTACT

**Chevanne Cook Director of State Government** 

cheyanne.cook@boehringer-ingelheim.com



## **BRISTOL MYERS SOUIBB**

## bms.com

At Bristol Myers Squibb, we work every day to transform patients' lives through science. We combine the agility of a biotech with the reach and resources of an established pharmaceutical company to create a global leading biopharma company powered by talented individuals who drive scientific innovation.

We have the brightest people in the industry and believe that their diverse experiences and perspectives help to bring out our best ideas, drive innovation and achieve transformative business results. Each day, our employees around the world work together for patients - patients are at the center of everything we do. They inspire us. They are the reason we come to work each day.

We are proud of the advancements we have made in oncology, hematology, immunology and cardiovascular disease, and we are dedicated to helping patients prevail over serious diseases through our diverse and promising pipeline and new scientific platforms.



Jesse Lewis State Government Affairs Jesse.Lewis@bms.com

## **CSL Behring**

Biotherapies for Life<sup>™</sup>

## CSL BEHRING cslbehring.com/vita

CSL Behring is a global biotherapeutics leader driven by our promise to save lives. We meet patients' needs using the latest technologies to develop and deliver innovative therapies. The company offers the broadest range of products in the industry for treating coagulation disorders, primary immune deficiencies, hereditary angioedema, respiratory disease, and neurological disorders. CSL Behring's products are also used in cardiac surgery, burn treatment and to prevent hemolytic disease of the newborn. The company operates one of the world's largest plasma collection networks, CSL Plasma, including 38 plasma donation centers in the state of Texas. The parent company, CSL Limited (ASX:CSL; USOTC:CSLLY), headquartered in Melbourne, Australia, employs more than 27,000 people, and delivers its life-saving therapies to people in more than 100 countries. For more information visit at CSLBehring. com/Vita and follow us on Twitter.com/CSLBehring.

#### **PRIMARY CONTACT**



**Tony Mitchell**Associate Director, State Government Affairs **tony.mitchell@cslbehring.com** 

## Genentech

A Member of the Roche Group

## **GENENTECH**

gene.com

Considered the founder of the industry, Genentech, now a member of the Roche Group, has been delivering on the promise of biotechnology for more than 40 years.

Genentech is a biotechnology company dedicated to pursuing groundbreaking science to discover and develop medicines for people with serious and life-threatening diseases. Our transformational discoveries include the first targeted antibody for cancer and the first medicine for primary progressive multiple sclerosis.



Brad Westmoreland State Government Affairs westmorb@gene.com

# GRAIL

## GRAIL grail.com

GRAIL aims to develop blood tests to detect cancer early, when treatment may be more successful. To achieve this, they are building intelligent models to identify clinically actionable information from vast amounts of tumor genome data obtained through high-intensity sequencing. With the best talent in biology, clinical science, bioinformatics, deep learning, and engineering, along with the passion of its leadership, GRAIL's goal is to greatly decrease global cancer mortality. GRAIL's mission is to improve and save lives through early cancer detection, and they are developing their test in a rigorous way to deliver to patients safely and effectively. GRAIL aims to change the trajectory of cancer mortality and bring stakeholders together to enable broad adoption of innovative, safe, and effective technology that can transform cancer control and cancer care.

**PRIMARY CONTACT** 

**Lisa Glass** 

Iglass@rosscomm.com



**iBIO** ibioinc.com

## PRIMARY CONTACT



**Peter Kipp** VP Translational Medicine and Strategic Alliances pkipp@ibioinc.com



## **INTRA-CELLULAR THERAPIES**

intracellulartherapies.com



Jim Sharp National Account Executive Policy, Advocacy and Market Access jsharp@itci-inc.com

## LANTERN PHARMA INC.

## lanternpharma.com

Lantern Pharma is a clinical stage biotechnology company, focused on leveraging artificial intelligence ("A.I."), machine learning and genomic data to streamline the drug development process.

#### **PRIMARY CONTACT**



David R. Margrave
Chief Financial Officer
margrave.david@gmail.com



## MERCK merck.com

Merck aspires to be the premier research-intensive biopharmaceutical company in the world. For more than 125 years, Merck (known as MSD outside of the U.S. and Canada) has been inventing for life, bringing forward medicines and vaccines for many of the world's most challenging diseases in pursuit of our mission to save and improve lives.

We demonstrate our commitment to patients and population health by increasing access to health care through far-reaching policies, programs and partnerships. Today, we continue to be at the forefront of research to prevent and treat diseases that threaten people and animals – including cancer, infectious diseases, such as HIV and Ebola, and emerging animal diseases.



Holly Turner
Director, State Government Affairs & Policy
holly.turner@merck.com



## NOVARTIS novartis.com

## PRIMARY CONTACT



Holli Hill Director of State Public Affairs holli.hill@novartis.com



## **NOVO NORDISK**

novonordisk-us.com

At Novo Nordisk, we believe in change. For almost 100 years, we have been driving change to defeat diabetes, which has given us the experience and capability to help defeat other serious chronic diseases, including obesity, hemophilia and growth hormone disorders. From our labs to our factory floors, we are discovering and developing innovative biological medicines and making them accessible to patients who need them. We understand how important it is to take the right medicine at a price you can afford, but it's not always that easy. NovoCare® provides resources to help you understand your options, find costs, and connect you to affordability support. Visit novocare.com for more information, including phone numbers for live assistance, and to learn more about our patient access and affordability support programs.

PRIMARY CONTACT

**Anne Berry** 

(609) 987-5900

## **DID YOU KNOW?**

- Texas is home to more than 6,200 life science businesses and over 100,000 employees in related fields
- Clinical Trials in Texas Texas ranks No. 2 in the nation for number for clinical trials, with approximately 28,600 underway
- Academic R&D Expenditures of nearly \$3.5 billion
- Nearly \$1.4 billion in NIH Funding
- 4,950 patent awards to Texas inventors
- \$2.3 billion in bioscience venture capital investments



## OTSUKA otsuka-us.com

Otsuka America Pharmaceutical, Inc. and Otsuka Pharmaceutical Development & Commercialization, Inc. are the US-based indirect subsidiaries of the global healthcare company Otsuka Pharmaceutical Co. Ltd with the corporate philosophy: "Otsuka-people creating new products for better health worldwide." Otsuka's US companies share a deep commitment to the development and commercialization of innovative products in the spaces of neuroscience, nephrology, and digital medicine.

We have an unwavering belief in doing more and going above and beyond — under any circumstancesso that patients can push past the limitations of their disease and achieve more than they thought was possible every day.

## PRIMARY CONTACT



Melisa McEwen
State Government Affairs & Advocacy
melisa.mcewen@otsuka-us.com



pfizer.com

## Breakthroughs That Change Patients' Lives

At Pfizer, we apply science and our global resources to bring therapies to people that extend and significantly improve their lives. We strive to set the standard for quality, safety and value in the discovery, development and manufacture of health care products, including innovative medicines and vaccines. Every day, Pfizer colleagues work across developed and emerging markets to advance wellness, prevention, treatments and cures that challenge the most feared diseases of our time. Consistent with our responsibility as one of the world's premier innovative biopharmaceutical companies, we collaborate with health care providers, governments and local communities to support and expand access to reliable, affordable health care around the world. For more than 150 years, we have worked to make a difference for all who rely on us. Please visit us on <a href="https://www.Pfizer.com">www.Pfizer.com</a> and follow us on Twitter at <a href="https://www.Pfizer.com">@Pfizer</a> News, LinkedIn, YouTube and like us on Facebook at Facebook com/Pfizer.



Amber Pearce
Director, State Government Relations
Amber.Pearce@pfizer.com



## **PHRMA** phrma.org

PhRMA represents the country's leading innovative biopharmaceutical research companies, which are devoted to discovering and developing medicines that enable patients to live longer, healthier and more productive lives. Since 2000, PhRMA member companies have invested nearly \$1 trillion in the search for new treatments and cures, including an estimated \$83 billion in 2019 alone.

#### **PRIMARY CONTACT**



**Brynna Clark** Senior Director, State Advocacy bclark@phrma.org



## Sanofi, Empowering Life

Sanofi is dedicated to supporting people through their health challenges. We are a global biopharmaceutical company focused on human health. We prevent illness with vaccines, provide innovative treatments to fight pain and ease suffering. We stand by the few who suffer from rare diseases and the millions with long-term chronic conditions.

With more than 100,000 people in 100 countries, Sanofi is transforming scientific innovation into healthcare solutions around the globe.

## **PRIMARY CONTACT**

## Stephanie Simpson

Director State Government Relations

stephanie.simpson@sanofi.com



## **SAREPTA** sarepta.com

At Sarepta, we are leading a revolution in precision genetic medicine and every day is an opportunity to change the lives of people living with rare disease. We have built an impressive position in Duchenne muscular dystrophy (DMD) and in gene therapies for limb-girdle muscular dystrophies (LGMDs), and currently have approximately 40 programs in various stages of development. Our programs and research focus span several therapeutic modalities, including RNA, gene therapy and gene editing.

## **PRIMARY CONTACT**

## Kate Segal

Director, State Government Affairs

KSegal@sarepta.com



## UCB, INC.

UCB's ambition is to transform the lives of people living with severe diseases. We focus on neurology and immunology disorders – putting patients at the center of our world. We are Inspired by Patients. Driven by Science.

#### **PRIMARY CONTACT**



Amy Whited
Regional Director, Government Relations and Public Affairs
Amy.Whited@ucb.com



## ULTRAGENYX PHARMACEUTICAL ultragenyx.com

Ultragenyx is a biopharmaceutical company committed to bringing to patients novel products for the treatment of serious rare and ultra-rare genetic diseases. The company has built a diverse portfolio of approved therapies and product candidates aimed at addressing diseases with high unmet medical need and clear biology for treatment, for which there are typically no approved therapies treating the underlying disease.



Julie Haeber Boyd
Associate Director, State Government Affairs
JHaeber@ultragenyx.com



## THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN

#### utexas.edu

Founded in 1883, The University of Texas at Austin's mission is to achieve excellence in the interrelated areas of undergraduate education, graduate education, research and public service. The university contributes to the advancement of society through research, creative activity, scholarly inquiry and the development and dissemination of new knowledge.

#### **PRIMARY CONTACT**

Kate Raetz

**Director for Government Relations** 

k.raetz@utexas.edu

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS

## **MDAnderson** <del>Cancer</del> Center

Making Cancer History®

## THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS MD ANDERSON CANCER CENTER mdanderson.org

The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center is one of the world's most respected centers devoted exclusively to cancer patient care, research, education and prevention. It is located in central Houston in the Texas Medical Center. MD Anderson was created in 1941 as part of The University of Texas System. The institution is one of the nation's original three comprehensive cancer centers designated by the National Cancer Act of 1971 and is one of 50 National Cancer Institute-designated comprehensive cancer centers today, U.S. News & World Report's "Best Hospitals" survey has ranked MD Anderson the nation's top hospital for cancer care. The institution has been named one of the nation's top two hospitals for cancer care every year since the survey began in 1990.

## **PRIMARY CONTACT**

**Wesley Duncan** 

Director, State Relations

wduncan@mdanderson.org

## **TEXAS: GLOBAL LIFE SCIENCE POWERHOUSE**



Texas is one of the leading life science states in the country and continues to outpace national growth for the industry. We must continue to focus on strong policy initiatives to grow and strengthen the Texas life sciences industry.



## UT HEALTH SAN ANTONIO uthscsa.edu

The University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio, also known as UT Health San Antonio, is one of the country's leading health sciences universities, designated as a Hispanic-Serving Institution by the U.S. Department of Education and the premier academic research center in San Antonio and South Texas. With missions of teaching, research, patient care and community engagement, its schools of medicine, nursing, dentistry, health professions and graduate biomedical sciences have graduated more than 37,000 alumni who are leading change, advancing their fields and renewing hope for patients and their families throughout South Texas and the world. The UT Health Science Center at San Antonio is ranked in the top 3 percent worldwide for all organizations that receive National Institutes of Health funding. It is the chief catalyst for the \$40.2 billion health care and biosciences sector of the San Antonio economy, the city's largest economic sector. Visit us on Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, Instagram and YouTube.

## **PRIMARY CONTACT**



Andrea Giuffrida, PhD Vice President for Research giuffrida@uthscsa.edu



## VERTEX PHARMACEUTICALS vrtx.com

## **PRIMARY CONTACT**



**Kyle Kamrath**Director, State Government Affairs (South Central US)

kyle\_kamrath@vrtx.com

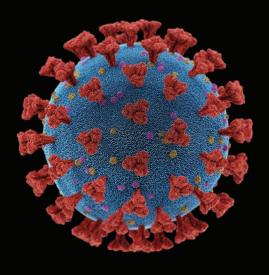
## THBI MEMBERS

## **AS OF MARCH 2021**

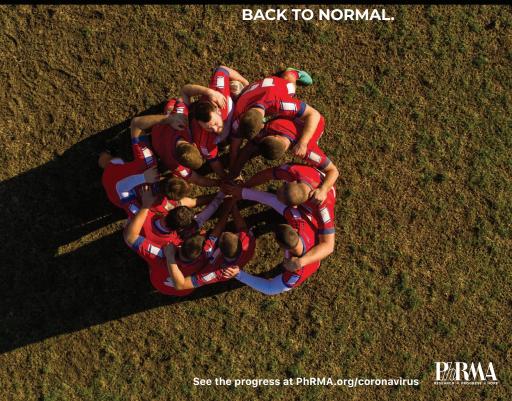
THBI is the leading health policy voice in the state, influencing legislation that has led to economic investment and medical breakthroughs for 25 years. The Texas life sciences industry is committed to expanding the boundaries of science by discovering, developing and delivering innovative and needed medications to patients. It is the patient that is the ultimate beneficiary of such advances. The membership of THBI is dedicated to creating an environment where such discoveries flourish and thrive. To learn more about getting involved, email info@thbi.com.

- 7 Hills Pharma, JLABS
- Abbott Labs
- AbbVie
- Aeglea BioTherapeutics
- Alexion Pharmaceuticals, Inc.
- Amarillo Economic Development
- Corporation
- Amgen
- Astellas Pharmaceutical
- AstraZeneca
- Asuragen
- Austin Chamber of Commerce
- Austin Community College
- B. Braun Medical Inc., OEM Divisions
- Bayer Corporation
- BIO El Paso/Juarez
- BioAustin
- Biogen Idec
- BioHouston
- BioLabs
- BioMarin Pharmaceutical Inc.
- BioMed SA
- bionorthTX
- Biotechnology Innovation Organization (BIO)
- BodyBilt
- Boehringer Ingelheim
- Brazos Valley Economic Development
- Corporation
- Bristol-Myers Squibb
- C/
- Cancer Insight, LLC
- Capital City Innovation
- Celltex
- CenterPoint Energy
- Chenega Corporation
- City of Waxahachie
- CRB
- CSL Behring
- CureDuchenne
- DisperSol Technologies, LLC
- DPR Construction
- EEA Consulting Engineers
- Eli Lilly
- Emergent Technologies
- FUJIFILM Diosynth Biotechnologies
- Genentech
- Georgetown Economic Development
- Gilead
- Globio
- Grable Martin Fulton PLLC

- GRAIL
- Greater Houston Partnership
- Harlingen Economic Development
  - Corporation
- Horizon Therapeutics
- iBio Inc.
- Illumina
- Intra-Cellular Therapies, Inc.
- Johnson & Johnson
- KinetoChem LLC
- L7 Informatics
- Lantern Pharma, Inc.
- Lexicon Pharmaceuticals
- Medical Center of the Americas Foundation
- Merck & Co., Inc.
- New Braunfels Economic Development
  - Corporation
- Novartis
- Novo NordiskNT Biotech, Inc.
- Odessa Development Corporation
- Otsuka US
- Pearland Economic Development
  - Corporation
- Pfizer, Inc.
  - Round Rock Chamber
- Sanofi
- Sarepta Therapeutics
- Smith & Nephew
- Temple Health & Bioscience District
  - Texas Biomedical Research Institute
- Texas State University
- The University of Texas at Austin
- The University of Texas at Dallas
- The University of Texas MD Anderson
  - Cancer Center
- Tyler Economic Development Council
  - UCB, Inc.
- Ultragenyx Pharmaceutical
- University of Houston
- University of St. Thomas, Cameron School of Business
- UT Health San Antonio
- UT Health Science Center at Houston
- UT Southwestern Medical Center
- Vertex Pharmaceuticals
- VGXI
- VWR



## **SCIENCE WILL BRING US**







## TRANSLATIONAL HEALTH

Researchers at Texas State are working to put academic research into practice to improve the health and wellness of people. The translational health research initiative builds on our existing strengths in cancer research, nutrition, health communication, aging and dementia studies, and addiction.

## A BIG Impact - TRANSLATIONAL HEALTH

On average new health research takes 17 years to be implemented. Texas State is working to accelerate the translation of research into reality, Interdisciplinary teams of researchers have the real-world knowledge to partner with the community to implement new approaches to pressing health challenges.

Four Focus Areas at Texas State

#### **Digital Health**

 Utilize digital health information technologies to improve efficiency, lower costs and help personalize healthcare delivery for individuals' health and wellness

#### Cancer

 Develop new cancer technologies to improve diagnosis and treatment that can transform cancer research and clinical care

## Health Across the Lifespan

 Help improve quality of life for people with cognitive disabilities and diseases such as Dementia, Autism, and ADHD

#### Chronic Disease

 Develop innovative strategies to reduce health disparities and improve access to information on chronic disease and health management

#### Translational Health at TXST



The Translational Health Research Initiative (THRI) was established in 2016. Interdisciplinary teams can effectively apply research and practice and generate improvements in healthcare.

More than 225 faculty in 80 departments are working on health challenges at TXST to facilitate collaborative research initiatives.

## **BIG** Philanthropic Opportunities

- Endow a Translational Health Program Fund to provide flexible resources to implement and sustain this initiative
- Seed and accelerate interdisciplinary research teams to address health changes in any of four focus areas
- Support undergraduate scholarships to help Texas State recruit and retain high-achieving students
- · Fund a Translational Health Award to recognize innovative research
- Endow graduate fellowships to fund student research with faculty or projects with health care partners
- Provide summer scholarships for undergraduates to collaborate with faculty on research
- Sponsor students to develop, pursue, and showcase research projects for innovative health solutions
- · Fund faculty fellowships for visiting experts in an area of focus
- Provide funding to expand access to Texas State clinics for low-income and uninsured clients
- Create an endowment to bring world-class experts and innovators to speak on campus
- Name an endowed professorship to support faculty in conducting cutting-edge research
- Name an endowed chair to support departmental leadership in the future of teaching and research
- Naming opportunities are available

## Your Invitation

We invite visionary philanthropic partners to support our students and faculty in discovering sustainable solutions for global issues through innovative research.





## Disruptive technology to create the most effective medicines of tomorrow

DisperSol Technologies is a private biotechnology company founded in 2007 and headquartered in Georgetown, TX. The company evolved from a research collaboration with the College of Pharmacy at The University of Texas at Austin. The focus of this collaboration was to adapt and apply a unique plastics processing technology to pharmaceutical manufacturing. That process, now known as KinetiSol®, has emerged as a groundbreaking technology for creating efficacious exposures of drugs that otherwise struggle to achieve the concentrations in humans needed to provide clinical benefit.

By leveraging this powerful and proprietary technology, DisperSol has been able to break through the ceiling of drug exposure that often limits the therapeutic potential of both new and existing drugs. We have applied this approach to existing drugs to build a pipeline in the cancer, iron overload disorder and cardiovascular areas, and with brand new chemical entities in cancer. All of our programs target significant-to-billion dollar markets with unique commercial potential in such a way that they cannot be replicated by competitors.

DisperSol is different from other technology platform companies by having one of the only truly new formulation technologies to be invented in decades. With KinetiSol, we can explore up to two orders of magnitude more drug/polymer combinations than with any other technology to date. This means DisperSol can create drug products not possible with other technologies and solve challenges where other technologies fall short. Our products explore indications and unaddressed clinical targets that were previously inaccessible. This allows for the development of novel drug products with unparalleled therapeutic potential.

DisperSol collaborates with major pharmaceutical companies, chemical companies, and research institutions on applications of the KinetiSol technology to the most challenging drug molecules. DisperSol is capable in its Texas research labs and manufacturing facilities to support product development activities from preclinical development through to commercial manufacturing. DisperSol has spun out its five lead product programs into its sister company, Austhera Biosciences.



## Redefining pharmaceutical R&D to unlock the FULL potential of insoluble drugs

Austhera Biosciences is a mid-clinical stage pharmaceutical development company headquartered in Georgetown, TX with:

A **transformative** drug discovery platform fundamentally altering the therapeutic promise of poorly absorbed drugs.

## Leading to near-term value creation:

A portfolio of late-stage clinical assets with **near-term**, **commercial promise**, demonstrating the therapeutic potential of the platform.

## Enabling long-term value creation:

To rapidly build a pipeline of novel NCE's for oncology and rare disease in the unexplored arena of validated targets addressable only by highly insoluble drugs.

Traditional drug development paradigms avoid exploring the insoluble chemical space because these drugs can't be delivered at therapeutically effective concentrations in humans. Austhera can enable development of these insoluble drug leads. Why does this matter? This matters because for many diseases with high unmet clinical need, the better a drug binds to the treatment target the more insoluble it is. Avoiding insoluble drugs can mean failing to advance the most potent, and in some cases, the only potentially effective medicines.

Austhera's drugs in development include:

- An iron chelator wrapping up Phase 2 clinical trials aimed at removing toxic iron in betathalassemia and sickle cell disease patients who don't respond to current treatments and face increased risk of premature death as a result.
- A prostate cancer drug in Phase 1b/2a studies in patients that may offer new hope to the
  metastatic prostate cancer patients who don't respond to current anti-androgen therapy.
  This product also offers promise to be a best-in-class anti-androgen therapy which is
  being explored in follow on studies.
- A pulmonary fibrosis drug expected to enter Phase 1 in 2021 which may dramatically reduce treatment limiting side effects that occur in 62% of patients. Furthermore, once proven safe, this product will open up the exploration of higher, more effective dosing for the first time.
- An antiphospholipid syndrome drug in Phase I testing that may prove to be the first direct oral anticoagulant to be effective in preventing life threatening arterial clots in these patients.
- A novel antifolate drug in preclinical development that could become the first new oral antifolate drug to treat cancer since the 1950s.

Austhera is a spin-out company of DisperSol Technologies, LLC.



Learn more at novartis.com









# thbi.com

(512) 708-8424 807 Brazos Street, Suite 607 Austin, TX 78701

