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KANSAS COMPLETES BIOSCIENCE ROADMAP FINAL PHASE
“HOT TEAMS” PRESENT BUSINESS PLANS TODAY AT STATEHOUSE

TOPEKA (April 11, 2005)— Kansas industry, business, civic and academic leaders, participating as bioscience “Hot Teams,” presented their final business plans today in the Kansas Statehouse. The meeting completed the final phase of the Kansas Bioscience & Innovation Roadmap process—designed to provide a strategic plan, or “roadmap,” for the state in its effort to become a key player in the bioscience industry. The Hot Teams spent the last three months reviewing six areas that were earlier identified as having the greatest potential for success in Kansas.

Kansas Technology Enterprise Corporation (KTEC) initiated the Roadmap process to ensure a comprehensive understanding of the state's bioscience assets and opportunities. To facilitate this process, KTEC engaged New Economy Strategies (NES), a Washington D.C. based consulting firm that specializes in technology-based economic development strategies. The public participation portion of the Roadmap process began in October 2004, with six bioscience summits in six cities across Kansas. At the summits, industry, academic and civic leaders met to contribute regional information for the strategic plan. After compiling information from these summits, the Hot Teams were formed to develop business plans in areas where Kansas had the best chance of success.

During the meeting today in Topeka, Hot Teams outlined essential steps in moving forward with a strategic plan for Kansas. Four key areas have emerged as targets of opportunity for the Roadmap:

- Kansas Institute for Human and Animal Health
- Fusion Center for Animal Health and Food Safety
- Kansas Center for Biologically-Inspired Materials
- Kansas Bioproduct Initiative

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These four Initiatives, as well as the five sub-component actions identified as fundamental to the state's competitiveness, are the result of prioritizing over 40 different ideas during interviews, surveys, and regional summits. Over 500 participants contributed their input and suggestions during this process. Additionally, all of the Hot Teams identified a need for a statewide "digital collaboratory" to enhance communication among principal investigators, researchers, scientists, industry representatives, entrepreneurs and venture capital resources as Kansas moves forward to implement the statewide strategic plan in the biosciences.

Richard Seline, CEO and Principal of NES, said, "The Hot Teams have shown tremendous collaboration by not only focusing serious attention and discussion to their own interests, but exhibiting a willingness to reach across fields of science and past barriers. The result of the process is to build stronger relationships necessary for increasing scientific and commercial transactions. Even before their work was complete, members of Hot Teams began to form potential enterprises of research and development. If Kansas is to continue this significant forward momentum in the global bioscience industry, it is imperative that industry, scientific, academic and civic leaders continue this collaboration and dialogue."

One of the areas noted by the Hot Teams where Kansas has a significant competitive advantage was in prevention of animal and airborne diseases. This was an important finding by the Hot Teams, as they determined that Kansas has the potential to compete not only nationally, but also globally, in this area. Given the global concern for communicable diseases, the State's research capacity and history in agriculture could position Kansas' industry assets as a leader in detection and response.

"The area of animal and airborne disease prevention is just one example where we have found Kansas has a competitive advantage," Tracy Taylor, President and CEO of KTEC said. "As has been said all along, Kansas knows that it cannot be all things in the bioscience industry. The Hot Teams have shown that Kansas is ready to pick and choose wisely where we invest our time, talents and dollars. I am confident that Kansas is doing just that—and moving forward strategically in this competitive arena."

After wrapping up this final phase of the Roadmap process, NES will compile the data from all three phases of the process, including the business plans announced today, and develop the final Roadmap report. This report will be released in May. The Kansas Bioscience & Innovation Roadmap process is sponsored by KTEC, the Kansas Department of Commerce, Kansas Bio, and NISTAC.

For more information about the Kansas Bioscience and Innovation Roadmap, visit:
www.ktec.com/roadmap.



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Kansas Road Map: Big Ideas and Fundamental Actions		
	Initiative	Hot Team Contributions
Big Ideas	1.) Kansas Institute for Human and Animal Health (including <i>Statewide Telemedicine Delivery</i>)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drug Discovery • Health-related IT
	2.) Fusion Center for Animal Health and Food Safety (including <i>Monitoring and Managing Biological Risk</i>)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Animal Sciences • Health-related IT
	3.) Kansas Center for Biologically-Inspired Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advanced Materials • Biomass & Biofuels • Plant Science
	4.) Kansas Bioproducts Initiative (including the <i>Statewide Biofuels Project</i> and the <i>Neutraceuticals Project</i>)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plant Science • Biomass & Biofuels
Fundamental Actions	1.) The Statewide Workforce Continuum: <i>Skills, Competencies and Future Talent</i>	All Hot Teams
	2.) Awareness Campaign: <i>Positioning Kansas's Assets</i>	All Hot Teams
	3.) Statewide Funding Team: <i>Resources for Competitiveness</i>	All Hot Teams
	4.) 3C: <i>Catalyzing Capital, Commercialization & Critical Mass of Growth, Mature Companies</i>	All Hot Teams
Statewide Collaboratory: <i>Accelerating Digital BioScience Connectivity</i>		Health-related IT