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## Gerson Lehrman Group Extends Partnership with BIO to Provide Scientific Expertise for the First Annual BIO National Venture Conference

Conference will be held April 22-23 at the Hyatt Regency Cambridge, Massachusetts

New York, NY – April 8, 2008 – Gerson Lehrman Group®, the world's leading marketplace for expertise, and the Biotechnology Industry Organization (BIO) announced an extension of their partnership with this latest initiative focused on providing the venture investment community, registered to attend the BIO National Venture Conference, with scientific expertise on the most promising early-stage biotechnology innovations.

GLG Council Members, including nationally recognized clinicians and researchers, will be speaking during therapeutic workshops at the inaugural BIO National Venture Conference, along with pharmaceutical and biotechnology industry senior executives to discuss innovative treatment advances in the fields of new antibiotics, RNA-based therapies, and stem cell/regenerative medicine.

"As with our efforts during the prestigious BIO CEO and Investor Conference in February 2008, we are very pleased to join with the Biotechnology Industry Organization to program the only truly independent conference series for healthcare industry decision makers, where the sole focus is premier education," said Alexander Saint-Amand, Chief Executive Officer of Gerson Lehrman Group. "By partnering with BIO and their highly respected investor conference series, Gerson Lehrman Group can make available its unparalleled network of healthcare experts to help educate decision makers in every industry by connecting them to the academic and industry leaders driving innovation and productivity in our global economy."

Through this partnership, BIO will tap into Gerson Lehrman Group's network of more than 175,000 experts from around the world. The panel speakers will be specifically identified to focus on some of the most interesting and novel development areas within the biotechnology industry: antibiotics, RNA-based therapies, and stem cell/regenerative medicine. These workshop topics were identified in a thorough vetting process by BIO in collaboration with the venture capital community.

"The depth and breadth of expertise available through Gerson Lehrman Group is a great fit for BIO's continuing efforts to provide cutting-edge education to our conference registrants, who themselves are some of the most informed healthcare industry experts," said Jim Greenwood, President and Chief Executive Officer of BIO. "Workshops selected for the BIO National Venture Conference are representative of the most compelling topics for biotechnology venture start-ups today, and focus on educating investors and industry on the latest areas of pipeline innovation, as well as strategies for capitalization and supporting product development objectives."

The first annual BIO National Venture Conference will feature select early-stage private biotechnology companies from across the U.S. The goal of this new national meeting is to bring together an elite group of healthcare venture partners for a concentrated one and a half day event. Workshops and plenary sessions on trends in the industry will also be held, with special focus on key success factors for early-stage companies, market trends, and financing. In addition, there will be formal and informal networking opportunities with industry CEOs and venture capital leaders.

To see the latest updates to 2008 programming and speakers for BIO National Venture Conference, please visit <http://bnvc.bio.org>.

**About Gerson Lehrman Group ®**

Gerson Lehrman Group (GLG) provides technology and services to support a marketplace for expertise. Since 1998, its platform for consultation and collaboration has helped the world's leading financial services firms, consultancies, corporations, and nonprofits find, engage, and manage experts in a broad range of industries and disciplines. GLG's unparalleled network of the world's leading expert consultants, known as the GLG Councils, includes more than 175,000 subject matter experts who educate and provide insight to decision makers through a wide range of consulting methods, including telephone consultations, expert surveys and seminars. GLG has invested in one of the world's most sophisticated infrastructures for expert recruiting and compliance. For more information about GLG, please visit [www.glggroup.com](http://www.glggroup.com).

**About BIO**

BIO represents more than 1,200 biotechnology companies, academic institutions, state biotechnology centers and related organizations across the United States and in more than 30 other nations. BIO members are involved in the research and development of innovative healthcare, agricultural, industrial and environmental biotechnology products. BIO also produces the BIO International Convention, the world's largest gathering of the biotechnology industry, along with industry-leading investor and partnering meetings held around the world.

**Gerson Lehrman Group Contact:**

Margaret M. Molloy  
212 880-6569  
[mmolloy@glgroup.com](mailto:mmolloy@glgroup.com)

**Biotechnology Industry Organization Contact:**

John Craighead, Ph.D.  
202-962-6632