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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Martha Barker, Public Relations Coordinator, Center for Behavioral Neuroscience
Phone: 404.413.5464 Email: mbarker@gsu.edu

Maria Thacker, Marketing Director, Georgia Bio
Phone: 404.920.2042 Email: maria.thacker@gabio.org

**UNIQUE COLLEGE COURSE AIMS TO PROVIDE TRAINED WORKFORCE FOR
GEORGIA'S GROWING LIFE SCIENCES INDUSTRY**

ATLANTA -- The U.S. biotechnology industry is on track to become a \$100 billion business by the end of the decade and nowhere is that more evident than right here in Georgia where the life sciences industry, as a whole, expanded at a much faster pace than the rest of the state's industry sectors between 2001-2005.*

A vital key to continuing this growth is providing a trained life sciences workforce and to make sure that happens, the Atlanta Center for Behavioral Neuroscience and Georgia Bio have teamed with four Atlanta colleges and universities, and seven local life sciences companies to offer a new undergraduate level course entitled, "Current Trends in the Biomedical Sciences."

"Georgia Bio has partnered with the Center for Behavioral Neuroscience to help science and business students understand how pharmaceutical, biotechnology, and medical device companies translate basic research discoveries into new therapies and treatments for diseases," said Georgia Bio President, Charles Craig. "To be successful, companies must be smart about science and business with professionals from each sphere working together to overcome challenges."

Serving as faculty for the seminar series -- offered to undergraduate students at Georgia State University, Georgia Tech, and Morehouse and Spelman Colleges -- are senior executives from several of Atlanta's pharmaceutical, biotechnology, and medical device companies.

“We feel that by taking part in the course we can help build awareness of the bioscience industry among the student community in Georgia and positively influence their educational and career path decisions,” said Harold H. Shlevin, Ph.D., President and CEO of Atlanta-based Tikvah Therapeutics, Inc., and a class lecturer. “These bright young students have the potential to become Georgia’s future bioscience leaders, and we need intellectual young minds to help us continue building the industry.”

Other companies participating in the course include: Cell Dynamics, LLC; Solvay Pharmaceuticals, LLC; Wynden Pharmaceuticals; Atherogenics, LLC; UCB Pharma, Inc.; and AviGenics, Inc.

While many institutions around the country have implemented joint business-technology courses at the graduate level, and occasionally at the undergraduate, this is the first course where colleges, universities, and businesses in Atlanta have come together to provide undergraduate students insight into how technologies and inventions reach the marketplace and which skills companies need to commercially develop those inventions.

“If the U.S. is to maintain a leadership role in the life sciences industry, we must improve science education, and inspire students to be inventive, entrepreneurial, and to continue post-secondary science studies,” said Elliott Albers, Ph.D., Director of the Center for Behavioral Neuroscience and a Regents Professor of Biology at Georgia State University. “The exposure these students receive through the class will help guide their choice of curriculum and training going forward in their careers.”

As an added bonus, Dr. Albers stated, “the internship opportunities resulting from the class will give students valuable hands on experience which is required by industry as it seeks new workers.”

About Center for Behavioral Neuroscience

The Center for Behavioral Neuroscience is a consortium of seven metro Atlanta colleges and universities including: Georgia State University, Emory University, Georgia Tech, Clark Atlanta University, Morehouse College, Morehouse School of Medicine, and Spelman College. More than 150 neuroscientists lead the research program with the goal of understanding the basic neurobiology of social behaviors. The CBN also directs a comprehensive education program designed to educate the next generation of scientists. For more information, visit www.cbn-atl.org.

About Georgia Bio

Georgia Bio, represents 290 pharmaceutical, biotech and medical device companies, universities, research institutes, government groups and other business organizations involved in the development of products that improve the health and quality of life people worldwide. For more information, visit www.gabio.org.

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* *Source: Shaping Infinity, The Georgia Life Sciences Industry Analysis, 2006*

For more information on the course log on to:

<http://www.cbn-atl.org/education/bioscience.shtml>