

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **BioGenerator Adds 4 Industry Experts to Entrepreneur In Residence Program**

*Entrepreneurs In Residence already advising over 100 emerging companies and entrepreneurs*

ST. LOUIS (August 5, 2013) — Four additional Entrepreneurs In Residence (EIRs) have joined the BioGenerator, bringing the organization's roster of EIRs to 12 – up from five last summer. The EIRs will support the creation and growth of new bioscience companies in the St. Louis region. The EIRs will expand BioGenerator's capacity to support bioscience entrepreneurs as they build their companies, raise capital, and develop their technology for market.

The new Entrepreneurs In Residence include:

- **Joseph Blechl** has over 25 years of assembling and leading teams with diverse objectives, such as the research and development of products and services, the optimization of business and manufacturing processes, the acquisition and integration of businesses, the strategic planning, marketing and sales growth of product lines, or the launch of new products and services for companies including Advantage Capital Partners, Johnson & Johnson, Mallinckrodt/Tyco, and Baxter.
- **Will Haines** has held a variety of pharmaceutical industry positions in medical services, research and development supporting the advancement of novel medicines in the cardiovascular and oncology therapeutic space. As Director-Medical Science Liaisons for GlaxoSmithKline, he leads teams of field-based scientists in the support of late stage clinical trials.
- **Alex Hromockyj**'s professional career spans 20 years in academic and biopharmaceutical research where he has held numerous leadership and management roles with Pfizer, Protein Design Labs, and Human Genome Sciences. His broad domestic and international management experience has involved the support of research portfolios in multiple therapeutic areas including Inflammation, Infectious Diseases, and Oncology.
- **Craig Morley** brings with him over 25 years of commercial experience in the pharmaceutical, biotech, life sciences, medical device, and diagnostics industries. He has held numerous senior level positions at EAG Life Sciences, Transposagen Biopharmaceuticals, Merck/Millipore, Covance, bioMerieux, and Eli Lilly & Co.





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“St. Louis continues to see rapid growth in its entrepreneurial support structure. Collaboration among organizations is ensuring that important elements are in place to support innovation,” said Eric Gulve, Ph.D., President of the BioGenerator. “This comprehensive innovation infrastructure continues to attract talent to St. Louis’ entrepreneurship ecosystem. At the BioGenerator, we have seen our Entrepreneur In Residence program grow from one person to twelve in the last 18 months; and we are delighted to have Joe, Will, Alex, and Craig join our team. Their deep industry expertise will help bioscience startups excel in St. Louis.”

“St. Louis is a recognized leader for bioscience innovation and academic and corporate investment in research and development. The collection of talent, infrastructure, and investment capital that has been assembled around this innovation provides a unique opportunity to translate discoveries into successful new products and new companies,” said Craig Morley, Senior EIR at the BioGenerator.

“There is real momentum among entrepreneurs in St. Louis, and the Entrepreneur in Residence program enables us to work with these startup company founders to advance their companies by helping them to attract additional talent and capital to their businesses,” said Joe Blechl, Senior EIR at the BioGenerator.

BioGenerator’s EIRs are currently supporting over 100 bioscience startups and emerging entrepreneurs in St. Louis.

The EIR program is funded by BioSTL and the BioGenerator. Additional support for some of the EIR positions has been provided by St. Louis County’s Helix Fund and through a portion of the *St. Louis Bioscience Jobs and Innovation Accelerator Challenge* grant funded by the U.S. Department of Commerce Economic Development Agency (EDA). Partners on the EDA grant are St. Louis County Economic Council and the Center for Emerging Technologies.

## *About BioGenerator*

The BioGenerator, the non-profit venture development organization of BioSTL, facilitates the formation of successful, sustainable bioscience companies in the St. Louis region. It provides start-up bioscience companies with pre-seed and seed investment funds, shared lab space with specialized equipment, and in-depth management support. Please visit [www.biogenerator.org](http://www.biogenerator.org) for additional information. Twitter: [@BioGeneratorSTL](https://twitter.com/BioGeneratorSTL).

## *About BioSTL*

BioSTL is a nonprofit that builds regional capacity and fosters collaborative efforts to advance innovation, entrepreneurship, and new company creation that capitalize on St. Louis’ world-class medical and plant biosciences and to promote economic growth and regional prosperity in St. Louis. Please visit [www.biostl.org](http://www.biostl.org) for additional information. Twitter: [@BioSTL](https://twitter.com/BioSTL). Facebook: [BioSTL](https://www.facebook.com/BioSTL).



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## *About the St. Louis Bioscience Jobs and Innovation Accelerator Challenge*

The objective of the St. Louis Bioscience Jobs and Innovation Accelerator Challenge grant is to foster job creation, new business formation, and regional economic growth by advancing the high-growth bioscience cluster in St. Louis. The grant supports the recruitment of experienced entrepreneurs to support and mentor early stage companies and entrepreneurs; outreach to minority and disadvantaged businesses interested in providing goods and services to bioscience companies; and on-the-job training for newly-created jobs in bioscience companies. The grant is a partnership between BioGenerator, BioSTL, Center for Emerging Technologies, St. Louis County Economic Council, the Minority Supplier Development Council, and the St. Louis Agency on Training and Employment (SLATE) with funding provided by the U.S. Department of Commerce Economic Development Agency, the U.S. Department of Labor Employment Training Agency, and the U.S. Small Business Administration.

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