



For Immediate Release:

September 20, 2018

**The Cornell Center for Materials Research and the Cornell CAT collaborate to help New York State Life Sciences companies advance technologies towards commercialization**

**Ithaca, NY** - The Cornell Center for Materials Research (CCMR) Industrial Partnerships Program is designed to help New York State's businesses access world-class capabilities; solve technical challenges; and develop and improve their products, with the ultimate goals of revenue growth and job creation.

This year, the CCMR launched a collaboration with the Cornell Center for Advanced Technology to support collaborative projects with New York State Life Sciences industry partners enabling them to advance an early stage technology, moving it closer to commercialization. The CCMR sponsors selected awarded CAT projects having materials-related needs including the development or use of materials in their biotechnology and medical applications or prototypes.

Two projects were selected by CCMR:

- Professor Lawrence Bonassar, Biomedical Engineering, is working with Brooklyn-based Fesarius Therapeutics, a startup commercializing implants for wound healing technology invented at Cornell University. The team is developing methods for collagen processing and characterization. They will use rheology and mass spectrometry microscopy facilities in CCMR to monitor phase transitions, properties, and microstructure of collagen gels as a function of collagen purity and storage time.
- Professor David Putnam Biomedical Engineering, is developing a new eye drop formulation to enhance the lubrication of contact lenses in partnership with Bausch + Lomb in Rochester. Contact lens comfort is enhanced when the lens surface and the eye have matching characteristics. The project aims to create a new class of amphiphilic polymers to coat the lenses and improve their comfort following insertion on the eye. The materials may also help to reduce eye infection by reducing the adhesion of bacteria to the lens.

The CCMR sponsorship amounts to \$5,000 per project. The program is also supported by Empire State Development's Division of Science, Technology and Innovation (NYSTAR).

**About the Cornell Center for Materials Research (CCMR)**

The Cornell Center for Materials Research is a National Science Foundation and New York State funded interdisciplinary research center at Cornell University whose mission is to advance, explore, and exploit the forefront of the science and engineering of advanced materials. The CCMR pursues this objective through fundamental, experimental and theoretical studies. Three other complementary functions complete the CCMR's mission: educational outreach to teachers and students; industrial outreach and knowledge transfer; and the operation of shared

instrumentation in support of materials research both on and off campus.  
[www.ccmr.cornell.edu/industry](http://www.ccmr.cornell.edu/industry)

#### **About the Cornell Center for Advanced Technology**

The Center for Advanced Technology (CAT) program supports entrepreneurial development for life scientists and biotechnology industries in New York State. It is funded and designated by NYSTAR. The CAT provides opportunity and infrastructure linking academic research with commercial interests to facilitate commercialization of life sciences inventions that grow the New York State economy.

<http://www.biotech.cornell.edu/cat>

#### **About Empire State Development's Division of Science, Technology and Innovation**

Empire State Development's Division of Science, Technology and Innovation (NYSTAR) supports collaborative industry/academic partnerships to foster integrated approaches for developing and commercializing innovative technologies. NYSTAR serves as a resource for small and startup technology companies. For more information, please visit [www.esd.ny.gov/nystar/](http://www.esd.ny.gov/nystar/).

#### **About Fesarius Therapeutics**

Fesarius Therapeutics Inc. is an early stage company that will develop and manufacture engineered skin replacement products using patented microsphere hydrogel technology.

<https://fesariustherapeutics.com/>

#### **About Bausch + Lomb**

Bausch + Lomb, a Bausch Health Companies Inc. company, is a leading global eye health organization that is solely focused on helping people see better to live better. Its core businesses include over-the-counter products, dietary supplements, eye care products, ophthalmic pharmaceuticals, contact lenses, lens care products, ophthalmic surgical devices and instruments. Bausch + Lomb develops, manufactures and markets one of the most comprehensive product portfolios in the industry, which is available in more than 100 countries.

[www.bausch.com](http://www.bausch.com)

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