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Center for Biotechnology Becomes First Founding Sponsor of LILSI

December 1, 2001 (Stony Brook, NY) – The Center for Advanced Technology (CAT) in Medical Biotechnology committed \$30,000 to the Long Island Life Sciences Initiative (LILSI) today as the first Founding Sponsor of the fledgling organization. Funds provided by the Center for Biotechnology will be utilized to hire a part-time Executive Director responsible for garnering support for the Long Island life sciences community, as well as developing a strategic plan for LILSI aimed at addressing common issues of concern to the regional life sciences industry.

“The Center for Biotechnology is very supportive of this initiative, particularly because of the potential for the life sciences to truly succeed here on Long Island,” stated Diane Fabel, Deputy Director for the Center for Biotechnology. She added, “There is a real opportunity to capitalize on the resources of the region for the long-term benefit of the life sciences community, and LILSI can help implement the programs necessary to address issues of strategic importance to the growth and prosperity of the industry.”

The Center for Biotechnology has also offered LILSI office space in their current facility located at Stony Brook University, as well as administrative support to facilitate the success of the organization. “This investment is in direct line with our mission of creating positive economic development in New York State,” said Clinton Rubin, Director of the Center for Biotechnology. He also added, “LILSI will be a major vehicle for Long Island’s life sciences industry to thrive, and the Center for Biotechnology should be viewed as a strategic partner in this effort.”

The Long Island life sciences industry has already been recognized as a leading economic driver for the future. Long Island is home to a vibrant life sciences community that includes approximately 300 companies and world-class, internationally renown academic and research institutions such as Brookhaven National Laboratory, Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory, the North Shore-Long Island Jewish Research Institute and Stony Brook University.

LILSI is a regional trade association focused on the attraction, retention and development of life sciences firms on Long Island, and aims to address issues of strategic importance to the growth of the pharmaceutical, biotechnology, medical device, and life systems technology (nutriceutical, cosmeceutical) sectors. More information can be found on the LILSI website (www.lilsi.org), or by calling 631-632-1080.