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## ${\it Creating \ Communities \ of \ Innovation}$

## Chicago Draws Biotech Community for the Future of Innovation

Just ten minutes south of downtown Chicago, the <u>University Technology Park at IIT</u> is "moving innovation forward."

Recognized as an emerging leader in innovation, the University Technology Park at IIT will host the <u>Association of University Research Parks (AURP)</u> BioParks 2010: *No Boundaries to Innovation* in Chicago April 30<sup>th</sup>-May 1<sup>st</sup>. The event will draw international research park leaders for networking, premier education and the latest innovation updates.

"At the tech park, we see fresh ideas, cutting-edge research and innovative technologies developed everyday. The University Technology Park at IIT provides support for all stages of these startup companies, and as a result they're able to thrive within the research park, create jobs in the community and ultimately fuel the local and regional economies," said Executive Director David Baker.

University research parks help high-tech startups bring new technologies to market.

"Creating successful communities of innovation, like the one at IIT, requires collaboration," said AURP President Brian Darmody. "To remain competitive, university research parks and innovation leaders gather annually to share best practices and discuss the future of innovation."

<u>U.S. Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Economic Development John Fernandez</u> will address the biotech community on the future of innovation from the Obama Administration and provide insights on the role of research parks in job creation and restoring economic growth.

AURP will present <u>BioParks 2010</u> at the Swissôtel in Chicago, April 30<sup>th</sup>-May 1<sup>st</sup>. To register for BioParks 2010, visit <u>www.aurp.net</u>.

"For leaders in the field, this is a can't-miss event," said Darmody. "With critical updates, expert insight and emerging strategies, BioParks 2010 will bring together innovation leaders who prove there are 'No Boundaries to Innovation.'"

**About AURP:** The Association of University Research Parks is a professional association of university related research and science parks. AURP's mission is to foster innovation, commercialization and economic growth through university, industry and government partnerships. For more information, visit AURP's Web site at <a href="https://www.aurp.net">www.aurp.net</a> or contact Chelsea Simpson at <a href="mailto:chelseasimpson@aurp.net">chelseasimpson@aurp.net</a>.