



**ASSOCIATION OF
UNIVERSITY
RESEARCH
PARKS**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Creating Communities of Innovation

Research and Science Park Executives to Convene in Minneapolis

University research and science park executives from around the world will gather for *Building the Innovation Engine* – the Association of University Research Parks (AURP) 2010 International Conference, hosted by the University of Minnesota Academic Health Center. The meeting will feature best practices, professional development and emerging opportunities.

“Through successful collaboration, a university research park can drive job creation, spur economic development, and enhance the quality of life for its community,” said AURP President Brian Darmody. Leaders spearheading initiatives from all across the globe will provide overviews of successful parks, and will address factors to consider in conceptualizing new parks.

Executives from leading parks such as the University of Wisconsin-Madison, Purdue University, and the University of Maryland will offer their perspectives to local research and industry leaders who are considering the development of the proposed new Minnesota Science Park™, based in the Biomedical Discovery District.

"The University's Biomedical Discovery District is the largest public investment in research infrastructure in the state's history," said Peter T. Bianco, Director, Lifescience Business Development, Nilan Johnson Lewis PA. "The proposed Minnesota Science Park™ aims to become the critical private sector extension of the district, leveraging that investment and creating an economic development engine far into the future."

For more information and to register for the 2010 International Conference, which will be held September 15-17th, visit www.AURP.net.

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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 in a global economy through university, industry and government partnerships. For more information visit our Web site at www.aurp.net or contact Chelsea Simpson at chelseasimpson@aurp.net.