



News Release

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For Immediate Release

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Washington Biotechnology & Biomedical Association Announces New Board Members and Ex-Officio Members

SEATTLE – January 26, 2015 – The [Washington Biotechnology & Biomedical Association](http://www.washbio.org) (WBBA), the state’s life science trade association, announced the addition of two new members to its board of directors. Andrew T. Serafini, PhD, Partner, Kilpatrick Townsend & Stockton and Clarrisa Bolante, Of Counsel, DLA Piper were added to the WBBA board of directors effective January 1.

Upon his appointment, Dr. Serafini stated, “I am extremely pleased to be asked to serve the WBBA as a member of the Board of Directors. I have been actively involved in the WBBA for the past 10 years in various capacities; most recently as the Co-Chair of the Life Science Innovation Northwest steering committee and Chair of the WBBA Program Committee.” Ms. Bolante said, “Washington State has a tremendously robust and diverse life science industry - including many of the world’s leading academic research institutions, global health organizations, biotechnology, medical device, bio-fuel and health care information technology companies. Washington has become a global leader in life science innovation, and we are on the forefront of the revolution that is occurring in biotechnology, medicine and health care delivery.” Both new members said they were looking forward to working with Chris Rivera and his talented team, the other Board Members, and all of the members of the WBBA to help this great organization continue to meet its Mission.

In other WBBA Board of Directors news, three board members assumed the title of Ex Officio members: Tom Fritz, retired Chief Executive Officer of Inland Northwest Health Services (INHS); Douglas Hansmann, PhD, retired Chief Operating Officer and Co-Founder, EKOS Corporation; and Lee Huntsman, President Emeritus, University of Washington, and former Executive Director of the Life Science Discovery Fund. In making the announcement on behalf of the WBBA Board of Directors, Chris Rivera, President & CEO, said “we are very pleased to have the new Ex Officio members continue their service with WBBA. Their leadership and commitment to the life science industry, the community and WBBA over the years has demonstrated our state’s top leaders’ support of Washington’s life science ecosystem.”

About the WBBA

The Washington Biotechnology & Biomedical Association (WBBA) has 650 member organizations and is an independent, non-profit 501(c)(6) trade association serving the life sciences industry in the state of Washington. It is completely resourced and supported by its members, including organizations engaged in, or supportive of, research, development and commercialization of life science innovation.

The WBBA's Mission; *"To support and help to grow Washington State's life science ecosystem"*, drives its core strategic focus on;

- **Commercialization** – mentoring start-up life science companies that eventually raise capital, commercialize IP and employ people.
- **Access to capital** – not just financial capital, but also intellectual, as well as human capital is a top priority for us on behalf of our members.
- **Human Capital** - initiatives focused on the recruitment, retention and the development of the talent needed to grow our life science community.
- **Public Policy** - we advocate for, and increasing the awareness about, our life science sector to our local, state and federal representatives.
- **Purchasing Power** - Our members save money by purchasing goods and services from our 18 purchasing partners.

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