
THE BILL OTTERSON BIOTECH LETTER
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NEWLY ELECTED OFFICIALS

1. Whatever your political stripe, biotech people will agree it will be advantageous to educate newly elected officials about the societal benefits and special needs of the biomedical industry. For example, Mayor-elect Susan Golding has been invited to address CONNECT's *Most Innovative Product Awards Ceremony* on December 9, 1992. We are also attempting to set up meetings with Senator-elect Barbara Boxer, **Congresswoman-elect Lynn Schenk**, and **Congressman-elect Bob Filner** before they go back to Washington, and **State Assemblyman Tom Connolly** before he goes back to Sacramento.

WARD VALLEY

2. **Robert Jackson** of *Agouron Pharmaceuticals, Inc.*; was quoted by Udayan Gupta in a small piece on Ward Valley in Thursday's Wall Street Journal, saying, "It's an impending crisis." Udayan learned about California's crisis during his visit here last week.

DEFENSE CONVERSION

3. A consortium comprised of *EDC, SD City College, the SD Consortium and Private Industry Council (PIC)* and *UCSD CONNECT* will share in a half-million dollar Dept. of Labor grant to implement Defense Conversion Adjustment demonstration projects to assist dislocated defense workers. CONNECT will apply its networking and entrepreneurial skills to help defense contractors find commercial marketing opportunities. CONNECT will also assist engineers wishing to start new companies based on defense technologies.

Additionally, the project will establish a county-wide database of job skills required by our growing companies, to serve as a guide to local agencies in designing retraining courses aimed at growing areas of employment. **Call Dr. Abigail Barrow at 619-534-3435** for additional information and offers to participate.

CLEAN AIR ACT

5. The EPA announced stricter smog-check rules to take effect in 1994 requiring testing of cars under simulated driving conditions. The intention is to enforce improved maintenance. But, California lets older cars avoid the smog-check, and one study said ten percent of all cars create up to forty percent of the smog. Nothing is being planned to remove these older cars from the road.

CONVIS

6. The Convention Center and Visitor's Bureau (*CONVIS*), in their long range planning committee meeting, heard from **Chuck Nathanson, Ph.D., Director, San Diego Dialogue** that the biomedical industry and high-tech industry should be featured in their ads and displays, which are seen by visitors to San Diego. For example, in the Minneapolis-St. Paul airport, there are displays featuring local industry. Shouldn't our leading industries be featured?

PAST WEEK

7. The best "one-liner" heard at CONNECT's *Fourth Annual Biotechnology/Biomedical Corporate Partnership Forum* last week was **Prizm Pharmaceutical's Vice President and Chief Operating Officer, Dr. Tina Berger's** opening: "Prizm's technology is broad and enabling. I'm the "broad" and they're the "enabling"." Forum Administrator, **Charleen Boyl** reported that overall attendance was up ten percent from last year: 72 pharmaceutical companies. According to Bryna Kranzler, this included 16 of the world's 19 largest. Typical quote of pharmaceutical companies (Schaeffer Price, Berlex BioSciences) "Everyone who is anyone in this business is here!"
8. **Shu Chien, Ph.D., Professor of Bioengineering and Medicine and Director of The Institute for Biomedical Engineering** at UCSD, spoke at a reception last week that the Chancellor held to introduce *The Institute for Biomedical Engineering* to relevant industrial firms in the San Diego area. *The Institute for Biomedical Engineering* was established in November 1991 with the aim of promoting and coordinating interdisciplinary interactions among UCSD faculty and students at the interface of engineering, biology, and medicine.
9. San Diego City Council voted to continue the level of assistance to CONNECT Sponsor San Diego Economic Development Corporation. Council members voting in favor included **Valerie Stallings, Ron Roberts, Tom Behr, Mayor Maureen O'Connor, and Judy McCarty**. The City needs all the economic development it can get at this time!

UPCOMING

10. Biomedical executives, service providers, elected officials, etc. are invited to the upcoming BIOCUM breakfast, Thursday, November 12, at the University Club, from 7:30-9:00 a.m.. BIOCUM **President Jim McGraw** has organized a panel: "What We Need to Do to Keep Manufacturing in San Diego?" Panelists include **Bill Rastetter, President, IDEC Pharmaceuticals, Duane Roth, President, Alliance Pharmaceuticals,** and **Lyle Turner, President, Invitrogen**. The Moderator will be the *Union-Tribune's Financial Editor Don Bauder*, armed with a copy of the recent *SANDAG* Report on the importance of biomedical manufacturing to San Diego. Topics will range from water and transportation to overregulation and permitting. Call **Greg Wolfgram** at 231-0751 for details.

11. **EXPOTECH '92**, co-sponsored by *CONNECT*, *EDC*, *San Diego City Schools*, *Greater San Diego Chamber of Commerce*, and the *Reuben H. Fleet Space Theater*, is an opportunity for San Diego high-tech companies to show the outside "what we do in here." **Steve Williams** of *Williams Partners*, who is hosting the event at the *San Diego Tech Center*, expects sixty or more companies to exhibit and 700 high school students, teachers, elected officials, job seekers, etc. to attend. The event is **Thursday, November 12 from 11:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.** but elected officials are invited to arrive between 10:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. for a private screening of the exhibits. For further information, phone the *San Diego Tech Center* at 452-7900.
12. Conclusions from the scientific breast cancer symposium titled "*Dietary Factors in Breast Cancer: Epidemiologic Controversies*" will be presented at a public forum Saturday, **November 21, from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 a.m. at the Sheraton Grande Torrey Pines**. Since one in ten women will contract breast cancer, I want all "CONNECT women" to attend this, PLEASE. (We love you and want to keep you!) Registration fee is only \$5. For more information call Beverly Jones at 534-6058.

MEMBER NEWS

15. New members include: *Renaissance Pharmaceutical Corp.*

EDITORIAL (The opinions presented herein are those of the author and do not necessarily represent the views of *CONNECT* or the University)

THE ELECTION

The election held plusses and minuses for San Diego's biotech industry. Here is my summary:

MAYORAL

16. Both Mayoral candidates carried the favor of the biotech industry, and both had plans to promote biotech and high-tech. In that regard, the industry made significant strides in this election. **Mayor-elect Golding** was the clear preference of most CEO's, but it must be considered that fully 48% of the electorate voted for environmental controls and slow growth. *Sierra Club* political advisor **Michael Shames** reminded the electorate that his group still favored the thousand-foot buffer zone around facilities containing hazardous materials. The Mayor-elect has indicated her intention of forming a "business council" to help the City become less "anti-business." I hope the *Sierra Club* is included in her plans.

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

17. Winner **Pam Slater** ran on a platform of fiscal conservatism and environmental control. Supported by the *Sierra Club*, she fought against incineration of garbage in North County. She also told me she opposes the use of pets in medical research.

Diane Jacob, Chief of Staff to retiring Supervisor **George Bailey**, has the most experience of any new candidate, and is very aware of issues like Air Quality Control, the County Pound, and welfare. In general, Bailey was supportive of high-tech.

THE STATE

18. The *Union-Tribune* said **Governor Wilson** was 0 for 4 in his issues. He did not increase Republican representation in the Senate or Assembly; did not get his Proposition 165 reforms; lost his appointee **Senator John Seymour**; and recently lost his federal water bill. As a result, his Workers' Compensation reform will suffer. Ward Valley licensing will probably suffer, to the extent that he will have to appease **Senator Roberti**.

Assemblyman Mike Gotch and **Assemblywoman Dede Alpert** have both been supportive of biotech. Mike cast an important vote against a bill that would have delayed a Ward Valley decision. Dede brought **Assembly Ways and Means Chairman John Vasconcellos** to San Diego to discuss his *ADEPT* report. Similar to the *Ueberroth Competitiveness Council Report*, ADEPT may be business' best shot at reforming the State's anti-business climate.

19. **Jan Goldsmith (R, Escondido)**, former Mayor of Poway, won handily in the new 75th District. Jan has promised to work towards the extension of the Poway East-West Connecting freeway, that would facilitate commuting between North County and Sorrento Valley. **Tom Connolly, (D, El Cajon)** is new, and his business attitudes are not yet known. **Steve Peace, (D, Chula Vista)**, was the original author of Ward Valley legislation, but supports Willy Brown's Workers' Compensation "reform".

Senator Lucy Killea, (I, San Diego) retained her seat easily, enjoying strong support from women and the University.

NATIONAL

20. When **Senator-elect Diane Feinstein** visited *BIOCOM*, she pledged her support for jobs and high-tech. We will try to arrange an early San Diego visit for **Senator-elect Barbara Boxer**. I don't think Northern California high-tech support for Clinton included Feinstein and Boxer, so we may have some original education work to do.

Newly elected San Diego Congresspeople **Bob Filner** and **Lynn Schenk** have had extensive experience with San Diego's business community. Unfortunately, Filner voted against the City's endorsement of Ward Valley.

Several San Diegan's were influential in **President-elect Bill Clinton's** campaign and may be called to aid in the President's transition team, according to the *Union-Tribune*, including **Larry Lawrence** of the *Hotel Del Coronado* and **Professor Sam Popkin** of *UCSD*. Northern California high-tech executives include **John Young** of *Hewlett Packard*, **John Scully** of *Apple Computer* and **Tom Perkins** (my choice).

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