



## Media Advisory 17-008

# Emerging biotech with potential to improve US health care on display at 2017 International BIO Convention

20 projects from NSF-supported small businesses feature novel biomedical products, processes and services



Twenty NSF-funded projects will showcase technology in the BIO Innovation Zone.

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June 16, 2017

Small businesses and startups funded by the National Science Foundation (NSF) will display emerging biotechnology at the 2017 BIO International Convention [Innovation Zone](https://www.nsf.gov/cgi-bin/good-bye?http://convention.bio.org/innovationzone/) [<https://www.nsf.gov/cgi-bin/good-bye?http://convention.bio.org/innovationzone/>](https://www.nsf.gov/cgi-bin/good-bye?http://convention.bio.org/innovationzone/) June 19-22 in San Diego.

More than 20 NSF-funded projects will exhibit in a space dedicated to early stage companies with new biomedical technologies and products, including [smart devices that track lung health](https://www.nsf.gov/cgi-bin/good-bye?http://www.cognitalabs.com/) [<https://www.nsf.gov/cgi-bin/good-bye?http://www.cognitalabs.com/>](https://www.nsf.gov/cgi-bin/good-bye?http://www.cognitalabs.com/), [minimally invasive glucose monitors for newborns](https://www.nsf.gov/cgi-bin/good-bye?http://www.elutionsinc.com/#mission) [<https://www.nsf.gov/cgi-bin/good-bye?http://www.elutionsinc.com/#mission>](https://www.nsf.gov/cgi-bin/good-bye?http://www.elutionsinc.com/#mission), [3-D models of human tissue for glaucoma drugs](https://www.nsf.gov/cgi-bin/good-bye?http://glauconix-biosciences.com/about-1) [<https://www.nsf.gov/cgi-bin/good-bye?http://glauconix-biosciences.com/about-1>](https://www.nsf.gov/cgi-bin/good-bye?http://glauconix-biosciences.com/about-1) and [more efficient manufacturing technology](https://www.nsf.gov/cgi-bin/good-bye?http://www.mtnbio.com/) [<https://www.nsf.gov/cgi-bin/good-bye?http://www.mtnbio.com/>](https://www.nsf.gov/cgi-bin/good-bye?http://www.mtnbio.com/).

NSF awards nearly \$190 million annually to startups and small businesses through its Small Business Innovation Research/Small Business Technology Transfer ([SBIR/STTR](https://www.nsf.gov/eng/iip/sbir/home.jsp) [<https://www.nsf.gov/eng/iip/sbir/home.jsp>](https://www.nsf.gov/eng/iip/sbir/home.jsp)) program, with the aim of transforming scientific discoveries into products and services that produce commercial and societal impact. The BIO Innovation Zone gathers potential investors, industry partners, service providers and mentors to enable biotech-focused companies to make connections for commercialization.

NSF awarded each company at the exhibit an average of more than \$1 million in R&D funding to create a prototype and move their discovery out of the lab and into the market.

Detailed information about each company and its technology is available on [the convention website](https://www.nsf.gov/cgi-bin/good-bye?https://mybio.org/tag/match?tags=Product+Focus+Zone%2FSpecial+Pavilion%3EInnovation+Zone&target=11&_ga=2.215344851.55805850.1497279865-).

[https://www.nsf.gov/cgi-bin/good-bye?https://mybio.org/tag/match?](https://www.nsf.gov/cgi-bin/good-bye?https://mybio.org/tag/match?tags=Product+Focus+Zone%2FSpecial+Pavilion%3EInnovation+Zone&target=11&_ga=2.215344851.55805850.1497279865-)

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**What:** Twenty NSF-funded companies will demonstrate their technologies in the Innovation Zone.

**When:** June 19-22, 2017

**Where:** San Diego Convention Center, San Diego

**Media:** Press interested in NSF-funded projects, please contact Sarah Bates at [sabates@nsf.gov](mailto:sabates@nsf.gov) (<mailto:sabates@nsf.gov>).

This is the fourth year [https://www.nsf.gov/cgi-bin/good-bye?https://www.bio.org/press-release/bio-partners-nih-and-nsf-fourth-%E2%80%9Cinnovation-zone%E2%80%9D-exhibit?\\_ga=2.258070666.1439271232.1497442457-771547094.1497041928](https://www.nsf.gov/cgi-bin/good-bye?https://www.bio.org/press-release/bio-partners-nih-and-nsf-fourth-%E2%80%9Cinnovation-zone%E2%80%9D-exhibit?_ga=2.258070666.1439271232.1497442457-771547094.1497041928) that NSF and the National Institutes of Health (NIH) have partnered with the BIO International Convention to participate in the Innovation Zone. The convention is the world's largest trade association representing biotechnology companies, academic institutions, state biotechnology centers and related organizations across the United States.

"Breakthrough biomedical innovations often come from inventive small companies that develop disruptive new technologies to address unmet health care needs," said Jesus Soriano, a program director for NSF's SBIR/STTR <http://www.nsf.gov/eng/lip/sbir/home.jsp> program. "BIO offers these innovative American small businesses the opportunity to showcase their emerging technologies."

The exhibit area will also include 60 companies supported by the NIH SBIR/STTR program.

-NSF-

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#### Media Contacts

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*The National Science Foundation (NSF) is an independent federal agency that supports fundamental research and education across all fields of science and engineering. In fiscal year (FY) 2018, its budget is \$7.8 billion. NSF funds reach all 50 states through grants to nearly 2,000 colleges, universities and other institutions. Each year, NSF receives more than 50,000 competitive proposals for funding and makes about 12,000 new funding awards.*

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NSF News: <https://www.nsf.gov/news/> ([/news/](https://www.nsf.gov/news/))

For the News Media: <https://www.nsf.gov/news/newsroom.jsp> ([/news/newsroom.jsp](https://www.nsf.gov/news/newsroom.jsp))

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