



IBT Scientists Organize 2008 Weinstein Cardiovascular Development Conference

April 15, 2008

The 2008 Weinstein Cardiovascular Development Conference will take place in Houston May 15-17 at the J.W. Marriott Hotel. Held independently every year since 1994, the Weinstein Cardiovascular Development Conference advances the field of cardiovascular development by sharing research information and facilitating collaborative work among scientific investigators. Researchers believe that sharing their work on normal and abnormal development of the heart and vasculature will ultimately improve heart health.

The organizing committee for the 2008 conference is led by James F. Martin, M.D., Ph.D. He is a professor at the Texas A&M Health Science Center Institute of Biosciences and Technology (IBT), which is located in the Texas Medical Center.

"The Weinstein Conferences are unique," he explains, "because they are freestanding meetings unaffiliated with any society or parent organization. Interested individuals or groups from host institutions organize the conferences on a rotating basis. True to the vision of Dr. Constance Weinstein, who first organized this conference, these meetings are intended to include as many perspectives as possible, and the main focus is on investigators early in their careers. Investigators in any relevant area that can provide contributions to our understanding of heart and vascular development are welcome to contribute."

Other IBT colleagues of Dr. Martin's serving on the organizing committee include Brad A. Amendt, Ph.D., Antonio Baldini, M.D., Elizabeth Illingworth, Ph.D., and Robert J. Schwartz, Ph.D. The Houston-based committee is organizing this large international meeting that will attract scientific investigators from all over the world.

Eric N. Olson, Ph.D., will give the keynote address on "Lessons from the Heart: Molecules, Mechanisms and More." Dr. Olson chairs the Department of Molecular Biology at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center in Dallas where he holds the title of Annie and Willie Nelson Professor and the Robert A. Welch Distinguished Chair. Among many honors, Dr. Olson is an elected member of the National Academy of Sciences.

The Institute of Biosciences and Technology is a component of The Texas A&M University System Health Science Center, which provides the state with health education, outreach and research. Its five components are located in communities throughout Texas. Besides IBT, the others are Baylor College of Dentistry, the College of Medicine, the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences and the School of Rural Public Health.

(c) 2005, Institute of Biosciences and Technology
Health Science Center, Texas A&M University System
