



NM Bioscience Authority Bio Industries Update

*Presenting on behalf of the New
Mexico Bioscience Authority:*

August 11, 2025
NMFA Oversight Committee

Paul Laur

Board of Director's Chair, NM Bioscience Authority, COO, Mercury Bio

Alex Koglin, PhD

Board Member, NM Bioscience Authority
Nature's Toolbox (NTx) Co-Founder

Stephanie Tofighi, MSPP

Executive Director, NM Bioscience Authority



What is the NM Bioscience Authority (NMBSA)?

Public/Private Partnership

Created by state legislation, SB 478 in 2017 to help grow a robust bioscience industry in New Mexico.

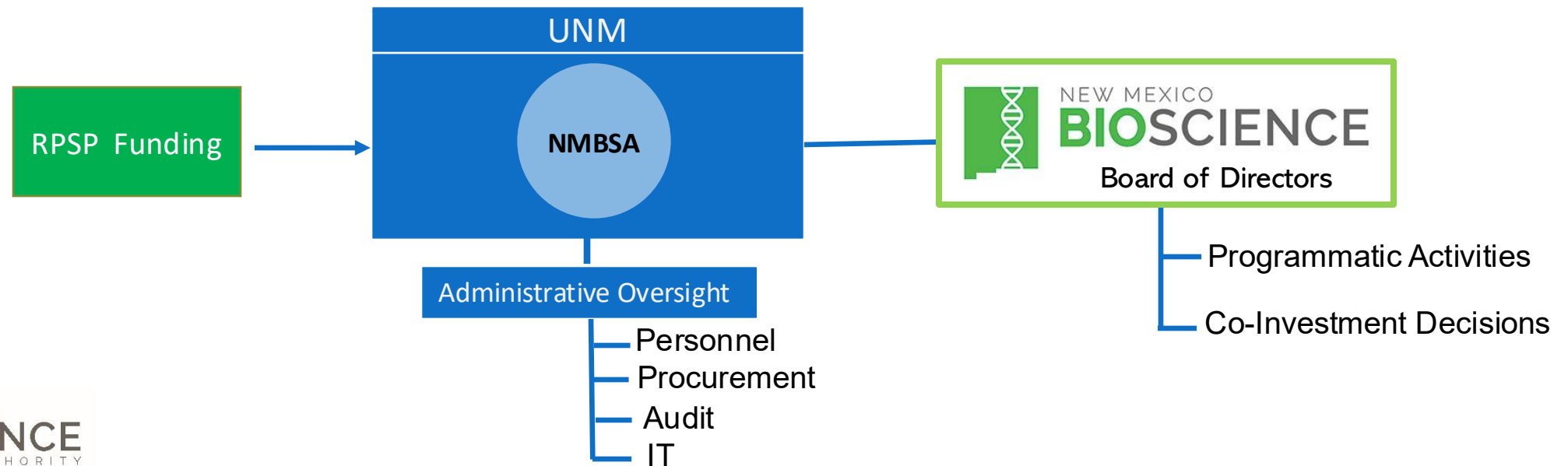
Mission

To increase awareness and support for New Mexico's bioscience sector by attracting capital investors, influencing policy and assisting in infrastructure and business development. The NMBSA connects all necessary elements of: Research & Development, Technology Transfer, Investment and Funding and Workforce.



Organization of NM Bioscience Authority

- 13-person board (appointed by Governor, Speaker of the House, Senate Pro-Tempore, and the three Research University Presidents) including UNM Health Sciences, NMSU, NM Tech, NM Economic Development Department, SpacePort Authority, and private industry
- Per the enacting legislation that created the NM Bioscience Authority, “The authority is administratively attached to and shall be considered an affiliated organization of the UNM Health Science Center” to assure conformity with state procurement rules, statutes, and guidelines and minimize costs.



NM Bioscience Authority Board of Directors



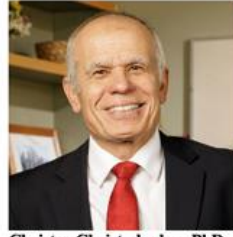
Paul Laur, Board of Directors Chair, Chief Operating Officer (COO), Mercury Bio



Tanner Schaub, PhD, Vice Chair, Assistant Vice President for Research, NMSU



David Perkins, MD, PhD, President, Professor of Medicine, Internal Med Dept, UNM HSC



Christos Christodoulou, PhD, Vice President, Director of COSMIAC, ECE Prof., UNM



Francisco Pallares, DED, Secretary, Director of Business Develop, Spaceport America



Greg Byrnes, Board Member, ED at NM Biotechnology & Biomedical Association (NMBio)



Dana Catron, Board Member, Deputy Director, Arrowhead Center, NM State University



Dale Dekker, AIA, Board Member, Architect & Founder of Dekker/Perich/Sabatini Design



Tom Kieft, PhD, Board Member, Microbiologist NM Tech Biology Department



Alex Koglin, PhD, Board Member, Co-Founder of Nature's Toolbox



Lisa Kuutila, Board Member, CEO & Chief Development Officer, Rainforest Innovations



Nora Sackett, Board Member, Director of Office of Strategy, Science, & Technology, NMEDD



Prisca Tiasse, PhD, Board Member, Founder & CEO, Biodidact, The Community Lab



- 2 members appointed by UNM President
- 2 member appointed by NMSU President
- 1 member appointed by NMT President
- Secretary of EDD or Designee
- Executive Director of SpacePort Authority or Designee
- 4 members appointed by Speaker of the House and Senate Pro-Tempore
- 2 members appointed by Governor

NM Bioscience Authority Staff



Stephanie Tofighi, MSPP
Executive Director



Ryan Cangioli, MBA, MACCT
Strategy & Policy Director



Anne-Laure "Anlo" Schmitt-Olivier, MS
Intellectual Property Specialist



Sterling J. Nichols III, BS
Program Specialist

Building a Stronger Bioscience Industry Through a Public-Private Partnership



University/National Lab/Public Sector

- Contributes scientists and technical experts
- Minimizes technical risk, market risk, and evolving nature of market
- Supports existing business and workforce development
- Prioritizes support for members of traditionally underrepresented minority groups.

Private Sector

- Prioritizes economic growth and job creation
- Supports positive societal impact and community development
- Fosters community dynamics that support economic growth

Biosciences are Valuable to New Mexico's Economy

Five Industries Make Up Bioscience Sector

1. Agricultural feedstock and chemicals
2. Bioscience-related distribution
3. Drugs and pharmaceuticals
4. Medical devices and equipment
5. Research, bioinformatics, testing and medical laboratories

“Biosciences” included in three of the State's Target Industries

- Biosciences
- Sustainable & Value-Added Agriculture
- Renewable & Green Energy



The bioscience industry includes a wide array of businesses that apply knowledge of how living organisms function to improve quality of life for humans, animals, plants and the environment.



bioscience

agricultural processing monitoring equipment manufacturing pharmaceuticals
 drugs & pharmaceuticals agricultural bioscience biological products
 surgical and medical supplies microbiology biotechnology
 biomedical sciences develop and manufacture surgical and medical instruments
 medical devices diagnostic equipment testing laboratories
 laboratory services life sciences biomedical engineering
 cold storage manufacturing diagnostics production of ethanol and other biofuels
 biochemistry clinical R&D organizations pharmaceuticals health science
 automated drug distribution systems distribution technologies dental supplies
 therapeutic devices electromedical apparatus ag biotech agricultural chemicals
 bioengineering dental equipment medicinal products
 organic chemical manufacturing fertilizer manufacturing biomanufacturing
 drug discovery bioinformatics medical equipment proteomics
 laboratory equipment drug delivery
 biological sampling & analysis medical supplies monitoring and tracking technologies
 genetics research life science testing laboratories plant research
 medical devices research and development medical laboratories

The state of New Mexico has made a substantial impact on the growth and development of the bioscience industry.

22%

5-Year Job Growth
2019-2024 (%)

\$580M

5-Year NIH Awards

Economic Presence

\$322M

5-Year Private Investments



3,970

Statewide STEM Graduates

*STEM Programs
(2023)

37,070

Cluster Employment

2024 Annual Average



New Mexico Bioscience Company Categories

BIO-AGRICULTURE and FOOD

- Western Blend
- Flobiotik Probiotics
- Trait Biosciences
- Terra Vera
- Southwest Cheese
- Spiritus
- Roswell Seed Company
- Pebble Labs
- Animal Health Institute
- ADM Laboratories
- Allerpops
- Bueno Foods
- Curtis and Curtis Seed
- Clovis Vet Supply
- Diverse Vitality
- Emerald Finishing
- Enchanted Farms Mushrooms
- Envirotech
- Full Circle Mushrooms
- GHC Labs
- Green Theme Technologies
- GrowVera
- Innate Immunity
- UbiQD

BIO-FUELS

- xF Technologies
- Rio Valley Biofuels
- Core Bio Fuels

BIOPHARMACEUTICALS

- Curia
- Vitality Works
- Specific
- Respira Therapeutics
- PillCall
- Phyteau
- Nature's Toolbox, Inc. (NTx)
- Mercury Bio
- Maas Biolab
- AWS
- EquiSeq
- Filtravate
- GPER G-1

CLINICAL RESEARCH / DIAGNOSTICS

- Velocity
- Tricore
- Southwest Labs
- Quest Diagnostics
- Palladium Diagnostics
- PainScan
- NanoDx
- Cetaly
- Dr Owl
- Elroy SPAC
- T-NeuroPharma

MEDICAL DEVICES

- Jabil
- Sentire Medical Systems
- RD Health Sensing
- Q Biotech

- Mesaphotonics
- LLUME
- BennuBio
- EdgeEndo
- Exhalix
- Indica Labs

HEALTHCARE & LIFE SCIENCES

- Weka Biosciences
- WaveFront Dynamics
- Vitazi.ai
- VisionQuest Biomedical
- Southwest Sciences
- Sandia Biotech
- Sandbox Life
- Rotech
- Rodin Scientific
- New Mexico Health
- Neurogenesis
- MNT SmartSolutions
- Lovelace Biomedical
- Sleep Lab of Las Cruces
- K&K Skin
- Karoo Health
- Alliance DNA Laboratory
- AEI
- Air Force Research Labs
- AirWell
- BioFlyte
- BioPhagy
- BRINM
- Electronic Caregiver



New Mexico Bioscience Ecomap

This bioscience ecomap is a comprehensive, living catalog of the resources and opportunities available for companies and individuals engaged in biotech innovation.

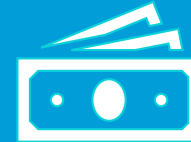


A one stop platform to connect and explore resources which support biosciences in New Mexico.

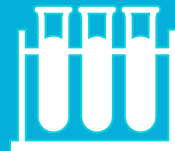
<https://nmbioscienceconnect.com/>

NM Bioscience Authority Recommended Priorities 2025-2026

Financial Capital for Companies



Lab Space



Educated Workforce

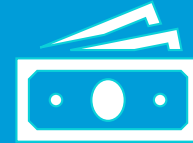


Statewide Collaborations

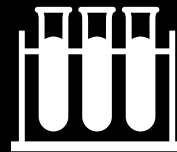


NM Bioscience Authority 2025-2026 Recommended Priorities for Industry

Financial Capital for Companies



Lab Space



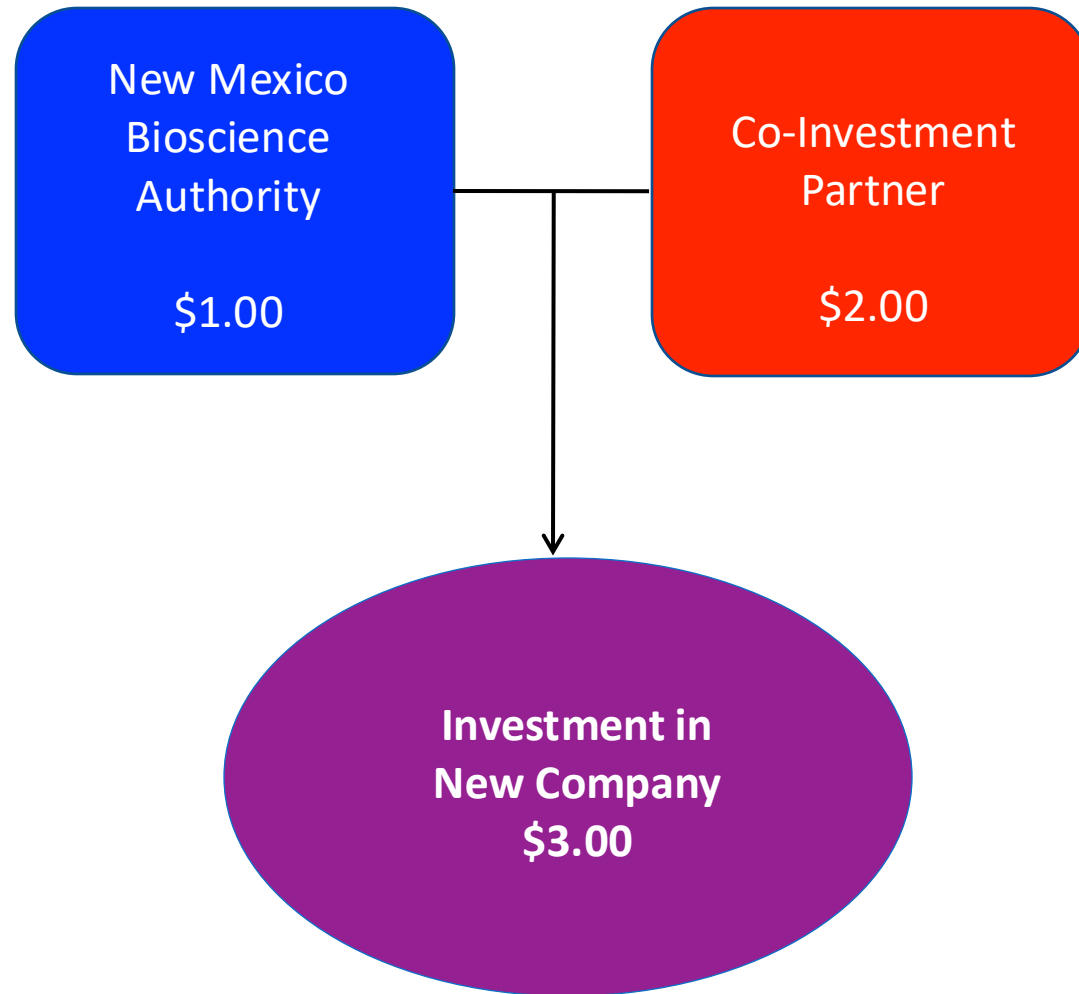
Educated Workforce



Prioritize Statewide Collaborations



NMBSA Co-Investment Fund



Main Objective

- Create and/or Grow NM Companies & Jobs
- Encourage Investing in NM Bioscience
- Increase capital for investments

Investment Partner Criteria

- **Qualifies to be lead investor**
- Will provide a **2:1 match of funds**
- **Is actively sourcing, vetting and investing in companies**
- **Has investment experience in bio-related industry**
- **Has existing capital for co-investment and is currently investing in bioscience companies**

\$50M Co-Investment Fund Request



Would be matched 2:1 by private investors for total \$150M in investments over 5 years.



Co-Investment of state and private dollars to start new companies or recruit companies.



Would Invest in all stages of business growth (pre-seed, Series A, B,C; Main Street and high tech).



Co-investments would initially be between \$100K to \$1.5M per company.



Successful investments will return funds so program will be self-renewing and sustainable.



Will build economy throughout state.



Why Should the NMBSA Lead the Co-Investment Fund?

- The New Mexico Bioscience Authority is the industry sector's champion. We are the catalyst that can support the connectivity for all the players throughout the state within this domain.
- Not only can we make valuable investments in collaboration with private investment organizations, but we are also able to provide the support to growing companies necessary for them to succeed beyond the financial investment.
- Internships, workforce development, research and technical support, marketing and customer discovery support are all part of what we envision as our role as the catalyst of a thriving bioscience ecosystem.



Feedback from Industry Board Member

Chair Paul Laur
COO Mercury Bio

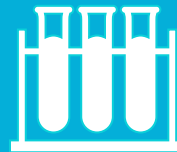


NM Bioscience Authority 2025-2026 Recommended Priorities for Industry

Financial Capital



Lab Space



Educated Workforce



Prioritize Statewide Collaborations



Current New Mexico Incubators & Accelerators



Bioscience Center

Albuquerque, NM

Bio, Pharmaceutical and Medical Device Companies



CNM Ingenuity Inc.

Albuquerque, NM

Ignite Community Accelerator Program



Enterprise Center

Farmington, NM

San Juan College Business Incubator



WESST

Statewide Offices, NM

Business consulting, training, incubation, and access to capital



Sprint

Las Cruces, NM

Arrowhead Center at New Mexico State University



Los Alamos Makers

Los Alamos, NM

A community makerspace for all ages and abilities that is part of the

New Collar Network



New Mexico Start-Up Factory

Albuquerque, NM

Bringing Laboratory Technologies to Market



Santa Fe Business Incubator

Santa Fe, NM

Provides a Supportive Environment for Entrepreneurs



Current New Mexico Incubators & Accelerators



Bioscience Center

Albuquerque, NM

8 bio companies in residence

Bio, Pharmaceutical and Medical Device Companies



CNM Ingenuity Inc.

Albuquerque, NM

Ignite Community Accelerator Program



Enterprise Center

Farmington, NM

San Juan College Business Incubator



WESST

Statewide Offices, NM

Business consulting, training, incubation, and access to capital



Sprint

Las Cruces, NM

Arrowhead Center at New Mexico State University



Los Alamos Makers

Los Alamos, NM

1 bio company in residence

A community makerspace for all ages and abilities that is part of the **New Collar Network**



New Mexico Start-Up Factory

Albuquerque, NM

4 bio companies in portfolio

Bringing Laboratory Technologies to Market



Santa Fe Business Incubator

Santa Fe, NM

3 bio companies in residence

Provides a Supportive Environment for Entrepreneurs



Levels of Certification

Bronze

Balloon Fiesta Park - Albuquerque
Mesa del Sol - Albuquerque
Santa Fe Business Incubator - Santa Fe

Silver

Sandia Science & Technology Park - Albuquerque
University of New Mexico North Campus - Albuquerque
Genesis A Lab Space - Arrowhead Research Park, Las Cruces
Genesis B Lab Space - Arrowhead Research Park, Las Cruces
City Center - Rio Rancho
Santa Fe Community College - Santa Fe

Gold

Atrisco Business Park - Albuquerque
Innovate ABQ - Albuquerque
University of New Mexico Science Tech Park - Albuquerque
Volcano Heights - Albuquerque
Arrowhead Research Park Site 1 (3 acres) - Las Cruces
Arrowhead Research Park Site 2 (2.5 acres) - Las Cruces
Arrowhead Research Park Site 3 (4 acres) - Las Cruces
Industrial Park - Las Cruces

NM Bioscience Authority's Community Readiness Program Shows Availability of Land, but Lack of Built Labs

- Bronze Certification denotes local zoning allows for biotech laboratory, manufacturing and/or research & development as permissive uses.
- Silver Certification denotes 'shovel ready' site(s) available for development.
- Gold Certification denotes the presence of existing buildings in which biotech laboratory, manufacturing and/or research & development activities are taking place.

Albuquerque's Broadway Boulevard Prospective Science & Tech Development

Alex Koglin's Venture Studio

- Wet & Dry Lab & Office Space
- Shared Meeting Space
- Presentation Space
- Networking Space
- Life Science Focus

Howard Kozloff & Noblespace Innovate ABQ

- Built-out Dry Lab & Office Spaces
- Collaborative Meeting Space
- Networking Space
- Science & Tech Focus with Life Science Prioritization

Bioscience Authority Lab Space + Accelerator Feasibility Study & Design

- Portion of NMBSA's \$1M one time funding will be used to conduct a feasibility study regarding proposed bioscience incubator/accelerator and shared wet and dry lab space.
- After feasibility study, funds would be used to design plans to build bioscience incubator/accelerator to provide shared space, shared equipment and animal access with programming orchestrated by the NM Bioscience Authority staff.
- Accelerator would facilitate tailored support to commercialize research university and national lab innovation.
- Space is available within Community Readiness zones throughout Albuquerque where the majority of lab space need has been identified.
 - Lomas Corridor
 - Innovate ABQ
 - UNM Science Tech Park
- Capital Outlay funds will be requested to build anticipated 25k sqft facility post feasibility study.



Feedback from Industry Board Member

Director Alex Koglin, PhD

Co-Founder, NM Venture Studies



NM Bioscience Authority 2025-2026 Recommended Priorities for Industry

Financial Capital



Lab Space



Educated Workforce



Prioritize Statewide Collaborations



NM Bioscience Authority Internship Programs

- The **Bioscience Entrepreneurship Experience (BEE)** is a new, paid internship program that pairs bioscience and business students to gain hands-on experience with New Mexico-based bioscience companies. The Spring 2026 pilot offers a unique opportunity to be part of the program's launch and help shape its future. 20 students will be included. Full program will begin Summer 2026 with 40 students from across the state.
- The **Bioscience Commercialization Internship** program will support the state's three research university's Technology Transfer Office (TTO) in identifying and evaluating bioscience-related intellectual property (IP) for commercialization opportunities. Interns will work closely with university researchers and faculty to assess the commercial potential of innovations and explore pathways for licensing or startup creation. Interns from all three universities will work collaboratively through the year to fully support the state's bioscience commercialization.


Value of Proposed Bioscience Internship Experience

- Proposed internship program will be facilitated by NMBSA in collaboration with colleges and universities throughout state.
- Internship will help ensure students engaged in bioscience and/or business have the opportunity to experience the career opportunities throughout the state while they are still working on their degree.
- Creates a network of peers and mentors that could lead to the development of new businesses.
- Opportunities will begin with undergrad students but in time will branch out to high school and graduate students.
- Program will allow students hands-on experience that has been proven influential in stimulating STEM students to complete undergraduate degrees and seek higher education, particularly those from under-represented minority groups.
- Internships will also create positions for startup companies that need to be filled quickly by eager employees ready to learn their trade.
- Internship experiences can transition into job opportunities to help companies fill niche positions and for students to look forward to a job right out of their degree.

 BEE the Future of Bioscience Innovation
 **Spring 2026 Internship Program**

 **What is BEE?**

The Bioscience Entrepreneurship Experience (BEE) is a new, paid internship program that pairs bioscience and business students to gain hands-on experience with New Mexico-based bioscience companies. The Spring 2026 pilot offers a unique opportunity to be part of the program's launch and help shape its future.

 **Spring 2026 Pilot Details**

- 10 hours/week paid internship for 16 weeks
- 1-hour weekly course session
- Focus: Innovation development, business modeling, and investor pitching as part of early-stage commercialization training

 **Program Goals**

1. Build a pipeline from college to career in bioscience and entrepreneurship
2. Provide workforce development for early-stage bioscience companies
3. Deliver entrepreneurial training to help students identify problems, develop solutions, and pitch to investors

 **Who Should Apply?**

- Post-secondary students or recent graduates in bioscience or business
- Must be a New Mexico resident (no requirement to attend a NM college)
- Passionate about innovation, startups, and community impact

NM Bioscience Authority 2025-2026 Recommended Priorities for Industry

Financial Capital



Lab Space



Educated Workforce



Prioritize Statewide Collaborations





Explore Bioscience at Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL)

JAN 14 Tuesday, January 14 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Los Alamos National Laboratory Los Alamos, New Mexico



Thank You for Joining

We hope you enjoyed the event!

You have manage access for this event.

Manage

Hosted By

Stephanie Tofighi

32 Went

About Event

Join us for an opportunity to explore Bioscience at Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL) through tours and discussion. This event offers a chance to learn about emerging research, explore programs designed to foster partnerships, and visit laboratory facilities, including:

Bioscience Networking Summit

Tuesday, April 29, 2025 5:00pm - 7:00pm

NMSU Golf Course Club House 3000 Herb Wimberly Dr, Las Cruces, NM

Agenda

- 4:45pm Venue Opens
- 5:00pm Welcoming and Introduction from NMBSA Chair, Paul Laur
- 5:10pm Presentation of 2025 Intellectual Property Award w/ NMSU President Ferme
- 5:30pm Bioscience Panel Discussion
- 6:15pm Networking and Bioscience Poster Showcase

Panelists



Dr. Luis Cifuentes, NMSU VP for Research, Creativity & Economic Dev.

Dana Catron, Interim Director & CEO of NMSU Arrowhead Center

Dr. Jay Lillywhite, Asso. Dean for Res. in ACES & Director of the Ag Exp Station

Dr. Shelley Lusetti, NM INBRE Director & NMSU Chem and BioChem Dept Head

Dr. Omar Holguin, NMSU CEFAS Director & Prof. in Dept. of Plant & Env

Sponsors



Facilitation of Statewide Collaborative Events





New Mexico Bioscience Connect

Home

About

Resources

Organizations

Users

Events

News Feed

Workforce Hub

Lists

Keyword Directory

Guides

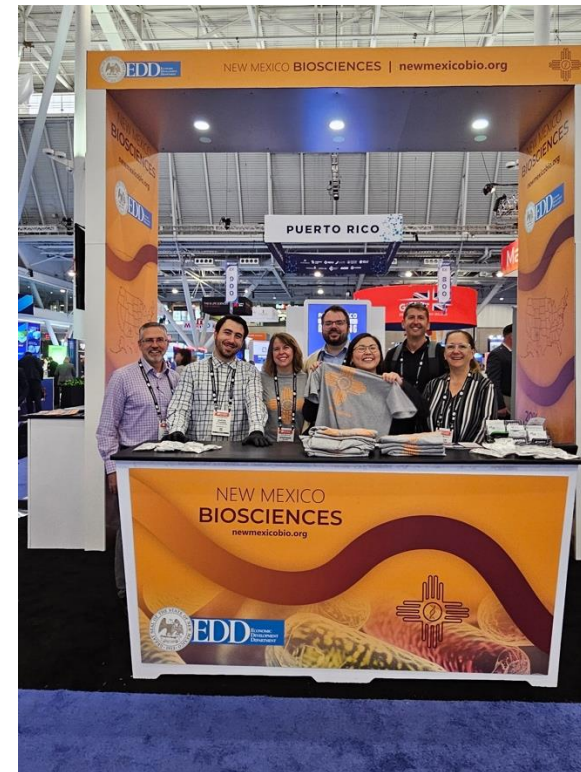
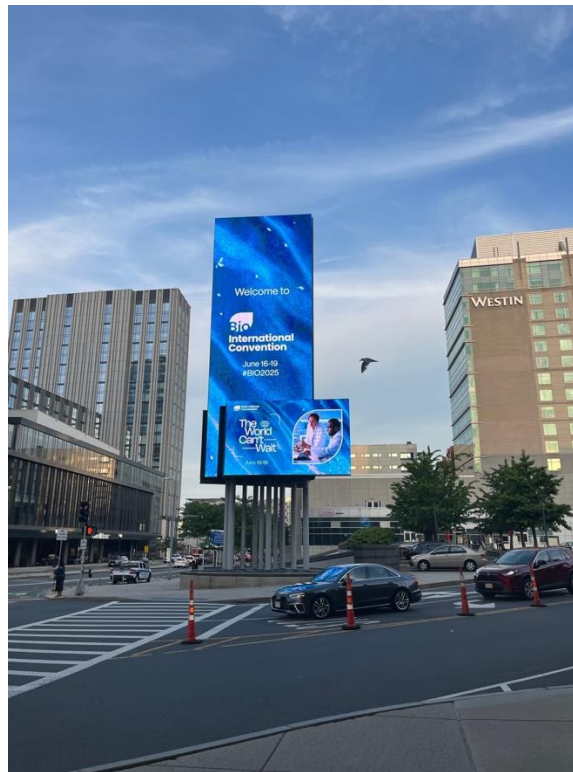
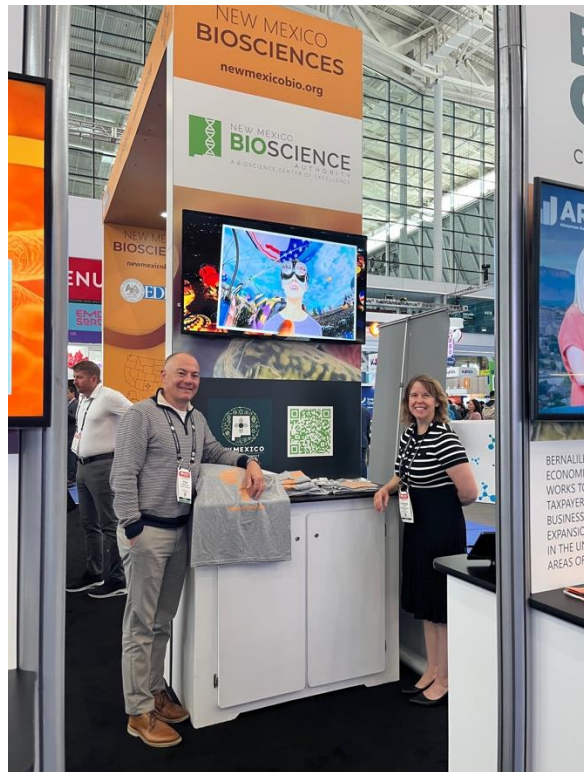
New Mexico Bioscience Ecomap

This bioscience ecomap is a comprehensive, living catalog of the resources and opportunities available for companies and individuals engaged in biotech innovation.



A one stop platform to connect and explore resources which support biosciences in New Mexico.

<https://nmbioscienceconnect.com/>



Strategic Collaboration with State Partners at 2025 BIO International Convention in Boston



Strategic Collaboration with National Partners at Radically Rural Summit, Keene, NH 2024

- NMBSA Executive Director, Stephanie Tofighi serves on the Board of Directors for the Hannah Grimes Center for Entrepreneur’s led National Rural Biotech Ecosystem
- Fall 2024, Tofighi and other Board members had a panel discussion about developing biotech companies in rural communities.



Strategic Collaboration with International Partners

- At the behest of NM EDD's liaison at International Trade Taipei Office in Taiwan we develop initial map of state's bioscience companies.
- Liaison, Ethan Chen, represented the state at the Taiwan Bio Asia Expo in July 2024 and July 2025.



Developing Collaborative Priorities with NMBio



NMBIO

- Last strategic planning meeting identified a need to minimize duplicated efforts on the parts of the Bioscience Authority and NMBio.
- Joint meeting of the NMBio and NM Bioscience Authority Board of Directors is being developed to share views on what the state could do to accomplish our shared goal of building the bioscience industry.

Request for \$1 Million/Year NMBSA Annual Funding

- Continue **Internship programs** described earlier.
- Contract with **Grant Developer** to support bioscience inventors and small business owners to submit funding requests as well as support the BSA's efforts to submit large funding requests to enhance the industry.
- Maintain **Communications and Industry Outreach Manager** position to more effectively communicate needs and priorities of industry, catalyze networking between bioscience entrepreneurs and inventors and direct users to necessary resources to help build a bioscience coalition throughout the state, and manage internship programs.
- Lead New Mexico's participation at bioscience national and international trade shows to help **market the state's assets**, facilitate partnering opportunities, and **connect with resources** needed to help companies grow.
- Provide **Grant Funding** to bioscience startups to help support business development.





Summary of NMBSA's Recommendations

- \$50 Million for Co-Investment Program
- Increase annual NMBSA budget to \$1 Million/year to facilitate proposed programming
- Capital Outlay funds to develop Wet Lab & Incubator/Accelerator Space



Questions?

Paul Laur, p.laur@mercurybio.com

Alex Koglin, alex.koglin@gmail.com

Stephanie Tofighi, stofighi@salud.unm.edu

<https://www.nmbioscience.org/>