



Baker-Polito Administration Celebrates More than \$18 Million in Capital Infrastructure Grants to Research Institutions in Boston

Massachusetts Life Sciences Center capital grants will grow the innovation economy

For Immediate Release:

Date: May 16, 2017

Contact: Colin Donnelly, 781-373-7726, cdonnelly@masslifesciences.com

Boston - President & CEO of the Massachusetts Life Sciences Center (MLSC) Travis McCready joined leaders from Harvard Medical School, The Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, The Institute for Protein Innovation and Dana-Farber Cancer Institute to celebrate more than \$18 million in Capital Infrastructure grant funding for Boston area research institutions. The MLSC grants will advance the Baker-Polito Administration's commitment to build a highly trained workforce and seed job creation in regions across Massachusetts. McCready highlighted the grant awards at a ceremony at Harvard Medical School in Boston which received a grant of more than \$4.3 million.

In addition, the MLSC has awarded a \$5 million grant to The Institute of Protein Innovation, a \$4.9 million grant to the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, and a \$4.6 million grant to the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute. The awards are part of a statewide grant round that is delivering a total of \$39 million in MLSC capital grants to 14 research and educational institutions, and 49 equipment and professional development grants benefitting 80 high schools and middle schools across Massachusetts.

"Our administration's ability to invest in Massachusetts research institutions helps develop a highly skilled workforce that drives our nation-leading innovation economy," said Governor Baker. "Providing labs and researchers at places like the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute with the best tools and equipment helps ensure Massachusetts will remain globally competitive in digital health and the life sciences."

"This gift from the Massachusetts Life Sciences Center is truly catalytic," said George Q. Daley, dean of Harvard Medical School. "Today, more than ever, we must radically

rethink the way we do research and approach scientific discovery. The ongoing support from MLSC has allowed us to do just that—spark crosspollination among disparate disciplines that come together to tackle some of science and medicine’s most vexing challenges. We are deeply grateful and look forward to our continued collaboration.”

“Scientists are just beginning to understand the many ways in which our microbiomes – the trillions of microbial organisms that live on and inside our bodies – influence a range of threats to human health including cancers, diabetes, heart disease, and obesity. Our capacity to uncover how the human microbiome interacts with our organ systems stands to revolutionize how we approach human health, disease prevention and detection, and potential treatments. The MLSC grant is enabling us to create a cutting-edge facility—the Biobank for Microbiome Research—that will advance not only public health, but also Massachusetts’ life science ecosystem,” said Michelle Williams, Dean of Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health.

“This significant commitment by the MLSC will enable Dana-Farber to create and deliver new cellular therapies benefiting patients living with cancer and other life threatening illnesses,” said Laurie Glimcher, MD President and CEO of Dana-Farber Cancer Institute. “Investments such as these keep Massachusetts at the forefront of biotechnology development and strengthen our entire biomedical ecosystem and Dana-Farber is proud to be a partner.”

“The Institute for Protein Innovation uses the genome to create proteins and antibodies that enable biomedical research and serve as leads for therapeutics developed by our Academic and Industry partners,” said Timothy A. Springer, Ph.D., Latham Family Professor at Harvard Medical School and Boston Children’s Hospital and IPI’s Founder. “Our efforts under the MLSC grant contribute to the growth of Massachusetts as the pre-eminent center for BioPharma in the world.”

“The MLSC continues to make major capital investments to support education and innovation at academic institutions to meet the needs of our state’s fastest-growing industry,” said Travis McCready, President and CEO of the MLSC. “The Capital grants being provided to these institutions will enhance their capabilities, improve human health, and continue the Commonwealth’s status as the pre-eminent location for advanced research.”

Funding for the awards is drawn from the Massachusetts Life Sciences Center’s Competitive Capital Program which provides grants for capital projects that support the life sciences ecosystem in Massachusetts by enabling and supporting life sciences workforce development and training, research and development, commercialization and manufacturing in the Commonwealth. The program funds high-potential economic development projects by nonprofit entities that make significant contributions to the

state's life sciences ecosystem. To date, the MLSC has awarded or committed more than \$405 million to support capital projects across the state.

Boston Research Institutions 2017 MLSC Competitive Capital Awards

Harvard Medical School (\$4,345,000)

Led by Peter Sorger, head of the Harvard Program in Therapeutic Science and Otto Krayter, Professor of Systems Pharmacology at Harvard Medical School

Harvard Medical School will partner with the Massachusetts Institute of Technology to establish a new research and education program in regulatory science and precision medicine, focusing on overcoming the most difficult steps in drug development, to address unmet medical needs at lower costs.

Harvard T. H. Chan School of Public Health (\$4,912,307)

Led by Eric Rimm, Ph.D., Professor of Epidemiology and Nutrition and Wendy Garrett, Ph.D., Professor of Immunology and Infectious Diseases

Grant funding will support the Harvard T. H. Chan School of Public Health's creation of the Biobank for Microbiome Research in Massachusetts, an integrated platform that will dramatically increase capacity of the Massachusetts life sciences community to collect, use, and analyze microbiome-based biospecimens in human populations.

Dana-Farber Cancer Institute (\$4,629,019)

Led by Jerome Ritz, MD, executive director of the Connell O'Reilly Cell Manipulation and Gene Transfer Laboratory at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute and professor of medicine at Harvard Medical School

MLSC grant funding will support the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute's Advanced Cell Therapy Unit, which will establish partnerships with commercial partners to refine cell therapy manufacturing processes, validate manufacturing procedures, and provide manufactured cellular products for patients enrolled in FDA-approved clinical trials.

Institute for Protein Innovation (\$5,000,000)

Led by Timothy Springer, PhD, Latham Family Professor of Biological Chemistry and Molecular Pharmacology at Harvard Medical School and professor of medicine at Boston Children's Hospital

The Institute for Protein Innovation will build and operate an open-source antibody discovery platform focused on protein therapies, with the long-term goal of developing antibodies targeting the entire human extracellular proteome. This resource will enable scientific advances that drive economic activity, spur startup formation, and advance Massachusetts' competitive edge as the world leader in life sciences research and innovation.

About the Massachusetts Life Sciences Center

The Massachusetts Life Sciences Center (MLSC) is an investment agency that supports life sciences innovation, education, research & development and commercialization.

The MLSC is charged with implementing a \$1-billion, state-funded investment initiative.

These investments create jobs and support advances that improve health and well-being.

The MLSC offers the nation's most comprehensive set of incentives and

collaborative programs targeted to the life sciences ecosystem. These programs propel

the growth that has made Massachusetts the global leader in life sciences. The MLSC

creates new models for collaboration and partners with organizations, both public and

private, around the world to promote innovation in the life sciences. Learn more at

<http://www.masslifesciences.com/>

###