



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Purdue University's Regenstrief Center to offer innovators workshop on assistive technologies

WEST LAFAYETTE, Ind. - The Indiana Center for Assistive Technology, a part of the Regenstrief Center for Healthcare Engineering, will offer the inaugural Innovators Bootcamp for assistive technology developers and innovators on April 2 in Purdue's Discovery Park.

The workshop, which is free and open to the public, will run from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the Burton D. Morgan Center for Entrepreneurship, Room 121. Registration is required by 5 p.m. Friday (March 27) at <http://cathub.org/bootcamp>.

The workshop will provide tips on how to craft an innovator pitch, form research collaborations, position research teams for funding, understand the federal regulatory approval process and create sustainable working capital.

Regenstrief Center director Steve Witz and Julie Goonewardene, director of business development for the Purdue Research Foundation and Discovery Park, will lead the program.

Bootcamp speakers include:

- 9-10 a.m. -- **Steve Brown**, president of Boston-based Innovate4Growth, on market analysis.
- 10-11 a.m. -- **Jeff Warren**, a lawyer, investor and Purdue alumnus, on business-plan preparation and angel investing.
- 11:15 a.m. to noon -- **Gretchen Bowker**, director of regulatory and compliance services at Indianapolis-based Safis Solutions, on federal regulatory process
- 1-2 p.m. -- **Mike Pelligrino**, president of the Indianapolis-based technology appraisal firm Pellegrino & Associates LLC, on valuations.
- 2-3 p.m. -- **Bart Collins**, Purdue communications professor and Regenstrief researcher, on Web site portals.

During her session, Gretchen Bowker, director of regulatory and compliance services at Safis, will give an overview of the FDA process and discuss the regulatory differences between filings for a device vs. a pharmaceutical drug.

"Translation of research to the clinic toward commercialization involves a long, complex regulatory pathway," Bowker said. "It is critical for translational researchers to consider the impact of regulatory expectations leading up to commercialization."

The Indiana Family and Social Services Administration's Division of Disability and Rehabilitative Services and Purdue's Regenstrief Center launched the research center in September to match advancements in technology with the needs of individuals with disabilities.

With its statewide reach, the center also is creating an incubator to move research and new technologies quickly from the lab to the market.

The Indiana Center for Assistive Technology project includes BioCrossroads, Fitzgerald & Associates, the Rehabilitation Hospital of Indiana, Crossroads Easter Seals of Indiana, and the Indiana University School of Rehabilitation Sciences. Purdue's Burton D. Morgan Center for Entrepreneurship, Engineering Projects in Community Services (EPICS) and the Mann Institute for Biomedical Development also are partners.

Safis Solutions is a regulatory compliance consulting firm that works to help the life science industry bring products to market quickly by meeting regulatory demands. Areas of expertise include regulatory approval, clinical strategies, quality systems, validation, auditing and postmarket surveillance programs. Formed in 2002 by Ping Poulsen, Safis is a recent graduate of the Indiana University Emerging Technologies Center in Indianapolis.

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