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DNA EpiCenter Appoints New Executive Director

Monthly Speakers Series Announced

New London, Conn., January 11, 2006 -- The DNA EpiCenter, a newly remodeled biotechnology learning center, announced today the appointment of Abby L. Demars as the EpiCenter's new Executive Director.

“Abby has been invaluable as the Interim Executive Director for the past 2 months,” said Chairman of the Board Irving Schloss of Tyler, Cooper and Alcorn, LLP. “She has demonstrated the ability to handle multiple tasks with a clarity of mission, which is what the EpiCenter needs. She was a natural choice for this important leadership position.”

Demars has worked at the EpiCenter since June of 2004 when she joined as Senior Scientist. Prior to joining the EpiCenter, Demars worked with CURE's Connecticut BioBus as the Staff Scientist and Program Coordinator. In 2000 Demars graduated Cum Laude from the University of Connecticut with a Bachelor of Science degree in Molecular and Cell Biology. Her professional memberships include the American Society of Microbiology, Golden Key National Honor Society, Phi Beta Kappa Society and the Society for Industrial Microbiology.

The DNA EpiCenter is a state-of-the-art learning laboratory that enables students and teachers to experience working with DNA through various processes. The EpiCenter is a regional asset for Connecticut, Rhode Island, and Massachusetts schools, in addition to providing programming that fosters life-long learning for students of all ages. “The EpiCenter provides students with the ability to actually do the work they see on TV,” said Demars. “There are many school districts throughout the region that do not have the equipment or scientific expertise needed for such a student experience. That is why the EpiCenter is so important to all of Connecticut’s schools, as well as schools in Rhode Island and Massachusetts.”

In addition to announcing Demars’ appointment, the EpiCenter will launch its Speakers Series on Wednesday, February 1, 2006 at its Open House. The Open House begins at 4pm and is highlighted with a presentation on the “The Science Behind Stem Cell Research” given by Demars at 6pm. The public is invited to the event, and refreshments will be served. Located at 33 Gallows Lane in New London, the EpiCenter can be reached at 860-442-0391, or by going to: <http://www.dnaepicenter.org/>.

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