

RSVP Group US, Inc.

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RSVPGROUP

VISIONS FOR CHANGE

## **Vice President ABIA & Head of Center for Clinical Trials (CCT)**

### **The Organization**

The Austen BioInnovation Institute in Akron is a unique collaboration of complementary research, education and health institutions that will expand Akron's rich legacy in materials science to pioneer the next generation of life-enhancing and life-saving biomedical innovation for the 21st Century.

The organization is dedicated to becoming a global leader in biomaterial and medical research, education, clinical services and commercialization; and a driver of transformative economic, social and health benefits for Greater Akron.

The goal is to develop the No. 1 biomaterials and medicine program in the world within the next ten years, with:

- Nationally-ranked orthopaedic and wound care programs
- \$150 million in annual academic and clinical research
- \$50 million in annual commercialization investments
- 2,400 new jobs

The Institute is a unique alignment of institutional, state and philanthropic aspirations. Through the collaboration of complementary research, education and health institutions, the goal of this initiative is to transform Akron into a model for biomedical discovery and enterprise. Together, the founders of the Austen BioInnovation Institute in Akron — Akron Children's Hospital, Akron General Health System, Northeastern Ohio Universities Colleges of Medicine and Pharmacy (NEOUCOM), Summa Health System and The University of Akron — are recognized national leaders in research, education and health. These institutions are joined by the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation and the State of Ohio as partners in the Austen BioInnovation Institute in Akron. Additionally, the Institute is closely aligned with regional biomedical commercialization efforts including the City of Akron's Biomedical Corridor and the Akron Global Accelerator.

Five major initiatives have been launched to realize the vision of global leadership in biomaterials by rapidly taking ideas from the lab through proof-of-concept demonstration to standard of medical care.

Innovative ideas will be generated in the Center for Biomaterials and Medicine; to be developed in the Medical Device Development Center; further tested in the Center for Clinical Trials; evaluated, refined and used in simulated settings in the Center for Health Care Training; and then applied to treat patients in real clinical practice through initiatives such as Community Outreach to the Medically Underserved.

Each of these Centers of Excellence will play a specific role:

- The Center for Biomaterials and Medicine (CBMM) will leverage world-class polymer science and engineering into high-value clinical applications aimed at accelerating biomedical innovation.
- The Medical Device Development Center (MDDC) will provide a unique resource for companies and researchers to design, test, synthesize and manufacture new materials and healthcare applications of biomaterials. MDDC will operate as a concierge service, providing entrepreneurs and scientists with flexible and easy access to resources for commercialization of their ideas and products.

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### **The Organization (continued)**

- The Center for Health Care Training (CHCT) seeks to establish a nationally recognized model for simulation-based education and training programs. CHCT will be a central resource with a full complement of facilities, staff and services for simulation training in clinical skills.
- The Community Outreach to the Medically Underserved (COMU) initiative will build a community outreach organization to coordinate and deliver health care to the growing medically underserved populations, going beyond treatment to also include the holistic integration of access, prevention and disease management.
- The Austen BioInnovation Institute is creating a center of excellence for attracting, leading and executing industry-sponsored and investigator-initiated clinical studies.

The Center for Clinical Trials (CCT) will support the launch and administration of clinical trials, and promote collaboration among scientists and clinicians across institutions. This will lead to:

- Improved patient care through increased access to leading-edge medical therapies and services;
- Increased translational research and commercialization through clinical studies;
- Expanded opportunities for medical professionals such as research fellows and clinical investigators to engage in leading-edge research.

The RSVP Group has been retained to identify a Vice President ABIA & Head of Center for Clinical Trials.

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### **The Position**

Reports to the ABIA President/CEO and provides leadership and vision to take the Austen BioInnovation Institute in Akron's Center for Clinical Trials to national prominence within 5 years sponsoring distinctive investigator-initiated and industry-sponsored clinical trials. The Vice President will lead the strategic positioning of ABIA's CCT both among ABIA partners and with industry sponsors.

Serves as a senior liaison with the ABIA President/CEO, administrative personnel of ABIA partner members, clinical trials faculty and staff, and other external constituents.

### **PRINCIPAL FUNCTIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES:**

- Leads strategic planning process for CCT including the development of vision, mission, values, goals, and strategies; accountable and responsible for successfully developing, promoting, implementing and achieving CCT's strategic plan.
- Builds relationships among ABIA stakeholders to achieve collaborative vision and execute goals
- Facilitates inter-institutional and collaborative clinical trials and promotes quality research outcomes
- Oversees CCT resource allocation – financial, personnel, and technological - to assure effective and efficient operations
- Utilizes professional affiliations to direct strategic and entrepreneurial activities associated with expansion of orthopedic and wound healing and other clinical trials for ABIA
- Engages and develops an understanding of the needs and wants of the business community
- Oversees ABIA's CCT-related scholarship agenda nationally and internationally, including coordination of presentations, publications, grant submission and administration, as well as collaborations in multi-site studies as appropriate
- Directs professional & support staff and operations to ensure sustainability and continued financial and institutional growth.
- Works with ABIA Development Team to cultivate and solicit gifts, grants, and bequests from individuals, corporations, foundations, and organizations in support of CCT research initiatives
- Works with ABIA Marketing and Public Relations to champion the partner institutions' strengths and accomplishments of the partner institutions in clinical trials, including responding to requests from media, and internal and external communication of positive image

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## **Vice President ABIA & Head of Center for Clinical Trials (CCT)**

### **The Ideal Candidate:**

#### **QUALIFICATIONS:**

- MD, PhD, PharmD, DO, MD-MBA, MD-PhD
- Minimum 15 years related professional experience, as a funded researcher, department chair, or clinical research administrator
- Participation in design and conduct of clinical trials related to the launch of a pharmaceutical product or medical device preferred

#### **Key Skills and Personal Characteristics:**

- High ethical values with strength of character and commitment to the ABIA's missions, visions, and values
- Excellent leadership skills and ability to function as both team leader and team player
- Expertise in design of clinical trials, IRB process, protection and safety of human subjects
- Working knowledge of contract law, budgeting, billing, FDA regulations for investigational new drugs (IND) and Investigational Device Exemptions (IDE) and grant funding mechanisms
- Working knowledge of technology licensing process, new company formation, patent and copyright laws, and protection of Intellectual Property (IP)
- Ability to form and maintain positive working relationships with diverse stakeholders
- Effective management of information systems, including data bases
- Ability to work effectively, collaboratively, and tactfully with administrative colleagues, faculty, and clinical departments within 5 partner institutions
- Ability to think creatively, exercise critical judgments and make judicious decisions without defined policy to guide
- Excellent oral & written communication skills and the ability to present and speak to both internal & external audiences
- Understand & appreciate diverse academic and institutional environments
- Passionate and committed to health professions higher education and its ability to improve lives of practitioners and patients
- High motivation
- Commitment to diversity
- Ability to maintain strict confidentiality
- Excellent computer skills including MS Office and Internet research
- Maintains a mature, professional, competent and friendly demeanor

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**Contact Information**

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