

Texas State team advances to ACS GCI Business Plan Competition

SioTeX™, an interdisciplinary team from Texas State University, has been accepted to compete as a finalist at the 2014 ACS GCI Green Chemistry and Engineering Business Plan Competition. The competition will take place at the American Chemical Society GCI meeting in Bethesda, Maryland on June 18. This business plan competition is dedicated to green chemistry and engineering and focuses on sustainability-oriented entrepreneurship. The competition allows the general public to vote for the best technology on the fundraising website gofundme.com. Donations and voting will be accepted through June 13. The votes will count towards the overall score for SioTeX™ and the funds raised will be awarded to the grand prize winner of the competition.

The link to contribute and vote for SioTeX™ is <http://www.gofundme.com/GCEBizPlanComp>.

The SioTeX™ team recently competed at the 14th Annual Rice Business Plan Competition, where they won the Texas Halo Fund Investment Prize. SioTeX™ also took first place in the Challenge Round Flight and was runner-up in the CASIS ISS National Lab Space Flight Prize. The team was also acknowledged as the most engaged in mobile social media activity during the competition.

SioTeX™ will produce and distribute Eco-Sil™, an environmentally-friendly alternative to fumed silica. Eco-Sil™ is manufactured from rice hulls and is a renewable resource. Target markets include paint, fiberglass-reinforced plastic and tires. These markets currently account for \$1.5 billion in sales annually.

SioTeX™ was formed in December 2013 and is built around advancing a technology developed in the Materials Science, Engineering and Commercialization (MSEC) Ph.D. Program by team leader Haoran Chen. Chen recently completed his Ph.D. and formed the team which includes Marcus Goss (MSEC student), Ash Kotwal (MSEC student), Lisa Taylor (MBA student) and Cesar Rivera (MFA student).

For more information, contact Gary Beall at (512) 245-8796 or via email at gb11@txstate.edu.

Lisa Taylor, MBA Candidate Spring 2015

Vice President of Sales and Marketing, SioTeX™ Corporation

Lisa Taylor is an MBA student at Texas State University. She has 12 years of experience in pharmaceutical sales and practice management in the veterinary industry. Lisa competed with the SioTeX team at the 2014 Rice Business Plan Competition. She is the VP of Sales and Marketing for the company. Lisa was a nominee for the Texas Business Hall of Fame Scholarship award, recipient of one of the ASG Scholarship awards for 2014-2015, and the MBASA Vice President for the Round Rock campus. Lisa has an BA in English from the University of Texas at Austin.