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**COMBIMATRIX NAMES NANOTECHNOLOGY LEADER F. MARK MODZELEWSKI
TO ITS SCIENTIFIC ADVISORY BOARD**

Newport Beach, Calif. – (BUSINESS WIRE) – February 2, 2004 – Acacia Research Corporation (Nasdaq: CBMX:ACTG) announced today that its CombiMatrix group has named F. Mark Modzelewski to its Scientific Advisory Board. Mr. Modzelewski is the founder and Executive Director of the Nanobusiness Alliance (www.nanobusiness.org).

Mr. Modzelewski is also a member of the Nanotechnology Technical Advisory Group to President Bush's Council of Advisors on Science and Technology (PCAST), was recognized by Forbes magazine as one of nanotech's 5 "powerbrokers," and he has testified before the U.S. Senate on nanotechnology funding, investment, technology transfer and global competition.

Mr. Modzelewski has taught classes on the business of nanotechnology at Northwestern's Kellogg School and NYU's Stern School of Business, and he has lectured before numerous global technology and investor conferences, leading think tanks, as well as briefing the White House, US Dept. of Commerce, NSF, Congress, the Federal Reserve's Financial Markets retreat, global Fortune 500 companies, and numerous foreign government agencies. He has been featured in Time, Newsweek, US News, ABC News, CNBC, CNNfn, BBC, Bloomberg Radio, Forbes, Business Week, Fortune, Wall Street Journal, and Investors Business Daily.

He has also held positions at various firms including Opion, Niehaus, Ryan, Wong NYC, and Golin/Harris International. Before entering the private sector, he was an appointee in the Clinton Administration, where he served as Special Assistant to Sec. Henry Cisneros at HUD and Sec. Dan Glickman of USDA. Mr. Modzelewski is a graduate of the University of Denver College of Law and Boston University.

"I am impressed with CombiMatrix's technology and capabilities in the nanotechnology space, as well as its broadly encompassing strategy for commercialization of its core technology into multiple markets. I am looking forward to working with the company in the future," said Mr. Modzelewski.

"Based on Mr. Modzelewski's accomplishments, one can say that he is truly a visionary in the nanotechnology field," said Dr. Amit Kumar, President and CEO of CombiMatrix. "We are pleased to have him join us and provide guidance and advice as we continue to build CombiMatrix into one of the leaders in the fields of biotechnology and nanotechnology."

ABOUT ACACIA RESEARCH CORPORATION

Acacia Research Corporation comprises two operating groups, Acacia Technologies Group and CombiMatrix Group.

The CombiMatrix group is developing a platform technology to rapidly produce customizable active biochips, which are semiconductor-based tools for use in identifying and determining the roles of genes, gene mutations and proteins. CombiMatrix's technology has a wide range of applications including DNA synthesis/diagnostics, siRNA synthesis, drug discovery, and immunochemical detection. CombiMatrix provides DNA arrays to researchers under the CustomArray™ brand.

CombiMatrix's Express Tracksm drug discovery program is a systems biology approach, using its technology, to target common viral diseases with siRNA compounds. The initial focus of Express Tracksm includes the following viral diseases:

<u>Virus</u>	<u>Collaborator</u>
SARS	NIAID/USAMRIID
HIV type 1	irsiCaixa-Dr. Bonaventura Clotet
HIV type 2	To Be Announced
West Nile virus	To Be Announced
Human Papillomavirus type 16	To Be Announced
Human Herpes 8 (Kaposi's sarcoma)	To Be Announced
Smallpox (Variola)	To Be Announced
Influenza virus A	To Be Announced
Influenza virus B	To Be Announced
Hepatitis C	To Be Announced

CombiMatrix is also establishing applications of its arrays through other partnerships as follows:

<u>Project</u>	<u>Collaborator</u>
Cancer Diagnosis (Lymphoma)	University of Washington/Rational Diagnostics
RNA Drug Targets	Professor Gregory L. Verdine, Harvard University
<u>Parasite</u>	
Leishmania	Seattle Biomedical Research Institute
Trypanosoma	Seattle Biomedical Research Institute

The Acacia Technologies group licenses its Digital Media Transmission (DMT) technology to media and electronics companies. The DMT technology covers the transmission and receipt of digital audio and digital video content, commonly known as audio on-demand, video on-demand, and audio/video streaming, and is supported by 5 U.S. and 31 foreign patents.

Acacia Research-Acacia Technologies (Nasdaq: ACTG) and Acacia Research-CombiMatrix (Nasdaq:CBMX) are both classes of common stock issued by Acacia Research Corporation and are intended to reflect the performance of the respective operating groups and are not issued by the operating groups.

Information about Acacia Research Corporation and the Acacia Technologies group is available at www.acaciaresearch.com. Information about the CombiMatrix group is available at www.combimatrix.com.

Safe Harbor Statement under the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995:

This news release contains forward-looking statements within the meaning of the "safe harbor" provisions of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. These statements are based upon our current expectations and speak only as of the date hereof. Our actual results may differ materially and adversely from those expressed in any forward-looking statements as a result of various factors and uncertainties,

including the recent economic slowdown affecting technology companies, our ability to successfully develop products, rapid technological change in our markets, changes in demand for our future products, legislative, regulatory and competitive developments and general economic conditions. Our Annual Report on Form 10-K, recent and forthcoming Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q, recent Current Reports on Forms 8-K and 8-K/A, and other SEC filings discuss some of the important risk factors that may affect our business, results of operations and financial condition. We undertake no obligation to revise or update publicly any forward-looking statements for any reason.