



Contacts: Bret L. Udem
Media Relations
Tel. (425) 493-2293
Fax. (425) 493-2010

FOR RELEASE
July 24, 2006

DR. SHELLY GUNN JOINS COMBIMATRIX MOLECULAR DIAGNOSTICS

Newport Beach, Calif. – (BUSINESS WIRE) – July 24, 2006 – Acacia Research Corporation (Nasdaq: CBMX:ACTG) announced today that Dr. Shelly Gunn, M.D., Ph.D. has joined Combimatrix Molecular Diagnostics (CMDX) as its Medical Director.

“I am very impressed with CMDX’s scientific and technical competency in the areas of BAC CGH arrays and high density oligo-based expression arrays”, said Dr. Gunn. “I am excited to be part of the CMDX team and I look forward to helping build the company’s clinical capabilities”.

“I am delighted that Dr. Gunn has joined our company,” said Dr. Mansoor Mohammed, President and Chief Operating Officer of CombiMatrix Molecular Diagnostics. “We will be opening our CLIA-certified laboratory in just a few weeks and we expect that Shelly will play a key role in helping us turn important genomic discoveries into high value clinical diagnostic tests.”

Dr. Gunn earned her B.A. and Masters degrees from Trinity University, and a Ph.D. in genetics from the University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio (UTHSCSA) Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences. Her doctoral work focused on the detection of cryptic chromosomal abnormalities in pediatric patients with normal cytogenetics and central nervous system dysmyelination. She went on to earn an M.D. from the UTHSCSA Medical School where she also completed her internship and residency in Clinical Pathology and now serves as Clinical Assistant Professor in the Department of Pathology. While at UTHSCSA, Dr. Gunn was the recipient of the Association for Molecular Pathology’s Young Investigator Award for outstanding research, and the Klein Award for the “most outstanding report illustrating the correlation of clinical medicine, pathology, and pathophysiology.” She has published papers and abstracts related to array-based comparative genomic hybridization (array CGH) and has been a featured speaker at various scientific meetings and symposia. Her current translational research interest is the development of array CGH-based clinical assays for scanning tumor genomes in hematological malignancies.

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 arrays, which are semiconductor-based tools for use in identifying and determining the roles of genes, gene mutations and proteins. The CombiMatrix's group's technology has a wide range of potential applications in the areas of genomics, proteomics, biosensors, drug discovery, drug development, diagnostics, combinatorial chemistry, material sciences and nanotechnology.

The Acacia Technologies group develops, acquires, and licenses patented technologies. Acacia controls 46 patent portfolios, which include U.S. patents, and certain foreign counterparts, covering technologies used in a wide variety of industries including audio/video enhancement & synchronization, broadcast data retrieval, computer memory cache coherency, credit card fraud protection, database management, data encryption & product activation, digital media transmission (DMT[®]), digital video production, dynamic manufacturing modeling, enhanced Internet navigation, high resolution optics, image resolution enhancement, interactive data sharing, interactive television, hearing aid ECS, interstitial Internet advertising, laptop docking station connectivity, microprocessor enhancement, multi-dimensional bar codes, network data storage, resource scheduling, rotational video imaging and spreadsheet automation.

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 the Acacia Technologies Group and the CombiMatrix Group is available at www.acaciaresearch.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 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.