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News Release

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(Note to journalists: A publication-quality photograph of Nancy Sullivan is available at www.uillinois.edu/our/images/.)

September 29, 2008

University of Illinois names technology management director at UIC Sullivan brings start-up, life science and university experience to position

CHICAGO, Ill. — Nancy Sullivan has been named director of the University of Illinois at Chicago's Office of Technology Management.

Sullivan is senior director of business development for KeraCure, an early-stage biotechnology company currently in clinical trials of a cell-based device for treatment of chronic wounds. Previously, Sullivan was director of the Women's Entrepreneurial Life Sciences Initiative at Northwestern University.

Avijit Ghosh, U. of I. system vice president for technology and economic development, said Sullivan presented an impressive combination of experience and expertise for the UIC Office of Technology Management director's position.

"Ms. Sullivan brings an ideal portfolio of education, experience and leadership qualities to our Office of Technology Management," Ghosh said. "Her business and university experience in the life sciences and entrepreneurship fits well with UIC's research portfolio, especially its strengths in medical and health-care research. Ms. Sullivan is the right person at the right time to lead the effort to bring the fruits of UIC research to the marketplace."

Sullivan said she was eager to begin her new position Nov. 3.

"I've spent more than 15 years focusing on business and biotechnology in both the private sector and in the university," she said. "UIC has a strong research foundation in many important areas. Life-science research at UIC has the potential to provide lifesaving cures for deadly diseases as well as to create new biotechnology-based businesses. These ventures, in turn, can provide the knowledge-intensive, high-wage jobs so necessary for the future prosperity of the state of Illinois and its citizens.

"In addition, the Office of Technology Management will increase licensing revenues to UIC, offer services to assist faculty and staff to commercialize their research and serve as a tangible benefit in the recruitment of top research professors," she said.

In 2007, UIC's Office of Technology Management managed 77 active licenses, received more than 115 invention disclosures, submitted 162 U.S. patent applications and brought in almost \$4.1 million in royalty income.

The Office of Technology Management works closely with Illinois VENTURES, the University of Illinois start-up services and early-stage venture capital company. Illinois VENTURES has \$24 million invested in start-up companies, mostly based on research by professors on the U. of I.'s Chicago and Urbana-Champaign campuses. Illinois VENTURES has also arranged \$238 million in third-party funding for start-ups.

Sullivan will report to Vice President Ghosh and work with the UIC vice chancellor for research, University counsel, research units, colleges, departments and, especially, faculty members. Her appointment is subject to approval by the University's Board of Trustees.

She will also work with the Champaign-Urbana Office of Technology Management director Lesley Millar to combine and coordinate Chicago- and Urbana-Champaign-based technology-commercialization activities such as outreach, licensing and marketing.

Sullivan earned her MBA from Northwestern University's Kellogg School of Management and an M.S. in biotechnology, also from Northwestern. She earned her bachelor's degree in business administration from Loyola University. The UIC Office of Technology Management is located at UIC's west medical campus on Polk Street. Sullivan is replacing interim director David Gulley.

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The University of Illinois is a world leader in research and discovery, the largest educational institution in the state with more than 70,000 students, 24,000 faculty and staff, and campuses in Urbana-Champaign, Chicago and Springfield. The U. of I. awards nearly 18,000 undergraduate, graduate and professional degrees annually.