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Contact: Mike Duff (703) 647-6214 mduff@thealda.org

Spring Meeting to Examine Directed Evolution Technologies

Alexandria, VA (February 12, 2016) — ALDA's 2016 Spring Meeting, set for May 1-3 in Boston will assess the prospects for directed evolution and technologies like Crispr-Cas9 gene editing and synthetic biology, and the challenges and the opportunities they will present.

Crispr-Cas9 is attracting great attention and interest in the medical and research communities as well as by many companies in our industry. While synthetic biology concerns the design or construction of new biological entities such as enzymes, genetic circuits and cells, and the redesign of existing systems, Crispr-Cas9 allows scientists to move genes around and to modify DNA with impressive accuracy.

Applications for these technologies range from human health and therapeutics to industrial, ag-bio and energy. Some believe gene editing holds the promise of significantly transforming R&D and products developed across major sectors of the global life science economy.

ALDA's Spring Meeting will examine the latest developments and the prospects for these technologies, including how they have evolved in recent years and the outlook for the future, along with strategic insights on the challenges and opportunities they will present.

Highlighting our program, will be Dr. Craig Venter regarded as one of the leading scientists of the 21st century. Other speakers will be Drs. George Q. Daley of Harvard Medical School and Children's Hospital, James J. Collins of MIT, and Matthew Porteus of Stanford Medical School. All three have impressive academic credentials and a record of honors and achievements.

In addition, the meeting will feature interesting and thought-provoking presentations from Juan Enriquez, regarded as a strategic thinker and visionary on the future and promise of the life sciences and genomic research, and Gillian Tett, an award-winning journalist and U.S. Managing Editor of the Financial Times.

For more information regarding ALDA, contact Mike Duff, President, at 703-647-6214. More information regarding ALDA, its purposes, objectives and programs, and links to its members' websites can be found at www.thealda.org

Based on the Washington DC suburb of Alexandria, VA, ALDA is an industry trade association for companies that develop and supply life science, analytical and diagnostic products and services used to conduct research, drug discovery, QA/QC testing and diagnostics in a wide range of industries and applications. Major customer segments including pharmaceuticals, biotech, academic and government research, food safety and environmental testing, personalized medicine and diagnostics.

ALDA's Mission is to be an advocate for our industry and a valuable aid to our members' global business success and to their customers' advancement of healthcare, science and industrial innovation by providing meetings with strategic content, networking, global market and business intelligence, and insights on emerging technologies, markets and business strategies.