

## PRESS RELEASE



### **Siva Therapeutics Awarded a \$250,000 Grant from the State of Colorado**

BOULDER, COLORADO, February 4, 2013 – Siva Therapeutics ('Siva') has been awarded a \$250,000 Early Stage Company Grant from the Bioscience Discovery Evaluation Grant Program (BDEGP) administered by the Colorado Office of Economic Development and International Trade (COEDIT). The BDEGP grant program provides matching funding for projects based on patented technologies developed at research institutions in Colorado, and licensed by emerging companies in the state.

Siva's BDEGP grant funds a project entitled 'Smart Polymers for Improved Photothermal Cancer Therapy: Optimized Surface Chemistry for Increasing Retention of Precision Gold Nanorods in Solid Tumors.' Siva has entered into an exclusive license to patented polymer technology developed in the laboratory of Professor Stephen Boyes in the Department of Chemistry and Geochemistry at the Colorado School of Mines. As part of the project, Siva will support a PhD student working in Dr. Boyes' lab, and the grant will also support a newly hired scientist at Siva.

The long term vision of the project is to develop functional, environmentally-responsive polymers attached to the surface of gold nanorods. The polymers will be able to present different functionalities, such as tumor targeting or a chemotherapeutic, which can be used in conjunction with the photothermal properties of the gold nanorods.

"This BDEGP grant is of great value and importance to Siva in many ways," said Len Pagliaro, PhD, CEO of Siva. "The funding enables us to move forward with cutting edge technology

developed in Colorado, and licensed by Siva from the Colorado School of Mines. We have a growing and very productive collaboration with Dr. Stephen Boyes at Mines, and will be able to leverage some of the talent and expertise in his group. Recognition by both the State and a panel of our peers in the growing Colorado bioscience community is an honor, and brings increased credibility to Siva.”

### **About Siva Therapeutics Inc**



Siva Therapeutics Inc is an early stage biotechnology company developing a device photothermal cancer therapy which uses heat to irreversibly damage solid tumor tissue. The heat is delivered to tumors by infrared light that is absorbed by gold nanorods (“SivaRods™”) and re-emitted as heat. The size, shape, and surface chemistry of the particles target the leaky vasculature of solid tumors, and the selective thermal sensitivity of tumor tissue enables the therapy to deliver clean margins. Siva therapy promises to be extremely safe, effective, and competitive in cost relative to surgery, chemotherapy, and radiation for cancer treatment. For more information please visit: [www.sivatherapeutics.com](http://www.sivatherapeutics.com).

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### **About the Boyes Research Group**



The modification of surfaces with polymers represents a critical step in the development of a wide variety of next generation technologies including nanomedicines. Progress in these technologies is critically dependent upon the ability to prepare and attach well-defined, multi-functional polymers in a controlled manner. The Boyes Research Group studies the use of living radical polymerization techniques to modify a wide variety of surfaces, both on the macro and nano scales, to produce multifunctional materials for a range of advanced applications. Current research projects in the Boyes laboratory include multifunctional nanomedicines which show incredible potential in improving the early diagnosis and therapeutic outcome of cancer and other diseases, while increasing the quality of life of the patient.

For more information please visit: <http://inside.mines.edu/~sboyes/s.com>.

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## About Colorado School of Mines



Colorado School of Mines ('Mines') is a public research university devoted to engineering and applied science. It has the highest admissions standards of any public university in Colorado and among the highest of any public university in the US. Mines has distinguished itself by developing a curriculum and research program geared towards responsible stewardship of the earth and its resources. As such, Mines occupies a unique position among the world's institutions of higher education. Since its founding in 1874, the translation of the school's mission into educational programs has been influenced by the needs of society. Mines offers all the advantages of a world-class research institution with a size that allows for personal attention.

For more information please visit: [www.mines.edu](http://www.mines.edu).

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## About The Colorado Office of Economic Development and International Trade

The Colorado Office of Economic Development and International Trade (OEDIT) works with statewide partners to create a positive business climate that encourages dynamic economic development and sustainable job growth. Under the leadership of Governor John Hickenlooper, we strive to advance the state's economy through financial and technical assistance in support of local and regional economic development activities throughout Colorado.

For more information please visit: [www.advancecolorado.com](http://www.advancecolorado.com).