SLAS Offers Significant Savings Opportunities for SLAS2012 Participants

CHICAGO – Industry reports, including the most recent American Chemical Society survey report, indicate that unemployment for scientists, regardless of demographics, is rising. With the pharmaceutical industry feeling the effects of the current economic climate, the Society for Laboratory Automation and Screening (SLAS) is ready to lend a hand to its members with the SLAS2012 Smart-Savers Program, a bottom-line beneficial initiative offering financial assistance to those planning to attend SLAS2012, the First Annual SLAS Conference and Exhibition. Taking place February 4-8, 2012, in San Diego, CA, USA, SLAS2012 will provide participants with open access to continuing education in the science and technology of their discipline, extensive career development programming and valuable networking opportunities.

The SLAS2012 Smart-Savers Program offers significant discounts on everything from conference and short course registration to discounted airfare, hotels and car rentals. Plus, SLAS is offering complimentary registration for qualifying academic and unemployed professionals as well as group pricing.

"Presenting our first annual conference as a united organization is a tremendous milestone for us, and an integral part of that is sharing the experience with participants from around the world," says Michelle Palmer, SLAS President. "We are pleased to assist professionals in our laboratory science and technology community by offering them savings opportunities which allow them to be active participants at SLAS2012, exploring the latest technological advancements and networking and collaborating with colleagues."

By taking advantage of the SLAS2012 Smart-Savers Program, participants will benefit from significant learning and business opportunities while enjoying maximum savings:

- **Flight Discount**: Those attending SLAS2012 can receive a 5 percent discount off the lowest applicable published fare on American Airlines flights. The official travel agency for SLAS2012 will automatically apply the discount when flights are booked directly through them.
- **Early Bird Registration**: Participants can save up to $290 on registration simply by registering on or before October 31, 2011.

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• **Group Pricing**: Groups of five from the same company location will receive a 20 percent discount per registrant. This discount applies only to full-conference paid registrants whose fees are received at the same time prior to the start of the conference.

• **Hotel Discounts**: In addition to negotiated guest room discounts at the Marriott San Diego Marquis and Marina and the Hilton San Diego Bayfront, SLAS participants who stay in these hotels will receive complimentary high speed internet in each guest room.

• **Special Short Course Pricing**: SLAS2012 offers an expansive Short Course Program covering a variety of scientific topics. Members can save 20 percent on a Sunday course by purchasing a Saturday course.

• **Tony B. Academic Travel Award Program**: Qualifying students, graduate students, post-doctoral associates and junior faculty can author and submit an abstract for consideration in the Academic Travel Award Program; the deadline is September 26. Awards include fully paid coach airfare (or mileage reimbursement), full conference registration and shared hotel accommodations.

• **Academic Registration Waiver**: Created to ease some of the financial pressures currently impacting the academic community, this waiver provides complimentary conference registration to professors who attend SLAS2012 with at least two fully paid, pre-registered students. Student registration is just $25.

• **Unemployment Registration Waiver**: Complimentary registration is offered to those professionals who are unemployed, providing career advancement and search tools, as well as professional development and networking opportunities. The waiver is available to qualifying participants who are unemployed as of November 1, 2011.


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The Society for Laboratory Automation and Screening (SLAS) is an international community of more than 15,000 individual scientists, engineers, researchers, technologists and others from academic, government and commercial laboratories. The SLAS mission is to be the preeminent global organization providing forums for education and information exchange and to encourage the study of, and improve the science and practice of, laboratory science and technology. For more information, visit [http://www.SLAS.org](http://www.SLAS.org).

**SLAS2012**, February 4-8, 2012, San Diego Convention Center, San Diego, CA, USA is a five-day event bringing together laboratory science and technology scientists, academicians, business leaders and students from around the globe.