San Joaquin Venture Funding and Entrepreneurship Conference Announced

Organizers Seek Local Growth Companies to Showcase

Forum to Feature Policy Leaders and Angel/Venture Capital Experts

Stockton, Calif.—April 10, 2007—Recognizing the importance of private equity capital and entrepreneurship as key drivers of regional economic development, a committee of regional business leaders, economic development representatives, investors and entrepreneurship educators have announced highlights of the inaugural San Joaquin Venture Funding and Entrepreneurship Conference. The conference is scheduled to occur on June 21 from 7:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the Raymond Great Hall on the University of the Pacific campus. An optional 3-hour workshop for entrepreneurs will occur immediately after the conclusion of the conference. Those interested will find more details about the event by visiting www.goldencapital.net. Advance registration is $55, while on-site registration on the date of the event is $75. Seating is limited, so early registration is highly advisable.

Presented by the University of the Pacific, San Joaquin Partnership and Business Council, San Joaquin Delta College Small Business Development Center, San Joaquin County Economic Development Association, Central Valley Fund and Golden Capital Network, the conference is intended as an annual “must attend” event for local business executives, entrepreneurs, angel investors, venture capitalists, professional services providers, consultants, educators and civic leaders. Event committee member Joe Johnson, former President and CEO of Union Safe Deposit Bank said, “One of the financial tools that this area has always lacked was financial support for growing businesses that need more capital. This conference is an important part of the process in creating a vehicle to help our growing businesses.”

The conference will feature California Lieutenant Governor John Garamendi, and venture capital legend Franklin “Pitch” Johnson, who is a Founding Partner with the long-time Silicon Valley firm Asset Management Company.
Initial confirmed sponsors of the San Joaquin Venture Funding and Entrepreneur Conference include the Central Valley Fund, University of the Pacific, LearningChange, San Joaquin County, City of Tracy, City of Stockton, City of Lathrop, Guaranty Bank, General Mills, Bekins-Pacific Storage Company, Port of Stockton, San Joaquin County Revolving Loan Fund, Wells Fargo, Hamilton Lane, Moss Adams, Downey Brand Law Firm, Farmers and Merchants Bank, Pillsbury Law Firm, US Bank, Union Bank, San Joaquin Hispanic Chamber of Commerce and Amplify Software. Organizations interested in becoming sponsors of the event should contact Brad Triebsch at 925-899-2440.

In addition to keynote speakers and presentations by local businesses, the conference will feature panels representing many of Northern California’s angel investor groups and venture capital funds, including:

- Jose Blanco, Daniel Jessee and Brad Triebsch, Central Valley Fund
- Steve Mills and Curt Rocca, DCA Capital
- Peter Gardner and Dan Lankford, WavePoint Ventures
- Roger Akers, Akers Capital
- Damon Danielson, Private Angel Investor
- Scott Lenet, DFJ Frontier
- Harry Laswell, American River Ventures
- Rahul Banta, TimesTenVentures

**Entrepreneur Showcase – Up to 5 San Joaquin County Businesses to be Featured!**

Up to five San Joaquin County businesses will be selected to present to panels of investors that are actively seeking investment opportunities. All presenters will receive pre-event coaching on their business plan executive summaries and power point presentations. The investor panelists will select a “Best of Show” entrepreneur based on the quality of the business plan presentation and investment potential of the company. Businesses interested in presenting can either be mature, expanding businesses – or start-up innovation-based ventures. To apply to be a presenter, entrepreneurs must submit up to a 3-page executive summary to entrepreneur@goldencapital.net. Initial cut-off date for submitting executive summaries is Friday, April 27 at 5 p.m.
“Our goal in presenting this forum is to showcase the very best growth companies in the Valley, and to demonstrate they are great candidates for private equity investment,” said Brad Triebsch, a partner in the new Central Valley Fund. “This conference provides the only current venue in San Joaquin County for fast-growth potential businesses to demonstrate their capabilities, and a number of leading angel investor groups, venture capital funds, and commercial banking institutions will be using this event as an important measuring stick for what’s occurring in the San Joaquin area.”

According to Mark Plovnick, Director of Economic Development at the University of the Pacific and event committee chairman, “As part of the San Joaquin Partnership’s strategic plan we are working hard, both within the University and the community, to foster increased entrepreneurial activity in our region. We view this conference as an important opportunity to demonstrate how private equity funding can help stimulate entrepreneurship and help grow our regional economy.”

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