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Nanosystems institute at UCLA, NOF CORPORATION to collaborate on drug delivery systems / nanotherapeutics research

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The California NanoSystems Institute at UCLA has announced a new collaboration with NOF CORPORATION (NOF) based in Japan to explore initiatives in nanotherapeutics research for new drug-delivery systems.

"CNSI is committed to strong and productive collaborations with industry," said Paul S. Weiss, CNSI director and UCLA's Fred Kavli Chair in Nanosystems Sciences. "We look forward to working with the researchers at NOF's DDS (Drug Delivery Systems) Development Division."

"We are delighted to collaborate with the stellar group of PIs at CNSI and UCLA on shared interests in new methods and materials for drug delivery," said Mr. Akiharu Kobayashi, Director and Operating Officer of NOF and General Manager of NOF's DDS Development Division.

Dr. Weiss and Mr. Kobayashi signed an agreement to collaborate in cutting-edge technology for nanotherapeutics and drug delivery. The association between CNSI and NOF marks the beginning of the Frontier Research Program (FRP), an industry-affiliated research initiative at CNSI. The FRP is designed to promote close interdisciplinary research collaborations between diverse industries and researchers at UCLA and focuses on novel technology in nanodelivery of drug therapies. In the future, the FRP aims to cover activities in three main areas: information technology (Nanolectronics, Computation, Information Technology), green technology (water, solar, other green technology) and human health & environment (Nanomedicine, Health care devices, Nanosafety).

Headquartered in Tokyo, Japan, NOF was incorporated in 1937 and has become Japan's leading oleochemicals group, producing a highly diversified range of products derived from

oilseeds and petrochemicals and fields with “From the Biosphere to Outer Space". Based on its extensive experience with sophisticated products such as Activated PEGs for PEGylation drugs, Phospholipids for Liposome formulations, highly purified oleic acid non-ionic surfactants for Drug formulations, NOF’s DDS Development Division has been exploiting excellent technologies and capabilities in the pharmaceutical field complying with all of authority regulations.

The California NanoSystems Institute at UCLA is an integrated research center operating jointly at UCLA and UC Santa Barbara whose mission is to foster interdisciplinary collaborations for discoveries in nanosystems and nanotechnology; to train the next generation of scientists, educators and technology leaders; and to facilitate partnerships with industry, fueling economic development and the social well-being of California, the United States and the world. The CNSI was established in 2000 with $100 million from the state of California and an additional $250 million in federal research grants and industry funding. At the institute, scientists in the areas of biology, chemistry, biochemistry, physics, mathematics, computational science and engineering are measuring, modifying and manipulating the building blocks of our world — atoms and molecules. These scientists benefit from an integrated laboratory culture enabling them to conduct dynamic research at the nanoscale, leading to significant breakthroughs in the areas of health, energy, the environment and information technology.