



Women Entrepreneurs in Science and Technology

For Immediate Release

Media Contact:

Nora F. Gildea

Gildea Communications

(781) 674-9500

nora@gildeacom.com

WEST ANNOUNCES SECOND ANNUAL LEADERSHIP AWARD WINNERS

Entrepreneurship in Massachusetts Shows Signs of Vitality Despite Economic Downturn

Boston, MA, May 5, 2009 – Today, WEST (Women Entrepreneurs in Science and Technology) announced the four winners of its Second Annual Leadership Awards. The honorees are talented innovators who have demonstrated notable achievements in science and technology, either by starting their own companies or successfully applying entrepreneurial thinking within larger organizations.

The 2009 awardees are: **Beth Friday**, VP, Worldwide Client Support for IBM Rational Software, **Beth Marcus**, Founder and CTO at Zeemote, **Adelene Perkins**, President and Chief Business Officer at Infinity Pharmaceuticals and **Janet Wolfe**, President and Founder of Wolfe Laboratories. Each of these women is being recognized as a dynamic and influential leader who has taken risks and led her company and colleagues to new levels of accomplishment.

“These honorees exemplify Massachusetts’s innovative vitality in the technology and life science industries – qualities that contribute to the on-going launch of new ventures and new products”, said WEST President. Gwen Acton, PhD. “We believe these outstanding women have invaluable lessons and strategies to share.”

“This year’s recipients are truly an inspiration,” according to Sandra Glucksmann, PhD, Chair of the WEST Board of Directors and SVP, Research and Business Operations at Cerulean Pharma. “We are putting the spotlight on them so that others might be inspired and gain the benefit of their experiences. Their achievements and stories are a ‘how to’ for other women and their companies to be successful.”

The 2009 WEST Leadership Award recipients are:

- **Beth Friday**, Vice President of Worldwide Client Support at IBM, joined the organization as part of IBM’s acquisition of Rational Software. As global head for client technical support she has met the challenge to keep the entrepreneurial spirit of Rational strong within the context of the larger IBM Software Group.
- **Beth Marcus**, PhD, Founder and CTO at Zeemote, a venture backed technology licensing company focused on wireless remotes for hand held devices. A serial entrepreneur, Beth has been involved with nine start-ups, three of which have been acquired by public companies.

155 Seaport Blvd. 11th Floor, Boston MA 02210
www.WESTorg.org (978) 254-2036 info@WESTorg.org



Women Entrepreneurs in Science and Technology

- **Adelene Perkins**, President and Chief Business Officer at Infinity Pharmaceuticals, has successfully leveraged her engineering and business background to lead corporate and product strategy initiatives resulting in the sale of a successful entrepreneurial venture to J & J and numerous technology and product licensing deals.
- **Janet Wolfe**, PhD, President and Founder of Wolfe Laboratories (WLI), a biopharmaceutical development company providing integrated IND-enabling services. Dr. Wolfe was named Boston's 2008 Entrepreneur of the Year by the Greater Boston Chamber of Commerce. In 2006, WLI was ranked in the top 100 women-led businesses in Massachusetts.

The awardees will be honored at an evening **Celebration on Thursday, May 28th** at the law offices of Foley Hoag, 155 Seaport Blvd, Boston, MA. Members of the press are invited to attend.

About WEST

WEST (Women Entrepreneurs in Science and Technology) is a non-profit organization for women in science and technology who are existing entrepreneurs, aspiring entrepreneurs, and those who want to become innovative leaders and enhance their professional and personal development. Women who develop entrepreneurial thinking take risks, learn how to solve problems in compelling new ways, and lead others to success. The goal of WEST is to inspire women in science and technology to achieve their potential, gain recognition for their accomplishments, and have impact in their communities. More information about WEST can be found at www.westorg.org.

###

155 Seaport Blvd. 11th Floor, Boston MA 02210
www.WESTorg.org (978) 254-2036 info@WESTorg.org