

Triangle Business Journal - March 5, 2008

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# TRIANGLE BUSINESS JOURNAL

Wednesday, March 5, 2008

## Liquidia Technologies picks UNC alum as CEO

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**Liquidia Technologies**, a drug company that was spun out of two local universities in 2004, has hired a **University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill** alumnus as its CEO.

Neal Fowler, formerly president of **Johnson & Johnson** subsidiary **Centocor**, has agreed to take the helm at Liquidia. The company is based on research done by professor Joseph DeSimone at both UNC and North Carolina State University.

Fowler replaces interim CEO Steve Nelson, a partner at **Wakefield Group**, the venture capital company that led Liquidia's first round of financing.

Fowler spent seven years at the helm of Centocor. Prior to that, he held other executive positions within J&J. He also had a 13-year stint at **Eli Lilly & Co.**

A Raleigh native, Fowler holds a bachelor's degree in pharmacy and an MBA from UNC.

"We are delighted to welcome Neal to Liquidia during this exciting time in the company's development," DeSimone said in a statement. "Given the breadth and depth of the company's platform, Neal's experience will provide invaluable guidance and strategies for growth. I also want to thank Steve Nelson for his tremendous service to the company as interim CEO."

Liquidia says its technology, known as PRINT, "enables the design, development and manufacture of precisely engineered nanoparticles." Nanoparticles are microscopic particles whose size is measured in nanometers, or billionths of a meter. Liquidia is working on harnessing such particles for drug delivery and optical films and displays.

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