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June 2022

# Welcome to our e-newsletter!

### Greetings -

Summer is always a busy time here at WFIRM! We have had a lot of activity with ReMDO and its RegeneratOR Test Bed and Innovation Accelerator programs which are both in full swing. We recently announced that Axiom Space is one of the latest tenants in the Innovation Accelerator, and we are excited about their presence in the Regenerative Medicine Hub here in Winston-Salem. Please see the story below for more highlights.

The Regenerative Medicine Essentials course which combined again this year with the World Stem Cell Summit wrapped up earlier this month and was a big success. If you registered and missed any sessions or want to re-watch any, they are available to you through your registration link for the next couple of months.

Thank you always for your interest in our research work and endeavors to support the growth of the regenerative medicine field. We look forward to sharing periodic updates on our efforts.

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Axiom Space Establishes Winston-Salem Presence in the Regenerative Medicine Hub

Regenerative medicine manufacturing in space is the next

frontier and will be possible due to a new three-way partnership between Axiom Space, which is building the world's first commercial space station, the RegenMed Development Organization (ReMDO), the first organization dedicated to advancing regenerative medicine manufacturing scale-up and automation, and WFIRM. Plans to leverage the translational regenerative medicine expertise of the WFIRM team and Axiom's leadership in commercial space infrastructure development to advance in-space regenerative medicine biomanufacturing were recently announced. Read more about the partnership here.

## PHI Enters Biomanufacturing Partnership with WFIRM

Phase Holigraphic Imaging (PHI) and WFIRM are collaborating to make indispensable imaging techniques available for regenerative medicine and large-scale production of cell therapies and organs. PHI's non-invasive HoloMonitor technology, the two entities jointly aim to develop imaging techniques for assessing cell culture quality in industrial

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## **RESEARCH NEWS**

WFIRM scientists working on CRISPR/Cas9-mediated gene editing technology have developed a method to increase efficiency of editing while minimizing DNA deletion sizes, a key step toward developing gene editing therapies to treat genetic diseases.

Read more here.

## **MEDIA HITS**

#### Fox 8 News

Winston-Salem researchers taking regenerative medicine to new heights

#### **CNN**

When we'll be able to 3D-print organs and who will be able to afford them

## Regeneratively Speaking podcast

# Science in Space Aboard the International Space Station to Benefit Life on Earth

Special WFIRM visitors Ramon "Ray" Lugo III. Chief Executive Officer and Principal Investigator for the Center for the Advancement of Science in Space, Inc. (CASIS), and manager of the International Space Station (ISS) National Laboratory, and Dr. Michael Roberts, Deputy Chief Scientist of the ISS National Laboratory, discussed the importance of regenmed science being conducted 250 miles above Earth. Research done on the space station will be free from the constraints of gravity, providing great potential and benefits.

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About Wake Forest Institute for Regenerative Medicine: The Wake Forest Institute for Regenerative Medicine is recognized as an international leader in translating scientific discovery into clinical therapies, with many world firsts, including the development and implantation of the first engineered organ in a patient. Over 400 people at the institute, the largest in the world, work on more than 40 different tissues and organs. A number of the basic principles of tissue engineering and regenerative medicine were first developed at the institute. WFIRM researchers have successfully engineered replacement tissues and organs in all four categories - flat structures, tubular tissues, hollow organs and solid organs – and 15 different applications of cell/tissue therapy technologies, such as skin, urethras, cartilage, bladders, muscle, kidney, and vaginal organs, have been successfully used in human patients. The institute, which is part of Wake Forest University, is located in the Innovation Quarter in downtown Winston-Salem, NC, and is driven by the urgent needs of patients. The institute is making a global difference in regenerative medicine through collaborations with over 400 entities and institutions worldwide, through its government, academic and industry partnerships, its start-up entities, and through major initiatives in breakthrough technologies, such as tissue engineering, cell therapies, diagnostics, drug discovery, biomanufacturing, nanotechnology, gene editing and 3D printing.

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