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Issued By: NutriCore NorthEast, Inc.

NutriCore NorthEast, Inc. Receives \$55,000 Ben Franklin Technology Partners Grant

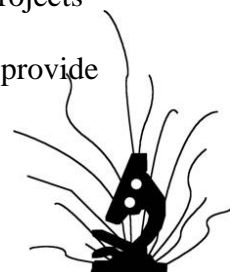
YORK, PA. – July 20, 2005 – The National Center of Excellence in Foods and Nutrition Research (NutriCore NorthEast) was awarded a \$55,000 matching challenge grant by Ben Franklin Technology Partners. More than 60% of this grant has been directed to fund research projects with the balance supporting the center’s third year of operations.

Two research projects at Penn State University were selected to receive funding from the grant by NutriCore NorthEast’s Advisory Committee, “Continued Studies of Probiotic Dairy Products” led by Dr. Bob Roberts, Associate Professor of Food Science and the “Identification and Development of Anti-oxidants in Fresh Mushrooms” headed by Professor Robert Beelman, Ph.D. in partnership with the Mushroom Council.

The Ben Franklin Partners of Central and Northern PA helps Pennsylvania companies grow and strengthen their position in today's competitive marketplace. Their primary program is the challenge investment program that supports Pennsylvania’s entrepreneurs and manufacturers by providing companies with funding to develop innovative products and processes, market these products and generate stable jobs.

“The Ben Franklin Institutes have an impressive history of shepherding new and important ventures by giving them the time necessary to achieve commercial success. NutriCore's partnership with the Ben Franklin centers has proven the value and success of this Pennsylvania program. If other states would follow Pennsylvania's lead, new, innovative small businesses would spring up nationwide.” – T.R. Jacks, NutriCore Founder.

NutriCore NorthEast is a Ben Franklin Center of Excellence and this program supports projects developing innovative technology that will be transferred to companies in PA. The centers must provide



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technology transfer and outreach mechanisms that yield tangible technical and educational benefits to individual companies in Pennsylvania, typically the Center members, and facilitate general industry sector business stability and growth.

NutriCore NorthEast is funded by a collaboration of 30 stakeholders including food manufacturers, public and private sector community leaders, business leaders, and a Federal Appropriation from the USDA, along with the Ben Franklin Technology PArtners. The Pennsylvania hub leads the nationwide affiliation of NutriCore centers of excellence in California, Indiana, Kansas, South Carolina and Texas.

The mission of NutriCore is to provide the foods industries with the collaborative resources to perform health and nutrition R&D, provide industry with centralized resources to identify leading edge projects and researchers and to directly provide industry with representation and collaboration with the FDA, the CDC, USDA, NIH, HHS and related federal agencies on issues of nutrition development.

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