

CONTACT:  
Paige Blawas  
Gatesman+Dave  
412-339-5189  
[pblawas@gatesmandave.com](mailto:pblawas@gatesmandave.com)



## **PITTSBURGH LIFE SCIENCES GREENHOUSE INVESTS \$50,000 IN FOREST DEVICES**

*PLSG Continues Longstanding Commitment to Carnegie Mellon University's Heinz College and Their Students*

**PITTSBURGH, Pa.** – Sept. 19, 2016 – The [Pittsburgh Life Sciences Greenhouse](#) (PLSG), Western Pennsylvania's only pure life sciences investment firm, is pleased to announce the company has completed its due diligence on [Forest Devices](#) and will invest \$50,000 into the company.

Forest Devices is a medical device startup located in Pittsburgh, Pa. that develops AlphaStroke, a device that promises to collapse the time between the onset of a stroke and the application of treatment. The company was founded by Matthew Kesinger, a current Master of Science in Health Care Policy and Management student at Carnegie Mellon's H. John Heinz III College: Information Systems, Public Policy and Management (Heinz College). The PLSG's financial backing of Forest Devices represents a longstanding partnership between the PLSG and Heinz College.

In 2008, PLSG's CEO, John W. Manzetti and Heinz College's Dean, Ramayya Krishnan, formed a collaboration agreement. For Heinz College, this collaboration supported their four key principles; real-world problem solving, innovation, diversity and compassionate leaders. For the PLSG, it connected a pipeline to commercialize university research while giving students a platform to apply their skills to startup businesses while also introducing them to the startup community for potential employment.

"We're thrilled to continue our commitment to budding life science entrepreneurs at Heinz College through our mentorship and financial backing of Forest Devices," said John W. Manzetti, President and CEO of PLSG. "Matthew Kesinger, along with his team at Forest Devices, has developed a groundbreaking solution to stroke care that has the potential to save thousands of lives through early detection. We're honored to stand behind this company and their product, AlphaStroke, and are eager to see what they'll do next."

Forest Device's AlphaStroke provides an easy-to-use, non-invasive solution to stroke detection by giving Emergency Medical Technicians the ability to quickly

detect stroke. Early detection enables them to route patients directly to stroke treatment centers rather than hospitals that are ill-suited for stroke patients' needs. This new technology could help avert over 2 million unnecessary emergency room CT scans each year and has the ability to become the new standard of care.

Since 2008, more than 40 Heinz College students have interned with the PLSG, including Adam Simone, who had a successful exit with [Blue Belt Technologies](#). In addition, several former student interns have contributed to PLSG portfolio companies, including [Medrobotics](#) and [Treatspace](#), who employs four Carnegie Mellon University students.

“Our longstanding collaboration with the PLSG gives our students the competitive edge in innovation,” said Dean Ramayya Krishnan, Heinz College. “We’re proud of Matthew and his entire team at Forest Devices and we know the added support from the PLSG will serve as a springboard to even greater things to come.”

To learn more about the PLSG, Heinz College and Forest Devices, visit their websites: <http://www.plsg.com>, <http://www.heinz.cmu.edu/index.aspx> and <http://www.forestdevices.com/>

#### **About Pittsburgh Life Sciences Greenhouse (PLSG) ([www.plsg.com](http://www.plsg.com))**

The PLSG invests in and supports the growth of biosciences companies in Western Pennsylvania. PLSG has a track record of excellence when it comes to attracting and growing life sciences companies in the region. Since its inception in 2001, PLSG has assisted more than 440 life sciences companies and has helped create or retain over 2,300 jobs and affected another 14,000 jobs in Western Pennsylvania. Forty companies have been provided with office or laboratory space and 14 have been relocated to Pittsburgh from outside of the region. In addition, the PLSG has invested directly and indirectly \$21 million in 78 companies, which has leveraged over \$1.5 billion in additional capital to the region.

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