

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Moorpark College Hosts Ribbon-Cutting Ceremony Celebrating $250,000 Takeda Sponsorship**

*New Analytical Lab sponsored by Takeda helps students develop skills in Biomanufacturing.*

**Moorpark, Calif.** (July 8, 2024) – Moorpark College is excited to announce an unveiling ceremony and Ribbon cutting for the Moorpark College Biotechnology Analytical Lab sponsored by Takeda. This lab resides within the main biotechnology Lab. This event will take place July 19, 2024, at 10 a.m.

The ceremony will include distinguished speeches by Dr. Julius Sokenu, President of Moorpark College, and Stephen Hatke, Site Head at Takeda’s Thousand Oaks facility. Additionally, attendees will hear inspiring testimonials from faculty and alumni, highlighting the transformative impact of the lab on their educational experiences.

This event celebrates the generous, four-year $250,000 sponsorship from Takeda to the Moorpark College Foundation, dedicated to enhancing resources for the college’s Biotech Program Analytical Lab.

Starting this fall, Moorpark College will offer its first bachelor’s degree in a field expected to grow through the start of the next decade – [Applied Biomanufacturing](https://www.moorparkcollege.edu/news/moorpark-college-launch-bachelors-degree-applied-biomanufacturing). The Analytical Lab sponsored by Takeda provides students with hands-on experiences, equipping them with the analytical and technical skills essential for success in the biotech manufacturing industry. The lab will allow students majoring in biotech manufacturing to gain the analytical and technical skills needed to thrive in the industry through hands-on experiences.

“We’re immensely proud to support Moorpark College students interested in the biotechnology field. The Moorpark College Biotechnology Analytical Lab sponsored by Takeda provides students pursuing a bachelor’s in Biomanufacturing applied knowledge across the spectrum of this industry,” said Stephen Hatke, Vice President of Manufacturing and Thousand Oaks Site Head. “Our ongoing partnership with Moorpark College exemplifies Takeda’s commitment to STEM education and the next generation of innovators who will drive progress and shape the future.”

“This agreement perfectly aligns with our mission and increases the likelihood of Moorpark College becoming a destination college locally, nationally, and globally,” said Dr. Julius Sokenu, president of Moorpark College. “Takeda is an industry leader in driving technology and devising treatments that enhance the quality of life for millions.”

The Analytical Lab sponsored by Takeda will be a welcome addition to the college’s current biotech lab, where students pursuing an associate degree in biotechnology learn the tools of the trade. Takeda’s quarter-million-dollar sponsorship to the foundation will directly assist the program through the purchase of several critical laboratory instruments, scholarships and access to mentoring and internships.

“This is a win-win for Moorpark College, Takeda and Ventura County,” said Moorpark College Foundation Chief Development Officer Deborah Klein. “Our students will have opportunities to see how their studies apply to real-world scenarios, while our business community will have access to individuals eager to contribute their talents to the local and regional workforce.”

To learn more about Moorpark College’s Biotechnology program, visit the [program’s webpage](https://www.moorparkcollege.edu/departments/academic/biotechnology).

**About Moorpark College**

*Grounded in equity, social justice, and a student’s first philosophy, Moorpark College values diverse communities. We empower learners from local, national, and global backgrounds to complete their degree, certificate, transfer, and career education goals. Through innovation and customized student support, our programs are designed to achieve equitable outcomes.* *To learn more, visit*[*MoorparkCollege.edu*](http://MoorparkCollege.edu)*or follow @MoorparkCollege on social media.*

**About Moorpark College Foundation**

*We serve Moorpark College and all its students by securing resources to empower our students to achieve academic, economic, and personal goals. We change lives for the better. Learn more about*[*Moorpark College Foundation*](https://www.moorparkcollege.edu/community/foundation)*.*

**About Takeda**

*Takeda is focused on creating better health for people and a brighter future for the world. We aim to discover and deliver life-transforming treatments in our core therapeutic and business areas, including gastrointestinal and inflammation, rare diseases, plasma-derived therapies, oncology, neuroscience and vaccines. Together with our partners, we aim to improve the patient experience and advance a new frontier of treatment options through our dynamic and diverse pipeline. As a leading values-based, R&D-driven biopharmaceutical company headquartered in Japan, we are guided by our commitment to patients, our people and the planet. Our employees in approximately 80 countries and regions are driven by our purpose and are grounded in the values that have defined us for more than two centuries. For more information, visit*[*www.takeda.com*](http://www.takeda.com)*.*

**Media Contact**

Deborah Klein

Chief Development Officer

Moorpark College Foundation

[dklein@vcccd.edu](mailto:dklein@vcccd.edu)

805.553.4760

Katherine Harbeston

Communications & Brand Manager

Takeda’s Thousand Oaks Facility

[Katherine.harbeston@takeda.com](mailto:Katherine.harbeston@takeda.com)

424.425.4790