

Newt Gingrich to Give Address about Global Health in Chicago on July 24
Speech to be given at AACC Meeting; News Conference Opportunity to Follow

Washington, D.C., July 18, 2006 – Former Speaker of the House Newt Gingrich has made a name for himself as a tireless advocate for substantive change in the way health care is delivered in the U.S. On Monday, July 24, Mr. Gingrich will address the issue of “*Global Health and the Importance of Medical Research and Scientific Discovery*” in a presentation at Chicago’s McCormick Place exposition center. A brief media-only press conference will follow the speech, which begins at 1:30.

The presentation, sponsored by Olympus America Inc., will occur during the American Association for Clinical Chemistry (AACC)’s annual meeting, and is open to some 20,000 participants and the media. AACC’s members develop and perform tests conducted in hospital laboratories, clinics, medical centers and other health care centers.

Olympus maintains a Partnership Award program that is focused on expanding education and partnerships between science and industry. The Olympus Partnership Award Program provides support to charitable organizations that, among other things, recruit and train minority and other students as physicians, biomedical scientists, and public health care professionals, and encourage and support deserving clinical laboratory scientists and students throughout the world. The awards are sponsored by Olympus, whose Life Science Group offers the broadest line of chemistry/ immunochemistry systems for hospital and reference laboratory testing.

Newt Gingrich has become widely recognized for his commitment to a better system of health care for all Americans. In his book, *Saving Lives & Saving Money*, Mr. Gingrich describes his vision of a 21st Century health care system that focuses on new technologies, accountability, and preventative health care to lessen the need for more expensive acute care measures. Mr. Gingrich is Chairman of the Gingrich Group, a communications and consulting firm that specializes in transformational change. He serves as a Senior Fellow at the American Enterprise Institute in Washington, D.C., a Distinguished Visiting Fellow at the Hoover Institution at Stanford University in Palo Alto, Calif. and is an Honorary Chairman of the NanoBusiness Alliance.

The AACC’s Van Slyke Foundation, an organization that supports clinical laboratory scientists and students, is one organization receiving benefits from the Olympus Partnership Award Program. “These awards are part of what AACC is all about: advancing the practice and profession of clinical laboratory medicine and its role in improving health care,” said Laurence Demers, Ph.D., Chair of the Van Slyke Foundation and Distinguished Professor of Pathology and Medicine at the Penn State Hershey Medical Center.

“As a leading technology company that delivers solutions in health care and life science, and an organization committed to benefiting society at large, we are proud to support charitable endeavors like the Van Slyke Foundation,” said Michael Argentieri, Vice President, Sales and Marketing of Diagnostic Systems at Olympus America. “The Olympus Partnership Award is part of Olympus’ commitment to education, scholarship and special programs for health care professionals,” added Mr. Argentieri.

Mr. Gingrich’s presentation will begin at 1:30PM on July 24 in the Grand Ballroom of McCormick Place, 2301 S Lake Shore Dr. Chicago, IL. For additional information, contact Futhi Xaba at fxaba@aacc.org or 202-835-8744.

About AACC (American Association for Clinical Chemistry):

AACC (American Association for Clinical Chemistry) is an international scientific/medical society of clinical laboratory professionals, physicians, research scientists and other individuals involved with clinical chemistry and other clinical laboratory science-related disciplines. For more information, visit <http://www.aacc.org/>

About Olympus Diagnostic Systems

Olympus Diagnostic Systems provides innovative solutions that meet the high productivity demands of hospitals, integrated health care delivery networks, reference labs, blood banks and pharmaceutical labs. Olympus offers the broadest standardized line of random access chemistry-immuno analyzers, along with lab automation systems, blood bank analyzers and reagents. Olympus solutions save laboratories time, maximize productivity, and deliver fast, reliable results. www.olympusamerica.com.

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