

ADVISORY COMMITTEE APPLICATION FOR BOARD APPOINTMENT

It is the applicant's responsibility to keep this information current.
To advise the County of any changes please contact Christine Coble
by telephone at 606-5300 or by e-mail at CobleC@leoncountyfl.gov



Applications will be discarded if no appointment is made after two years.

Name: Jason Robotham Date: 14-Jul-2014

Home Phone: (646) 708-2099 Work Phone: (850)727-8107X Email: robotham@biofronttech.com

Occupation: PRESIDENT Employer: BIOFRONT TECHNOLOGIES

Preferred mailing location: Work Address
Work Address: 3000 COMMONWEALTH BLVD.

City/State/Zip: TALLAHASSEE FL 32303

Home Address 4020 COLLETON CT.

City/State/Zip: TALLAHASSEE FL 32311

Do you live in Leon County? Yes If yes, do you live within the City limits? Yes

Do you own property in Leon County? Yes If yes, is it located within the City limits? Yes

For how many years have you lived in and/or owned property in Leon County? 15.00 years

Are you currently serving on a County Advisory Committee? No

If yes, on what Committee(s) are you a member?

Have you served on any previous Leon County committees? No

If yes, on what Committee(s) are you a member?

Please indicate your of expertise. If you have experience in more than one field, please check all that apply.

- Finance/Banking
- Real Estate/Property Development
- Energy
- High Performance Materials
- Biotechnology/Biomedical
- Aerospace/Aviation

If you are appointed to a Committee, you are expected to attend regular meetings.

How many days permonth would you be willing to commit for Committee work? 2 to 3

And for how many months would you be willing to commit that amount of time? 6 or more

What time of day would be best for you to attend Committee meetings? Day, Night

(OPTIONAL) Leon County strives to meet its goals, and those contained in various federal and state laws, of maintaining a membership in its Advisory Committees that reflects the diversity of the community. Although strictly optional for Applicant, the following information is needed to meet reporting requirements and attain those goals.

Race: Caucasian Sex: Male Age: 38

Disabled? No District:

In the space below briefly describe or list the following: any previous experience on other Committees; your educational background; your skills and experience you could contribute to a Committee; any of your professional licenses and/or designations and indicate how long you have held them and whether they are effective in Leon County; any charitable or community activities in which you participate; and reasons for your choice of the Committee indicated on this Application.

I OBTAINED MY PH.D. IN BIOLOGY FROM FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY IN 2006 WHILE WORKING IN THE FIELD OF IMMUNOLOGY UNDER THE DIRECTION OF DOCTOR KENNETH H. ROUX. DURING THIS TIME THE FOCUS OF MY WORK WAS ON FOOD ALLERGIES, RESEARCH WHICH RESULTED IN 11 PUBLICATIONS, TWO PATENTS, AND SEVERAL COMMERCIALIZED PRODUCTS. UPON COMPLETING MY PH.D. WORK I OBTAINED A POST-DOCTORAL POSITION IN THE LABORATORY OF HENGLI TANG, UNDER WHOSE GUIDANCE I STUDIED THE HEPATITIS C VIRUS AND LIVER DISEASE.

IN 2010 I CO-FOUNDED BIOFRONT TECHNOLOGIES, A TALLAHASSEE-BASED BIOTECH COMPANY FOCUSED ON DEVELOPING AND DISTRIBUTING KITS AIMED AT HELPING FOOD MANUFACTURERS ACCURATELY DETECT AND QUANTIFY TRACE AMOUNTS OF ALLERGENS IN VARIOUS FOOD MATRICES.

IN 2012 BIOFRONT TECHNOLOGIES BECAME THE FIRST SMALL BUSINESS IN TALLAHASSEE TO SUCCESSFULLY PASS THROUGH THE SEED ACCELERATOR PROGRAM OF THE FLORIDA INSTITUTE

FOR THE COMMERCIALIZATION OF PUBLIC RESEARCH, AN ORGANIZATION THAT HELPS SMALL BUSINESSES THROUGH THEIR INITIAL ROUNDS OF FINANCING. IN 2013 THE COMPANY COMPLETED IT'S SERIES A FUND RAISING, AN EFFORT THAT BROUGHT IN NEARLY \$500,000 OF CAPITAL.

AS PRESIDENT OF BIOFRONT TECHNOLOGIES I HAVE HELPED OVERSEE FUNDRAISING EFFORTS, NEGOTIATED SEVERAL LICENSING AND LEASING AGREEMENTS WITH THE FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY RESEARCH FOUNDATION, AND COMMERCIALIZED INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY BORN OUT OF YEARS OF ACADEMIC RESEARCH. IN AN ATTEMPT TO ENHANCE ENTREPRENEURIAL ACTIVITY WITHIN THE COMMUNITY, I HAVE ALSO VOLUNTEERED MY TIME AND SPOKEN AT VARIOUS EVENTS TO ASPIRING ENTREPRENEURS AND PUBLIC AUDIENCES THAT INCLUDED MAYOR JOHN MARKS, CONGRESSMAN STEVE SOUTHERLAND, AND GOVERNOR RICK SCOTT.

References (you must provide at least one personal reference who is not a family member):

Name: JOHN FRASER Telephone: 850-644-8637
Address: 95 CHIEFTAN WAY, DITTMER BUILDING SUITE 312

Name: LARRY LYNCH Telephone: (850) 521-3111
Address:

IMPORTANT LEGAL REQUIREMENTS FOR ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

AS A MEMBER OF AN ADVISORY COMMITTEE, YOU WILL BE OBLIGATED TO FOLLOW ANY APPLICABLE LAWS REGARDING GOVERNMENT-IN-THE-SUNSHINE, CODE OF ETHICS FOR PUBLIC OFFICERS, AND PUBLIC RECORDS DISCLOSURE. THE CONSEQUENCES OF VIOLATING THESE APPLICABLE LAWS INCLUDE CRIMINAL PENALTIES, CIVIL FINES, AND THE VOIDING OF ANY COMMITTEE ACTION AND OF ANY SUBSEQUENT ACTION BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS. IN ORDER TO BE FAMILIAR WITH THESE LAWS AND TO ASSIST YOU IN ANSWERING THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS, YOU MUST COMPLETE THE ORIENTATION PUBLICATION www.leoncountyfl.gov/bcc/committees/training.asp BEFORE YOUR APPLICATION IS DEEMED COMPLETE.

Have you completed the Orientation? No

Are you willing to complete a financial disclosure form and/or a background check, if applicable? Yes

Will you be receiving any compensation that is expected to influence your vote, action, or participation on a Committee? No

If yes, from whom?

Do you anticipate that you would be a stakeholder with regard to your participation on a Committee? No

Do you know of any circumstances that would result in you having to abstain from voting on a Committee due to voting conflicts?

If yes, please explain. No

Do you or your employer, or your spouse or child or their employers, do business with Leon County? No

If yes, please explain.

Do you have any employment or contractual relationship with Leon County that would create a continuing or frequently recurring conflict with regard to your participation on a Committee? No

If yes, please explain.

All statements and information provided in this application are true to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: Jason Robotham

This application was electronically sent: 7/14/2014 6:51:30PM

Jason M. Robotham, Ph.D

BioFront Technologies
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Tallahassee, Florida 32303

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Professional Experience

2010-present **President and Chief Executive Officer**
BioFront Technologies Inc., Tallahassee, FL;

Post- Degree Education and Training

2006-2011 **Post-doctoral Research Associate**
Florida State University, Department of Biological Sciences, Tallahassee, FL;
Advisor: Dr. Hengli Tang

Professional Preparation

1999-2005 **Graduate Student (Research Assistant)**
Florida State University, Department of Biological Sciences, Tallahassee, FL;
Dissertation Advisor: Dr. Kenneth H. Roux

1994-1998 **B.S. Biology, Cum Laude**
University of Scranton, Scranton, PA;
Major: Biology

Personal Statement

I obtained my Ph.D. in Biology from Florida State University in 2006 while working in the field of Immunology under the direction of Doctor Kenneth H. Roux. During this time I helped design experiments aimed at identifying the presence and stability of major tree nut allergens in various foods, research which resulted in 11 publications, two patents, and several commercialized products. Upon completing my Ph.D. work I obtained a post-doctoral position in the laboratory of Hengli Tang, under whose guidance I studied the hepatitis C virus (HCV) and liver disease.

In 2010 I co-founded BioFront Technologies, a Tallahassee-based biotech company focused on developing and distributing enzyme-linked immuno-sorbent assay (ELISA) kits and related products. Our MonoTrace® ELISA kits represent the first comprehensive line of monoclonal antibody-based assays aimed at helping food manufacturers and food safety labs accurately detect and quantify trace amounts of allergens in various matrices.

In 2012 BioFront Technologies became the first small business in Tallahassee to successfully pass through the Seed Accelerator Program of the Florida Institute for the Commercialization of Public Research, an organization that helps small businesses through their initial rounds of financing. In 2013 the company completed it's Series A fund raising, an effort that brought in nearly \$500,000 of capital. As President of BioFront Technologies I have helped oversee such fundraising efforts, negotiated several licensing and leasing agreements with the Florida State University Research Foundation, and commercialized intellectual property born out of years of academic research. In an attempt to enhance entrepreneurial activity within the community, I have also volunteered my time and spoken at various

events to aspiring entrepreneurs, the Tallahassee Chamber of Commerce, Mayor John Marks, Congressman Steve Southerland, and Governor Rick Scott.

Honors and Awards

2014	William Floyd High School Distinguished Alumni Award
2012	Leon County Research and Development Authority Technology Commercialization Award
2011	Leon County Entrepreneurial Excellence and Leadership Award
2007, 2010, 2011	Florida State University Research Foundation GAP Award
2005	Dissertation Research Grant Award
2004	Margaret Menzel Endowed Award for Outstanding Performance as a Graduate Student
2003	Florida State University Graduate Student Publication Award
2000-2002	NSF Fellowship in Macromolecular Assemblies

Academic Positions

2004	Teaching assistant for Freshmen Biology at Florida State University
2002	Teaching assistant for Experimental Biology at Florida State University
1999	Teaching assistant for Immunology at Florida State University

HCV Publications (chronological order)

- Wu X, Lee EM, Hammack C, **Robotham JM**, Basu M, Lang J, Brinton MA, Tang H. Cell Death-Inducing DFFA-Like Effector b Is Required for Hepatitis C Virus Entry into Hepatocytes. *J Virol*. 2014 Aug 1;88(15):8433-8444.
- Nag A, **Robotham JM**, Tang H. (2012) Suppression of Viral RNA Binding and the Assembly of Infectious Hepatitis C Virus Particles in vitro by Cyclophilin Inhibitors. *J. Virol*. 2012 Sep 12.
- Wu, X, **Robotham, JM**, Lee, M, Dalton, S, Gilbert, DM, and Tang H. Productive Hepatitis C Virus Infection of Stem Cell-Derived Human Hepatocytes Reveals Host Determinants of Viral Permissiveness. *PLoS Pathog*. 2012;8(4):e1002617.
- Yang F, **Robotham JM**, Grise H, Frausto S, Madan V, Zayas M, Bartenschlager R, Robinson M, Greenstein AE, Nag A, Logan TM, Bienkiewicz E, Tang H. A major determinant of cyclophilin dependence and cyclosporine susceptibility of hepatitis C virus identified by a genetic approach. *PLoS Pathog*. 2010;6(9).
- Robotham JM**, Nelson HB, Tang H. Selection and characterization of drug-resistant HCV replicons in vitro with a flow cytometry-based assay. *Met Mol Bio (Clifton, N.J.)* 2009;510(18):227-42.
- Liu Z, Robida JM, Chinnaswamy S, Yi G, **Robotham JM**, Nelson HB, Irsigler A, Kao CC, and Tang H. Mutations in the hepatitis C virus polymerase that increase RNA binding can confer resistance to cyclosporine A. *Hepatology*. 2009 Jul;50(1):25-33.
- Liu Z, Yang F, **Robotham JM**, Tang H. A Critical Role of Cyclophilin A and its Prolyl-Peptidyl Isomerase Activity in the Structure and Function of the HCV Replication Complex. *J. Virol*. 2009 Apr 22.
- Yang F, **Robotham JM**, Nelson HB, Irsigler A, Kenworthy R, Tang H. Cyclophilin A is an essential cofactor for hepatitis C virus infection and the principal mediator of cyclosporine resistance in vitro. *J Virol*. 2008;82(11):5269-78.

Food Allergy Publications (chronological order)

- Mandalari, G, Rigby, NM, Bisignano, C, Lo Curto RB, Mulholland, F, Su, M, Venkatachalam, M, **Robotham, JM**, Willison, LN, Lapsley, K, Roux, KH, Sathe, SK. Effect of food matrix and processing on release of almond protein during simulated digestion. *Food Research International* (in press).
- Robotham JM**, Xia L, Willison LN, Teuber SS, Sathe SK, Roux KH. Characterization of a cashew allergen, 11S globulin (Ana o 2), conformational epitope. *Mol Immunol*. 2010 Mar 31.
- Xia L, Willison LN, Porter L, **Robotham JM**, Teuber SS, Sathe SK, Roux KH. Mapping of a conformational epitope on the cashew allergen Ana o 2: A discontinuous large subunit epitope dependent upon homologous or heterologous small subunit association. *Mol Immunol*. 2010 Mar 31.

- Robotham JM**, Hoffman G, Teuber SS, Beyer K, Sampson H, Sathe SK, Roux KH. Linear IgE-epitope mapping and comparative structural homology modeling of hazelnut and English walnut 11S globulins. *Mol Immunol*. 2009 Sep;46(15):2975-84. Epub 2009 Jul 23.
- Venkatachalam M, Monaghan EK, Kshirsagar H, **Robotham JM**, O'Donnell SE, Gerber MS, Roux KH, Sathe SK. Effects of processing on immunoreactivity of cashew nut (*Anacardium occidentale* L.) seed flour proteins. *J Agric Food Chem*. 2008;56(19):8998-9005.
- Comstock SS, **Robotham JM**, Tawde P, Kshirsagar H, Sathe SK, Roux KH, Teuber SS. Immunoglobulin E-reactive proteins in cashew (*Anacardium occidentale*) apple juice concentrate. *J Agric Food Chem*. 2008. 56(14):5977-82.
- Willison LN, Tawde P, **Robotham JM**, Penney RM, Teuber SS, Sathe SK, Roux KH. Pistachio vicilin, Pis v 3, is immunoglobulin E-reactive and cross-reacts with the homologous cashew allergen, Ana o 1. *Clin Exp Allergy*. 2008 Jul;38(7):1229-38.
- Robotham JM**, Wang F, Seamon V, Teuber SS, Sathe SK, Sampson H, Beyer K, Seavy M, Roux KH. Ana o 3, an important cashew nut (*Anacardium occidentale* L.) allergen of the 2S albumin family. *J Allergy Clin Immunol*. 2005 Jun;115(6):1284-90.
- Robotham JM**, Wang F, Teuber SS, Sathe SK, Roux KH. Ana o 2, a major cashew nut (*Anacardium occidentale* L.) allergen of the legumin family. *Int Arch Allergy Immunol*. 132: 27-39, 2003
- Wang F, **Robotham JM**, Teuber SS, Tawde P, Sathe SK, Roux KH. Ana o 1, a cashew (*Anacardium occidentale*) allergen of the vicilin seed storage protein family. *J Allergy Clin Immunol*. 110: 160-6, 2002
- Robotham JM**, Teuber SS, Sathe SK, Roux KH. Linear IgE epitope mapping of the English walnut (*Juglans regia*) major food allergen, Jug r 1. *J Allergy Clin Immunol*. 109:143-9, 2002
- Roux KH, Teuber SS, Robotham JM, Sathe SK. Detection and stability of the major almond allergen in foods. *J Agric Food Chem*. 2001. 49:2131-6

Scientific Meetings Attended

AOAC INTERNATIONAL Annual Meeting & Exposition
APEC and Food Allergens Methodologies Workshop
International Association for Food Protection
Institute of Food Technologists
Food Safety Summit
International Symposium on Hepatitis C Virus and Related Viruses
American Society of Virology
Southeastern Regional Virology Conference
American Academy of Allergy, Asthma and Immunology
Experimental Biology
International Congress of Immunology and Annual Conference of FOCIS