



THOMAS E. O'TOOLE, M.P.H.

Business Development Manger

Thomas E. O'Toole, M.P.H., has longstanding experience in developing public health policy, dating back when he began his distinguished career at CDC in 1979. Tom graduated from the University of Pittsburgh with a Bachelor of Science Degree in 1978, and received his Master's in Public Health from the University of North Carolina (UNC) at Chapel Hill in 1992. Tom began his CDC career as a Public Health Advisor assigned to Fulton County Health Department in Atlanta, Georgia.

In 1983, he was sent to Broward County Florida to serve as a front-line supervisor and STD clinic manager. There he managed district-wide public health program activities and developed a relationship with a number of diagnostic companies, university health care personnel, and hospital executives. In 1985, Tom was transferred to Pierre, South Dakota where he served as the senior immunization program manager for the state-wide program. This is where he built his foundation and familiarization with vaccines and vaccine-related biotechnology. In 1987, Tom was transferred to Raleigh, North Carolina to serve as the senior program manager for a large state-wide program. In this role he was very involved with pharmaceutical and vaccine company executives.

In April 1997, Tom was sent to CDC's Technology Transfer Office (TTO) to assist with building in-house capacity for this program area, and to further develop the licensing and marketing components of the program. He was named Deputy Director of TTO in June of 1998, and twice served as Acting Director, during which time he successfully negotiated the largest licensing deal in CDC's history. The number of fully executed licenses has risen over 500% under his guidance. In his role as CDC Chief Licensing Officer, Tom has met thousands of biotechnology professionals from around the world, and has developed long-term relationships with senior executives throughout the industry. He has also established relationships at many university technology transfer offices throughout the US (e.g., Vanderbilt, University of Florida, UNC, Duke, Wake Forest, Georgia Tech, UGA, Emory, etc.)

Tom has been asked to participate in several projects sponsored by the State of Georgia Department of Economic Development, the Georgia Research Alliance, and the Georgia Life Science community. He serves on the Board of Directors at the GeorgiaBio, and previously with on the Metro Atlanta Biosciences Council. Tom is also on the board of BioSouth which has hosted several biotechnology industry related conferences throughout the southeastern part of the United States. He was inducted into the honorary public health society of Delta Omega at UNC in 1992.

In May 2003, Tom was a finalist for "Outstanding Manager of the year" for the 30th Annual Federal Executive Board Awards. He has been recognized by DHHS Secretaries Tommy Thompson (2004) and Michael Leavitt (2007) for his receipt of the Award for Excellence in Technology Transfer, and by Georgia Governor Sonny Perdue. In 2006 he was a recipient of the Biolink Ireland Life Science award. Tom is also on the Biotechnology Industry Organization's National Steering Committee for BIO2009. Tom retired from CDC on November 3, 2008. On March 30, 2009, Tom will be one of the first recipients of The CDC Director's Award for Strategy and Innovation.