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***For Immediate Release***

**Contact:** Tom Szczepanski, Director of Marketing  
IVDiagnostics  
219-801-1269  
tom@ivdiagnostics.com

***IVDiagnostics awarded Olin Cup for Life Science plan***

**St. Louis** – IVDiagnostics was recently awarded the Olin Cup by the Skandalaris Center for Entrepreneurial Studies at Washington University in St. Louis.

The Olin Cup is an annual competition open to startup companies that have an affiliation with the university. The Skandalaris Foundation has been investing seed capital in the winning teams since 2005.

Ken Harrington, managing director of the Skandalaris Center, said IVDiagnostics rose to the top for its life science related business plan.

“The competition was very close between the seven finalists. One entrant that stood out was IVDiagnostics, a company focusing on biomedical diagnostics for monitoring blood-borne diseases,” Harrington said. “The Skandalaris Foundation plans to invest in IVDiagnostics. We are particularly interested in supporting them with their mission and seeing them succeed with their plan to introduce new diagnostic assays, which will have significant advantages for physicians, patients and investors alike.”

IVDiagnostics CEO Frank Szczepanski was particularly pleased that the Skandalaris Foundation was interested in investing in the company and illustrated the enthusiasm of the St. Louis community.

The company is supported by its executive board, which includes a number of leaders from across the country. The board includes: Dr. Dieter Enzmann, head of radiology at UCLA Medical School; Dr. Joe Espat, co-chair, surgical oncology at Rogers Williams Medical Center in Rhode Island; Dr. Alison Stopeck, associate professor for breast cancer department at Arizona Cancer Center; and Seth Burgett, CEO of VertoMedical Solutions, now known as Yurtopia, which was recently featured in Forbes magazine as the 9<sup>th</sup> Most Promising Company in America.

Bill Payne, a Palm Springs area resident and business advisor to the CEO, noted that “he supports IVDiagnostics because: they possess novel technology for diagnosis of cancer, have proven they can efficiently use capital, and have recently received a grant from the NIH (National Institutes of Health)”. Mr. Payne said “the Southern California investor and medical community would be well served by partnering with IVDiagnostics.”

IVDiagnostics was formed to develop and market more effective diagnostic tools for oncologists and pathologists. With the ability to monitor circulating tumor cells, physicians will be able to determine better prognosis of blood-borne diseases, and thus save lives. The company will be presenting at the IN3 conference in Las Vegas on March 3-5. For further info on IN3:

[www.in3west.com](http://www.in3west.com). For additional information on the company: [www.ivdiagnostics.com](http://www.ivdiagnostics.com).

*Photo Caption:* Skandalaris Center Managing Director Ken Harrington, left, presents the Olin Cup to IVDiagnostics team members from left: Seth Burgett, executive board member, Tom Szczepanski, director of marketing, Frank Szczepanski, CEO, along with Robert Freling of Self.org, who was the guest speaker. Photo by Mary Butkus