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University of Rochester's Microarray Core Facility to Implement Ovation™ System as Standard RNA Amplification and Labeling System

Facility to utilize Ovation System across multiple gene expression analysis platforms

San Carlos, California – April 21, 2004 – NuGEN™ Technologies, Inc., a privately held company developing and commercializing the new standard in nucleic acid amplification and labeling systems, today announced that the University of Rochester will begin using its Ovation™ system as the standard RNA amplification and labeling system in its Functional Genomics Center. The facility will be using the Ovation System for most new studies requiring RNA amplification and labeling.

"NuGEN's Ovation technology has allowed us to re-think the way we procure and utilize samples. Since Ovation requires 1,000-fold less RNA than standard methods, we now can advise our investigators to collect less sample, which saves considerable time and expenses. Equally important is that we now have the ability to conserve samples for future uses," said Andrew Brooks, Ph.D., Director of the University Rochester's Medical Center Functional Genomics Center. "Having completed the validation of the Ribo-SPIA technology in our lab, we believe in its potential. As gene expression studies are presented to our center, we will implement Ovation RNA amplification and labeling as our new standard."

The Microarray Core Facility at the University of Rochester Medical Center is a full service microarray facility that performs high volume experiments involving RNA amplification and labeling for both academic and industrial partners on an international level. Users supply RNA from experimental tissue, and the core performs all molecular biological sample preparation including nucleic acid amplification, sample archiving, microarray hybridization and development, and gene expression validation studies, including Q-PCR.

"Gaining the UMRC's commitment to our Ribo-SPIA™ Technology is a critical testimonial for the power of the technology and our dedication to customer satisfaction," said Elizabeth Hutt, Vice President of Sales and Technical Service of NuGEN. "This agreement is part of an ongoing broad collaboration between NuGEN and the University of Rochester, which has validated Ovation as the method of choice across multiple tissue types and analysis platforms including spotted arrays, Affymetrix GeneChips®, Applied Biosystems Micro Fluidic Cards and real-time Q-PCR."

About NuGEN Technologies, Inc.

NuGEN Technologies is focused on the development and commercialization of sensitive, rapid and cost-effective amplification and detection systems for genomic and proteomic research. The company's technologies enable the comprehensive analysis and discovery of biological mechanisms, cellular responses, and disease pathologies. NuGEN's proprietary SPIA™ and Ribo-SPIA™ amplification and labeling technology for DNA and RNA based applications, form the foundation for a wide range of methods and products used by life scientists. The Ovation™ amplification and labeling system, the company's first commercially available product line, has applied these technologies to enhancing the sensitivity, convenience, and accuracy of gene expression analysis. Based in San Carlos, CA, NuGEN has a world-class investor syndicate, several collaborations with leading academic and commercial organizations and a management team with significant experience developing and marketing products for research or clinical diagnostic applications.

NuGEN™, Ovation™, SPIA™ and Ribo-SPIA™ are trademarks or service marks of NuGEN Technologies, Inc.

This press release contains forward-looking statements that are subject to risks and uncertainties, including continued growth in demand by researchers for total RNA analysis, continued use of oligo and cDNA microarrays, acceptance by researchers of the Company's technologies and products, and competition from existing and newly developed products. Accordingly, actual results may differ materially from those anticipated. These forward-looking statements represent the Company's current expectations as of the date of this release. The Company disclaims, however, any intent or obligation to update these forward-looking statements.

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