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## **Fannin Joins as Co-Organizer for Second Annual US-China Innovation and Investment Summit**

**HOUSTON, April 28, 2017** – Fannin Innovation Studio has joined the U.S. China Innovation Alliance (UCIA) to co-organize the 2<sup>nd</sup> US-China Innovation and Investment Summit, to be held May 15-17 in Houston. The Summit will serve as a platform to connect U.S. based entrepreneurs with Chinese investors and strategic partners, and a path for American technology to enter the Chinese market. More than 500 active participants are expected at the Summit, split evenly between Chinese technology companies, U.S. technology companies and Chinese investors.

In addition to the one-on-one matchmaking meetings started in the last Summit, this year's Summit will feature an InnoSTARS competition. This competition accepts startups from five industries of focus to compete for pitching opportunities to the Summit attendees, with the ultimate winners receiving an all-expenses-paid trip to three different innovation hubs in China to meet local corporate and investment partners.

“We are honored to support this unique conference,” said Atul Varadhachary, Managing Partner of Fannin. “China is the fastest-growing healthcare market in the world, and the opportunities for cross-border investment and development are significant.”

The Summit started last year, with the initial event hosting more than 350 attendees, generating more than 300 B2B matchmaking meetings and providing a platform for more than 60 business pitches.

“The conference started very strong last year, and the 2017 event builds on that success by offering an even wider range of collaboration activities and a deeper pool of investor representation,” said Junchen Diao, a Business Development Fellow with Fannin. “In addition to healthcare and biotechnology, industry participants in the conference will come from the advanced manufacturing, renewable energy/clean tech, IT and agriculture/food safety fields.”

### **About Fannin Innovation Studio**

Houston-based Fannin Innovation Studio is an early-stage life sciences development group focused exclusively on commercializing medical technologies. Fannin partners with life science innovators to co-found startup companies and provides a pooled management team, funding, and administrative support. To further bridge the commercialization gap, Fannin's internship, and fellowship programs provide

aspiring entrepreneurs with hands-on development experience with its portfolio companies. For more information, visit [www.FanninInnovation.com](http://www.FanninInnovation.com) or email [innovate@fannininnovation.com](mailto:innovate@fannininnovation.com).

#### **About The U.S. China Innovation Alliance**

The US-China Innovation Alliance (UCIA) is a non-profit 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization that promotes innovation through the exchange of ideas and collaboration between China and the U.S. UCIA organizes the annual US-China Innovation and Investment Summit (UCIS) in Houston, Texas, which provides a unique opportunity for innovative technology startups to connect with investors, strategic partners, leading incubators/accelerators, and professional services firms from China. In 2017, UCIA launched the InnoSTARS Competition, which allows growth-stage technology companies in five core industry areas to compete for the chance to win attendance to UCIS as well as an all-expenses paid Roadshow to China, where they will have an opportunity to showcase their business and products to a wide audience of qualified potential investors and relevant partners. The UCIA also organizes roadshows to bring innovative US technology companies to China for B2B matchmaking and provides other services to help US-based companies connect with complimentary Chinese resources.

#### **More About the InnoSTARS Competition and The 2<sup>nd</sup> US-China Innovation and Investment Summit**

<http://uschinainnovation.org/ucis/>

<http://www.uschinainnovation.org/innostars>

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