

BioMed SA to honor regenerative medicine pioneer with San Antonio ties

BioMed SA has selected Dr. [Stephen Badylak](#), professor of surgery and bioengineering at the University of Pittsburgh and deputy director of the [McGowan Institute for Regenerative Medicine](#), to receive its 2019 Award for Innovation in Healthcare and Bioscience.

Badylak discovered the use of the extracellular matrix, or ECM, which has been shown to ignite cell regeneration and regrowth of damaged tissue. More than 10 million patients have benefited from his discoveries, including wounded warriors, through his collaboration with the U.S. Army Institute of Surgical Research and other San Antonio-based organizations focused on advancing regenerative techniques for military and civilian use.

“Regenerative medicine is a burgeoning industry globally, and San Antonio’s unique assets make this emerging field of medicine a key opportunity for growth here in our sector,” BioMed SA President [Ann Stevens](#) said. “Dr. Badylak’s discoveries have unlocked huge potential opportunities for the future of cell regeneration both here and worldwide.”

Badylak, who will accept the award at BioMed SA’s annual award dinner in San Antonio on Sept. 19, has additional ties to the Alamo City. He is working with San Antonio-based biotech StemBioSys Inc. as a research collaborator, helping to further characterize active components in the company’s commercially available stem cell matrix product.

StemBioSys Chief Operating Officer [Sy Griffey](#) said collaboration with Badylak could lead to several opportunities to expand the company’s technology.

“Dr. Badylak’s discoveries have had a significant influence on what we are doing in San Antonio and for the future of patient care,” StemBioSys CEO [Bob Hutchens](#) said.

Hutchens — who chaired the 2019 award selection committee for BioMed SA, a nonprofit corporation founded in 2005 to promote and grow San Antonio’s health care and bioscience industry — said Badylak’s contributions have grown the industry and “enhanced the quality of life for patients with traumatic injuries worldwide and have blown the lid off of the potential for tissue regeneration in the future.”

Badylak has more than 70 U.S. patents and more than 300 patents worldwide. More than 40 of those have been licensed to industry. He has also founded two biotech companies and is a member of the College of Scientific Reviewers for the National Institutes of Health.

“I am honored to receive this recognition, especially coming from BioMed SA and San Antonio, where much of our early research into ECM was successfully applied to help wounded warriors,” Badylak said.

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