

The Columbus Dispatch

High 72 | Low 61
Details B8



WWW.DISPATCH.COM

75 CENTS



THURSDAY, APRIL 30, 2009

BUSINESS

DIAGNOSTIC-DRUGS PROJECT

Cardinal, OSU joining forces

By **Marla Matzer Rose**

THE COLUMBUS DISPATCH

Cardinal Health will move about 50 employees to the Ohio State University campus and hire an additional dozen or so as part of a \$10 million project with OSU to develop diagnostic drugs.

Dublin-based Cardinal and OSU announced yesterday that they will open a new molecular-imaging research, manufacturing and nuclear-pharmacy operation at OSU's Wright Center of Innovation in Biomedical Imaging.

The Ohio Department of

Development is investing \$7.5 million through its technology-focused Ohio Third Frontier program, while Cardinal will spend about \$2.5 million to move a high-tech manufacturing device valued at more than \$4 million to the site.

"While we expect to immediately create up to a dozen highly skilled jobs with this ... the true value is collaborating with Ohio State and Cardinal Health to attract the best and brightest researchers to Ohio and continue to diversify our state's economy," said Lt. Gov. Lee Fisher at a press

conference yesterday at the Wright Center, on OSU's West Campus.

Dr. Michael Knopp, director of the Wright Center and associate professor of radiology at OSU, said he is not aware of any other such effort on this scale in the U.S.

"We're really bringing together the breadth of commercial operations with the research environment," Knopp said.

Cardinal is the largest employer of nuclear pharmacists in the world, said John Rademacher, president of Cardinal's Nuclear

Pharmacy business. Specialized pharmaceuticals created by operations such as Cardinal's are injected and used to diagnose diseases in the earlier stages.

An exact location for the new venture on the West Campus is yet to be determined. Rademacher said the projected 12 to 15 new employees should be added within the next 12 months.

As part of the relocation, Cardinal will close its facilities near Port Columbus on the East Side and on Westbourne Avenue on the West Side. Workers at those leased spaces will move to OSU.

mrose@dispatch.com