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Casper Businesswoman Elected to Board of International Association

CASPER, Wyo.—DeAnna Adams, Director of the Casper Area Business Innovation Center, has been elected to the board of directors of the National Business Incubation Association. Her three-year term begins October 1.

Adams recently became Director of the Casper Area Business Innovation Center. She spent the previous seven years as the director of the Mississippi e-Business Innovation Center in Jackson, Miss., where she was selected as one of Mississippi's 50 Leading Business Women. Prior to that time, she was a small business owner.

Business incubation programs like the Casper Area Business Innovation Center catalyze the process of starting and growing companies by providing entrepreneurs with the expertise, networks and tools they need to make their ventures successful. NBIA estimates that in 2005 alone, North American incubators assisted more than 27,000 start-up companies that provided full-time employment for more than 100,000 workers and generated annual revenue of more than \$17 billion. Ms. Adams' track record showed over five hundred jobs and a five million dollar economic impact resulting from the small business growth at the Mississippi e-Business Innovation Center during the immediate five years after construction was completed.

Adams has been an NBIA member since 2004 and has been a board member for one year, serving on the audit and membership committees and the publications task force. Based in Athens, Ohio, the National



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Business Incubation Association is the world's leading organization advancing business incubation and entrepreneurship and has member incubators located in sixty-six countries. Since 1985, NBIA has provided industry professionals with information, education, advocacy and networking resources to bring excellence to the process of assisting early-stage companies.

NBIA's board of directors, made up of representatives from leading business incubation programs from around the world, governs the organization. The group meets three times a year to discuss association business, including educational programming, finances, member recruitment/services and publications.