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**ACACIA RESEARCH NAMES ANDREW DUNCAN, FORMER
GEMSTAR EXECUTIVE, AS VICE PRESIDENT, BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT**

NEWPORT BEACH, Calif. – (BUSINESS WIRE) – March 5, 2002 – Acacia Research Corporation (NASDAQ:ACRI) announced today that Mr. Andrew Duncan has joined the company as Vice President, Business Development. Mr. Duncan will focus on the commercialization of Acacia’s video-on-demand and digital streaming patent portfolio.

Mr. Duncan was formerly Vice President, Consumer Electronics of Gemstar – TV Guide International (NASDAQ: GMST), with direct reporting responsibility to the CEO. Mr. Duncan was with Gemstar from 1994 to 2001, where he was responsible for licensing and marketing of the highly successful VCR Plus+ and Electronic Program Guide. At Gemstar he developed and controlled licensing and marketing policy with all major consumer electronic manufacturers worldwide including Sony, Philips and RCA.

Prior to Gemstar, Mr. Duncan was European Marketing and Product Manager for Thomson Multimedia (formerly RCA/GE in U.S.) where he was responsible for the Consumer Electronics multi-brand business across Europe. Mr. Duncan was with Thomson Multimedia from 1987 – 1994.

“Andrew Duncan’s experience in marketing and licensing the VCR Plus+ and Electronic Program Guide will be a great asset for our company,” commented Acacia Research Chairman and CEO, Paul Ryan. “His expertise in licensing to the consumer electronics industry will be extremely important for our Media Technology Group.”

Mr. Duncan holds an honors degree from Nottingham University and a diploma in Marketing from London University (Kings College).

ABOUT ACACIA RESEARCH CORPORATION

Acacia Research develops, licenses and provides products for the life science and media technology sectors. Acacia licenses its V-chip technology to television manufacturers and owns pioneering technology for digital streaming and video-on-demand. Acacia’s CombiMatrix subsidiary is developing a bio-chip technology for the life science market. Acacia Research’s website is located at www.acaciaresearch.com.

Safe Harbor Statement under the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995:

This news release contains forward-looking statements within the meaning of the "safe harbor" provisions of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. These statements are based upon our current expectations and speak only as of the date hereof. Our actual results may differ materially and adversely from those expressed in any forward-looking statements as a result of various factors and uncertainties, including the recent economic slowdown affecting technology companies, our ability to successfully develop products, rapid technological change in our markets, changes in demand for our future products, legislative, regulatory and competitive developments and general economic conditions. Our Annual Report on Form 10-K, recent and forthcoming Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q, recent Current Reports on Forms 8-K and 8-K/A, and other SEC filings discuss some of the important risk factors that may affect our business, results of operations and financial condition. We undertake no obligation to revise or update publicly any forward-looking statements for any reason.