



FOR RELEASE  
December 22, 2003

**Contacts:** Rob Stewart  
Investor Relations  
Tel (949) 480-8300  
Fax (949) 480-8301

## **ACACIA TECHNOLOGIES LICENSES DIGITAL MEDIA TRANSMISSION TECHNOLOGY TO 24/7 UNIVERSITY**

Newport Beach, Calif. – (BUSINESS WIRE) December 22, 2003 – Acacia Research Corporation (Nasdaq: ACTG; CBMX) announced today that its Acacia Technologies group has entered into a License Agreement for its Digital Media Transmission (“DMT”) technology with 24/7 University, Inc.

The license to 24/7 University is Acacia’s first licensing agreement for its DMT technology with a company in the e-learning sector. 24/7 University offers courses containing audio/video content to corporate customers. The e-learning sector includes both for-profit companies and non-profit institutions which provide online courses for education and training.

Acacia has now entered into 108 license agreements for its DMT technology with companies in the hotel in-room entertainment, e-learning, and online music, movie, and adult entertainment industries.

### **ABOUT ACACIA RESEARCH CORPORATION**

Acacia Research Corporation comprises two operating groups, Acacia Technologies Group and CombiMatrix Group.

The Acacia Technologies group licenses its DMT technology to media and electronics companies. The DMT technology covers the transmission and receipt of digital audio and digital video content, commonly known as audio on-demand, video on-demand, and audio/video streaming, and is supported by 5 U.S. and 17 international patents.

The CombiMatrix group is developing a platform technology to rapidly produce customizable active biochips, which are semiconductor-based tools for use in identifying and determining the roles of genes, gene mutations and proteins. CombiMatrix’s technology has a wide range of applications including DNA synthesis/diagnostics, drug discovery, and immunochemical detection. CombiMatrix’s Express Track<sup>sm</sup> drug discovery program is a systems biology approach, using its technology, to target common viral diseases with siRNA compounds.

Acacia Research-Acacia Technologies (Nasdaq: ACTG) and Acacia Research-CombiMatrix (Nasdaq:CBMX) are both classes of common stock issued by Acacia Research Corporation and are intended to reflect the performance of the respective operating groups and are not issued by the operating groups.

Information about the Acacia Technologies group and the CombiMatrix group is available at [www.acaciaresearch.com](http://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.*