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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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HAWAII CONVENTION CENTER HOSTS 2016 BLOOD AND MARROW TRANSPLANT (BMT) TANDEM MEETINGS, Feb. 18-22 *4,000 delegates will convene in Honolulu for BMT Tandem Meeting*

HONOLULU – The Hawai'i Convention Center is preparing to welcome 4,000 investigators, clinicians, laboratory technicians, clinical research professionals, nurses, pharmacists, administrators and allied health professionals as they arrive on O'ahu for the BMT Tandem Meetings, Feb. 18-22, 2016. The BMT Tandem Meetings are the combined annual meetings of the Center for International Blood & Marrow Transplant Research (CIBMTR) and the American Society of Blood and Marrow Transplantation (ASBMT). This is the third time the BMT Tandem Meetings will be held in Hawai'i, having previously met in 2006 and 2011.

The conference is expected to generate an estimated \$18.8 million in visitor spending and \$1.8 million in state tax revenue to benefit Hawai'i's economy.

"It's a privilege to welcome back to O'ahu the BMT Tandem Meetings. The inspiring atmosphere of Hawai'i provides for a wonderful exchange of cutting-edge discoveries and new ideas," said Randy Baldemor, chief operating officer for the Hawai'i Tourism Authority. "We wish them a wonderful time in the islands and a week of successful meetings."

Throughout the week, meeting attendees will benefit from a full scientific program that addresses the timeliest issues in blood and bone marrow transplantation. Attendees will also have the opportunity to collaborate and share research findings, as well as attend discussions addressing the latest discoveries in blood and bone marrow transplant from a variety of perspectives and disciplines.

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About Meet Hawai'i

Meet Hawai'i is a collaboration of the Hawai'i Visitors and Convention Bureau (HVCB) and Hawai'i Convention Center (HCC) to reinforce the brand of the Hawaiian Islands as a world-class destination for business meetings, conventions, and incentive programs. The marketing efforts of the Meet Hawai'i team are overseen by the Hawai'i Tourism Authority (HTA), the state of Hawai'i's tourism agency. HTA was established in 1998 to ensure a successful visitor industry well into the future. Its mission is to strategically manage Hawai'i tourism in a sustainable manner consistent with the state of Hawai'i's economic goals, cultural values, preservation of natural resources, community desires, and visitor industry needs. For information about Meet Hawai'i and the hosting of meetings, conventions and incentives, please visit MeetHawaii.com.

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2016 BMT Tandem Meetings

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