

Buy **Crain's 2010 Book of Lists** extended Excel version online today!

Compilation of most updated lists from 2009  
Sort, merge, mail, prospect

**BUY NOW**

# CRAIN'S DETROIT BUSINESS

Detroit and Southeast Michigan's premier local business news and information Web site



- Home
- News
- This Week's Issue
- Lists
- Web Features
- People
- Columns/Blogs
- Detroit Events
- Multimedia
- Detroit Jobs

Not logged in to community. [LOG IN](#) or [REGISTER](#) | [Free E-Mail Signup](#) | [Subscriber Service](#) | [Mobile](#) | [Contacts](#) | [Advertise](#) | [Classifieds](#)

SITE SEARCH



ADVANCED SEARCH

SEARCH SPONSORED BY:

**CRAIN'S DETROIT BUSINESS**  
**CALL FOR NOMINATIONS**

## 2009 Newsmakers of the Year



**Randal Charlton**  
Executive director, **TechTown**



Randal Charlton will have a hard time topping 2009.

The big news for Charlton, the executive director of Detroit's **TechTown**, the technology park and business incubator affiliated with **Wayne State University**, came in October when the **World Stem Cell Summit** announced its sixth annual meeting would be in Detroit this Oct. 4-6.

The summit brings together some 1,200 researchers, government officials and representatives from pharmaceutical companies from more than 30 countries.

In November, Charlton orchestrated the planned purchase of the **Dalgleish Cadillac** building at Cass Avenue and Amsterdam Street to become the Tech Two building. The sale, for \$1 million, is under contract. Pending an environmental review, the first tenant could move into the 130,000-square-foot building sometime in the first quarter.

The Tech One building will hit capacity with the build-out early this year of its 15,000-square-foot Stem Cell Commercialization Center — construction financed by \$4.1 million in a combination of loans and grants that TechTown was awarded in 2009 by the **U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development**.

### Most Read

- [D&D out at WCSX; Ken Calvert named new morning host](#)
- ['Biggest Loser' adds bit of muscle to local economy](#)
- [Gov. Jennifer Granholm signs "Race to the Top" bills to reform Michigan schools](#)
- [Cafe Kabob coming to Campus Martius](#)
- [Travel entrepreneur Donald Fisher dies at age 83](#)

### Features





This Week's Issue

Newsstand Locations

ADVERTISE WITH US

Advertising Center

FOLLOW CRAIN'S ON

[+ Facebook](#)

[+ Twitter](#)

[RSS](#)

[Mobile](#)

CONTACT CRAIN'S

Newsroom contacts

Get news in Crain's (PDF)

Editorial calendar (PDF)

Frequently asked questions

OTHER CRAIN'S SITES

Detroit Make it Here

Crain's Chicago Business

Crain's Cleveland Business

Crain's New York Business

Automotive News

Advertising Age

Crain Communications Inc.

"Randal is a force, thank goodness," said Gloria Hepner, WSU's associate vice president for research. "When he said he wanted to buy the Dalgleish building, well, universities are pretty conservative. Buy a building? But he made it happen. When he decides on something, he's pretty determined."

In October, Charlton was part of a WSU mission to Israel, which bore fruit in December with the news that **Taburit**, a company that does stem-cell banking, had signed a lease at TechTown to break into the Canadian and U.S. markets and hopes to hire as many as 50 employees in the next 12-18 months.

Charlton expects to land at least another six Israeli companies at TechTown in the next few months.

—  
By [Tom Henderson](#)

See also:

- [Paul Anger](#)
- [Dave Bing](#)
- [Robert Bobb](#)
- [David Brandon](#)
- [Beth Chappell](#)
- [Richard Dugas Jr.](#)
- [David Egner](#)
- [Mike Ilitch](#)
- [Chris Rizik](#)

**CRAIN'S CALLS FOR 20 IN THEIR 20S NOMINATIONS**

**CRAIN'S twenty in their 20s**



[> Click here to nominate](#)