

RYAN PAUL R  
Form 4  
May 24, 2010

**FORM 4**

**UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**  
**Washington, D.C. 20549**

Check this box  
if no longer  
subject to  
Section 16.  
Form 4 or  
Form 5  
obligations  
may continue.  
See Instruction  
1(b).

**STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF  
SECURITIES**

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934,  
Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section  
30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

## OMB APPROVAL

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(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person \*  
RYAN PAUL R

2. Issuer Name **and** Ticker or Trading  
Symbol  
ACACIA RESEARCH CORP  
[ACTG]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to  
Issuer

(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)  
500 NEWPORT CENTER  
DRIVE, 7TH FLOOR

3. Date of Earliest Transaction  
(Month/Day/Year)  
05/20/2010

☐ Director ☐ 10% Owner  
☒ Officer (give title below) ☐ Other (specify  
below) Chairman & CEO

(Street)  
NEWPORT BEACH, CA 92660

4. If Amendment, Date Original  
Filed(Month/Day/Year)

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check  
Applicable Line)  
☒ Form filed by One Reporting Person  
☐ Form filed by More than One Reporting  
Person

(City) (State) (Zip)

**Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned**

| 1. Title of Security (Instr. 3) | 2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | 2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year) | 3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8) | 4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) |        |                           | 5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4) | 6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | 7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|---------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
|                                 |                                      |                                                    | Code                           | V                                                                 | Amount | (A) or (D) Price          |                                                                                               |                                                          |                                                       |
| Common Stock                    | 05/20/2010                           |                                                    | M                              |                                                                   | 30,000 | A \$ 3.9171               | 697,233                                                                                       | D                                                        |                                                       |
| Common Stock                    | 05/20/2010                           |                                                    | S <sup>(1)</sup>               |                                                                   | 2,600  | D \$ 13.97 <sup>(2)</sup> | 694,633                                                                                       | D                                                        |                                                       |
| Common Stock                    | 05/20/2010                           |                                                    | S <sup>(1)</sup>               |                                                                   | 8,500  | D \$ 14.07 <sup>(3)</sup> | 686,133                                                                                       | D                                                        |                                                       |
| Common Stock                    | 05/20/2010                           |                                                    | S <sup>(1)</sup>               |                                                                   | 7,400  | D \$ 14.14 <sup>(4)</sup> | 678,733                                                                                       | D                                                        |                                                       |
| Common Stock                    | 05/20/2010                           |                                                    | S <sup>(1)</sup>               |                                                                   | 2,700  | D \$ 14.24 <sup>(5)</sup> | 676,033                                                                                       | D                                                        |                                                       |

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|              |            |                  |       |   |                         |         |   |
|--------------|------------|------------------|-------|---|-------------------------|---------|---|
| Common Stock | 05/20/2010 | S <sup>(1)</sup> | 2,084 | D | \$ 14.36 <sub>(6)</sub> | 673,949 | D |
| Common Stock | 05/20/2010 | S <sup>(1)</sup> | 2,116 | D | \$ 14.46 <sub>(7)</sub> | 671,833 | D |
| Common Stock | 05/20/2010 | S <sup>(1)</sup> | 3,200 | D | \$ 14.53 <sub>(8)</sub> | 668,633 | D |
| Common Stock | 05/20/2010 | S <sup>(1)</sup> | 1,400 | D | \$ 14.64 <sub>(9)</sub> | 667,233 | D |

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

**Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number.**

SEC 1474  
(9-02)

**Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned**  
(e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

| 1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3) | 2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security | 3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | 3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year) | 4. Transaction Code (Instr. 8) | 5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5) | 6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year) |     | 7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4) |                 |              |                            |
|--------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|-----|---------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|--------------|----------------------------|
|                                            |                                                        |                                      |                                                    | Code                           | V                                                                                       | (A)                                                      | (D) | Date Exercisable                                              | Expiration Date | Title        | Amount or Number of Shares |
| Stock Option (Right to Buy)                | \$ 3.9171                                              | 05/20/2010                           |                                                    | M                              |                                                                                         | 30,000                                                   |     | 03/29/2004                                                    | 03/29/2011      | Common Stock | 30,000                     |

## Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address                                                  | Relationships |           |                |       |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|-----------|----------------|-------|
|                                                                                 | Director      | 10% Owner | Officer        | Other |
| RYAN PAUL R<br>500 NEWPORT CENTER DRIVE<br>7TH FLOOR<br>NEWPORT BEACH, CA 92660 | X             |           | Chairman & CEO |       |

## Signatures

Paul R. Ryan 05/24/2010

\*\*Signature of  
Reporting Person

Date

## Explanation of Responses:

\* If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, *see* Instruction 4(b)(v).

\*\* Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations. *See* 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).

(1) The sales reported on this Form 4 were effected pursuant to a Rule 10b5(1) Plan adopted by the Reporting Person on February 26, 2010.

(2) The price reported is the average price for shares sold between \$13.87 and \$14.00 per share.

(3) The price reported is the average price for shares sold between \$14.01 and \$14.10 per share.

(4) The price reported is the average price for shares sold between \$14.11 and \$14.20 per share.

(5) The price reported is the average price for shares sold between \$14.21 and \$14.27 per share.

(6) The price reported is the average price for shares sold between \$14.33 and \$14.40 per share.

(7) The price reported is the average price for shares sold between \$14.42 and \$14.50 per share.

(8) The price reported is the average price for shares sold between \$14.505 and \$14.57 per share.

(9) The price reported is the average price for shares sold between \$14.61 and \$14.665 per share.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, *see* Instruction 6 for procedure.

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