People

Three key appointments at Bristol-Myers Squibb

Jack Geltosky, Graham Brazier and James E. Foley have been appointed for the department of Corporate Development at Bristol-Myers Squibb (New York, NY, USA). In his new role as Vice President of External Science, Technology and Licensing, Geltosky will oversee the acquisition and licensing of R&D technologies and intellectual properties, including the creation of collaborative research, the management of research alliances and the out-licensing of company tools and platform technologies.

As Vice President of Business
Development, Brazier will be responsible for the full array of business development opportunities on a global basis for the Worldwide Medicines Group, including research collaborations, in- and outlicensing agreements, alliances and acquisitions.

Foley, as Vice President of Business Development Japan/Asia, is responsible for establishing and negotiating scientific and business opportunities emerging from Japan and the Far East that will augment and optimize the company's pharmaceutical pipeline. In addition to that, he will be responsible for establishing the company as the preferred partner for new licensing and co-development opportunities and expanding current relationships.

All three managers have extensive backgrounds in research, licensing, and business development. Most recently Geltosky was President and CEO of Message Pharmaceuticals, a privately held biotechnology company. Previously, he worked for SmithKline Beecham as Vice President, Scientific Licensing.

Before joining Bristol-Myers Squibb, Brazier was Senior Vice President, Corporate Development at 3-Dimensional Pharmaceuticals, responsible for business and corporate development as well as developing and maintaining relationships with investment banks and the investment community. Before this, he was Vice President, Worldwide Business Development, Pharmaceuticals at SmithKline Beecham. Foley was previously Vice President, Business Development, Japan/Pacific for GlaxoSmithKline.

New VP of Worldwide Drug Delivery Technologies at Cephalon

Cephalon (West Chester, PA, USA) has appointed Franck P. Kiser as Vice President, Worldwide Drug Delivery Technologies. Kiser will be responsible for the overall research, development and commercialization strategies for the company's Oral Transmucosal System™ for drug delivery, its Lyoc formulation and all other company drug delivery technologies that might be developed or acquired. Before joining Cephalon, Kiser was Vice President of European Operations at Anesta Corp. He has also held several management positions with Schering Plough Corporation in business development, international marketing and strategic management, primarily in Europe.

New CEO for EpiCept

Jack Talley has been appointed as Chief Executive Officer and member of the Board of Directors at EpiCept (Englewood Cliffs, NJ, USA). Tally previously served as President of Penwest Pharmaceuticals. He led the effort to establish a viable drug delivery company based on a nascent technology platform for the development of oral, controlled-release drugs. Talley was also responsible for Penwest Pharmaceuticals' initial public offering in 1998 as a spin-off from the parent corporation. Gert Caspritz, EpiCept's Chairman, commented: 'We are happy that we were able to recruit Jack as CEO of EpiCept. He is a valuable addition to our board of Directors. His commercial marketing background, senior general management experience and network of financial contacts will be particularly instrumental in EpiCept's growth as a company. Jack will also provide the necessary leadership.'

Cepheid names John L. Bishop CEO

John L. Bishop has joined Cepheid (Sunnyvale, CA, USA) as CEO and a member of the Board of Directors. He succeeds co-founder Thomas L. Gutshall who will continue as Chairman. Bishop brings with him >25 years of management experience in instrumentation and clinical diagnostics. His most recent achievement was in creating Vysis, a genomic disease

management company, from assets of the Diagnostic Sector of Amoco Technology Company. Gutshall commented, 'Clinical diagnostics represents a major untapped opportunity for Cepheid's DNA-testing products and John's outstanding record of success in creating and expanding new markets will be a tremendous asset.'

Genta appoints Douglas G. Watson

Douglas G. Watson has been appointed to the Board of Directors at Genta (Berkeley Heights, NJ, USA). Watson's career spanned 33 years with Geigy/Ciba-Geigy/Novartis during which time he held a variety of positions in the UK, Switzerland and the USA. He currently serves as a Director on the boards of Engelhard Corporation and Dendreon Corporation, as well as several privately held biotechnology companies. He has also served as a member of the Board and Acting CEO of ValiGen. Raymond P. Warrell Jr, CEO and Chairman of Genta commented, 'Doug is extremely wellrecognized for his expertise and leadership in the pharmaceutical industry. He brings to Genta an exceptionally well-rounded background of financial, marketing and general management experience from his years at a global pharmaceutical company."

Non-executive Chairman of the Board for Astex

Peter Fellner has been appointed as non-executive Chairman of the Board at Astex (Cambridge, UK). Fellner brings significant experience as a senior executive in both biotechnology and pharmaceutical industries to the company. He has been CEO of Celltech Group since 1990 and was CEO at Roche UK from 1986–1990. He was also director of the Roche Research Centre and Director of Research at the Searle UK Research Centre.

Stephen Bunting, Managing Director of Abingworth (the founding investors of Astex) commented: 'There are few, if any, people in the UK with as much experience and expertise in the biotechnology [and] pharmaceutical industry as Peter Fellner. We are delighted that he has agreed to become Chairman of Astex and we are certain that he will add substantial value to the next phase of Astex's growth.'

People was written by Debbie Tranter