People

Appointments

Predix Pharmaceuticals appoints Senior Vice President

Predix Pharmaceuticals (http://www. predixpharm.com), developer of the 3D discovery engine for G-protein coupled receptors, has named Dale Dhanoa Senior Vice President of Research and Discovery.

Dhanoa is an internationally recognized expert in the field of drug discovery, with over 15 years' experience in the discovery and development of innovative molecular entities for the clinical development of new therapeutics. Before joining Predix he was Chief Scientific Officer and Executive Vice President of Research at PharmaCore, Executive Director of Drug Discovery at 3-Dimensional Pharmaceuticals, Director of New Lead Discovery at Alanex Corporation, Associate Director of Medicinal Chemistry at Synaptic Pharmaceuticals and a Senior Scientist at Merck Research Laboratories. He is also a co-inventor and author of numerous patents and publications in drug discovery using chemical genomics, structure-based drug design and high throughput technologies including medicinal and combinatorial chemistry and HTS.

Fred G. Beyerlein appointed President and CEO of Rubicon Genomics

The Board of Directors of Rubicon Genomics (http://www.rubicongenomics.com) have appointed Fred G. Beyerlein to serve as President and Chief Executive Officer. Beyerlein, who will also serve on Rubicon's Board of Directors, replaces Thomas A. Collet, who was President and CEO since January 2001.

Beyerlein joined Rubicon as Senior Vice President in June 2001 and has been responsible for company operations and business development. Prior to joining Rubicon, he was Chief Operating Officer and Director of Sales and Marketing at NSC Technologies.

'Fred's proven track record, professional network and solid knowledge of the industry makes him exceptionally qualified to lead Rubicon Genomics at this time in our history,' said Ernest Ludy, Chairman of Rubicon.

Beyerlein said, 'I am excited about accepting the expanded role... and I am confident that the technologies that we have and will develop can make a significant contribution to ushering in the era of personalized medicine.'

New President for Barbara Ann Karmanos Cancer Institute

John C. Ruckdeschel has been appointed Director, President and Chief Executive Officer at the Barbara Ann Karmanos Cancer Institute in Detroit Michigan (http://www.karmanos.org). Ruckdeschel, an internationally renowned lung cancer physician and cancer centre administrator. was formerly director and CEO of the H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center and Research Institute at the University of South Florida in Tampa, and is credited as the architect of Moffitt's widely respected research and clinical programmes. Under his directorship, the Florida Cancer Centre was recently named one of the nation's top 10 cancer hospitals and also received the prestigious 'comprehensive cancer centre' designation from the National Cancer Institute.

Ruckdeschel is eager to join the Karmanos Cancer Institute, where he will be able to 'integrate basic science, clinical care and population studies in a large, highly diverse region', as well as collaborating with community oncologists and other physicians to transform cancer research into excellent care throughout the Detroit community.

Katherine Andrews-Cramer appointed to Argenta Discovery

Independent discovery company Argenta Discovery (http://wwwargentadiscovery.com) has announced the appointment of Katherine Andrews-Cramer as Vice President, Business Development of its US subsidiary. She will be based in their new offices in Santa Fe (NM, USA) and will be responsible for Western North American business development, focusing primarily on the West Coast, Midwest and Canada.

Andrews-Cramer, who combines comprehensive business and marketing expertise with a strong scientific background, will be exceptionally valuable to Argenta. She comments, 'This is an exciting time to join Argenta, as the company is expanding rapidly and providing lead identification

and lead optimization services that are much in demand to the pharma and biotech industries. Argenta's dynamic, parallel approach is exactly what is needed for rapid generation of lead candidates.'

Before joining Argenta, Andrews-Cramer was Director of Business Development at Advanced SynTech, where she worked with lead chemists to attract, sign and deliver chemistry contracts. Previously, she was Director of Biology at biotech start-up Cytoprint and, before that, Director of Preclinical Business Development for the Santa Fe-based Phase-1 Molecular Toxicology, as well as performing scientific marketing and sales at Ciphergen Biosystems.

Awards

Pasko Rakic to receive Neuroscience award

The Fifteenth Annual Bristol-Myers Squibb Award for Distinguished Achievement in Neuroscience Research will go to Pasko Rakic, for discovering the principles and molecular mechanisms of neuronal migration. This discovery, together with his numerous other original contributions, have provided the contemporary framework for our current understanding of normal and pathological development of the human brain. Rakic will receive a US\$50,000 cash prize and commemorative silver medallion.

Rakic is the Dorys McConnell Duberg Professor of Neurobiology at Yale University School of Medicine (http://info.med.yale. edu). Few neuroscientists are unfamiliar with Rakic's far-reaching discovery of how embryonic nerve cells migrate along pathways of elongated radial glial fibres to reach their final, often distant, destinations in the laminated structures of the CNS. 'Dr Rakic's contributions to the study of paediatric neurology, adolescent psychiatry and neonatology are recognized worldwide', said Frank Yocca, Executive Director, Neuroscience Drug Discovery, Bristol-Myers Squibb Pharmaceutical Research Institute. 'His research on the basic events of neurogenesis, neuronal migration and the formation of synaptic circuitry is the most commonly cited work for understanding numerous genetic and acquired human brain disorders."

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