

People

Paul Bevan appointed Head of R&D at Willex

Paul Bevan has joined the Executive Board of Willex (<http://www.willex.com>) – a company dedicated to the development of novel cancer therapies – as Head of R&D. Bevan was formerly Research Director at Xenova Therapeutics and has over 25 years of experience in leading R&D positions in multinational pharmaceutical and biotech companies.

Olaf G. Wilhelm, CEO of Willex, commented: 'This is a crucial appointment for us. Paul Bevan, with his experience in multinational pharma and in managing R&D in fast growing biotechnology companies, will be a key person in achieving our ambitious goals.'

Paul Bevan said, 'Although still a fairly young biopharmaceutical company, Willex has built an impressive portfolio with three products already in clinical trials. I look forward to taking up my post and contributing to further growth of this dynamic young company.'

GSK VP joins Gemin X

Jean Viallet, former Group Director of Clinical Development and Medical Affairs at GSK has joined Gemin X Biotechnologies as Vice President of Clinical Development. Gemin X (<http://www.geminx.com>), a Montreal-based biotech, develop novel cancer treatments based on apoptosis. Viallet will be responsible for advancing Gemin X's lead anti-cancer drug candidate through clinical trials.

In addition to his most recent position at GSK, where he was responsible for the support of Navelbine (a leading cancer therapeutic), Viallet also led development efforts for GSK's dual kinase inhibitor and was involved in pursuing regulatory approval for Bexxar, a radioimmunotherapy for non-Hodgkins lymphoma, which is currently under review. Viallet also served as Senior Director of Oncology at Sanofi-Synthelabo, where he managed several clinical development projects.

'Gemin X's small molecule Bcl-2 pan inhibitor program is one of the most interesting I have seen in my career,' said Viallet, 'I look forward to working with the company to realize the therapeutic impact of these discoveries.'

Elliot P. Goldstein joins Maxygen ApS

Maygen ApS, a wholly owned subsidiary of Maxygen, Inc. (<http://www.maxygen.com>) that focuses on using proprietary technologies to create human therapeutics, has announced the appointment of Elliot P. Goldstein to the newly created position of Senior Vice President, Clinical Development and Denmark Operations.

Goldstein joins Maxygen from his position as CEO of British Biotech where he led strategic restructuring efforts to position the company for future growth. Before this, he was Senior Vice President, Worldwide Strategic Product Development at SmithKline Beecham (now GSK), and previously held a variety of senior positions at Sandoz in France, Switzerland and the USA, including Vice President, Clinical R&D at Sandoz Research Institute.

Russell Howard, CEO of Maxygen, said of Goldstein's appointment: 'We welcome Elliot to the Maxygen team and expect that Elliot's successful track record in many key aspects of the drug development process, from product strategy through to commercialization, will play a significant role in the continuing advancement of our therapeutic product pipeline.'

Graffinity appoints Director of Medicinal Chemistry

Achim Feurer has joined Graffinity Pharmaceuticals (<http://www.graffinity.com>) in the newly created position of Director of Medicinal Chemistry. Before joining Graffinity, Feurer held various positions at Bayer, most recently as Project Manager in the Medicinal Chemistry Department of the Pharmaceutical Unit. His therapeutic focus in this role was cardiovascular and CNS diseases and he was involved in the discovery and evaluation of several candidates for preclinical development.

Klaus Schollmeier, CEO of Graffinity, commented: 'We are delighted to welcome Dr Feurer to Graffinity. Achim's expertise in medicinal chemistry and demonstrated success in leading innovative drug discovery research programs will prove invaluable as he and Dr [Victor] Matassa [VP of R&D] work together to quickly ramp up what we believe will be an exceptional

medicinal chemistry department and the basis of our drug development effort.'

Ronald Krall joins GSK

Ronald Krall has joined GlaxoSmithKline (<http://www.gsk.com>) as Senior Vice President, Worldwide Development, Research and Development where he will have global responsibility for clinical development, medical affairs and regulatory affairs.

Krall brings to GSK two decades of experience in the pharmaceutical industry, where he has led drug development programs in numerous therapeutic areas. He joined AstraZeneca in 1992 and since then has held senior R&D management positions at that company and one of its predecessors, including heading global clinical development. Most recently, Krall was Senior Vice President, US Drug Development at AstraZeneca, where he held responsibility for all US clinical and regulatory activities.

Tadataka Yamada, Chairman of GSK R&D, commented: 'Dr Krall brings to GSK broad scientific and clinical knowledge, international experience, and a strong record in pharmaceutical R&D. He shares our sense of urgency about creating innovative medicines for patients in need.'

New VP Chemistry at Triad Therapeutics

Ed Iwanowicz, formerly Group Leader in medicinal chemistry at Bristol-Myers Squibb (BMS) has joined Triad Therapeutics (<http://www.triadt.com>) as Vice President of Chemistry. In his new role, Iwanowicz will head the medicinal chemistry teams working on Triad's lead discovery and optimization programs. In a career in the industry spanning 13 years, Iwanowicz has worked in immunology, oncology and cardiovascular disease and before joining BMS was a chemist at General Electric.

'Ed is an excellent addition to our team. His depth of experience in medicinal chemistry and in chemistry solutions for kinase and oxidoreductase targets make him a perfect fit at Triad,' said Stephen Coutts, President of Triad, 'In addition, Ed's lengthy tenure at BMS means he has had the opportunity to follow programs from inception through development and we are pleased to have that skill set here.'

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