

People

Appointments

Thomas G. Klopach appointed CEO of ACLARA

ACLARA BioSciences (<http://www.aclara.com>) has announced the appointment of Thomas G. Klopach as Chief Executive Officer and member of the Board of Directors. Klopach brings over 25 years of experience of commercializing new technologies and has substantial life science operating management expertise.

Thomas Baruch, Chairman of ACLARA, said: 'Tom's experience identifying product opportunities and entering markets with innovative solutions will be particularly important to ACLARA as we seek to commercialize the eTag™ Assay System.'

From 1998 to 2002, Klopach served as Chief Operating Officer of Aurora Biosciences – a provider of drug discovery tools to the biopharmaceutical industry – and helped the company grow from US\$15 million annual revenue to US\$90 million.

Klopach commented, 'The prospect of building ACLARA's eTag™ franchise into a significant enabling platform is tremendously exciting'.

New appointments at Beyond Genomics

Robert N. McBurney has joined Beyond Genomics (<http://www.beyondgenomics.com>) as Senior Vice President R&D and Chief Scientific Officer, and Paul Stroobant has joined the executive management team as Vice President Biochemistry and Protein Chemistry.

N. Stephen Ober, President of Beyond Genomics, said: 'McBurney and Stroobant each bring broad experience in building scientific teams in successful commercial biotech companies. Those experiences, in addition to their stellar scientific skills, will greatly assist BG's advance toward its goal of becoming the Systems Biology company.'

McBurney joins the company following his position as Founder, President and CEO of the start-up proteomics company Differential Proteomics. He previously held positions at CeNeSe Pharmaceuticals and Cambridge Neuroscience.

Stroobant also joins BG from Differential Proteomics, where he was Founder and Chief Scientific Officer. He is a protein biochemist with over 25 years of experience in leading research programs in both academic and industrial settings.

New CEO and Chairman of US Genomics

Stephen P. DeFalco has been appointed as new Chief Executive Officer and Chairman of the Board of Directors at US Genomics (<http://www.usgenomics.com>), a leading marketer and developer of single molecule analysis technologies for the life sciences industry.

Prior to joining US Genomics, DeFalco served as President of PerkinElmer Instruments and Senior VP of PerkinElmer. Previously, he has held positions at United Technologies, McKinsey & Company and IBM.

J. Craig Venter, President of the Center for the Advancement of Genomics and a US Genomics Board Member, said: 'I have been impressed with Stephen's business acumen and broad experience in the life science arena.'

DeFalco said, 'I'm thrilled to join such a strong team as they prepare to introduce their first products to market.'

Richard M. Soll joins TargeGen as VP of R&D and CSO

The biotech company TargeGen (<http://www.targegen.com>), which focuses on small-molecule therapeutics for cardiovascular disease and cancer, has announced the appointment of Richard M. Soll as Vice President of R&D and Chief Scientific Officer.

Soll has over 20 years of experience in the pharma industry in the management of medicinal chemistry functions, drug design and testing, including 11 years at Wyeth-Ayerst Research and 8 years at 3-Dimensional Pharmaceuticals. Most recently, Soll served as VP of Chemistry at Ontogen Corp.

Peter G. Ullrich, President and CEO of TargeGen, said: 'We are very pleased to be able to add someone with Soll's proven talent, experience and leadership skills to our senior management group... with the addition of Soll, we feel well positioned not only to keep that momentum going but also to expand our unique drug development capabilities.'

New Senior Management appointments at Serono

Serono (<http://www.serono>) has announced the appointment of senior management following the retirement of two executives.

Fereydoun Firouz has been appointed President of Serono's US operations; he is currently Executive Vice President for Serono's Reproductive Health. Firouz replaces Jean-Pierre Verhassel, who is retiring from operational responsibilities after 15 years at Serono; Verhassel will remain in a non-executive role as Chairman of the company.

Timothy Wells has been appointed as Senior Executive VP of Research and will be responsible for Serono's global discovery and early development operations. Wells replaces Silvano Fumero, who is retiring after a career spanning 30 years at Serono.

Ernesto Bertarelli, Chief Executive Officer, said: 'These appointments are part of our succession planning at Serono, and will ensure the continue development of the company. Both Fereydouna and Tom have a strong track record of leadership and will continue to make significant contributions to the success of Serono.'

Chiron names Howard Pien as CEO

Chiron Corporation (<http://www.chiron.com>) has appointed Howard Pien as Chief Executive Officer and President, and he will also join their Board of Directors. Pien succeeds Sean Lance, who served at Chiron since 1998 and who will continue to serve as Chairman of the Board of Directors.

On his appointment, Pien said: 'I am excited to assume the leadership of Chiron... I intend to apply my operational experience at a large international pharmaceutical company to help Chiron continue to expand its global reach...'

Pien has held key positions at GlaxoSmithKline and SmithKline Beecham in the USA, before which he worked for Abbott Laboratories and Merck.

'Howard's strong management skills and global experience make him an excellent choice to take the reins of leadership at Chiron,' said Lance. 'His decision to join the company is also an important step in the company's executive succession planning.'

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