

People

Appointments

People Human antibody specialist Affitech restructures its Management team

Affitech (<http://www.affitech.com>) has restructured its senior management team. Founder and Chief Executive Officer, Ole Jørgen Marvik moves up to become a full Board Member with an active corporate advisory role, while the Chief Operating Officer, Martin Weischof, takes over as CEO.

Weischof was part of the founding team of Affitech in 1997 and joined the company in August 2002 as COO. Prior to joining Affitech, Weischof was Director of Technology at Axaron Biosciences.

Marvik says: 'I think this is the perfect time for handing over the leadership reins of Affitech to Martin Weischof. I am excited about my new role as a member of the Board of Directors, which will allow me to provide guidance and support to the Company as needed.'

Affitech AS is a human antibody therapeutics company based in Oslo, Norway, having its US subsidiary in the San Francisco Bay Area. The Company's primary focus is in the discovery and development of human therapeutic antibodies for cancer and infectious diseases.

Celgene Corporation announces new additions to Senior Management team

Celgene Corporation (<http://www.celgene.com>) recently announced the appointment of Graham Burton as Senior Vice President of Regulatory Affairs, Pharmacovigilance and Project Management, and Michael Vander Zwan as Vice President of Quality Assurance and Compliance.

Burton joins Celgene with over 15 years of experience in global regulatory relationships. His most recent position was as Senior Vice President in Global Regulatory Affairs and Quality Assurance at Johnson & Johnson. Zwan has over 25 years of pharmaceutical experience and was most recently Vice President, Compliance and Quality Management at Pharmacia.

Sol Barer, President and COO of Celgene, commented: 'Graham and Michael bring strategic regulatory and quality assurance expertise [which] will be instrumental in the continuing global development of THALOMID, REVIMID, ACTIMID, the SelCIDs and our extensive product pipeline. We look forward to their important contribution to the growth of Celgene.'

William E. Heydorn appointed VP Preclinical Development at Lexicon Genetics

Lexicon Genetics (<http://www.lexgen.com>) has announced the appointment of William E. Heydorn as Vice President of Preclinical Development, where he will be responsible for directing the advance of promising drug candidates from Lexicon's discovery programs towards IND filings.

Arthur T. Sands, President and CEO at Lexicon, said: 'Bill's experience covers all aspects of preclinical evaluation of novel compounds. He will play an important role in moving our drug candidates into clinical development.'

Heydorn brings over 15 years of experience in preclinical and clinical drug development, pharmaceutical operations, project management and regulatory affairs across multiple therapeutic areas in the pharmaceutical industry. During his career, Heydorn has developed an expertise in CNS disorders and has been responsible for filing NDAs for candidates in depression, anxiety and Alzheimer's disease.

Lexicon Genetics is using gene knockout technology to systematically discover the physiological functions and pharmaceutical use of genes.

Neurocrine Biosciences appoints Wendell Wierenga to Executive VP

Wendell Wierenga has been appointed Executive Vice President of R&D at Neurocrine Biosciences (<http://www.neurocrine.com>). In his new position Wierenga will be responsible for all aspects of R&D, including discovery research and preclinical and clinical development.

Wierenga brings with him over 30 years of global pharma experience. He was most recently CEO of Syrrx, prior to which he

was Senior VP of Worldwide Pharmaceutical Sciences, Technology and Development at Parke-Davis/Warner Lambert (now Pfizer). Before this, Wierenga spent 16 years at Upjohn Pharmaceuticals.

On his new position, Wierenga commented: 'Neurocrine is at an exciting inflection point in its growth potential and I look forward to working with the Neurocrine team in continuing to build its R&D organization and a sustainable and exciting pipeline.'

Gary Lyons, President and CEO of Neurocrine, said: 'Neurocrine's R&D development groups have a strong track record and the addition of Wendell's experience will strengthen those groups and support the growth of the company...'

Neurocrine Biosciences is a product-based biopharma company focused on neurological and endocrine diseases and disorders.

Daniel Levitt appointed VP and Chief Medical Officer of Dynavax

Dynavax Technologies (<http://www.dynavax.com>) has announced the appointment of Daniel Levitt to the position of Vice President and Chief Medical Officer, where he will be responsible for clinical, regulatory and medical affairs.

Dino Dina, President and CEO of Dynavax, said: 'Dan's appointment strengthens Dynavax's management resources. His background and wealth of experience will be instrumental in developing the strategies to bring our four clinical development programs through to licensure.'

Levitt joins Dynavax from Affymax, where he was Chief Operating Officer and Head of R&D. Before joining Affymax, he was Senior VP of Drug Development, then President of R&D at Protein Design Labs.

Dynavax is a privately held biopharma company developing products to treat allergy, inflammation-mediated disease, infectious diseases and cancer. The company's lead products are based on immunostimulatory DNA sequences, which enhance the ability of the immune system to fight disease and prevent inflammation.

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