

People

Appointments

Changes at LION bioscience

LION bioscience (<http://www.lionbioscience.com>) has announced recent changes in its executive board. Reinhard Schneider, one of the founding members of LION, is leaving the company to pursue other challenges. Prior to his time there, Schneider served as a scientist at EMBL; he will continue to act as a consultant to LION.

CEO Friedrich von Bohlen said: 'We all wish the best for Reinhard and his future career. Hardly anyone at LION has shaped our company as much as Reinhard has.' Schneider commented: 'These years at LION have been the most exciting and productive years in my career. Now LION has matured and has reached a size that allows me to pursue new challenges in a more scientific environment.'

LION's executive board will consist of three members: Chief Business Officer, Daniel Keesman; Chief Financial Officer, Martin Hollerhorst; and leader of Software Development, Reiner Doelle. Von Bohlen added, 'During the last year we have refocused LION, adjusted the company's structure and successfully streamlined our operations to meet the market's demands. With this new organizational structure, LION is sending out a clear signal that we are refocussing on every level.'

Entomed appoints Jean Combalbert as CEO

The company Entomed (<http://www.entomed.com>), which discovers and develops novel medicines derived from the biology and chemical diversity of insects, has appointed Jean Combalbert as Chief Executive Officer and a member of the company's Board of Directors.

Combalbert joins Entomed from the French biotechnology firm Proteus, where he was Director, Pharmaceutical Business Unit. He received his PhD from the University of Marseille and, following four years of research at INSERM in Marseille and Montpellier,

he joined Sanofi Recherche, where he spent eight years in product development. He then joined Galderma in Princeton, NJ, USA, as Director of US Development, before working at Proteus.

Combalbert said, 'I am very happy to be joining Entomed at this time...I believe my experience, combined with that of the excellent management team already in place, will help to take it to the next step in bringing novel medicines derived from insects closer to the market.'

Juvaris BioTherapeutics appoints Martin D. Cleary as Chairman, President and CEO

Juvaris BioTherapeutics – a newly created company focussing on therapeutic vaccines for human disease and bioterrorism – has announced the appointment of Martin D. Cleary as Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer.

Commenting on his appointment, Cleary said: 'Although Juvaris is a new company, we arrive on the scene with a comprehensive array of preclinical data that will add value going forward...I am delighted to become part of this important new effort.'

Cleary is an experienced biotechnology entrepreneur with successful and productive experience in both established and early-stage companies. He recently completed a three-year association with Genetec and was previously co-founder, President and CEO of CardioGene Therapeutics.

Awards

Dennis Slamon receives award for Translational Cancer Research

Renowned UCLA Jonsson Cancer Center (JCC) researcher, Dennis Slamon, has been chosen to receive the Dorothy P. Landon-AACR Prize for Translational Cancer Research, for his work, which led to the development of the breast cancer drug Herceptin.

The international award, offered by the Kirk A. and Dorothy P. Landon Foundation

and the American Association for Cancer Research, is the largest prize offered to cancer researchers from a professional society of their peers.

Slamon, who is the Director of the Revlon/UCLA Women's Cancer Research program at JCC, said: 'I am very grateful and honoured to be acknowledged by the AACR for this work. The development of targeted therapies like Herceptin is ushering in a new age in how we treat cancer.'

Also being honoured is Charles J. Sherr, a Howard Hughes Medical Investigator based at St Jude's Children's Hospital in Memphis, who will receive the Kirk A. Landon-AACR Prize for Basic research.

Margaret Foti, the AACR's CEO, said: 'We are proud that these two scientists who have made such tremendous contributions to our understanding of cancer being honoured this year...Their exciting work underscores the importance of basic and translational research in accelerating progress against cancer and in bringing its benefits to patients.'

Potamkin Prize for Research awarded to AD scientists

The 2003 Potamkin Prize for Research in Picks, Alzheimers Disease and Related Disorders – the neurology world's 'Nobel Prize' – is to be shared by two US-based Alzheimer's disease (AD) researchers. The prize, awarded by the American Academy of Neurology (AAN) is to go to David M. Holtzman and Ashley I. Bush.

Holtzman and Bush were formally awarded the Potamkin Prize on 2 April 2003. Holtzman is Professor of Neurology at the Washington University School of Medicine, St Louis, and Bush is Professor of Neurology at Harvard Medical School.

Roger N. Rosenberg, a member of the Potamkin Prize Committee and past President of the AAN, said: 'The research efforts of Dr Holtzman and Dr Bush have provided the important and essential basic foundation for understanding how to treat the pathology related to amyloid accumulation in the brain – one of the significant risk factors associated with AD.'

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