

People

Three American Heart Association leaders presented with Distinguished National Leadership Awards

Rose Marie Robertson has been awarded one of the American Heart Association (AHA) Distinguished National Leadership Awards, together with John W. Warfel and William J. Bryant, for their dedicated service and leadership during 2000–2001.

Robertson is Professor of Medicine and Vice-Chair of Academic Affairs in the Department of Medicine at Vanderbilt University Medical Center (Nashville, TN, USA). She is also currently President of the association and has been a member of several AHA scientific councils on the basic science relating to circulatory disorders and hypertension. She joined the association's Board of Directors in 1994, and has recently been honoured as a Partner in Public Health by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Bryant has served at national level on the association's Board of Directors since 1997 and is currently Chairman of the board. He has also been Chairman of the Audit Review Committee and the Corporate Relations Review Committee, as well as overseeing administration of all the association's affairs. Warfel is Vice-Chairman of James B. Oswald Co. (Cleveland, OH, USA) and was President of the company from 1980–1996. He was also Secretary-Treasurer at the AHA's annual Delegate Assembly and has worked with the association for more than ten years. He is currently Chair of the association's insurance task force at national level.

Previous Aventis Director joins Morphochem

Werner Schiebler, previously Director of Technologies Licensing and Alliances in the Corporate Development Department at Aventis Pharma AG (Frankfurt, Germany), has just taken up the position of Head of Business Development at Morphochem (Munich, Germany). His experience in negotiating deals with biotech companies gained while at Aventis is hoped to provide him with the necessary skills to establish new strategic alliances for Morphochem

with pharmaceutical and biotechnological partners as well as to formulate and generate new strategic options for the company.

Karol Sikora takes up key oncology position at AstraZeneca

Professor Karol Sikora has been appointed to the new role of Global Clinical Expert for Oncology in the R&D department at AstraZeneca (Alderley Park, Cheshire, UK). Sikora comes from working as Clinical Director of Cancer Services at the Hammersmith Hospital (London, UK) for the past 12 years. He has led a distinguished academic career at Stanford and Cambridge universities and is recognized as one of the leading figures in cancer research. He has also authored one of the standard textbooks entitled *Treatment of Cancer* and is involved in the National Cancer Forum in the UK.

Eight key scientists join the new Scientific Advisory Board at Ethypharm

Ethypharm (Saint-Cloud, France) have formed a Scientific Advisory Board which will comprise Jean-Marie Lehn, James W. McGinity, Richard Guy, Yoshiaki Kawashima, Helmut Ringsdorf, Jean-Pierre Benoit, Michel Lazdunski and Michel Vert. The new board will not only provide the company with advice on strategic development of its R&D activities, but also provide access to technologies and important scientific, chemical and biotechnological developments.

Lehn is currently a Professor at the Collège de France. In 1987, he won the Nobel Prize for Chemistry for his research into supramolecular catalysis and transport processes. He previously worked as Professor of Chemistry at the Louis Pasteur University and has authored more than 600 publications. McGinity is currently holder of the Johnson and Johnson Centennial Chair in Pharmacy and is Professor and Division Head of Pharmaceutics at the College of Pharmacy, University of Texas (Austin, TX, USA). His research focuses on drug delivery research, especially solid dosage forms, microencapsulation, powder technology,

transdermal systems and hot melt extrusion, for which he has received 16 different honours and awards.

Guy is currently Adjunct Professor of Biopharmaceutical Sciences at the University of California, San Francisco (UCSF; San Francisco, CA, USA), Adjunct Professor in the Faculty of Science at the University of Geneva (Switzerland) and Scientific Director of the Inter-university Research and Teaching Centre (Universities of Lyon and Geneva). Guy's field of expertise covers many areas of drug delivery and he is currently President of the Controlled Release Society.

Lazdunski is presently Director of the Institute of Molecular and Cellular Pharmacology at the Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique (CNRS; France) and pioneered the exploration of the molecular nature and functioning of ion channels using a combination of biochemistry, molecular and cellular biology, electrophysiology and pharmacology. He has not only demonstrated the effects of numerous drugs on ion channels but he has also identified new channels involved in memory, pain, mechanoperception, renal, cardiac and pulmonary function, and hearing. He has also authored >500 publications and received the CNRS Gold Medal in 2000.

Kawashima is currently Professor of Pharmaceutical Technology at the Gifu Pharmaceutical University (Japan) and is a specialist in particulate design technology for drug delivery systems.

Ringsdorf works at Freiburg University (Freiburg, Germany) where he is a specialist in the synthesis, structure and properties of functional supramolecular systems. Meanwhile, Benoit is Professor of Pharmaceutics and Head of an INSERM research team at the University of Angers (France) where he is focussing on the engineering of targeted particles. He is also currently Vice-President of the International Microencapsulation Society and is on the Board of Governors of the Controlled Release Society. Finally, Vert is Director of the Artificial Biopolymer Research Centre at the CNRS, a centre that he founded in 1991. His field of expertise is biodegradable polymers and their therapeutic applications.

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