

People

UCSD Chair for Harold Simon

Harold J. Simon, a founding member of the University of California, San Diego School of Medicine faculty has recently been honoured with an endowed chair in his name. Simon is recognized as a leader in the field of international health and health policy and this chair is in recognition of his contributions through his roles in the design of healthcare systems serving developing countries and his leadership in initiating cultural awareness training for medical students. The Harold Simon Chair in International Health and Cross-cultural Medicine has been established by an anonymous donor.

Simon is currently Professor of Family and Preventive Medicine and Chief of the Division of International Health and Cross-cultural Medicine. During his career to date, he has authored eight books and more than 130 articles in refereed journals on a variety of topics including infection and infectious diseases, host-parasite interactions, antimicrobial therapy, medical education, health policy and cross-cultural issues. He is also a fellow of several international societies including the Royal Society of Medicine, the American Association for the Advancement of Science and the American College of Clinical Pharmacology and Therapeutics and founding Fellow of the Infectious Diseases Society of America.

New Senior VP Finance and CFO at Abbott

Thomas C. Freyman has recently been elected to the post of Senior Vice-President of Finance and Chief Financial Officer of Abbott Laboratories (Abbott Park, IL, USA). Freyman will replace Gary P. Coughlan who retired from the post at the end of March 2001 after almost 11 years in the post. Freyman holds a bachelor degree in accounting from the University of Illinois and a masters degree in management from Northwestern University's Kellogg Graduate School of Management. He is also a member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, and a member of the Board of Directors of Victory/St Therese Enterprises, United Way

of Lake County and the University of Illinois Business Advisory Council.

Miles White, Chairman and CEO of Abbott said: 'Gary has... been instrumental in supporting Abbott's long tradition of financial stability and our more aggressive approach to external collaborations.' On the new appointment, White said: 'Tom is a highly regarded 22-year Abbott veteran with broad experience in international finance, treasury and the controller function.'

Steinman joins Neurocrine Board of Directors

Lawrence Steinman, Professor in the Department of Neurology and Neurological Sciences, Pediatrics and Genetics, Stanford University School of Medicine, has joined the Board of Directors of Neurocrine Biosciences (San Diego, CA, USA). Steinman was one of Neurocrine's academic co-founders and was Chief Scientist, Neuroimmunology and a member of the company's Founding Board of Scientific and Medical Advisors and of its Executive Committee in September 1992.

He has served more than 20 years in his current position at Stanford University and also holds the post of Professor of Immunology at the Weizmann Institute (Israel). He has been honoured with several awards, including the Weir Mitchell Award of the American Academy of Neurology, the Senator Jacob Javits Neuroscience Investigators Award from the United States Congress and the Dr Friedrich Sasse Award for Outstanding Contributions in Immunology from the Free University in Berlin (Germany). He is also board certified with the American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology and holds seven different patents in the US, Europe and Australia.

Two new Executive Director appointments at Cyclacel

The former R&D Director and member of the Board of Directors at Celltech Group, Robert Jackson, has recently been appointed Executive Director, R&D at Cyclacel (Dundee, UK). Jackson will also join Cyclacel's Board of Directors and

replaces Howard Marriage who has been moved to the post of Executive Director, Business Development in the company. Prior to Jackson's post at Celltech, he was Executive Director of R&D, COO and a member of the Board of Directors at Chiroscience Group, which was then acquired by Celltech in 1999. Jackson has also held posts of Vice-President, R&D at Agouron Pharmaceuticals and Head of Cancer Research at Du Pont Pharmaceuticals and Warner-Lambert Company.

Spiro Rombotis, CEO of Cyclacel said: 'Bob's expertise matches remarkably well with Cyclacel's programmes in cancer drug discovery, especially in rational drug design and genes-to-drugs research, and the interface between R&D and clinical trials.' Sir David Lane, CSO of Cyclacel added to this that: 'We have worked with him as a member of our Scientific Advisory Board for over a year and his knowledge has already proven to be very valuable as Cyclacel programmes are progressing into preclinical development and eventually clinical trials.'

Obituary

Research pioneer in infectious diseases dies

Nelles Silverthorne, credited with developing the first whooping cough vaccine in the 1930s has recently died at the age of 99. Silverthorne, known as 'Silver' to his colleagues, was renowned for his significant contributions in the field of infectious diseases. He also developed a number of treatments for meningitis, tetanus and diphtheria and was the first Canadian physician to administer penicillin.

During his career, he held several key posts such as Honorary Consultant Physician at the Hospital for Sick Children (Toronto, Canada) and Associate Professor of Paediatrics at the University of Toronto (Ontario, Canada). His career started after graduating in Medicine from the University of Toronto in 1926, after which he became an intern and later a full member of staff at the Hospital for Sick Children. During his time as a practising physician, Silverthorne treated three generations of some families. His achievements led him to receive the Order of Ontario in 1994.