

People

Appointments

Translational Genomics Research Institute names President

Jeffery Trent is to take on the role of President and Chief Scientific Officer for the newly named Translational Genomics Research Institute (TGRI), which was previously known as the Arizona Bioscience and Biomedicine Institute.

Trent is currently Scientific Director of the National Genome Research Institute at the National Institutes of Health. He commented: 'I am delighted to return to Arizona with my family to participate in this extraordinary statewide initiative to use the science of genomics to accelerate discoveries to cure disease and improve lives.'

Albert Li joins Phase 1

Albert Li is returning to his resident state of New Mexico to work at Phase 1 Molecular Toxicology in Santa Fe (<http://www.phase1tox.com/>). Li was previously Chief Scientific Officer at In Vitro Technologies, where he was involved in the development of human *in vitro* systems for studying drug metabolism and drug interactions.

At Phase 1, Li will continue his quest for the development of accurate approaches for the prediction of human drug toxicity. On his move to Phase 1, Li commented, 'With Phase 1, I would like to work towards the holy grail of prediction of human drug toxicity, especially the elusive idiosyncratic drug toxicity. I believe that this can be achieved with a combination of the disciplines of drug metabolism, cell biology, and molecular biology.'

Tom Shepherd as CXR's Chief Executive Officer

CXR Biosciences (<http://www.cxbiosciences.com>) the new preclinical drug discovery and development company spun out from the University of Dundee, UK, has announced the appointment of Tom Shepherd as CEO. Shepherd joins the company from Neurotech S.A., a biotech

company with operations in France and the USA, where he was Chairman and CEO. Shepherd has over 20 years experience in the life sciences industry and has previously held the posts of Vice President of Business Development at Intrabiotics Pharmaceuticals in California, Marketing Director of Auspharm in Australia, and marketing and Project Director of Cortecs (now Provalis) in London. CXR's Chairman, Barry Sealey said, 'We are very fortunate to have attracted such outstanding business talent to our young company and we look forward to an exciting period of development.'

New management appointments at GenPath

Tuan Ha-Ngoc and Steven Clark have both joined GenPath Pharmaceuticals (<http://www.genpathpharma.com>) from Genetics Institute (GI), where they were senior executives. GenPath develops medicines for cancer and other genetic diseases. Over a 14-year period at GI, Ha-Ngoc and Clark were key figures in the creation and development of the company – one of the first commercially successful biotech.

Ha-Ngoc has 26 years of worldwide experience in the healthcare industry, primarily in biotechnology. He spent much of this as Executive Vice-President at GI, and then Corporate Vice President after the acquisition of GI by Wyeth, where he was responsible for corporate strategic planning and portfolio management, Wyeth-Ayerst Global Business Development and GI's genomics research platform DiscoverEase. More recently, he was co-founder, President and CEO of deNovis, a software development company.

Clark joins GenPath with 21 years of experience in drug discovery at GI and Wyeth Research, and has unique expertise in protein and small-molecule therapeutics. Clark has been Senior Vice President of the combined discovery organisations of Wyeth and GI, and during this time, delivered many clinical candidates to the R&D pipeline. He was a founding scientist at GI in 1981, and Vice President of Discovery Research from 1989

Awards

Susan Greenfield awarded the SCI Messel Medal

Baroness Susan Greenfield has been awarded the Society of Chemical Industry (SCI) 2002 Messel Medal for her continued and outstanding contributions to science. The medal was presented at the 121st SCI annual meeting. Greenfield is Professor of Pharmacology at Oxford University, UK, where she leads a multidisciplinary research group. She is also Director of the Royal Institution and a founding director of two university spin-out companies. A prolific writer and broadcaster, she is renowned for her part in the science communication movement, as well as taking a keen interest in science policy.

Biotechnology Heritage Award for Nobel prizewinner

Walter Gilbert, Chairman and co-founder of Paratek Pharmaceuticals (<http://www.paratekpharm.com>) has been awarded the 2002 Biotechnology Heritage Award, along with his colleague Phillip A. Sharp. The award recognizes people who have made significant contributions to the development of biotechnology through discovery, innovation and public understanding.

Gilbert, a renowned molecular biologist, is the Carl M. Loeb University Professor at Harvard University and was awarded a Nobel Prize in Chemistry for the development of DNA sequencing in 1980. Gilbert has a wealth of biotech experience; he was a co-founder and CEO of Biogen and more recently was a co-founder of Myriad Genetics and is currently Vice-Chairman of Myriad's Board of Directors. Gilbert is also Chairman of the Board of Directors of NetGenics, a Director of Memory Pharmaceuticals and a member of the Scientific Advisory Board of Transkaryotic Therapies.

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