

People

Appointments

Aptanomics appoints Michael Courtney as Chairman and CEO

Aptanomics (<http://www.aptanomics.com>) has announced the appointment of Michael Courtney as Chairman and Chief Executive Officer.

Thierry Laugel, Member of the Board of Aptanomics, welcomed the appointment, saying: 'Courtney has the managerial, commercial and operational qualifications that are needed to steer the company in the exploitation of its powerful technology platforms in target validation and for the development of novel small molecule drugs.'

Courtney commented on his new role: 'Aptanomics has a clearly differentiated technology that provides a powerful approach to developing small-molecule drugs. I am delighted to have been given the responsibility to lead the company, which is at an exciting stage of its development, into a product-based biopharmaceutical company'.

Aptanomics SA is a drug discovery-based company based in Lyon, France, that is focused on the development of small-molecule drugs based on proprietary peptide aptamer technology.

Professor Alex Markham: joins Cancer Research UK as Chief Executive

Professor Alex Markham has recently been appointed Chief Executive of Cancer Research UK (<http://www.cancer.org.uk>), with effect from September 2003, replacing Sir Paul Nurse who is departing for Rockefeller University in New York.

Markham is currently Director of the Molecular Unit at Leeds University, Honorary Consultant Physician at the Leeds Teaching Hospital NHS Trust and an advisor to the Department of Health via the Committee of Safety of Medicines and the Gene Therapy Advisory Committee.

Commenting on his appointment, Markham said: 'It's an honour and a privilege to have been chosen to lead Cancer Research UK – the world's largest independent cancer research organization – and help make the promises of merger a reality. My job will be to maintain the

charity's world-class research and build on recent advances to take new knowledge into the clinic for the benefit of cancer patients.'

IntegraGen appoints Jan Mous as its new President and CEO

IntegraGen (<http://www.integragen.com>) has announced the appointment of Jan Mous as its new Chief Executive Officer and Chairman of the Board of Directors. Prior to joining IntegraGen, Mous was Chief Scientific Officer and member of the Executive Board at LION Bioscience (<http://www.lionbioscience.com>) and, prior to that, spent 15 years at Roche (<http://www.roche.com>), where he played a key role in the initiation of the company's genomics programmes.

Commenting on his new role, Mous said: 'I am very excited to be joining IntegraGen. I have been very impressed by the company's technology platform. I am looking forward to demonstrating further the power and potential of IntegraGen's approach and taking our R&D programmes, in obesity, type 2 diabetes and neurological diseases, forward as rapidly as possible.'

IntegraGen uses its genomic analysis expertise to identify druggable targets for the treatment of complex diseases.

Pierre Etienne joins PhageTech

PhageTech (<http://www.phagetechnology.com>), a private, venture-backed biopharmaceutical company developing new classes of antibiotics through phage genomics approaches, has announced the appointment of Pierre Etienne as President and Chief Executive Officer.

Etienne joins PhageTech from Pfizer (<http://www.pfizer.com>), where he most recently held the position of Vice-President of World-Wide Development Operations. Prior to this, Etienne spent three years in early clinical research at CIBA-Geigy (now Novartis; <http://www.novartis.com>) and had a distinguished clinical research career at McGill University.

Bill Scott, PhageTech's Chairman, said: 'Over the past year, PhageTech has rapidly evolved from a firm engaged in the identification and validation of novel antibacterial targets to a company increasingly focused on drug discovery and development. Pierre's experience will be

invaluable to PhageTech as the company moves its growing portfolio of candidate compounds forward towards the clinic.'

Andrew Whiteley takes up CEO post at Vitra Biosciences

Vitra Bioscience (<http://www.vitrabio.com>), previously known as Virtual Arrays, have recently appointed Andrew Whiteley as President and Chief Executive Officer. Whiteley, most recently CEO and Chairman of InforMax, brings his experience in a variety of senior management roles at InforMax and Amersham to his new role.

'We are extremely pleased to have someone of Andrew's calibre lead the Vitra Bioscience's team,' commented Lev J. Leytes, Chairman of Vitra Bioscience.

'Andrew's extensive experience building life sciences tools businesses within Amersham and his agile repositioning of InforMax will be invaluable as we are preparing to commercialize Vitra's unique enabling technology for drug discovery.'

Vitra Bioscience is an early-stage company, developing a fundamentally new approach to multiplexing cell-based assays. Vitra's proprietary technology includes advances in biology, miniaturization, material science and state-of-the-art imaging software.

Kalypsys appoints John McKearn as CSO

Kalypsys (<http://www.kalypsys.com>) has announced the appointment of John McKearn as Chief Scientific Officer, effective July 2003. McKearn was formerly the Senior Vice-President of Discovery Research at Pharmacia (<http://www.pfizer.com>).

Isy Goldwasser, Chairman of the Board, said: 'John McKearn's appointment is a pivotal step for the continued growth and development of Kalypsys. He appreciates the challenges faced by the industry, and his decision to join the company makes a strong statement about the impact of the Kalypsys technology on the drug discovery process.'

The biopharmaceutical company Kalypsys uses advanced automation technologies to evaluate drug candidates in cellular models of disease and optimize the safety and efficacy of selected candidates.

People was written by *Christopher Watson and Hazel Winter*