

People

Appointments

Structural GenomiX appoints new Senior VP Drug Development

Structural GenomiX (SGX; <http://www.stromix.com>) has announced the appointment of Neill Giese as Senior Vice President of Drug Development. Giese will be responsible for translational biology, and preclinical and clinical development.

Tim Harris, Chief Executive Officer of SGX said; 'Neill's wealth of experience with developing small molecule cancer therapies will be instrumental in driving our drug discovery programs into human trials and through the clinic.'

Giese has over 14 years of experience in drug discovery and development ranging from target identification to clinical trials. He was formerly at Millennium Pharmaceuticals, where he had a lead role in the discovery and development of MLN518, an oral small molecule kinase inhibitor that is currently being studied in Phase II trials for the treatment of acute myelogenous leukaemia.

SGX is a structure-guided drug discovery company accelerating the discovery of novel therapeutics to treat human diseases, and which has developed FAST™, a proprietary technology for rapid identification of novel, potent and selective small molecule inhibitors of drug targets.

Michael Capaldi appointed CE of Scancell

Scancell (<http://www.scancell.co.uk>) has announced the appointment of Michael Capaldi as Chief Executive Officer.

Capaldi commented; 'I am convinced that Scancell can make a major contribution towards developing new cancer therapies that harness the power of the immune system.'

Previously CEO of Synaptica, Capaldi has a broad working knowledge of the biopharmaceutical industry with a strong commercial bias, combined with a solid understanding of pharmaceutical discovery and development.

Scancell's Chairman, Nigel Evans, said; 'Michael brings significant management, commercial and fund raising experience to Scancell, which will be invaluable as the Company commercialises its therapeutic antibodies and its ImmunoBody™

technology. Monoclonal antibody technology promises considerable hope for the treatment and prevention of cancer.'

CAT announces senior management appointments and promotion

Cambridge Antibody Technology (CAT; <http://www.cambridgeantibody.com>) has announced two appointments and one promotion to the position of Vice President.

Patrick Round joins CAT as VP Development and will be responsible for the company's development activities. Prior to joining CAT, Round was Director of Development at Celltech R&D and was responsible for development activities in preclinical, clinical, regulatory, biometrics, project management, pharmacovigilance and quality assurance.

Neil Stutchbury joins CAT as VP Informatics and Information Technology. Stutchbury was previously VP R&D Information Systems for AstraZeneca Pharmaceuticals, where he was responsible for integration of the computer systems post-merger at seven R&D sites.

Diane Wilcock has been promoted to the position of VP Intellectual Property, responsible for managing the company's patent portfolio and patent strategy. Wilcock joined CAT in 1999, before which she worked in technology transfer for Imperial Cancer Research Technology.

Pater Chambré, CEO at CAT, commented; 'These key appointments are... set to strengthen and broaden the experience of our team and support Cat's development. We are delighted to welcome Patrick and Neil, and also reward Diane's contribution and expertise in the field of Intellectual Property.'

New appointments at The Bioindustry Association

The Bioindustry Association (BIA; <http://www.bioindustry.org>) has announced two key new appointments. Christiane Abouzeid joins the BIA Public Affairs team as Regulatory Affairs Manager, and Tony Bradshaw as Bioprocessing Industry Development Director.

BIA's Chief Executive, Aisling Burnand, said, 'I am delighted to welcome Christiane and Tony. Lobbying on regulatory issues, both in the UK and EU, is a major focus for

the BIA. An increasing amount of legislation has the potential to impact on the bioscience sector, such as the EU Clinical Trials Directive and the new EU pharmaceutical legislation. Christiane's expertise in this new role will enable us to deliver an enhanced service to members, building on the significant achievements we have already made in this arena.'

Abouzeid was previously Practice Lawyer in the Biosciences Group at Eversheds, where she dealt with UK and EU regulatory issues affecting pharmaceutical, bioscience and medical technology issues.

Bradshaw has been involved in Biotechnology Business Development for 16 years and was a member of the BIA boards 1999–2001.

ITI Life Sciences: Advisory Board appointments

ITI Life Sciences (<http://www.itilifesciences.com>), the centre for identifying technologies for future emerging markets in sectors including pharmaceuticals, biotechnology, medical devices and diagnostics, has made several international appointments to its Advisory Board.

Appointments to the Board include: Sir Philip Cohen, Director of Research, School of Life Sciences at the University of Dundee; Allan Baxter, Senior VP Drug Discovery at GlaxoSmithKline; John Newsam, President and Managing Director of fqubed (a soft material innovation company); Gordon Foulkes, former Head of Research for three biotech companies (OSI Pharmaceuticals, Aurora Biosciences and Elitra); and John Brown, Chairman of Scottish Biomedical and former CEO of Acambis; Christian Burks, formerly CIO of Exelixis and CSO of Affinium Pharmaceuticals, and currently founder and principal of Scienega (a consulting business for biotech start-ups).

The Board will ultimately have 10 members, who, as ITI begins to identify major trends and drivers in the sector, will help to focus that information on the most commercially viable options and help create international awareness through their global networks.

ITI Life Sciences – launched in Autumn 2003 – is one of ITI Scotland's Intermediary Technology Institutes and has a commitment to commission pre-competitive research of GBP 150 M over the next 10 years.

People was written by Joanne Clough