TEXAS LIFE SCIENCE Forum

FEATURED SPEAKERS AND PANELISTS
NOVEMBER 8, 2018

Adil Adi
Executive Chairman, WorldLink; Founder and Principal, Adi Foundation
Adi Family Office

Adil Adi's story is traced back to his time as a youth in Bombay, India. As a teenager, **an engineer at heart**, Adi partnered with a friend to sell mechanically engineered brackets that secured military-grade batteries in telecommunications. That paved his way to afford an airline ticket to The UNITED STATES.

Adi's dream came true when he pooled his own savings, along with other supporters, to pursue his MBA at Phillips University. By working odd part-time jobs in New York and elsewhere, Adi was able to complete his graduate education and decided to stay in America. He and his wife drove south and decided to set up roots in Dallas, Texas.

Eschewing the job security of a telecommunications engineer, Adi, with a wife and 2 young children, placed a large bet on starting his own company with 1 employee.

WorldLink was started in 1998 by staffing 1 employee with a German software company, SAP. Through unwavering vision and hard work, Adi grew WorldLink from 1 employee to a multi-national technology firm that employed 1,000+ in 2015. Working his way from a Staffing sub-vendor to the Master Staffing Vendor for Samsung North America was a milestone achievement, but Adi pressed on. This is seen in his investments into a Korean office and developing an Emerging Technology consultancy practice.

The need to constantly reinvent himself in a rapidly changing technology world has allowed Adi's WorldLink to stay relevant to its clients, partners, and employees.

Education
Master's in Business Administration, MBA, Phillips University, Enid, OK
BA, Production Engineering, University of Bombay, Bombay, India

Varsin Archer
Project Manager
SwRI

Mrs. Archer currently manages pharmaceutical drug development programs to support IND submission. She has worked with many start up and biotech companies in commercial sector at SwRI. She is also involved in making strategic connections with key stakeholders that catalyze innovation in life science sector. Since earning her masters in organic Chemistry in 2011, she has been working with life science industry at SwRI by being involved in serval drug development programs from concept to later phases of clinical trials.

David Arthur
CEO
Salarius Pharmaceuticals

David is a senior life sciences executive with 25+ years of US and global experience building and leading medical and marketing organizations in product development; and building, launching and managing pharmaceutical and device brands. Prior to accepting the role as CEO Salarius Pharmaceuticals, David spent 20+ years with Eli Lilly and Boehringer-Ingelheim in executive roles managing product development, business development, US business units, global commercialization, European regional marketing and financial planning/analysis.

Guillermo Borda
Fund Manager
HX Venture Fund

Mr. Guillermo Borda is a Senior Advisor at Mercury Fund. At the firm, he counsels the investment team on best practices in team building, fund management and capital formation strategies. He was the Managing Partner at Hauser Private Equity. Mr. Borda focused on private equity investing, strategy development, fund-raising and capital formation, structuring of new investment opportunities, communication with investors, performing due diligence, and adding strategic value to the portfolio of funds and companies. From 2005 to 2012, he served as the Managing Director at Banc of America Capital Access Funds (BAML Capital Access Funds). Mr. Borda worked on new transactions. Prior to HPE, he was a General Partner of $1.4 billion private equity platform at BA Merrill Lynch. He focused on capital formation strategies and fund-raising, communication with existing investors, origination and diligence of investment opportunities as well as adding strategic value to the portfolio of funds and companies. Mr. Borda served as a Senior Executive for new business development within the Hispanic community. From 2001 to 2005, he served as a Senior Vice President of Pacesetter Capital Group and was responsible for leading a comprehensive investment risk management system that focused on maximizing valuations for equity, equity-linked, and mezzanine debt investments. He also focused his efforts on origination of new private equity investing opportunities. Mr. Borda previously served as the Managing Director of Banc of America Securities, LLC and as a Senior Vice President of Bank of America with 16 years of corporate finance advisory and banking experience, as well as with Citigroup. He joined Bank of America in 1991. From 1991 to 2001 Mr. Borda served as Managing Director of Bank of America Merrill Lynch Global Corporate and Investment Bank originating and leading multiple corporate finance opportunities across various capital markets. His corporate finance advisory work was concentrated primarily on strategic ways to finance growth through various public and private capital markets. His primary responsibilities included leading corporate finance teams, generating financing opportunities, and maximizing valuations on private equity investments. Prior to joining Bank of America Merrill Lynch, from 1987 to 1989, he was a Corporate Finance Associate at Citigroup's North American Investment Banking division. He is a Director of The National Association of Small Business Investment Companies. Mr. Borda has been a board member of various private equity funds' boards of directors, including St. Cloud Capital, CapStreet Capital, Grey Mountain Partners, DBL Equity and various others. He has served on the board of various organizations. He is fluent in Spanish and German. He has 26 years experience in private equity investing and capital markets. He has held a variety of venture capital and private equity roles, including managing capital via large fund-of-funds for the four largest public pension funds in the United States. His expertise centers on raising institutional capital, investing in venture and private equity funds and directly in portfolio companies, as well as coaching and supporting CEOs, company builders, and management teams in creating valuable enterprises. Mr. Borda holds an M.B.A. and a B.S. in Finance from The University of Texas at Austin. He is also a graduate of the Venture Capital Institute.

Meg Boulware
Partner
Boulware & Valoir

Ms. Boulware has a diverse IP practice. She tried the first validity and infringement arbitration of a U.S. patent, which case was tried before the International Chamber of Commerce. She procured pioneer patents on cattle cloning in the U.S. She has represented clients in trademark infringement cases including over 100 cases before federal courts and the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. Ms. Boulware supervises international trademark portfolios and advises on international branding strategies for clients including Fortune 500 companies. Meg was the first woman president of the American Intellectual Property Law Association and is active in national IP associations. In 2012, Ms. Boulware received the first ever Americas Women in Business Law Award for Best in Patent (www.expertguides.com). Since 2005, Ms. Boulware has been recognized in Chambers USA – Leaders in their Field. She also has been included in The Best Lawyers in America for Intellectual Property in IP Law & Business since 2006, and has been selected to The International Who's Who of Business Lawyers and Best Lawyers in America for the past 15 years.

Gretchen Miller Bowker, MS, RAC, FRAPS
Chief Executive Officer, Pearl Pathways
Pearl Pathways

Gretchen Miller Bowker is the founder of Pearl Pathways and Pearl IRB. She serves as Chief Executive Officer, overseeing the management team responsible for regulatory and QA services, clinical development and IRB services, business development, finance and all business operations. Gretchen has over 30 years of experience in the development of life science products and the regulatory approval process. She is a recognized as a leader in the life science industry and one of only two fellows in the regulatory affairs professional society in the state of Indiana. In her prior role as COO at Pearl, Gretchen was instrumental in hiring and developing the talent at Pearl Pathways ensuring the success of the company. Gretchen spent over 15 years of her career in large sponsor company environments working at both Eli Lilly and Roche Diagnostics (formerly Boehringer Mannheim). She also possesses real-world small startup experience, having led the regulatory, quality compliance and clinical teams at an oncology biotech startup. Throughout her career, she has successfully assembled teams of experts, developed processes and procedures, led global submissions, and implemented quality systems which ensured successful product development of drug, device and diagnostic products.

Prior to co-founding Pearl Pathways, Gretchen served as Director of Regulatory and Compliance Service Delivery at a Midwest consulting company where she served institutions, sponsors, and CROs. Gretchen is an experienced team leader with specific expertise in meeting global

regulatory body compliance expectations for nonclinical, CMC, and clinical development throughout the product lifecycle.

Gretchen has lent her talents as a guest speaker on quality and regulatory topics for Indiana University, Purdue University and multiple national healthcare and pharmaceutical conferences. She volunteers in various ways for RAPS including founding the Indiana local RAPS chapter and serving on the Board nominating committee. She has held the position of Adjunct Professor of Clinical Research and Regulatory at The George Washington Medical School. She also serves on the Indiana Health Industry Forum's Clinical Trials Alliance. Gretchen earned an MS in Biology from Purdue University, a B.S. in Biology from Indiana University, has been RAC certified since 2002, and is a RAPS fellow.

Greg Brown, M.D.
Special Advisor, Back Bay HealthCare Capital
Back Bay HealthCare Capital

Dr. Brown is a Founder and Vice Chairman of HealthCare Royalty Partners ("HCRP") and the Chairman of the Strategic Advisory Board. Educated as a transplantation immunologist and trained as a thoracic and vascular surgeon, Dr. Brown practiced thoracic and vascular surgery in a community setting where he also founded and led an HMO. He brings particular expertise in the scientific, technical, clinical and medical evaluation of products as well as in healthcare systems and payer / reimbursement dynamics.

Before co-founding HCRP, Dr. Brown was a partner at Paul Capital Partners, where he co-managed that firm's royalty investments as a member of the royalty management committee. As a partner at Paul Capital Partners, Dr. Brown served on the firm's Investment Committee, which governed investments across all branches of the firm: healthcare royalties, secondary private equity and venture capital fund-of-funds. He has been involved in sourcing, diligencing and closing more than $1B of royalty financings at HCRP and Paul Capital. Prior to beginning his principal investment career in 2003, Dr. Brown was co-head of investment banking and head of healthcare at Adams, Harkness & Hill (now Canaccord Genuity) and a ranked biotechnology research analyst at Vector Securities International.

Dr. Brown holds a B.A. from Yale, an M.D. from SUNY Upstate Medical Center and an M.B.A. from Harvard Business School. He currently serves on the boards of MonoSol Rx, Caladrius BioSciences, Inc. (NASDAQ:CLBS) and Vanderbilt Clinical, S.a.r.l.

Scott C. Brun, M.D.
Vice President, Scientific Affairs; Head, AbbVie Ventures, AbbVie HQ
AbbVie Ventures

In addition to his role in AbbVie Ventures, Scott is Vice President, Scientific Affairs, and acts as an Abbvie spokesperson on R&D matters to global media, governmental officials, and institutional investors. Prior to this role, Scott led Pharmaceutical Development at AbbVie and was responsible for advancing a broad pipeline across several therapeutic areas. In his 20+ year career at Abbott/AbbVie, he held roles of increasing responsibility across the research and development organization.

Carlyn Burton
Partner and Patent Attourney, OshaLiang LLP
OshaLiang LLP

Carlyn Burton is a partner with Osha Liang LLP, an intellectual property law boutique law firm that is headquartered in Houston. Carlyn's represents a wide range of clients – from accomplished Fortune 500 companies to innovative start-ups – across the intellectual property landscape of prosecution, counseling, litigation, and due diligence. Carlyn regularly conducts IP due diligence in both M&A and investment deals, and brings to the Forum a perspective of red flags identified in due diligence that can present a roadblock to the deal.

Bruce Butler, Ph.D.
Vice President, Research and Technology; Director, Office of Technology Management
UT Health Science Center Houston

Dr. Bruce D. Butler is Vice President Research and Technology, and directs the Office of Technology Management at the University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston (UTHealth). The office handles the technology transfer activities including the creation of new start-ups for the six UTHealth schools and the UTHealth faculty at the Texas Heart Institute. Dr. Butler also holds an academic position as Professor in the Department of Anesthesiology at the Medical School and managed a research program in collaboration with NASA, U.S. Navy and several international pharmaceutical companies. He has over 200 published papers, abstracts and book chapters. Other positions he holds include VP for the Office of Global Health Initiatives, Associate Director of the UTHealth / MD Anderson Cancer Center-Center for Advanced Biomedical Imaging Research (CABIR). Dr. Butler is an inventor on numerous U.S. and associated foreign patents; several of which have been commercialized through UTHealth that include respiratory healthcare products and bio-pharmaceuticals. He has been involved with product development for medical and home-care devices, including FDA regulatory approvals and clinical trials. Dr. Butler has been personally involved in the creation of 5 life-science start-ups and numerous other business development partnerships.

Stephanie Campbell
Managing Director, Houston Angel Network
Houston Angel Network

Stephanie is a graduate of the Rice University MBA program with concentrations in entrepreneurship and healthcare. Stephanie started at HAN as an associate through the Venture Capital E-Lab program at Rice in 2016. She was also Director of Operations and served as interim managing director prior to her appointment as Managing Director. During her time at Rice Business School, Stephanie participated in the Venture Capital Investment Competition and the Rice Business Plan Competition. She also led the Rice Chapter of the National Association of Women MBAs and was the Conference Chair and Host of the annual Women in Leadership Conference. Stephanie is a co-founder of the Houston Women's Investor Collective, which aims to educate women about early stage investing, and is a member of the Greater Houston Women's Chamber of Commerce.

Danielle Supkis Cheek, CPA*,CFE, CVA
Director
PKF Texas

Danielle earned her Bachelors from Rice University in Houston, TX, and her Master of Science in Accountancy from the University of Virginia in Charlottesville, VA.

She is a Certified Public Account (CPA) in the State of Texas, a Certified Fraud Examiner (CFE), and a Certified Valuation Analyst (CVA).

Danielle is the incoming Chair of the PCPS Technical Issues Committee with the American Institute for CPAs, was a 2014 Texas Society of CPA's Rising Star, is a 2018, 2017, 2016, 2015 and 2014 40 under 40 by the CPA Practice Advisor and a 2015 40 under 40 by the NACVA. She was also the first women to receive the AICPA's Outstanding Young CPA of the Year Award in Honor of Maximo in 2016 and was named a Most Powerful Women in Accounting by CPA Practice Advisor in 2018, 2017 and 2016.

She is also part-time faculty at Rice University's Jones School of Business teaching accounting for entrepreneurs to undergrads and data analytics to the Masters of Accountancy (MAcc) students.

** Licensed only in Texas*

Paul Cherukuri, Ph.D.
Executive Director, IBB, Rice University
Rice University

Paul Cherukuri earned his Ph.D. in Chemistry under the supervision of Nobel Laureate Richard E. Smalley and R. Bruce Weisman at Rice University and has a 15+ year history in academia and industry. As Executive Director of the Institute of Biosciences and Bioengineering (IBB), Paul is responsible for the development and implementation of cross-disciplinary research and educational programs that strengthen Rice University's scientific development in biosciences and bioengineering. He serves as the key liaison between Rice University and the Texas Medical Center to support and develop collaborative research opportunities for IBB faculty and the broader Rice science/engineering community. Paul also directs an active research program in the field of scalable directed self-assembly of artificial and biological nanoscale materials (Teslaphoresis) and is a subject matter expert in nanotechnology, drug development and biomedical devices.

Casey Cunningham, M.D.
Chief Scientific Officer
Santé Ventures

Casey Cunningham, M.D. is the Chief Scientific Officer of Santé Ventures. Dr. Cunningham received his fellowship training in oncology and hematology at Harvard Medical School, where he subsequently served on the faculty. He was also one of the founding members of the Division of Experimental Medicine at the Brigham & Women's Hospital in Boston, where he established a basic research laboratory in Cell and Molecular Biology.

He has over 70 publications in peer-reviewed journals and many abstracts and meeting presentations. Casey received his medical degree from the University of Texas Southwestern Medical School with a residency in Internal Medicine at the Medical College of Wisconsin. Casey returned to Texas in 1999 as the Associate Director of the Mary Crowley Cancer Research Center in Dallas, a position he held until 2007. He joined Santé Ventures shortly after its founding. He has served in operating roles in Terapio, Molecular Templates and Beta Cat Pharmaceuticals and has been, or is currently on, the Boards of Terapio Corp., Molecular Templates, Lyric Pharmaceuticals, AbVitro and Mirna Therapeutics.

Susan Davenport
Senior Vice President, Economic Development
Greater Houston Partnership

Susan Davenport serves as Senior Vice President, Economic Development at the Greater Houston Partnership. The Partnership is a 1,100-member business partnership encompassing the 11-county greater Houston region. In this role, Susan leads the organization's dometic and international economic development efforts and provides assistance to companies considering expanding, relocating or investing in the greater Houston region.

Prior to her work in Houston, Susan served as the President/CEO of the Gainesville Area Chamber of Commerce, a five-star accredited Chamber with approximately 1,300 member companies and organizations. Prior to her role as President/CEO she served for two years as the Chamber's Vice President of Economic Development. From 2013 through 2018, the Gainesville Chamber announced the creation of more than 1,100 new jobs and more than $400 million in new capital investment.

Susan came to Gainesville in 2013 after spending 13 years with the Austin Chamber of Commerce, most recently as Senior Vice President of Global Tech Strategies. While there she served as a key team member for the Opportunity Austin strategy which created over 174,000 new jobs and enhanced regional payrolls by $8.7 billion over an 8-year period from 2004-2012.

During her tenure in Austin she developed and executed Austin's regional business retention and expansion program, Portfolio Austin, where over 4,800 regional retention visits were undertaken with 520 regional expansions tracked. She also developed and managed the Central Texas Regional Center for Innovation and Commercialization, which resulted in assisting 34 companies accessing $60 million in funding with an additional $30 million for local research and university projects. Susan also developed the Greater Austin Technology Partnership and Austin TechLive, which engaged over 100 regional technology executives in various economic development activities and supported entrepreneurism through a downtown co-working technology hub partner.

Susan received a Master of Public Affairs from The University of Texas at Austin and earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing from The University of Texas Medical Branch. She is also a graduate of the Economic Development Institute at the University of Oklahoma and is an active member of the Association of Chamber of Commerce Executives and the International Economic Development Institute.

Andrew Dennis, Ph.D.
Managing Director, Technology Commercialization, MD Anderson Cancer Center
MD Anderson Cancer Center

Andrew P. Dennis graduated magna cum laude with a B.S. in Biochemistry from the State University of New York at Plattsburgh. Following undergraduate education, he entered into the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences at Baylor College of Medicine in Houston, TX, where he earned his doctoral degree studying gene transcription and the involvement of the proteasome degradation machinery. During his doctoral education he was awarded a pre-doctoral fellowship from the Department of Defense and the Dean's Award. Andrew has co-authored several peer-reviewed journal articles through his work as a graduate student.

Andrew's financial and business interests in healthcare led him toward a career in the technology transfer field within the Office of Technology Commercialization (OTC) at the University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center in Houston, TX, where he has served in several roles, most recently as Managing Director of the OTC. In this role, he oversees the OTC's licensing and commercialization efforts of new inventions by OTC staff members. In addition, he continues to negotiate license agreements, form start-up companies, develop commercialization strategies among inventors and institutional research programs, and facilitate the development of business relationships with our healthcare industry partners, with the goal of driving cancer care forward.

Michael Dilling
Director, Baylor Licensing Group
Baylor College of Medicine

The Director of the Baylor Licensing Group (BLG), the technology licensing team at Baylor College of Medicine, a leading biomedical research institution and the only private medical school in the Southwestern United States. Responsible for managing the activities of five licensing professionals, an industry agreements professional, and two administrators. Currently leading efforts at BCM to restructure technology commercialization efforts to increase effectiveness and improve outcomes. Guided the development and launch of an online disclosure application to simply faculty interaction with BLG. Responsible for spearheading collaborative efforts with BCM Technologies (BCMT), BCM's wholly-owned venture development subsidiary, to identify and catalyze the formation of new start-up companies. Serves on the Board of Directors for mAbVista, Inc., a new BCM start-up company dedicated to the production of monoclonal antibodies.

Fifteen years technology transfer experience managing a diverse portfolio of biomedical technologies in a leading university technology transfer program with a focus on producing licensing outcomes. Strong pragmatic, principled focus on finding common ground to get deals closed and executed so that important innovations can get to the market and be developed into new products.

Negotiated and closed over 80 license/option agreements, including exclusive licenses for therapeutics, vaccine technologies, gene therapy and immunotherapy technologies, and medical devices. A number of the exclusive licenses were transactions involving equity as part of the license consideration. I have also negotiated and closed many non-exclusive licenses for research tool technologies - knockout mice/cell lines/DNA constructs, etc. I have also licensed software. A number of technologies that I have licensed are now in clinical development, including a T-cell-based vaccine against multiple sclerosis, a vaccine against Norwalk and associated noroviruses, and an immunotherapeutic cancer vaccine.

Erik Halvorsen, Ph.D.
Director
TMC Innovation Institute

In his role as Director of the TMC Innovation Institute, Erik keeps visionary new ideas moving through the TMCx accelerator, TMCx+ incubator and TMC Biodesign Fellowship Program, while playing an instrumental role in JLABS @TMC, the AT&T Foundry for Connected Health@TMC, the TMC advisor/mentor network and the emerging innovation funding infrastructure.

Before joining the Texas Medical Center in 2015, Erik made his mark in New England, serving as senior executive director of Technology Transfer & Industry Collaborations at Tufts University, following seven years as executive director of the Technology & Innovation Development Office (TIDO) for Boston Children's Hospital. In both positions, Erik was responsible for accelerating and translating research and innovations into new health care products. He was also managing partner of Children's First Technology Development Fund for pediatric-focused advancements.

Prior to that, Erik supported early-stage therapeutic, device, diagnostic, digital health and robotics companies across the Harvard University system for 12.5 years. His Harvard leadership roles included director of Business Development, Harvard Stem Cell Institute (HSCI); director of Business Development, Harvard Office of Technology Development; and licensing associate/officer, Harvard University OTTL. His earlier experience includes project manager at Spinner Technologies and licensing associate at the University of Virginia Patent Foundation.

Erik holds a Bachelor of Arts from the University of Virginia (1994), a Master of Science in human anatomy from the Medical College of Virginia (1995) and Doctor of Philosophy in Neuropharmacology from University of Virginia (2000).

When championing new ideas, Erik assumes whatever role is necessary to improve the likelihood of success—coach, cheerleader, general manager or ball boy. As a result, he has been invited to join numerous boards and associations, including the JIBO Advisory Board, Claritas Genomics Board of Directors, OPENPediatrics Advisory Board, Tetraphase Pharmaceuticals Board of Directors, the Association of University Technology Managers, Massachusetts Association of Technology Transfer Officers, Massachusetts Biotechnology Council and Boston Top 40 Under 40.

He has also partnered with countless health care and business enterprises, from IBM, Google and GE to Medtronic, Pfizer and GSK, as well as with a wide range of venture capital firms. With experience running clinical trials, Erik has a passion for removing development obstacles so new solutions can quickly reach people in need.

Bill Kadel
Vice President
Solebury Capital

Bill Kadel is a Vice President in equity capital markets at Solebury Capital, with a focus in life sciences. Solebury is a leading equity capital markets advisory firm and registered broker dealer and parent organization of Solebury Trout, a premier investor relations and strategic communications firm focused in the life sciences. Bill joined Solebury after 3 years focusing on equity capital markets at The Trout Group, the predecessor firm of Solebury Trout. In these roles, Bill has worked with and advised over 30 development and commercial stage life sciences companies on capital markets strategy. He has worked with companies through public and private financings in raising over $1B in total, including notable financings for Biohaven Pharmaceuticals, REGENXBIO, PhaseBio, Wilson Therapeutics, Rigel Pharmaceuticals, and Aquinox Pharmaceuticals. Prior to Trout, Bill spent the first 5 years of his career at Goldman Sachs and Citigroup in sales and trading.

Oliver Keown, MBChB
Healthcare Investor
GE Ventures

Oliver is Senior Associate of Investing. Based in Menlo Park, CA, he joined in 2016.

He supports venture investments and startup deal flow across healthcare IT, precision health, 3D printing for healthcare and connected medical device domains, while engaging in strategic international development opportunities at the intersections of venture capital, policy and GE Business Innovations.

Previously, Oliver was Clinical Advisor and Policy Fellow at the Institute of Global Health Innovation, Imperial College London, and Clinical Advisor to the Institute's Director, Professor the Lord Darzi of Denham. In this role, he led and advised a range of international and UK-based healthcare projects across technology, policy, parliamentary, commercial, and academic fields. His responsibilities included considerable international work in Qatar and Myanmar, and liaising with the UK House of Lords to support policy initiatives for public and population health.

Starting his career as a junior doctor in the UK National Health Service, Oliver transitioned out of clinical practice to pursue his passion for digital health, technology and policy. While attending University and beyond, he sat as a clinical representative and committee member for the British Pharmacological Society.

Oliver holds an MBChB Medicine degree (M.D. equivalent) and a Bachelors of Medical Science in Pharmacology from the University of Edinburgh, Scotland.

He has published academic papers and editorials in The Lancet, British Medical Journal, Health Affairs and with The King's Fund on topics spanning population health, precision medicine, antimicrobial resistance, behavioral design for smoking cessation, the economic impact of Brexit, and the diffusion of healthcare innovation across global markets.

You'll find Oliver on long hikes in the Bay Area with his enormous Bernese Mountain Dog puppy or feeding his obsession for great food, cooking and hosting fun dinner parties in the City.

Shafin Khan, J.D.
Licensing Associate, Office of Technology Transfer and Intellectual Property Development
Tulane University

Shafin Khan serves as Licensing Associate at the Tulane University Office of Technology Transfer and Intellectual Property Development. At this office, Shafin works to help researchers and students within Tulane translate bench research and other innovations into commercialized products. Previously, Shafin served as Director of Technology Commercialization at the New Orleans BioInnovation Center where he developed a life science technology commercialization program, providing business strategy and planning assistance, mentorship, and educational programming aimed at growing the life science startup ecosystem in Southeast Louisiana. At the BioInnovation Center he helped clients create over 300 jobs and raise over $80M in funding for their technologies. He also developed and grew a life science startup conference, Innovation Louisiana that is now in its sixth year.

Shafin earned his J.D. from Loyola University of New Orleans and gained his B.S.E. in Biomedical Engineering from Tulane University. Additionally, he has four years of life science research experience, performing research at the LSU Health Sciences Center.

Jeffrey Larson, Ph.D., DABT
Vice President, Nonclinical Development
Salarius Pharmaceuticals

Dr. Jeffrey Larson currently leads nonclinical development at two CPRIT-funded companies, Beta Cat Pharmaceuticals and Salarius Pharmaceuticals. He is a board certified toxicologist with 25 years' experience in the pharmaceutical/biotech industry in roles including toxicologist, pharmacokineticist and clinical researcher. Dr. Larson's previous companies include NexBio (Asun), Tanox (a Houston success story), Charles River Laboratories, Allergan and Rhone-Poulenc Rorer (now Sanofi Aventis)

Samantha Lewis
Director
GOOSE Society of Texas

Samantha's passion is entrepreneurship and building the Houston start-up ecosystem. Before attending Rice Business school, she successfully started two ventures, one of which she recently exited. The other company, New Mexico Green Chile Co, generates $3+ million in annual revenue and boasts of customers like Torchy's Tacos, HEB, Trader Joes & Whole Foods. Samantha's position at the GOOSE Society allows her access to high growth, scalable start-ups and the opportunity to help build the Houston start-up ecosystem.

During her time at Rice Business, she helped launch two tech start-ups, worked with a start-up private equity firm, participated in the Rice Alliance accelerator OwlSpark and interned at Station Houston. Samantha pitched at five business plan competitions including the Rice Business Plan Competition and the Rice Launch Competition where her start-up, Trace Matters, won the $10,000 first place prize. She received the Texas Business Hall of Fame Scholarship, the National Association of Women MBA's Scholarship, and the Jones Citizen Award. Her peers elected her as Alumni Class Ambassador for the full-time Class of 2017. Her favorite position at Rice, though, was as President of the Rice Business Wine Club, a position she used to host the inaugural Rice Business Wine Tasting Competition.

Samantha received bachelors degrees from Texas A&M University in political science and history.

Michael Liang, Ph.D.
Partner
Baird Venture Partners

Michael Liang joined Baird Capital in 2006 and concentrates on Healthcare investments. Prior to joining Baird Capital, Mike was a venture investor with Advent Venture Partners and before that served in an operating role as a Director of R&D at Cortek, a spinal orthopedics company. Mike is currently a member of the board of directors of Amphora Medical, GenomeDx Biosciences, Insightra Medical, Veniti, Zurex Pharma, Integrated Diagnostics and Apervita, serving as chairman of the board for Insightra Medical and Veniti. He was previously a board member of Interlace Medical before its acquisition in 2011 and a board observer of TomoTherapy before its public offering. Mike is a member of the advisory board for the University of Illinois Chicago's Proof of Concept Fund, Northwestern University's Innovation and New Ventures Office, the Wisconsin Alumni Research Foundation (WARF) Accelerator program and Chicago MATTER. Mike also is a member of Rush University Medical Center's Associates Board. Mike received a BS from the University of California Berkeley and a

Ph.D. in biophysical chemistry from Stanford University and conducted a postdoctoral fellowship at Harvard University.

Mike Liccardo
VP of Corporate Development and CFO
ShareVault

Mike leads financial planning and reporting, as well as corporate development. He is a senior executive with a background in storage/servers, semiconductors, networking and multimedia. Previously, Mike was CEO of Amnis Systems, VP and GM of Cirrus Logic and CEO of Lexar Media. He has an MBA from Stanford University and B.S.E.E. & M.S.E.E. degrees from UC Berkeley.

Experienced executive in digital media, cloud and SaaS, software, computer/networking, storage and semiconductor industries. Unique blend of operations, investing and business transaction (IPO, M&A, fund raising) experience. Interim management, consulting and fund raising services for growth stage companies

Specialties: Strategic planning, corporate/business development, general management, fund raising, M & A, CEO/CFO/VP GM/Board member

John Lockwood, RAC, CQA, CSQE
Director, Quality Assurance and Regulatory Affairs
Pearl Pathways

John Lockwood serves as Director of Quality Assurance and Regulatory Affairs for Pearl Pathways. He has over 25 years of experience in quality, regulatory, validation, auditing, and purchasing roles in the life sciences industry. In addition to holding a variety of positions within small and large companies, he also brings nearly a decade of experience in consulting and operations.

Prior to joining Pearl Pathways, John led the regulatory and quality function at an Indianapolis based laser medical device company. Much of his career was spent working for large multi-national companies including Abbott and Roche. He has held roles including Technical Specialist, R&D Project Manager, Operations Team Lead, Quality Control Manager, Test Method Validation Manager, Supplier Quality Engineer, Lead Auditor, Director of Quality Assurance and Regulatory Affairs, and Purchasing Manager.

As a Director of QA/RA Services, John oversees a team of advisors responsible for the development of regulatory strategies and filings, quality assurance programs, global health

authority interactions, evaluation of facilities for compliance, and GxP auditing.

John's specialties include quality assurance, internal and external audits, control and purchasing, regulatory strategy, operations, project management, lead auditor roles, and product development.

John is ANSI-RAB NAP Accredited Lead Auditor, has a Regulatory Affair Certification (RAC) from the Regulatory Affairs Professionals Society (RAPS) and is a Certified Quality Auditor Certification (CQA) and Certified Software Quality Engineer (CSQE) from the American Society of Quality (ASQ). In the past, he also received his Certified Purchasing Manager (CPM) from the Institute of Supply Management. John has a Bachelor's of Science degree in Chemistry from the University of Illinois.

Tom Luby, Ph.D.
Head
JLABS @ TMC

Tom Luby Ph.D. is the Head of JLABS @ TMC in Houston, Texas. His responsibilities include external engagement, innovation sourcing, company onboarding, portfolio management, operational excellence, educational programming and P&L. In this role, he catalyzes and support the translation of science and technology into valuable solutions for patients and consumers across the pharmaceutical, medical device and consumer healthcare sectors.

Tom joined the Johnson & Johnson Innovation family 3 years ago as a New Ventures Lead at the Johnson & Johnson Innovation Center in Boston. In that role, he was instrumental in fostering many deals for the Boston office, which included the expansion of JLABS to JLABS @ Toronto. Prior to J&J, Tom spent 14 years in various R&D and business development positions, most recently as Sr. Director, Research Ventures at Shire. Nine of those years were spent working in R&D and operational roles across three start-up biotech companies in the Boston area.

Tom received a Bachelor of Science in Biology from State University of New York, and a Ph.D. in Immunology from the Sackler School of Biomedical Sciences at Tufts University. For his post-doctoral research, Tom shifted to the study of cancer cell genetics at Harvard School of Public Health.

Gina Luna
HX Board Chair & Interim CEO
Houston Exponential (HX)

Gina Luna, a recognized leader with invaluable business insight, is a trusted advisor to CEOs and business owners. As CEO of Luna Strategies, Mrs. Luna counsels companies and their leaders on complex strategic issues and growth initiatives. She has established a reputation of partnering with owners, boards and management from a broad spectrum of industries to deliver solutions and drive results.

Mrs. Luna is a member of the Board of Directors for Tetra Technologies, Inc. (NYSE:TTI), where she serves on the Audit Committee and the Nominating and Governance Committee. She is also an advisor/board member to a number of privately-held companies.

Prior to founding Luna Strategies, Mrs. Luna held the role as Chairman of JPMorgan Chase in the Houston Region and the head of Middle Market Banking. During her 22-year career with JPMorgan Chase, she led a $150+ million revenue business, managed sizable teams and filled key leadership roles in marketing and communications, talent development, risk management and strategic planning.

As a dynamic, committed business leader, Mrs. Luna continues to be actively involved in supporting the community in which she works and lives. She is the founding chairman of the board for Houston Exponential and is a member of the board of the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas, Houston Branch and CHI St. Luke's Health System. She also serves on the board of trustees of The Welch Foundation. She was elected chairman of the Greater Houston Partnership in 2015 and served as chair of the nationally acclaimed workforce initiative, UpSkill Houston, from 2013 to 2017. She continues her service on the Greater Houston Partnership board, executive committee, and nominating committee.

Mrs. Luna is a member of the National Association of Corporate Directors, the International Women's Forum and the Texas A&M Mays School of Business Dean's Advisory Board. Mrs. Luna is active in the Young Presidents' Organization.

In recognition of her accomplishments in business and community, Mrs. Luna has received The Bob Onstead Leadership Award, is a Greater Houston Women's Chamber of Commerce Hall of Fame inductee and was named one of Houston's 50 Most Influential Women. She is a summa cum laude graduate of Texas A&M University with a Bachelor of Business Administration degree in Finance and Management.

Tim Marx
Venture Partner
Baird Capital

Tim Marx is a Venture Partner with Baird Capital based in Houston, TX where he helps pursue new investment ideas as well as build value within existing portfolio companies. Prior to joining Baird, Marx spent >15 years at The Boston Consulting Group (BCG) where he was a Partner and Managing Director in both the Houston and Mexico offices. He continues to serve as an advisor and mentor for Houston based start-ups at both TMCx and Station Houston.

Marx holds a Bachelor's degree in Finance, International Business and Spanish from The Pennsylvania State University and a MBA from the Stanford Graduate School of Business. He was a 2000-01 Fulbright Scholar at ITESM in Monterrey, Mexico.

Joe McDonough
Manager, Synthesis and Drug Delivery
SwRI

Since earning his PhD in organic chemistry in 1990, he has been working in the pharmaceutical industry. Transferring new small molecule drugs to cGMP operations and validating processes for establishing generic APIs at new sites. For the last 20 years he has been exclusively involved developing small molecule api and finished dosage, to include navigating interactions with FDA. He has experience in developing oncolytics, antivirals, diabetes, anti-inflammatories, DOD antidotes and other therapeutic and prophylactic indications and worked with most routes of administration. He currently leads pharmaceutical development at SWRI.

David B. McWilliams
Chairman
BioHouston

Mr. McWilliams has over 40 years experience in building biopharmaceutical and healthcare companies. He has been the chief executive of 5 Houston startups including Encysive Pharmaceuticals (ENCY) and Repros Therapeutics (RPRX). Previously he was President and CEO of several diagnostic healthcare companies, a senior executive at Abbott Laboratories and a management consultant with McKinsey & Co. Mr. McWilliams received an MBA in Finance from the University of Chicago and a BA in Chemistry, Phi Beta Kappa, from Washington and Jefferson College. Mr. McWilliams is Chairman of BioHouston, and a director of Greenwich Life Sciences, Novel Anti-Infective Technologies, and Cord Blood Plus.

David T. Novotny
Chief Strategy Officer
Proxima Clinical Research

David T. Novotny is the Chief Strategy Officer (CSO) of Proxima Clinical Research, Inc. an outsourcing and strategic consulting partner for emerging medical device and biotech companies. He is accountable for business operations, corporate strategy, and direction. Previously, David was SVP and Head of Novella Clinical's (an IQVIA company) MD&D and R&D business unit. As a founder of that unit, he was accountable for overall strategy, sales, success, and growth across the global business unit and its multiple therapeutic groups. During his tenure, he integrated and oversaw multiple strategic partnerships with companies, such as Abbott Labs and Johnson & Johnson, in therapeutic areas, such as cardiology, orthopedics, general surgery, diabetes, digital health, diagnostics and trauma.

Mr. Novotny has served in a number of executive and operational leadership roles in the clinic/hospital, CRO, and sponsors settings. He served as the head of operations for a UK based start-up device company and held operational leadership roles in UCB (formerly Schwartz Biosciences). While at Novella/ IQVIA he built a leading clinical development CRO in the MedTech space with a team of ~345 staff delivering quality research support and strategy in countries and regions such as North America, Europe and Asia. He also helped develop and implement a full quality management system to his Asia business unit. He has participated in over 125 clinical trials totaling nearly 52,000 patient accruals while supporting and receiving 24 product approvals to date.

He is an author of various white papers, blogs, and webinars on cardiovascular therapies, CRO outsourcing, industry guidance, and market intelligence and holds several ongoing affiliations with multiple trade and professional organizations.

David received a B.S. in Exercise Science and Business Management from the University of Iowa. He is an advisor to a number of companies in the start-up and mid-size space at various timepoints in the clinical development process.

Mike Perry, Ph.D.
Managing Director
BioScience Managers

Dr. Michael (Mike) Perry is passionate about supporting innovative healthcare companies develop and commercialize products and technologies intended to address unmet medical needs in patients. He is inspired to invest in and recurrently assume leadership roles in companies employing cutting edge medical technologies including regenerative medicines such as cell, gene and tissue therapies.

Role

Mike is currently Managing Director of Bioscience Managers Pty Ltd and CEO of Avita Medical Ltd. He concurrently serves as Adjunct Professor at the Gates Center for Regenerative Medicine at the Anschutz Medical Campus of University of Colorado, Denver and he Chairs the External Advisory Board for Translational Medicine at the Houston Methodist Research Institute.

Experience

Dr. Perry has over 30 years of experience in the healthcare industry ranging from a variety of executive roles in top tier large pharma companies, to serving as CEO for multiple Biotech/Medtech companies, and operating for as a venture partner in a US-based healthcare VC fund with ~$1.5B under management.

Qualifications

Dr. Perry earned a BSc with honors in Physics from the University of Guelph, a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine and Surgery with honors from the Ontario Veterinary College, and a Ph.D. with honors in Biomedical Pharmacology from the University of Guelph. He is also a graduate of the International Advanced Management Program at Harvard Business School.

Roberto Roitz
Innovation Director, Humana
Humana Health Ventures

“Innovation is not the product of logical thought, although the result is tied to logical structure.”
~ Albert Einstein ~

As an innovation leader, I’ve become known as go-to as it relates to breaking ground on new projects and identifying unseen value. I impact the bottom line by executing expansion balanced with meticulous exploration, a systems approach to corporate strategy, and attention to innovation metrics.

I also just really enjoy what I do. I work with very smart people who see things a little differently. As a leader, I embrace differences of opinion and cultivate an open culture that inspires synergistic collaboration. To me, different is good.

SOME OF MY FAVORITE PROJECTS INCLUDE

Collaborating with the CIO to expand Humana’s presence in Silicon Valley through the venture arm. Together, we launched a new innovation office in Palo Alto to identify early-stage companies for partnership and investment. Currently, I’ve had a key role in the development of 6 commercial deals that resulted in 2 strategic investments.

Leading my team at IXL Center to identify $1B in potential new revenue for one of the largest mobile operators in the USA.

Developing a 6-week accelerator program for the Hult Prize Foundation’s Clinton Global Initiative that helped students from around the world turn their concepts into financially sustainable social enterprises for competition.

As a business strategist, my strength lies in an ability to analyze operations and implement best practices. I’ve facilitated a major restructuring at a leading Spanish bank to put my client back on track to reach financial objectives. I’ve also supported expansion through business strategy that produced sales increases of $15M for a major pharmaceutical company.

What are you working on? I’m always connecting with entrepreneurs and those who place high value on the process of innovation. Please connect if you have a question or would like to discuss your business!

Gabriella Rowe
CEO
Station Houston

Gabriela Rowe is an experienced business leader and innovation strategist, currently serving as the CEO of Station Houston – a growing hub for startup technology companies, corporate innovation and entrepreneurship. Prior to Station Houston, Rowe was the Director of Project Management and Corporate Development at Nord Anglia Education. Beyond education, Rowe is a champion of the growth and success of Houston. Currently, she is the chair of the Learning Committee for Houston Exponential, a member of both the Greater Houston Partnership's Economic Development and Trade Committee and the Greater Houston Partnership's Executive Women's Committee, while also serving as a board member of TXRX Labs and First Tee of Greater Houston.

Jacob Setterbo, Ph.D.
Director of Grants
HIRETech

Dr. Jacob Setterbo is a Director at HIREtech, where he helps companies obtain Startup R&D Tax Credits, small business grants, and other non-dilutive incentives. Jacob has a broad engineering background, as he received his Ph.D. in Biomedical Engineering from University of California, Davis and his B.S. in Civil Engineering from The University of Texas at Austin. This technical knowledge has allowed Jacob to assist a broad variety of companies for the R&D Tax Credit, from life science startups to mobile application developers to breweries. Additionally, Jacob's experience writing R&D grant applications has provided him with a thorough understanding of the R&D process, which is beneficial to ascertain and substantiate qualified research expenditures. Jacob is a Founding Mentor for the Venture Mentoring Service (VMS) at Houston and an Advisor for the Texas Medical Center Accelerator (TMCx). Jacob also served as a reviewer for the Texas Emerging Technology Fund, a due diligence team member for the Houston Angel Network, and an Advisory Board Member for the Terry Foundation.

Larry Shaffer
Senior Vice President Marketing & Business Development
Insperity

Larry Shaffer joined Insperity in 1999 as a sales representative and has advanced within the company in several roles, including district sales manager, general manager and vice president, MidMarket Service Operations. As vice president, MidMarket Service Operations, Shaffer managed the revisioning and deployment of the MidMarket Service model. Prior to joining Insperity, he worked for a professional employer organization in San Francisco. Shaffer works with several non-profit agencies, including serving as the board advisor for Prison Entrepreneurship Program, and serving on the board of directors for Matters of Truth. Shaffer earned a Bachelor's degree from Pacific Christian College in Fullerton, California, a Master of Arts degree in Christian Studies from Luther Rice University in Lithonia, GA, and a Master of Business Administration with honors in finance and accounting from Regis University in Denver.

Gregory Stein
Licensing Associate, Office of Technology Transfer and Intellectual Property Development
Tulane University

Greg was bitten early by the tech-transfer bug as an undergraduate intern U.T. Austin’s tech transfer office and made his way to Tulane’s tech transfer office, via Tulane Law School, where he sits now. His main responsibilities include mining, protecting, and licensing Tulane’s intellectual property, as well as educating Tulane faculty, staff, and students about intellectual property laws, startup formation, and technology commercialization.

Tong Sun
Vice President of Central Operations
Houston Methodist Research Institute

Tong Sun, MS, MBA is the Vice President of Central Operations at the Houston Methodist Research Institute of the Houston Methodist Hospital in Houston, Texas. Mr. Sun began his research training in microbiology, virology, and gene therapy, and he studied leukemia at the University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, where he performed biomedical research for 10 years. Mr. Sun expanded upon his biomedical research expertise by training in business school, where he received a master of business administration (MBA). These skills enabled him to provide financial and operational management in the Department of Biomedical Engineering & Alliance for NanoHealth and the Center for Nanomedicine at the University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston. Specifically, Mr. Sun was responsible for the planning, development, submission, and post-award management of many federal, state, and industry grants with a total budget of more than $60 million, including the Center for Transport Oncophysics, funded by the National Cancer Institute's Physical Sciences-Oncology Centers. In 2010, Mr. Sun became the Director of Central Operations at Houston Methodist Research Institute, where he leads the Office of Faculty Affairs for faculty recruitment, appointment, and promotion, as well as the institute's numerous research core facilities. Mr. Sun's other important responsibilities include developing research and educational partnerships with many domestic and international academic institutions, and serving as liaison to the Houston Methodist Foundation for major fundraising initiatives. In his role as Vice President of Central Operations at Houston Methodist Research Institute, he is responsible for several key strategic initiatives, including the development, oversight, and operational implementation of the Houston Methodist Research Institute Translational Research Initiative (TRI). TRI is an internal and novel philanthropy-based funding program designed to leverage the intellectual property potential of Houston Methodist inventions for clinical translation. Mr. Sun also manages the operations of the Office of Strategic Research Initiatives, which is an institutional resource providing strategic support and management for program project grants, center grants, and institutional-funded projects. In addition, Mr. Sun further developed the institute's infrastructure by establishing the Office of Regulatory Affairs and Translational Management, which helps research investigators navigate the regulatory landscape toward Investigational New Drug or Investigational Device Exemption applications. He also helped establish the Office of Translational Production and Quality, which oversees the institute's unique facilities for product (drugs and devices) development under Good Manufacturing Practice. In addition to research and development initiatives, Mr. Sun commits his time to building educational and training programs, such as the Engineering & Medicine program in collaboration with Texas A&M University, where graduates receive both a doctor of medicine degree and a masters in engineering degree, as well as the Master in Clinical Translation Management program with the University of St. Thomas (Houston, Texas) to train students in the clinical translation process, leadership and business management for clinical translation, intellectual property protection, and regulatory affairs.

Jaye Thompson, Ph.D.
Co-founder and COO
Proxima Clinical Research

Dr. Jaye Thompson has over 30 years of experience in clinical research and currently serves as Co-Founder and Chief Operating Officer of Proxima Clinical Research, Inc., a firm assisting emerging companies in development of medical devices and drugs. Dr. Thompson was President and Founder of SYNERGOS, Inc., a contract research organization based in The Woodlands, Texas which was acquired by inVentiv Health (VTIV) in 2006. Later, Dr. Thompson was Director and Senior Vice President of Clinical and Regulatory Affairs for Repros Therapeutics Inc. (RPRX) and Opexa Therapeutics, Inc. (OPXA). Throughout her industry and consulting experience, Dr. Thompson has advised a large number of life science companies on strategic planning, clinical product development and regulatory affairs. Dr. Thompson holds a B.S. degree in Applied Mathematics from Texas A&M University and MS and Ph.D. degrees in Biostatistics from the University of Texas Health Science Center in Houston. She served on the Governor's Texas Emerging Technology Fund Advisory Committee.

Brian Toglia
President and CEO
Galiot Insurance

Toglia advises clients on their various exposures to loss during each phase of business development and leverages his relationship in the marketplace to deliver comprehensive insurance solutions. He has over a decade of risk management experience and has been specifically focusing on the life science industry since 2013. Beyond his role at Galiot, Toglia is actively involved in the life science community to include volunteer roles on a trade association board of directors and advisory council for an academic institution for pharmaceutical studies. He also contributes at an educational level on topics such as Insurance 101 for Biotech Startups, 21 CFR Part 11 (Cyber Security) and International Clinical Trials. Toglia holds 2 bachelor degrees from Pepperdine University in Business and Political Science.

Rob Tucci
Managing Director
Texas Halo Fund

Rob is a Managing Director of the Texas Halo Fund I & II, an active, personal investor, and former Chair, Life Sciences at the Houston Angel Network. Rob oversees THF's Life Science funding efforts across the country and is active in the growing Houston's Life Science eco-system. He is a judge for the University of Houston's internal Technology Gap Fund and serves as a judge for the Rice University Business Plan Competition, and New Orleans Bayou Showcase. Rob is a regular speaker and panelist at Rice University, the University of Houston, Tulane University, New Orleans BioInnovation Center and other angel events. He is the founder (1996) of Yardley Group, LLC, an active chemical development and export business serving the mining industry in South America. Rob serves on the Board of Directors of Adient Medical, Inc, and as a Board Observer with other startup life science companies. Rob holds degrees Chemistry and Business and resides in Houston with his physician wife.

Atul Varadachary, M.D., Ph.D.
Managing Partner, Fannin Innovation Studio
Fannin Innovation Studio

Dr. Atul Varadhachary is Managing Partner at Fannin Innovation Studio, Houston's most active life sciences development group. Fannin has developed an approach to successfully in-license and develop technologies from academic institutions in a city outside major biotech hubs (http://goo.gl/cFyPky) with recognition including the SBIR's "Tibbetts Award". Fannin's fifteen active technologies are split evenly between therapeutics and medical devices.

Before Fannin, Atul was President of U.S. Operations at Reliance Life Sciences, part of the Reliance Group, India's largest private company. Atul served for nine years as President & COO of Agennix, Inc. where he led advancement of Agennix's lead molecule from preclinical studies into pivotal Phase 3 human studies and helped lead a successful sale of the company. Atul served as a Senior Engagement Manager in the Houston office of McKinsey & Co. from 1994-2001.

Atul serves as an Adjunct Professor at Rice University, Baylor College of Medicine and the UT School of Public Health and is on several company and community Boards including BioHouston.

Atul received his medical training at the University of Bombay and a Ph.D. in Physiology from the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine in Baltimore, followed by a postdoctoral fellowship in Biological Chemistry, also at Johns Hopkins.

Jeffrey Wade, J.D.
Executive Vice President, Corporate and Administrative Affairs and CFO
Lexicon Pharmaceuticals

Jeffrey L. Wade is executive vice president, corporate and administrative affairs and chief financial officer of Lexicon Pharmaceuticals, Inc., having previously served as the company's general counsel and as senior vice president and chief financial officer. He has played an instrumental role in completing securities offerings for Lexicon totaling more than $1 billion; completing the acquisition of Coelacanth Corporation that established the basis for the company's small molecule drug discovery efforts; and negotiating collaborations and licenses involving more than $775 million in committed funding to the company, including strategic alliances with Sanofi, Bristol-Myers Squibb, Genentech, Ipsen and Takeda, as well as a product financing collaboration with Symphony Capital. Before joining Lexicon, Mr. Wade was a partner with the law firm of Andrews & Kurth, where his practice consisted primarily of corporate finance and securities transactions, mergers and acquisitions, and partnerships and alliances. Mr. Wade received his B.A. (Plan II) and J.D. from The University of Texas.

Nicholas Wharton
SVP, Business Development & Strategic Partnerships
Medical Metrics

Nick Wharton is a business leader and scientist with 18 years' experience in biomedical research and clinical trials. He consults with medical device manufacturers and biotechnology companies to design and implement medical imaging solutions for multi-center clinical trials. He is a cofounder and principal of Medical Metrics, a Houston-based imaging core lab that conducts specialized evaluations of medical images for clinical research studies in the fields of orthopedics, spine, ENT, neurology, cardiology and vascular medicine.

Angela Wilkins, Ph.D.
Founder and Managing Director
Mercury Data Science

Angela Wilkins is founder and Chief Scientist at Mercury Data Science (MDS) where she crafts custom solutions for her clients' complex data problems. She is also part of the advisory team at Mercury Fund. Prior to MDS, Angela was a faculty member at Baylor College of Medicine and led projects at the Center for Science and Law. She has 20 years of experience in data, science, and machine learning including biomedical applications as part of IBM's Watson AI and DARPA Simplex Project. Angela received her M.S and Ph.D. in Theoretical Physics from Lehigh University.

--- END ---