

People

A sample of goings-on in and around the biotech and pharmaceutical industry.



Greg Ryslik (photo) has joined precision medicine company Celsius Therapeutics as chief data officer, and **Michael Boretti** has joined as chief business officer. Ryslik is a statistician, data scientist and artificial intelligence researcher who was most recently vice president of data science at Mindstrong Health and previously senior director and head of data science at the electric vehicle startup Faraday Future. Boretti joins Celsius from Epizyme, where he was vice president of business development.

“Greg’s demonstrated leadership in applying machine learning to extract unique insights across a spectrum of large, complex datasets will add more power to our target and drug discovery engine, while Mike’s range of experiences, including leading corporate strategy development and partnership formation, will be instrumental to maximizing the value and impact of our platform and pipeline,” said Alexis Borisov, chairman of Celsius.

Everest Medicines has named **Wende Chen** as chief commercial officer and operating partner for the company’s founding investor, CBC Group. Chen served most recently as vice president of corporate affairs, market access and channel management at Roche Pharma China.



Clinical-stage immuno-oncology company Arch Oncology has announced the appointment of **Kirk Christoffersen** (photo) as chief

business officer, a newly created position. Christoffersen has over 20 years of experience in the biopharma industry. He was most recently senior vice president, corporate and business development at Compugen. Previously, he served as vice president, corporate development worked at GlobeImmune.

Diabetes software company Glooko has appointed **Mark Clements** chief medical officer. An associate professor of pediatrics at the University of Missouri–Kansas City School of Medicine, Clements has served on the company’s medical advisory board since its inception in 2015.

Pamela Garzone has been appointed chief medical officer of Calibr, the drug development arm of Scripps Research. She was previously vice president of early oncology development at Pfizer.

Eddie Gray has resigned as CEO of Dynavax, in conjunction with the company pulling out of immuno-oncology R&D and laying off 82 staff. Dynavax’s board has appointed **David Novack** and **Ryan Spencer**, respectively the senior vice presidents of operations and commercial, to temporary co-president positions to lead the company while it searches for a new CEO.

Xencor has announced the appointment of **Jeremy Grunstein** as vice president, business development. Grunstein joins Xencor from Amgen, where he served most recently as executive director, transactions, leading product and platform technology transactions and managing Amgen’s out-licensing and corporate equity portfolio.

Scott Gottlieb has been named a special partner at New Enterprise Associates, the venture capital firm where he spent ten years before becoming commissioner of the US Food and Drug Administration in 2017. He stepped down from that position in April.

Christopher Heery has been appointed chief medical officer of Precision BioSciences. Formerly head of the clinical trials group of the laboratory of tumor immunology and biology at the National Cancer Institute, Heery was most recently chief medical officer at Bavarian Nordic.

Centogene has named 20-year industry veteran **Sun Kim** chief strategy & investor relations officer. Kim joins the company from Shire, where he was head of corporate strategy and also responsible for investor relations in the United States.

Chockalingam ‘Palani’ Palaniappan has been appointed chief technology officer of blood test developer Epic Sciences. Palaniappan was previously a board member and executive vice president of innovation and development at Terumo BCT’s global blood management division.

René Russo has been appointed CEO and a member of the board of directors of Akreva Therapeutics. She most recently served as president and CEO of Arsanis after serving as chief development officer. Previously, she spent over a decade in R&D roles at Cubist Pharmaceuticals and Bristol-Myers Squibb.

Barcelona-based Bionure has announced the appointment of **Lucia Septien** as chief medical officer. Septien previously worked as a clinical doctor in neurology and psychiatry, then held senior medical and regulatory roles with a focus on neuroscience at major pharmaceutical companies including Pfizer, Wyeth, GSK, Servier and Ipsen. She joins Bionure from DBV Technologies, where she served as chief medical officer.

Seattle Genetics has appointed **Robin G. Taylor** to the newly created position of chief commercial officer. Taylor most recently served as vice president, immuno-oncology franchise head, oncology business unit at AstraZeneca, where he led global marketing and product teams for the metastatic urothelial carcinoma immunotherapy Imfinzi (durvalumab).

Martin Treder has stepped down as CSO of Affimed, a role he took on in 2015. Affimed’s COO, **Wolfgang Fischer**, will oversee CSO operations until a replacement has been found.

Wendy Winckler has been named CSO of Glympse Bio. She joins Glympse from the Novartis Institutes for Biomedical Research, where she was executive director of next generation diagnostics. Previously she worked at the Broad Institute of MIT and Harvard, and before that the Dana Farber Cancer Institute.

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