

March 16, 2010 CIMIT Forum Panelists

Nessan Bermingham, PhD Bio Equity Capital, Founder & Managing Partner

Nessan Bermingham is co-founder and a managing partner of Bio Equity. Prior to forming Bio Equity, Nessan was a partner at Omega Funds, a direct secondary healthcare fund that makes investments in the U.S. and Europe. Nessan opened Omega's Boston office, and led the firm's expansion into the U.S. healthcare market. While at Omega, he successfully completed multiple portfolio acquisitions, was a board member for Precisense (www.precisense.dk) and NsGene (www.nsgene.dk), and was a board observer and advisor for multiple companies. Prior to joining Omega Funds, Nessan was a partner at Atlas Venture, where he focused on the U.S. public markets and EU private biotech markets. While at Atlas he was a board member for Renovo (www.renovo.com), Arrow Therapeutics (acquired by AstraZeneca) and Cellzome (www.cellzome.com). Nessan was also a co-founder of Serentis (www.serentis-pharma.com), a UK-based biotech company. Prior to joining Atlas Venture, Nessan was a biopharma research analyst at UBS Warburg.

Nessan was a Howard Hughes Associate Fellow at Baylor College of Medicine, earned a Ph.D. in molecular biology from Imperial College London, and a B.S from Queen's University in Belfast, Northern Ireland. He has been published in several science and healthcare journals, including Science, Neuron and Development. Nessan is also a mentor in the Boston University Health Care Entrepreneurship Program. He resides in Boston, and is married with three children.

John L. Brooks III Healthcare Capital Consulting

John co-founded Prism Venture Partners in 1996, bringing a wealth of strategic, clinical, operational and financial expertise to the venture firm, and under his direction Prism completed 5 funds with \$1.25B under management. John was formerly General Manager at Pfizer/Valleylab where he developed and executed a minimally invasive surgery strategy, and with Pfizer/Strato he led the growth of a rapidly evolving vascular access medical device business. He has co-founded three life sciences companies - Songbird Hearing, Locus Pharmaceuticals and Insulet. John recently founded Healthcare Capital Consulting, offering consultation services to early stage companies.

John Haller, PhD NIBIB, Program Director Division of Applied Science and Technology (Invited)

Dr. John Haller manages the Image-guided Interventions portfolio in NIBIB's Division of Applied Science and Technology (DAST), and also serves as Liaison of International Activities for NIBIB. Dr. Haller studied brain mapping techniques at Hammersmith Hospital in London and began his imaging career in 1985 doing pulmonary PET scan studies at Washington University. His professional background in behavioral neuroscience and neuroimaging includes faculty positions in the Psychiatry and Radiology Departments at Washington University in St. Louis, as well as the Radiology Department at the University of Iowa College of Medicine.

Beth Nicklas, Esq.

Mass Life Sciences Center, Vice President and Counsel for Academic and Research Programs
(Invited)

Beth brings a diverse background of private and public sector service to her new position. She has experience in legal analysis, regulatory and policy development, program management, and performance metrics. She spent 12 years working for quasi-public and state agencies, most recently in the economic development arm of the Massachusetts Technology Collaborative. She provided consulting services to the federal government for 6 years with the Cambridge-based firm of Industrial Economics. Since November, Beth has taken the lead role in developing and codifying the Center's grant solicitation process. She has been managing the Center's Matching Grant Program through an agreement with the MTC. She has worked closely with members of the Center's Scientific Advisory Board and peer review panels who are responsible for reviewing proposals. She has provided analysis of NIH protocols that serve as the Center's review model and legal counsel in establishing a Conflict of Interest policy to ensure impartiality throughout the selection process. Beth is a graduate of Columbia University School of Law and holds a Masters in Public Administration from the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard. She was a recipient of the prestigious Bradford Fellowship awarded to outstanding managers working in state government who are admitted to the Kennedy School.

At MLSC, Beth manages the 32 grants (including 21 New Investigators, 5 Faculty Startup, and 6 Cooperative Research) that awarded \$12.6M for MLSC and \$12.6M in matching funds. She also manages the Internship Challenge Program (\$500K program that had 104 Interns placed at 5 co's; and 17 got permanent jobs); and worked on the activation of the SBMG fund.