

Accelerator Corporation Expands Operations with New Research Institution Partners

Expanded Operations Provide New Resources for Seattle and Greater Northwest Region Portfolio

Dr. Bruce Carter Appointed to Board of Directors

SEATTLE – October 20, 2016 – [Accelerator Corporation](#), a leading life science investment and management firm, today announced it has expanded operations with three new institution partners: CoMotion at the University of Washington, Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center and Oregon Health & Science University. In conjunction with these additions, Accelerator also announced the appointment of life science veteran Bruce L.A. Carter, Ph.D., to its board of directors.

“It has been a momentous year for Accelerator. Earlier this year, we launched our first two startups from our New York City portfolio, Petra Pharma and Lodo Therapeutics. Today, we’ve debuted the expansion of our strategic resources in the Seattle region with the addition of three leading research institution partners and the appointment of Dr. Bruce Carter – a true life science veteran – to our board,” said Thong Q. Le, chief executive officer of Accelerator. “These milestones reflect our mission to carefully and thoughtfully curate high-quality startups backed by promising research. It is through this kind of close collaboration with academia and industry that we are able to continue to fund and form the next generation of innovative companies poised to transform patient care.”

Founded in 2003 in Seattle, Accelerator uses a unique model of investing in life science companies. As part of its model, Accelerator provides its portfolio companies with an exclusive set of startup resources in the form of a complete business, scientific and financial toolkit necessary for running an early-stage biotechnology company. With resources like world-class institution partners, committed investment capital, experienced startup management and scientific expertise, and state-of-the-art laboratories and shared facilities, Accelerator’s portfolio companies have ground-up support that position them for long-term success.

New Institution Partners

CoMotion at the University of Washington, Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center and Oregon Health & Science University have joined Accelerator’s current syndicate of [institution partners](#) in the Pacific Northwest, bringing its total to 19 institution partnerships nationwide. By partnering with leading research institutions, Accelerator gains access to innovative global technologies and potential commercial opportunities. In turn, these institutions lend their broad expertise to Accelerator’s portfolio companies, providing them with integrated technology, research and development capabilities.

“Accelerator has played a critical role in establishing Seattle and the greater northwest region as a rapidly growing hub of life science innovation,” said Nicole (Niki) Robinson, Ph.D., vice president of business development and industry relations at Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center. “Accelerator has a differentiated model that aims to spur creation of startup companies that have built-in resources and support from the life science ecosystem continuum from day one. This collaboration combines the Fred Hutch’s own expertise and research efforts with Accelerator’s deep therapeutic development capabilities to bring forward new oncology medicines for patients in need.”

“Accelerator brings an impressive track record to investments in life science opportunities, with more than 14 startup companies formed to date,” said Vikram Jandhyala, vice president for innovation strategy at the University of Washington (UW) and executive director of CoMotion. “We have worked with Accelerator to create new startup companies based on research developed by our faculty, and we look forward to leveraging Accelerator's network and expertise in life science management and investment as a way to add value to UW researchers and CoMotion’s programs, including CoMotion Labs.”

“Collaboration is necessary to drive innovation in therapeutic development, and Oregon Health & Science University is excited to join Accelerator to bring together a broad set of experts and opportunities to support new life science startups,” said Brendan Rauw, M.B.A., CLP, vice president of technology transfer and business development at Oregon Health & Science University.

Dr. Bruce Carter Joins Board of Directors

Dr. Carter brings extensive experience in the pharmaceutical and biotechnology industries. For the past 30 years, Dr. Carter has been an affiliate professor in the Department of Biochemistry at the University of Washington. In November 2009, he joined Immune Design Corp., where he served as executive chairman of the board until 2011. Prior to joining Immune Design, Dr. Carter was a member of the management team at ZymoGenetics, Inc., where he held various positions – including CEO – from 1986 to 2009. In 1988, Novo Nordisk A/S acquired ZymoGenetics and, in 1994, Dr. Carter was appointed corporate executive vice president and chief scientific officer for Novo Nordisk. In 2000, Dr. Carter helped establish ZymoGenetics as an independent company from Novo Nordisk. He is the chairman of the boards at Xencor and the Infectious Disease Research Institute in Seattle, and currently serves on the board of directors of Enanta Pharmaceuticals, Mirati Therapeutics, TB Alliance and Dr. Reddy’s Laboratories. Dr. Carter holds a B.Sc. with honors in botany from the University of Nottingham, England, and a Ph.D. in microbiology from Queen Elizabeth College, University of London.

About Accelerator Corporation

Accelerator Corporation, established in 2003 in Seattle, is a biotechnology investment and management company with operations in Seattle and New York City. Formed by a syndicate of top-tier venture capital investors and a world-class research institution, Accelerator identifies, evaluates, finances and manages the development of emerging

biotechnology opportunities. Accelerator has built a unique solution that addresses many of the key problems associated with investing in early-stage biotechnology by providing access to venture capital, management, scientific expertise and facilities.

Since its inception, Accelerator has raised more than \$100 million in capital commitments to invest in innovative life science companies. Accelerator has assembled a team of talented professionals with deep investment, operational and scientific expertise to build high-quality life science startup companies and will continue to seek out the most exciting and potentially valuable emerging biotechnologies. Earlier this year, Accelerator announced the launch of Petra Pharma Corporation with \$48 million in Series A financing commitments and Lodo Therapeutics with \$17 million in Series A financing commitments. Both companies were formed from early-stage research originally developed by two of its New York City [institution partners](#). For more information, please go to: www.acceleratorcorp.com.

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