

## **Accelerator Corporation Announces Key Senior Leadership Appointments and Name Change to Accelerator Life Science Partners**

*Biotechnology industry veterans bring decades of experience  
in working collaboratively to innovate breakthrough life science products*

**SEATTLE, Wash. and NEW YORK** – December 13, 2017 -- Accelerator Corporation a leading life science investment and management firm, today announced the appointments of Kendall Mohler, Ph.D., to the newly created position of chief development officer, and Ian Howes to chief financial officer. The firm also announced that it has changed its name to Accelerator Life Science Partners. The new name reflects Accelerator's commitment to developing robust, long-term partnerships with its portfolio companies and to nurturing innovation and entrepreneurship within the life science community. This commitment is shared by Accelerator's current investors, including AbbVie, Alexandria Venture Investments, ARCH Venture Partners, Eli Lilly and Company, Johnson & Johnson Innovation – JJDC, Inc., the Partnership Fund for New York City, Pfizer Venture Investments, Watson Fund, WRF Capital, WuXi AppTec and 180 Degree Capital Corp.

“Innovation takes great ideas, and the translation of ideas into transformative life science products doesn't occur in a vacuum,” said Thong Q. Le, chief executive officer at Accelerator. “We believe that fostering innovation requires more than providing capital and lab space. It also requires a shared passion for advancing human health and an understanding of how to navigate the complex landscape that such advances often require. The additions of Ken and Ian to our executive team enhances our ability to make that journey — for the benefit of our investors, our portfolio companies and the talented entrepreneurs we work with, and ultimately for patients in need.”

Dr. Mohler has more than two decades of experience in the biopharmaceutical industry, including several years leading scientific research and development teams in the areas of autoimmune disease, inflammation and oncology. He was chief scientific officer and, most recently, senior vice president of research at Juno Therapeutics, Inc. (NASDAQ: JUNO), a clinical-stage cell immunotherapy company focused on re-engaging the body's immune system to treat cancer. Prior to Juno, Dr. Mohler co-founded Trubion Pharmaceuticals Inc., a biopharmaceutical company focused on the development of novel protein therapeutics to treat autoimmune and inflammatory diseases and cancer. While at Trubion, Dr. Mohler served as the company's chief scientific officer and senior vice president, and oversaw the development of several first-in-class product candidates and supported several partnerships with global pharmaceutical companies. Dr. Mohler also previously served as vice president of biological sciences at Immunex Corporation, where he played critical roles in the development and approval of Enbrel (etanercept), a multi-billion dollar product for the treatment of several autoimmune diseases. Dr. Mohler has published more than 35 manuscripts and has four issued patents and six pending patent applications. He received a Ph.D. in Immunology from the University of Texas Health Science Center and a B.S. from the University of Kansas.

Mr. Howes has over 20 years of experience in senior financial roles developing early-stage life sciences companies, including the successful completion of numerous rounds of private and public equity and debt transactions and two initial public offerings. He also managed multiple M&A transactions, including the sale of Scioderm to Amicus Therapeutics and the sale of Serenex to Pfizer. Most recently, Mr. Howes served as CFO of Heart Metabolics, a venture-backed pharmaceutical company developing an innovative therapy for the treatment of hypertrophic cardiomyopathy. Previously, he was CFO of Scioderm, a pediatric orphan disease company; CFO for Akebia Therapeutics (NASDAQ: AKBA), a biotechnology company developing pharmaceutical drugs for anemia and ophthalmology; CFO and senior vice president of corporate development at Serenex, an integrated discovery and development oncology company; and CFO and vice president of operations at Paradigm Genetics (NASDAQ: PDGM). Mr. Howes began his professional career with Coopers & Lybrand in London. He is a Chartered Accountant and has an M.B.A. from the Kenan-Flagler Business School at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

### **About Accelerator Life Science Partners**

Accelerator Life Science Partners catalyzes the development and commercialization of breakthrough biotechnology innovations. Accelerator is a trusted partner that provides the complete business, scientific and financial toolkit necessary for successfully establishing and operating an early-stage biotechnology company. Accelerator nurtures its companies across all stages and in all facets of development, setting them on a path that offers the greatest chance

for long-term success. Among these key resources are committed investment capital, experienced start-up management, world-class scientific expertise and state-of-the-art laboratories and shared facilities.

The company is uniquely positioned to provide this unprecedented collection of capabilities and resources through its partnership with top-tier investors, seasoned executive managers and world-class research institutions. The value of these collective resources has been validated over more than a decade of successful investing in life science companies that are helping to shape the rapidly evolving future of medicine and healthcare. For more information, please visit [www.acceleratorlsp.com](http://www.acceleratorlsp.com).

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