

MEMORANDUM

To: Academic Deans, Faculty, and Staff
From: C. L. Max Nikias *C. L. Nikias*
Date: November 13, 2007
Subject: Appointment of Jonathan G. Lasch as Director
of the Alfred Mann Institute

Office of the Provost

C. L. Max Nikias
Provost and
Senior Vice
President for
Academic Affairs

On behalf of the Executive Committee of the **Alfred Mann Institute** (AMI) at USC, I am delighted to announce that **Jonathan G. Lasch** has joined the institute as its new director. Dr. Lasch brings more than 25 years of experience in science and technology development and evaluation in the fields of biomedical instruments and systems, biotechnology, chemistry, and materials science. Dr. Lasch will use his experience to expand AMI's efforts to develop technologies that improve human health and the practice of medicine.

Dr. Lasch comes to AMI from Convergent Ventures, an early stage venture investment and development company, where he served as managing director. He has also served as chairman of the board and CEO of ORFID Corporation, is a director of Encode Bio, Inc., and was the founding CEO and member of the board of directors of Neurion Pharmaceuticals, Inc., all Convergent Ventures portfolio companies. Dr. Lasch has held leadership positions at Materia (a materials science company spun out of Caltech) and Cyrano Sciences (a Caltech spin-out based on chemical sensor technology), and was director of research, biotechnology, for PPG Industries.

In addition, Dr. Lasch previously served as vice president, technology development for The Scripps Research Institute, the largest not-for-profit biomedical research institute in the United States. At Scripps, he and his team worked closely with the faculty to move new technologies into development pipelines, in companies ranging from local start-ups to large multi-national corporations within the pharmaceutical, biotechnology, and medical device industries. He also helped to initiate and manage numerous academic-industrial collaborative relationships and efforts, both on campus and in other locations.

Author of numerous peer-reviewed publications and inventor on several patents, Dr. Lasch has served on the advisory committees and boards of several for-profit corporations and non-profit organizations. Additionally, he is an adjunct faculty member and former director of the Executive MBA Field Study Program at the UCLA Anderson School of Management, teaching field studies and guiding early

Announcement
Jonathan G. Lasch
November 13, 2007
Page Two

stage companies via student teams that prepare business and strategic plans. Dr. Lasch earned a Ph.D. in chemistry from the University of Texas at Austin and a B.S. in biological sciences from the University of Texas at El Paso.

I would like to take this opportunity to express the university's gratitude to **Peter Staudhammer** for his outstanding service as director of AMI. He became the institute's director in April 2003 and helped build its portfolio of biomedical technologies. We applaud his many successes.

Located on our University Park Campus, AMI is a center of biomedical innovation that bridges USC's basic scientific and engineering research with development, clinical trials, commercialization, and human health. AMI was created in 1998 through a generous gift from Mr. Alfred E. Mann, chairman of the board and CEO of MannKind Corporation, and a Life Trustee of USC.

Please join me in congratulating Dr. Lasch on his appointment as director of AMI. We all look forward to his contributions in this important role.

cc: Steven B. Sample
Todd R. Dickey
Dennis F. Dougherty
Martha Harris
Alan Kreditor
Board of Directors, AMI-USC