Vicki L. Sato, PhD, and David Meeker, M.D., Join Prize4Life’s Board of Directors

Harvard Professor, Genzyme Executive join fight against ALS

Cambridge, Mass. – July, 29 2009 - Prize4Life, a non-profit organization dedicated to achieving breakthroughs in effective treatments for Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS), is pleased to announce the appointment of Vicki L. Sato, PhD, and David Meeker, M.D., to its Board of Directors.

“Both Vicki and David bring strong leadership and an impressive track records of innovation and management to Prize4Life,” said Avi Kremer, Chief Executive Officer of Prize4Life, “Their individual and combined experience will be extremely valuable as we continue to promote research, innovation, and the discovery of a cure for ALS. On behalf of the Prize4Life Board of Directors, it is a pleasure to welcome both Dr. Sato and Dr. Meeker, and we look forward to their contributions to our future success.”

Amy Yamner, Chair of the Board, commented “Dr. Meeker and Dr. Sato have already been extremely supportive of Prize4Life, and we are greatly anticipating the expertise they will bring as Board members during this exciting phase of our organization's life. Prize4Life is currently administering two prize competitions, and is delighted to welcome David and Vicki to the family.”

Dr. Sato is Professor of Management Practice at Harvard Business School, and also Professor of the Practice in the Department of Molecular and Cell Biology, Harvard University. Additionally, she is a business advisor to Atlas Ventures and other enterprises in the biotechnology and pharmaceutical industries. Dr. Sato retired recently from Vertex Pharmaceuticals, where she had served as President since 2000. Prior to becoming President, she also served as Chief Scientific Officer, Senior Vice President of Research and Development, and Chair of the Scientific Advisory Board. Before joining Vertex, Dr. Sato was Vice President of Research at Biogen, Inc, where she led research programs in the areas of inflammation, thrombosis, and HIV disease, and participated in the executive management of the company.

Dr. Sato received her AB from Radcliffe College, and her AM and PHD degrees from Harvard University. Following postdoctoral work at both the University of California Berkeley and Stanford Medical Center, Dr. Sato was appointed to the faculty of Harvard University, first as Assistant and then as Associate Professor of
Biology. Dr. Sato is a member of the Board of Directors of the publicly held Bristol Myers Squibb Company, PerkinElmer Corporation, and Alnylam Pharmaceuticals.

Dr. Meeker is Executive Vice President, Therapeutics, Biosurgery & Transplant of Genzyme Corporation. Prior to joining Genzyme, Dr. Meeker was director of the Pulmonary Critical Care Fellowship at the Cleveland Clinic and assistant professor of medicine at Ohio State University. Dr. Meeker attended Dartmouth College and received his medical doctorate from the University of Vermont Medical School. He completed an Internal Medicine residency at Beth Israel Hospital in Boston and a Pulmonary/Critical Care fellowship at Boston University. Dr. Meeker completed the Advanced Management Program at Harvard Business School in 2000. He has authored more than 40 articles and multiple book chapters. Dr. Meeker is currently a Board member of Penwest Pharmaceuticals Inc.

About Prize4Life

Prize4Life was founded by a group of Harvard Business School students when one of them, Avi Kremer, was diagnosed with ALS at the age of 29. The first organization to utilize the prize model to address neurodegenerative disease, Prize4Life works to accelerate the discovery of a treatment and a cure for ALS by using powerful incentives to attract new people and ideas, and to leverage existing efforts and expertise in the ALS field. Among other program initiatives, the organization currently administers the ALS Biomarker Prize Challenge, the Avi Kremer ALS Treatment Prize, and the ALS Forum (www.researchals.org).

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