

About Forward Medical Science Partners (ForMS)

Forward Medical Science Partners, L.P. (ForMS) works in concert with pharmaceutical partners to enhance the breadth and flexibility of their early stage portfolios. “Partnered drug development” enables pharma to actively pursue innovation in the entrepreneurial community.

Using its capital, networks and drug development expertise, ForMS manages directed external development for pharma partners from hits-and-leads through initial proof-of-concept (PoC). ForMS can advance internal assets on hold for budgetary reasons or novel outside programs too early for acquisition. ForMS can also provide innovative molecules from its discovery program.

ForMS offers partners a critical tool to enhance the productivity of early pipelines. Innovation and prioritization are among the most challenging aspects of drug development. Working with ForMS to build more data on more molecules, a partner can make better decisions from a broader selection set at each stage-gate and realize more value from its emerging portfolio.

Senior members of the ForMS team include Standish Fleming and Dr. Bertrand Liang.

Dr. Bertrand Liang

Managing Member, Forward Medical Science Partners



Bertrand C. Liang, MD, PhD, MBA is a Managing Member for Forward Medical Science Partners. In this role, Dr. Liang together with Standish Fleming is advancing a new business model for early drug discovery. He is currently CEO of Pfenex Inc., a protein company providing solutions for lead therapeutic, reagent, biodefense and biosimilar product needs via strain engineering and production expertise. He was previously Vice Chairman at Paramount Biosciences, where he led the private equity activities globally (from Shanghai to Frankfurt), President and CEO of Tracon Pharma (an oncology-focused portfolio company), and Vice President and Site Head, Development (Pre-clinical and Clinical), as well as Vice President, New Ventures at Biogen Idec. Dr. Liang joined Idec from Amgen, where he led the development to approval of various cytokines including Neulasta, whose sales have exceeded \$8B billion since introduction into the market in 2002. Dr. Liang serves on the Boards of Directors of several organizations, including Tracon Pharma, and previously held academic positions at the National Cancer Institute, University of Colorado and University of Vermont, where he headed Human Medical Genetics. He also serves on the Board of Trustees of The Francis Parker School.