NEWS RELEASE



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Ablexis Appoints R. Scott Greer Chairman of the Board and Richard Hoffman Chief Business Officer

Expanding Senior Management Team Supports Next-Generation Platform for Antibody Drug Discovery

San Francisco, Calif. – June 22, 2010 – <u>Ablexis</u>, LLC, a biotechnology company dedicated to developing the AlivaMab Mouse, an innovative next-generation platform for antibody drug discovery, announced today the appointments of <u>R. Scott Greer</u> as chairman of the board of directors and <u>Richard Hoffman</u> as chief business officer. These important additions reunite three key leaders from the strategic, commercial and technical foundation of Abgenix, Inc., which was acquired by Amgen for \$2.2 billion in 2006. Together, they will apply more than 60 years' combined experience and know-how in the field to further enhance and execute Ablexis' business strategy.

"I am pleased to welcome Scott and Richard to the Ablexis leadership team," said <u>Larry Green</u>, Ph.D., chief executive officer of Ablexis. "Both Scott and Richard were an integral part of the success of Abgenix, guiding strategy and maximizing the value of the company's technology, and I am confident that their considerable experience will provide invaluable insights as we develop and commercialize our enhanced AlivaMab Mouse platform."

Serving as chairman of the board, Mr. Greer plans to work closely with the Ablexis management team and fellow directors in building Ablexis into a major player in the antibody technology field. He brings with him more than 25 years of experience founding and leading successful biotech companies. Mr. Greer founded and served as chief executive officer and later as chairman of the board of Abgenix, until its acquisition by Amgen in 2006. Mr. Greer also served as chairman of the board of Sirna Therapeutics before its \$1.1 billion acquisition by Merck in 2007. He is currently the managing director of Numenor Ventures LLC, a firm that provides funding and strategic advisory services to early stage companies. Mr. Greer currently serves as Chairman of Acologix, and is also on the board of Nektar Therapeutics, BAROnova, and StemCells. Previously, Mr. Greer served on several other public and private company boards, including Affymax, Anaptys Biosciences, Chimeros, CV Therapeutics (acquired by Gilead Sciences), Illumina and Inogen. Prior to forming Abgenix, Mr. Greer spent five years at Cell Genesys Inc. in senior management roles and previously held positions at Genetics Institute (acquired by Wyeth). Mr. Greer holds a B.A. in economics from Whitman College and an M.B.A. from Harvard University.

Mr. Greer commented, "I am honored to serve as chairman of the board of Ablexis and to again work closely with this visionary leadership team. It is rare to find someone with Larry's encyclopedic knowledge of antibody discovery platforms and hands-on leadership in antibody drug discovery and development. Richard brings valuable skills to the team, having led the establishment of critical deals to leverage the Abgenix technology and create value for the company. I am thrilled to be part of the Ablexis team that is developing a commercially compelling solution that is already attracting much interest in the pharmaceutical and biotechnology industry."

As chief business officer, Mr. Hoffman will lead corporate development efforts to commercialize the <u>AlivaMab Mouse platform</u>. As an accomplished biotechnology executive and entrepreneur, he is a co-founder of Phylogix, TargetRx and Keel Pharmaceuticals, where he served as chief executive officer. Mr. Hoffman served as a business development consultant for Abgenix, Surface Logix, Arsenal Medical and Ancora Pharmaceuticals. Prior to his work in venture initiation and consulting, Mr. Hoffman served as a vice president of finance and business development at Avitech Diagnostics and Hybridon, and was a junior partner at the law firm of Hale and Dorr. He holds a B.A. in biochemical sciences from Harvard College, a J.D. from Columbia University, and an M.B.A. from Wharton School of Business.

Mr. Hoffman commented on his appointment: "Recent marketplace changes have dramatically diminished commercial access to effective human therapeutic antibody discovery platforms, particularly the most successful of human antibody platforms: transgenic mice. This creates a critical gap for drug discovery companies that I believe Ablexis is uniquely positioned to close. I look forward to working with this team to achieve our twin goals of building and commercializing the AlivaMab Mouse to be the source of the next wave of human therapeutic antibodies."

About Ablexis, LLC

Ablexis, LLC, was founded in December 2009 and is based on technology established by Aliva Biopharmaceuticals, Inc. Ablexis is creating the AlivaMab Mouse, an innovative, next-generation transgenic mouse platform intended to provide the foundation for the efficient discovery and development of the next wave of human therapeutic antibodies. Ablexis has filed patent applications covering its core technologies, compositions and utilities for its AlivaMab mice. The company is based in San Francisco, Calif., and more information can be found by visiting the company's website at .www.ablexis.com.