



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

**IO Informatics, Inc. expands its Scientific Advisory Board and appoints Dr. Bruce McManus, Dr. Elgar Pichler, & Dr. Nigam Shah**

*Berkeley, California – September 28, 2010* - IO Informatics, Inc. today announced the appointment Dr. Bruce McManus, Dr. Elgar Pichler, & Dr. Nigam Shah to its Scientific Advisory Board. This further strengthens the Board that includes Dr. Johann Bauer (Max Planck Institute), Dr. Erich A. Gombocz (Chairman), Dr. Sangtae Kim (Morgridge Institute for Research), and Dr. Robert L. Stevenson (Abacus Group and ISC Publications).

Describing the purpose of the advisory board, Kashef Qaadri, Director of Sales commented, "As technology development moves forward in an area where the knowledge of the science and its application to bio-medical research is imperative to success, this advisory board will provide expert guidance in our efforts to lead the marketplace."

"I am excited to be involved with a pioneering technology platform within the bioinformatics space," said Dr. Nigam Shah. "I look forward to working with the team at IO Informatics to pursue our shared interest in integrating heterogeneous data from disparate sources to solve knowledge management problems."

Bruce McManus, MD, PhD, FRSC, FCAHS is a Professor at the UBC Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine and is Director of the James Hogg Research Centre, the Heart + Lung Institute and the NCE CECR Centre of Excellence for Prevention of Organ Failure (PROOF Centre). Dr. McManus served as the inaugural Scientific Director of the Institute of Circulatory and Respiratory Health, Canadian Institutes of Health Research and has an active clinical investigative program focused on enteroviral heart disease, transplant vascular disease, and novel blood biomarkers of heart, lung, and kidney failure and transplantation. He works in a cross-disciplinary setting focused on translational research questions enabled by computational sciences and including biomarker discovery and validation. Dr. McManus has co-authored over 350 full length publications, has been recognized by numerous awards, serves on many editorial boards and advisory committees, is committed to training and mentoring trainees, and has convened many public and private sector partnerships in research.

Elgar Pichler, PhD is Computational Biology Consultant and a W3C HCLSIG member. Dr. Pichler's research is focused on computational analysis problems across the drug discovery and development process, as well as clinical health care scenarios. He is particularly interested in the use of ontologies and other semantic web technologies in the life sciences. He is a member of the W3C Semantic Web Health Care and Life Sciences Interest Group and other academic and industry groups, where he contributes to the development of open source tools for data integration and analysis. Dr. Pichler has worked as a bio/cheminformaticist in the pharmaceutical and biotech industry for over 10 years. Most recently he was a senior manager and principal bioinformatics scientist at AstraZeneca, where he worked on knowledge management systems, text mining, dynamical systems modeling, network analysis, and visualization.



Nigam Shah, MBBS, PhD is an Assistant Professor of Medicine, Biomedical Informatics at Stanford University. Dr. Shah's research is focused on developing applications of bio-ontologies, specifically building ontology based approaches to annotate, index, integrate and analyze diverse information types available in biomedicine. He teaches regularly on how to make and use biomedical ontologies, on current trends & future directions in biomedical ontologies and on reasoning with biomedical data in the form of tutorials at professional conferences and in Stanford graduate courses. Dr. Shah holds an MBBS from Baroda Medical College, India, a PhD from Penn State University, USA and completed post-doctoral training at the Stanford Medical School. He has co-chaired the Bio-Ontologies meeting at the Intelligent Systems in Molecular Biology conference since 2008.

Robert Stanley, President and CEO of IO Informatics commented, "We are delighted to have these three luminary scientists join our existing stellar advisory board members. IO has an outstanding group of scientific advisors who bring complementary skills, experience, and perspectives to our product development. Such accomplished and notable additions contribute greatly to the acceleration of IO's efforts."

#### **About IO Informatics**

IO is at the forefront of the semantic technology wave. The company provides software and services for uniquely efficient data integration and transformative knowledge applications in life sciences, biotechnology, pharmaceutical, and medical environments. For more information visit: <http://www.io-informatics.com>.

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