HOWARD STEVENS, Ph.D. - emeritus professor of drug delivery, University of Strathclyde

Pharma tech-transfer specialist

When it comes to championing advances in the pharmaceutical sciences, Howard Stevens, Ph.D., a 40-year veteran of industry and academia, has left no stone unturned. Presently emeritus professor of drug delivery at the University of Stathclyde in Scotland, Dr. Stevens' career contributions have spanned several areas, from drug developement to scientific research and education to even entrepreneurship, where he now devotes much of his efforts on transferring technology from academia to the commercial sector.

Dr. Stevens, a native of Lancashire, England, spent the early part of his career actively focused on designing clinical drug candidates as head of pharmaceutical development for Paris drugmaker Synthélabo, which would later merge with Sanofi in 1999. While there, Dr. Stevens led the development of six new drugs marketed in Europe, including the blood pressure drug **Kerlone** and the insomnia treatment **Ambien**. Dr. Stevens also invented **Tildiem LA**, the first once-a-day oral formulation of the hypertension drug.

In 1988, Dr. Stevens returned to Scotland, where he had received his doctorate, and began a transition from big pharma to academia by joining the board of a University of Strathclyde drug-delivery spin-out PolySystems Ltd. Although the company was eventually sold to U.S.-based RP Scherer Corp., Dr. Stevens stayed and invented several time-delayed drug-delivery systems and a novel ophthalmic drug-delivery system called Optidyne.

He has played a major role in the formation and development of three successful biotech spin-out businesses.

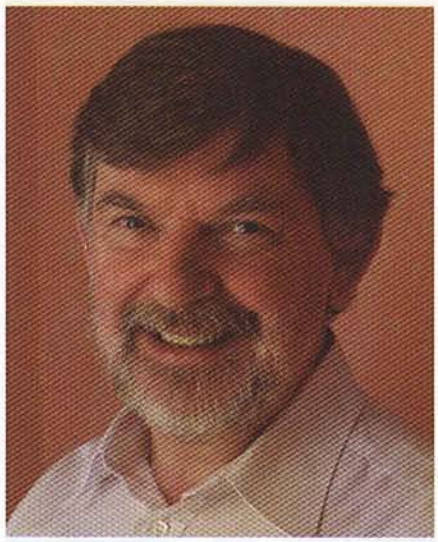
In 1995, he left Scherer to continue research pursuits in controlled release drug delivery as the **Pfizer** (pfizer.com) Professor of Explorative Drug Delivery at the University of Strathclyde.

Dr. Stevens is presently involved in the development of oral chronotherapeutic drug-delivery systems capable of releasing drugs in accordance with the circadian demands of the body and disease state. He is also developing formulations capable of targeting specific sites in the gastrointestinal tract to treat regional diseases of the lower intestine. In all, Dr. Stevens is named as inventor on 28 drug-delivery patents.

In November, Dr. Stevens was honored with the 2009 **Nexxus** Lifetime Achievement for Life Science Award. Established in 2003, Nexxus (nexxusscotland.com), a bioscience network, promotes and supports research excellence, innovation, and knowledge transfer within the life sciences community in the West of Scotland.

Dr. Stevens was recognized by Nexxus for helping raise the reputation of the Scottish biotech sector.

"It is an enormous privilege to have spent a lifetime working in the pharmaceutical sciences, firstly in industry and then more recently, in academia," Dr. Stevens said upon receiving the award.



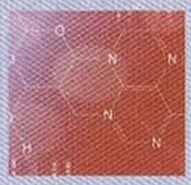
"Those of us working in this field sometimes have the opportunity of improving the nation's health, and if I have had the good fortune to have made a small contribution to this end, then I can ask for no more."

Today, Dr. Stevens remains heavily involved in the transfer of technology from academia to industry through the development of spin-out businesses. Since joining the University of Strathclyde, he has played a major role in the formation and development of three successful biotech spin-out businesses – **Bio-Images Research** Ltd. (bio-images.co.uk), **Crystallografx** Ltd., and **XstalBio** Ltd. (xstalbio.com).

This year, after receiving a "Proof of Concept" grant from **Scottish Enterprise** (scottish-enterprise.com) in relation to his current project focusing on oral drug-delivery technology, Dr. Stevens plans to launch a fourth spin-out business, called Tempus Pharmaceuticals.

Dr. Stevens also continues to focus on his role as assistant head of the Institute of Pharmacy and Biomedical Sciences at the University of Strathclyde. Of the 17 students he has assisted in completion of their doctoral degrees, four now work in academia and the remaining 13 have positions in the international pharmaceutical industry.

FAST FACTS



- Has served on government committees involved in regulatory approval of medicines and broader professional matters, including chairmanship of the Academy of Pharmaceutical Sciences of Great Britain.
- Is a Fellow of the Royal Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain and of the Royal Society of Chemistry.
- Earned a pharmacy degree from the University of London and a Ph.D. from Heriot-Watt University in Edinburgh, Scotland.