Access to Experts

Leighton Read
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Dr. Read is an entrepreneur, chief executive officer, author, investor, speaker, and an outstanding contributor to the discovery of new medicines, life science research, and public health. He founded Affymax NV (with Alejandro Zaffaroni) and Aviron, and enabled such spin-outs as Affymetrix, Maxygen, and Avidia. Notable successes include the Affymetrix GeneChip™ and Aviron's development of FluMist™, the intranasal influenza vaccine. He is a director of companies ranging from biotechnology, medical devices, materials science, cleantech and software. These include Alexza, AnaptysBio, Cambrios, Genomatica, Opal Therapeutics and Siluria. Dr. Read received a B.S. from Rice University in Psychology and Biology, an MD from the University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio, and completed internal medicine training at Duke and the Peter Bent Brigham Hospital, where he held appointments at the Harvard Medical School and School of Public Health. His research dealt with applications of decision theory in medicine and policy regarding medical innovation. He produced a successful interactive game in 1984 to promote healthy lifestyles and carried this interest to his current role as Co-founder of Seriosity and co-authored (with Byron Reeves) *Total Engagement: Using Games and Virtual Worlds to Change the Way People Work and Businesses Compete*. Dr. Read serves as a trustee or director of The BeneTech Initiative, BioVentures for Global Health, The UC Berkeley Foundation and School of Public Health Council, the Santa Fe Institute and the Institute for Systems Biology and is a member of the QB3 Industrial Advisory Board. His awards include several as co-inventor of technology underlying the Affymetrix GeneChip™ and Ernst & Young's California Life Science Entrepreneur of the Year. He is a Venture Partner at Alloy Ventures, an early-stage fund with over $1 billion under management.

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