



CALIFORNIA STATE TREASURER JOHN CHIANG

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PR 17:49
Sept. 19, 2017

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Treasurer Chiang Appoints Dr. David Martin to Board of California Institute for Regenerative Medicine

SACRAMENTO – State Treasurer John Chiang announced today he has appointed Dr. David Martin to the governing Board of the California Institute for Regenerative Medicine.

Dr. Martin, the chief executive of AvidBiotics, a commercial life sciences firm, fills the seat designated for a private-sector representative.

The Institute, created by voters in 2004, funds stem cell research with the goal of accelerating stem cell treatments to patients with unmet medical needs.

Dr. Martin has had a distinguished career in both academics and the biotech industry. He worked 20 years at UC San Francisco as a professor of medicine, before leaving in 1989 to start a career in biotech. Since then he has held a variety of leadership positions at Genentech, DuPont and Chiron. Dr. Martin subsequently founded several companies, most recently AvidBiotics.

“Dr. Martin is an ideal person to sit on the Institute’s 29-member governing board,” said Chiang. “He combines extensive business and management experience with decades of research and life-saving scientific work.”

One of his early research successes was the discovery by his UCSF lab of biochemical mechanisms responsible for immune deficiencies caused by the genetic loss of key components in children’s immune systems.

As a result, Dr. Martin became part of a National Institutes of Health team providing guidance for the first successful human gene therapy treating a severe immune system disease requiring a child to live in a bubble since their immune systems are virtually non-functional.

In his current work, Dr. Martin focuses on “translational medicine,” a branch of biomedical research that deals with basic microbiology and protein engineering to manage bacterial infections and malignancies.

“Translational aspects of stem cell technologies are beginning to permeate nearly all aspects of clinical and regenerative medicine,” Dr. Martin said. “The progress in the field has been almost explosive and I am eager to participate in furthering CIRM’s momentum.”

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