

GILEAD SCIENCES INC
Form DEF 14A
March 20, 2008
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UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

SCHEDULE 14A

(Rule 14a-101)

Schedule 14A Information

**Proxy Statement Pursuant to Section 14(a) of
the Securities Exchange Act of 1934**

Filed by the Registrant Filed by a Party other than the Registrant

Check the appropriate box:

Preliminary Proxy Statement

Confidential, for Use of the Commission Only (as permitted by Rule 14a-6(e)(2))

Definitive Proxy Statement

Definitive Additional Materials

Soliciting Material Pursuant to §240.14a-12

GILEAD SCIENCES, INC.

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(Name of Registrant as Specified In Its Charter)

(Name of Person(s) Filing Proxy Statement, if other than the Registrant)

Payment of Filing Fee (Check the appropriate box):

- No fee required.
- Fee computed on table below per Exchange Act Rules 14a-6(i)(1) and 0-11.

(1) Title of each class of securities to which transaction applies:

(2) Aggregate number of securities to which transaction applies:

(3) Per unit price or other underlying value of transaction computed pursuant to Exchange Act Rule 0-11 (set forth the amount on which the filing fee is calculated and state how it was determined):

(4) Proposed maximum aggregate value of transaction:

(5) Total fee paid:

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.. Fee paid previously with preliminary materials.

.. Check box if any part of the fee is offset as provided by Exchange Act Rule 0-11(a)(2) and identify the filing for which the offsetting fee was paid previously. Identify the previous filing by registration statement number, or the Form or Schedule and the date of its filing.

(1) Amount Previously Paid:

(2) Form, Schedule or Registration Statement No.:

(3) Filing Party:

(4) Date Filed:

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To our stockholders:

We are pleased to invite you to attend the 2008 annual meeting of stockholders of Gilead Sciences, Inc., to be held on Thursday, May 8, 2008 at 10:00 a.m. local time at the Westin San Francisco Airport in Millbrae, California.

Details regarding admission to the meeting and the business to be conducted are more fully described in the accompanying Notice of Annual Meeting of Stockholders and Proxy Statement.

Your vote is very important. Whether or not you attend the annual meeting, we hope you will vote as soon as possible. There are three ways that you can cast your ballot by telephone, by Internet or by mailing the proxy card. Please review the instructions on the proxy card regarding each of these voting options.

Thank you for your ongoing support of and continued interest in Gilead Sciences, Inc. We look forward to seeing you at the annual meeting.

Sincerely,

James M. Denny
Chairman of the Board
April 1, 2008

John C. Martin
Director, President and Chief Executive Officer

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GILEAD SCIENCES, INC.

333 Lakeside Drive

Foster City, California 94404

NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING OF STOCKHOLDERS TO BE HELD ON MAY 8, 2008

TO THE STOCKHOLDERS OF GILEAD SCIENCES, INC.:

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Annual Meeting of Stockholders of Gilead Sciences, Inc., a Delaware corporation (Gilead), will be held on Thursday, May 8, 2008 at 10:00 a.m. local time at the Westin San Francisco Airport, 1 Old Bayshore Highway, Millbrae, California 94030 for the following purposes:

1. To elect ten directors to serve for the next year and until their successors are elected and qualified.
2. To ratify the selection of Ernst & Young LLP by the Audit Committee of the Board of Directors as the independent registered public accounting firm of Gilead for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2008.
3. To approve an amendment to Gilead s 2004 Equity Incentive Plan.
4. To approve an amendment to Gilead s Restated Certificate of Incorporation to increase the authorized number of shares of Gilead s common stock from 1,400,000,000 to 2,800,000,000 shares.
5. To transact such other business as may properly come before the meeting or any adjournment or postponement thereof.

The foregoing items of business are more fully described in the Proxy Statement accompanying this Notice.

The Board of Directors has fixed the close of business on March 19, 2008 as the record date for the determination of stockholders entitled to notice of and to vote at this Annual Meeting of Stockholders and at any adjournment or postponement thereof.

By Order of the Board of Directors,

Gregg H. Alton
Secretary

Foster City, California

April 1, 2008

Important Notice Regarding the Availability of Proxy Materials for the Annual Meeting of Stockholders to Be Held on Thursday, May 8, 2008 at 10:00 a.m. local time at the Westin San Francisco Airport, 1 Old Bayshore Highway, Millbrae, California 94030.

The proxy statement, form of proxy and our 2007 Annual Report to Stockholders (which includes our Annual Report on Form 10-K) are available at <http://www.gilead.com/proxy>. The Board of Directors recommends that you vote FOR the proposals identified above.

ALL STOCKHOLDERS ARE INVITED TO ATTEND THE MEETING IN PERSON. WHETHER OR NOT YOU EXPECT TO ATTEND THE MEETING, PLEASE COMPLETE, DATE, SIGN AND RETURN (A RETURN ENVELOPE IS ENCLOSED) THE ENCLOSED PROXY AS PROMPTLY AS POSSIBLE (OR GRANT A PROXY TO VOTE BY TELEPHONE OR THE INTERNET) IN ORDER TO ENSURE YOUR REPRESENTATION AT THE MEETING. EVEN IF YOU HAVE GIVEN YOUR PROXY, YOU MAY STILL VOTE IN PERSON IF YOU ATTEND THE MEETING. PLEASE NOTE, HOWEVER, THAT IF YOUR SHARES ARE HELD OF RECORD BY A BROKER, BANK OR OTHER NOMINEE AND YOU WISH TO VOTE AT THE MEETING, YOU MUST BRING TO THE MEETING A LETTER FROM THE BROKER, BANK OR OTHER NOMINEE CONFIRMING YOUR BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF THE SHARES AND A PROXY ISSUED IN YOUR NAME FROM THE RECORD HOLDER.

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QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

1. Why am I receiving these materials?

Our Board of Directors (the Board) is providing these proxy materials to you in connection with our annual meeting of stockholders, which will take place on Thursday, May 8, 2008 (the Annual Meeting). As a stockholder, you are invited to attend our Annual Meeting and are entitled to and requested to vote on the items of business described in this proxy statement.

2. What information is contained in this proxy statement?

The information in this proxy statement relates to the proposals to be voted on at the Annual Meeting, the voting process, our Board and Board committees, the compensation of directors and certain executive officers and other required information.

3. How may I obtain a copy of Gilead's Annual Report on Form 10-K and other financial information?

A copy of our 2007 Annual Report, which includes our Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2007, is enclosed. Our 2007 Annual Report is also available at <http://www.gilead.com/proxy> or may be requested from our Investor Relations department as described elsewhere in this proxy statement. Our 2007 Annual Report is not incorporated into this proxy statement and shall not be considered proxy solicitation material.

4. Who is entitled to vote at the Annual Meeting?

Only holders of our common stock at the close of business on March 19, 2008 are entitled to receive this Notice and to vote their shares at the Annual Meeting. As of that date, there were 920,335,881 shares of common stock outstanding and entitled to vote. Each share of common stock is entitled to one vote on each matter to be voted upon at the Annual Meeting.

5. What items of business will be voted on at the Annual Meeting?

The items of business scheduled to be voted on at the Annual Meeting are:

Election of ten directors to serve for the next year and until their successors are elected and qualified;

Ratification of the selection of Ernst & Young LLP as our independent registered public accounting firm for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2008;

Approval of an amendment to our 2004 Equity Incentive Plan; and

Approval of an amendment to our Restated Certificate of Incorporation to increase the authorized number of shares of Gilead's common stock from 1,400,000,000 to 2,800,000,000 shares.

We will also consider any other business that properly comes before the Annual Meeting. See question 11, "Could other matters be decided at the Annual Meeting?" below.

6. How does the Board recommend that I vote?

Our Board recommends that you vote your shares:

FOR each of the nominees to the Board;

FOR the ratification of the selection of Ernst & Young LLP as our independent registered public accounting firm for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2008;

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FOR approval of the proposed amendment to our 2004 Equity Incentive Plan; and

FOR approval of the proposed amendment to our Restated Certificate of Incorporation to increase the authorized number of shares of Gilead's common stock from 1,400,000,000 to 2,800,000,000 shares.

7. What are the voting requirements to elect the directors and to approve each of the proposals discussed in this proxy statement?

A quorum of stockholders is necessary to hold a valid meeting. A quorum will be present if a majority of the outstanding shares is represented by votes present at the meeting in person or by proxy. Abstentions and broker non-votes are counted as present and entitled to vote for purposes of determining a quorum. A broker non-vote occurs when a nominee holding shares for a beneficial owner does not vote on a particular proposal because the nominee does not have discretionary voting power with respect to that proposal and has not received instructions with respect to that proposal from the beneficial owner.

Election of directors

Each share of our common stock outstanding on the record date will be entitled to one vote on each of the ten director nominees. Because the election of each of the nominees is uncontested, each director receiving a majority of votes cast (number of shares voted for a director must exceed the number of votes withheld from that director) at the meeting with respect to the election of such director will be elected as a director. Shares not present at the meeting and abstentions have no effect on the election of directors.

Ratification of selection of Ernst & Young LLP

The affirmative vote of the holders of a majority of the shares present in person or represented by proxy and entitled to vote at the Annual Meeting will be required to approve the proposal to ratify the selection of Ernst & Young LLP. Abstentions will be counted towards the tabulation of shares present in person or represented by proxy and will have the same effect as negative votes. Broker non-votes are not counted as votes For or Against this proposal.

Approval of the proposed amendment to our 2004 Equity Incentive Plan

The affirmative vote of the holders of a majority of the shares present in person or represented by proxy and entitled to vote at the Annual Meeting will be required to approve the proposed amendment to our 2004 Equity Incentive Plan. Abstentions will be counted towards the tabulation of shares present in person or represented by proxy and will have the same effect as negative votes. Broker non-votes are not counted as votes For or Against this proposal.

Approval of the proposed amendment to our Restated Certificate of Incorporation

The affirmative vote of the holders of a majority of the shares present in person or represented by proxy and entitled to vote at the Annual Meeting will be required to approve the proposed amendment to our Restated Certificate of Incorporation. Abstentions will be counted towards the tabulation of shares present in person or represented by proxy and will have the same effect as negative votes. Broker non-votes are not counted as votes For or Against this proposal.

8. How do I vote?

You may vote in person by attending the meeting or by completing and returning a proxy by mail, by telephone or electronically, using the Internet.

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By mail

To vote your proxy by mail, be sure to complete, sign and date the proxy card or voting instruction card and return it in the prepaid envelope. If you are a stockholder of record and you return your signed proxy card but do not indicate your voting preferences, the persons named on the proxy card will vote the shares represented by that proxy as recommended by our Board.

By telephone or on the Internet

Stockholders of record may go to <http://www.proxyvoting.com/gild> to grant a proxy to vote their shares by means of the Internet. Please have your proxy card available when you go online. You will be required to provide the Gilead number and control number printed on your proxy card. You will then be asked to complete an electronic proxy card. Any stockholder using a touch-tone telephone may also grant a proxy to vote shares by calling (866) 540-5760 and following the recorded instructions. Telephone and Internet voting facilities for stockholders of record will be available 24 hours a day, and will close at 11:59 p.m., Eastern Standard Time on May 7, 2008.

In person at the Annual Meeting

All stockholders may vote in person at the Annual Meeting. You may also be represented by another person at the meeting by executing a proper proxy designating that person. If you hold your shares in street name or otherwise have beneficial but not record ownership of shares, you must obtain a legal proxy from your broker, bank or other holder of record and present it to the inspector of election with your ballot to be able to vote at the meeting.

Your vote is important. You can save us the expense of a second mailing by voting promptly.

9. What can I do if I change my mind after I vote my shares?

If you are a stockholder of record, you can revoke your proxy before it is exercised by:

written notice to our Corporate Secretary;

timely delivery of a valid, later-dated proxy or a later-dated vote by telephone or on the Internet; or

voting by ballot at the Annual Meeting.

If you are a beneficial owner of shares, you may revoke your proxy or submit new voting instructions by contacting your bank, broker or other holder of record. You may also vote in person at the Annual Meeting as described in the answer to the preceding question.

All shares that have been properly voted and not revoked will be voted at the Annual Meeting.

10. What is the deadline for voting my shares by proxy, via the Internet or by telephone?

Votes by proxy must be received before the polls close at the Annual Meeting. Votes submitted via the Internet or by telephone must be received by 11:59 p.m., Eastern Standard Time on May 7, 2008.

11. Could other matters be decided at the Annual Meeting?

On the date this proxy statement went to press, we did not know of any matters to be raised at the Annual Meeting other than those referred to in this proxy statement. If other matters are properly presented at the Annual Meeting for consideration and you execute and deliver a proxy, then

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John C. Martin and John F. Milligan, the persons named on your proxy card, will have the discretion to vote on those matters for you.

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12. Is my vote confidential?

Yes. Proxy cards, ballots and voting tabulations that identify stockholders by name are kept confidential. There are exceptions for contested proxy solicitations or when necessary to meet legal requirements. Mellon Investor Services LLC (Mellon), the independent proxy tabulator that we have engaged, will count the votes and act as the inspector of election for the meeting.

13. Where can I find the voting results of the Annual Meeting?

We will announce preliminary voting results at the Annual Meeting and publish final results in our Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the second quarter of 2008.

14. Who will pay for the cost of this proxy solicitation?

We will pay the cost of soliciting proxies, including preparation, assembly, printing and mailing of this proxy statement and any additional information furnished to stockholders. We may reimburse banks, brokerage houses, fiduciaries and custodians for their out-of-pocket expenses for forwarding solicitation materials to beneficial owners. We have hired Mellon to act as our proxy solicitor. We will pay Mellon a fee of \$8,500, plus reasonable expenses, for these services.

15. When are the stockholder proposals for Gilead s 2009 Annual Meeting due?

You may submit proposals for consideration at future stockholder meetings. For a stockholder proposal to be considered for inclusion in our proxy statement for the annual meeting next year, the Corporate Secretary must receive the written proposal at our principal executive offices no later than December 2, 2008. Such proposals also must comply with our Bylaws and Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) regulations under Rule 14a-8 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, regarding the inclusion of stockholder proposals in company-sponsored proxy materials. Proposals should be addressed to:

Corporate Secretary

Gilead Sciences, Inc.

333 Lakeside Drive

Foster City, California 94404

Fax: (650) 578-9264

Stockholders wishing to submit proposals or director nominations that are not to be included in such proxy statement must give timely notice to the Corporate Secretary in accordance with our Bylaws, which require that the notice be received by the Corporate Secretary:

not earlier than the close of business on January 8, 2009, and

not later than the close of business on February 7, 2009.

If the date of the stockholder meeting is moved to a date more than 30 days before or 30 days after May 8, 2009, then notice of a stockholder proposal that is not intended to be included in our proxy statement under Rule 14a-8 must be delivered not earlier than the close of business on the 120th day prior to the annual meeting and not later than the close of business on the later of the following two dates:

90 days prior to the meeting; or

10 days after public announcement of the meeting date.

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16. Where can I get information related to future stockholder meetings of Gilead?

To request a copy of the proxy statement, annual report and form of proxy related to all of our future stockholder meetings, you may log on to Investor ServiceDirect® at www.bnymellon.com/shareowner/isd or contact Investor Relations at:

Gilead Sciences, Inc.

333 Lakeside Drive

Foster City, CA 94404

(800) 445-3235

Email: investor_relations@gilead.com

17. I want to attend the Annual Meeting and vote in person. Who do I contact to obtain directions to the Annual Meeting?

You may contact Investor Relations at (800) 445-3235 or investor_relations@gilead.com to obtain directions to the Annual Meeting.

18. If I have additional questions, who can I contact?

If you have any questions about the Annual Meeting or how to vote or revoke your proxy, you should contact our proxy solicitor:

Mellon Investor Services LLC

480 Washington Boulevard

Jersey City, NJ 07310

In the United States: (800) 710-0940 for registered stockholder inquiries

In the United States (TDD for those with Impaired Hearing): (800) 231-5469

From outside the United States: (201) 680-6578

From outside the United States (TDD for those with Impaired Hearing): (201) 680-6610

Banks and brokers (call our proxy solicitor collect): (866) 860-8922

Email: shrrelations@bnymellon.com (for general inquiries)

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GILEAD SCIENCES, INC.

333 Lakeside Drive

Foster City, California 94404

PROXY STATEMENT

FOR THE ANNUAL MEETING OF STOCKHOLDERS

MAY 8, 2008

INFORMATION CONCERNING SOLICITATION AND VOTING

General

The enclosed proxy is solicited on behalf of the Board of Directors (the Board) of Gilead Sciences, Inc., a Delaware corporation (Gilead, we, our or us), for use at the Annual Meeting of Stockholders to be held on Thursday, May 8, 2008 at 10:00 a.m. local time (the Annual Meeting), or at any adjournment or postponement thereof, for the purposes set forth herein and in the accompanying Notice of Annual Meeting of Stockholders. The Annual Meeting will be held at the Westin San Francisco Airport, 1 Old Bayshore Highway, Millbrae, California 94030.

Solicitation

We will bear the entire cost of soliciting proxies including preparation, assembly, printing and mailing of this proxy statement and any additional information furnished by us to stockholders. Copies of solicitation materials will be furnished to banks, brokerage houses, fiduciaries and custodians holding in their names shares of our common stock beneficially owned by others to forward to such beneficial owners. We may reimburse persons representing beneficial owners of common stock for their out-of-pocket expenses for forwarding solicitation materials to such beneficial owners. In addition, we have retained Mellon to act as a proxy solicitor in conjunction with the Annual Meeting. We have agreed to pay Mellon a fee of \$8,500, plus reasonable out-of-pocket expenses, for their proxy solicitation services. Our solicitation of proxies by mail may be supplemented by telephone, facsimile, electronic mail or personal solicitation by directors, officers or other of our employees. No additional compensation will be paid to directors, officers or other employees for such solicitation services performed by them.

We intend to mail this proxy statement and the accompanying proxy card on or about April 1, 2008 to all stockholders entitled to vote at our Annual Meeting.

Stockholder Proposals

The deadline for submitting a stockholder proposal for inclusion in our proxy statement and form of proxy for our 2009 Annual Meeting of Stockholders pursuant to Rule 14a-8 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the Exchange Act), is December 2, 2008. Stockholders wishing to submit proposals or director nominations that are not to be included in such proxy statement and proxy must do so no earlier than January 8, 2009 and no later than February 7, 2009, as currently scheduled. However, in the event that the date of the annual meeting of stockholders is advanced to a date that is more than 30 days prior to or delayed to a date that is more than 30 days after May 8, 2009, then notice by the stockholder must be delivered not earlier than the close of business on the 120th day prior to such annual meeting of stockholders and not later than the close of business on the later of the 90th day prior to the date of our 2009 annual meeting or the 10th day following the day on which public announcement of the date of the meeting is first made. Stockholders wishing to submit any such proposal are also advised to review Rule 14a-8 under the Exchange Act and our Bylaws, which contain additional requirements, including advance notice requirements, concerning stockholder proposals and director nominations.

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Voting Rights and Outstanding Shares

Only stockholders of record at the close of business on the record date, March 19, 2008, will be entitled to notice of and to vote at the Annual Meeting. Each stockholder of record on the record date will be entitled to one vote for each share of common stock held as of the record date on all matters to be voted upon at the Annual Meeting. At the close of business on March 19, 2008, we had outstanding and entitled to vote 920,335,881 shares of common stock.

A quorum of stockholders is necessary to hold a valid meeting. A quorum will be present if a majority of the outstanding shares is represented by votes present at the meeting in person or by proxy. The inspector of elections appointed for the meeting will tabulate all votes, and will separately tabulate for and withheld votes, negative votes, abstentions and broker non-votes. Abstentions and withheld votes will be counted towards the tabulation of votes cast on proposals presented to the stockholders and will have the same effect as negative votes. A broker non-vote occurs when a nominee holding shares for a beneficial owner does not vote on a particular proposal because the nominee does not have discretionary voting power with respect to that proposal and has not received instructions with respect to that proposal from the beneficial owner (despite voting on at least one other proposal for which it does have discretionary authority or for which it has received instructions). Broker non-votes are counted towards a quorum, but are not counted for any purpose in determining whether a particular proposal has been approved.

Voting in Person or by Mail

Stockholder of Record: Shares Registered in Your Name

Stockholders of record may vote in person at the Annual Meeting or vote by proxy using the enclosed proxy card. Whether or not a stockholder plans to attend the meeting, the stockholder should vote by proxy to ensure his or her vote is counted. A stockholder may still attend the meeting and vote in person if he or she has already voted by proxy. To vote in person, a stockholder may come to the Annual Meeting and we will provide the stockholder with a ballot when he or she arrives. To vote using the enclosed proxy card, simply complete, sign and date the enclosed proxy card and return it promptly in the postage paid envelope provided. If a stockholder returns a signed proxy card to us before the Annual Meeting, we will vote the stockholder's shares as he or she directs.

For Shares Registered in the Name of a Bank, Broker or Other Nominee

Most beneficial owners whose stock is held in the name of a bank, broker or other nominee receive instructions for granting proxies from their banks, brokers or other nominees, rather than our proxy card. Simply complete and mail the proxy card to ensure that your vote is counted.

Voting Via the Internet or by Telephone

Stockholders may also grant a proxy to vote their shares using the telephone or the Internet. The law of the State of Delaware, under which we are incorporated, specifically permits electronically transmitted proxies so long as each such proxy contains or is submitted with information from which the inspector of election can determine that such proxy was authorized by the stockholder.

The telephone and Internet voting procedures below are designed to authenticate stockholders' identities, to allow stockholders to grant a proxy to vote their shares and to confirm that stockholders' instructions have been recorded properly. Stockholders granting a proxy to vote via the Internet should understand that there may be costs associated with electronic access, such as usage charges from Internet access providers and telephone companies, which must be borne by the stockholder.

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For Shares Registered in Your Name

Stockholders of record may go to <http://www.proxyvoting.com/gild> to grant a proxy to vote their shares by means of the Internet. They will be required to provide the Gilead number and control number contained on their proxy cards. The voter will then be asked to complete an electronic proxy card. The votes represented by such proxy will be generated on the computer screen and the voter will be prompted to submit or revise them as desired. Any stockholder using a touch-tone telephone may also grant a proxy to vote shares by calling (866) 540-5760 and following the recorded instructions.

For Shares Registered in the Name of a Bank, Broker or Other Nominee

Most stockholders who hold their stock through a bank, broker or other nominee receive instructions for granting proxies from their bank, broker or other nominee, rather than from us.

A number of brokers and banks are participating in a program that offers the means to grant proxies to vote shares by means of the telephone and Internet. If your shares are held in an account with a participating broker or bank, you may grant a proxy to vote those shares telephonically by calling the telephone number shown on the instruction form received from your broker or bank, or via the Internet website at <http://www.proxyvote.com>.

General Information for All Shares Voted Via the Internet or by Telephone

Proxies submitted via the Internet or by telephone must be received by 11:59 p.m., Eastern Standard Time on May 7, 2008. Submitting your proxy via the Internet or by telephone will not affect your right to vote in person should you decide to attend the Annual Meeting.

Revocability of Proxies

Any stockholder giving a proxy pursuant to this solicitation has the power to revoke it at any time before the shares are voted. A stockholder of record may revoke its proxy by filing with our Corporate Secretary at our principal executive office, 333 Lakeside Drive, Foster City, California 94404, a written notice of revocation, or it may be revoked by submitting a duly executed proxy bearing a later date or by attending the Annual Meeting and voting in person. A stockholder who holds its stock through a bank, broker or other nominee may revoke its proxy or submit new voting instructions by contacting the bank, broker or other nominee. Stockholders may also vote in person at the Annual Meeting. Attendance at the meeting will not, by itself, revoke a proxy.

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PROPOSAL 1

ELECTION OF DIRECTORS

There are ten nominees for the ten Board positions presently authorized. Proxies cannot be voted for a greater number of persons than the number of nominees standing for election. Directors are elected by a majority of the votes cast (number of shares voted for a director must exceed the number of votes withheld from that director) with respect to the election of each director at the Annual Meeting. Each director who is elected will hold office until the next annual meeting of stockholders and until his or her successor is elected and qualified, or until such director's earlier death, resignation or removal. Each nominee listed below is currently a director of Gilead. Each nominee was previously elected by the stockholders at the 2007 annual meeting of stockholders.

Shares represented by executed proxies will be voted, if authority to do so is not withheld, for the election of the ten nominees named below. In the event that any nominee should be unavailable for election as a result of an unexpected occurrence, such shares will be voted for the election of such substitute nominee as our Board may propose. Each person nominated for election has agreed to serve if elected and our Board and management have no reason to believe that any nominee will be unable to serve.

Our Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee recommended each of the nominees listed below to our Board for nomination. Each member of our Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee meets the definition of independent director as defined in Rule 4200 of The NASDAQ Stock Market (NASDAQ) Marketplace Rules, as determined affirmatively by our Board of Directors.

Majority Vote Standard for Election of Directors

As part of our continuing efforts to enhance corporate governance procedures, in December 2006, our Board approved an amendment to our Bylaws to require directors to be elected by the majority of the votes cast with respect to such director in uncontested elections (number of shares voted for a director must exceed the number of votes withheld from that director). In a contested election (a situation in which the number of nominees for director exceeds the number of directors to be elected), the standard for election of directors will be a plurality of the shares represented in person or by proxy at any such meeting, in which a quorum is present, and entitled to vote on the election of directors. If a nominee who is serving as a director is not elected at the annual meeting by a majority of the votes cast with respect to such director, but is elected by a plurality of votes cast, under Delaware law the director would continue to serve on the Board as a holdover director. However, under our Board Guidelines, any director who fails to receive at least a majority of the votes cast in an uncontested election must tender his or her resignation to our Board. Our Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee would then evaluate the tendered resignation and make a recommendation to our Board whether to accept or reject the resignation or whether other action should be taken. Our Board will act on our Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee's recommendation and publicly disclose its decision and the rationale for such decision within 90 days from the date the election results are certified. The director who tenders his or her resignation will not participate in the Board's decision. If a nominee who was not already serving as a director does not receive at least a majority of the votes cast for such director at the annual meeting, under Delaware law, that nominee will not become a director and will not serve on the Board as a holdover director.

Our Board has adopted certain corporate governance principles to promote the functioning of the Board and its committees, to promote the interests of stockholders and to set forth a common set of expectations as to how the Board, its various committees and individual directors should perform their functions. Our Board Guidelines are available on our website at <http://www.gilead.com> in the Investors section under Corporate Governance.

THE BOARD RECOMMENDS A VOTE FOR EACH NAMED NOMINEE.

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Nominees

The names of the nominees in alphabetical order and certain information about them as of March 31, 2008, are set forth below:

Paul Berg, age 81, joined our Board of Directors in April 1998. He served as Professor and Chairman of the Department of Biochemistry at Stanford University School of Medicine and was, until 2000, Director of the Beckman Center for Molecular and Genetic Medicine. He is also a director and scientific advisor to Affymetrix Inc., as well as a scientific advisor to Perlegen Sciences Inc. and Burrill and Company. He is a member of the U.S. National Academy of Sciences and was awarded the National Medal of Science in 1983 and the Nobel Prize in 1980 for his fundamental studies of the biochemistry of nucleic acids.

John F. Cogan, age 60, joined our Board of Directors in July 2005. Dr. Cogan is currently the Leonard and Shirley Ely Senior Fellow at the Hoover Institution and a Professor in the Public Policy Program at Stanford University, where he has had a continuing appointment since 1980. Dr. Cogan's current research is focused on U.S. budget and fiscal policy, social security and health care. Dr. Cogan has held a number of positions in the U.S. government, including Assistant Secretary for Policy in the U.S. Department of Labor and Associate Director and Deputy Director in the U.S. Office of Management and Budget (OMB). While at the OMB, Dr. Cogan's responsibilities included the development and review of all health, housing, education and employment training programs and policies. Dr. Cogan is a director of Monaco Coach Corporation and Venture Lending and Leasing Inc. and a trustee of the Charles Schwab Family of Funds.

Etienne F. Davignon, age 75, joined our Board of Directors in September 1990. He is currently Vice Chairman of Suez-Tractebel, where he has served since 2003. In 1985, he joined Société Générale de Belgique, a diversified financial and industrial company, where he was Chairman from 1985 to 2001 and Vice Chairman until the merger of Société Générale de Belgique and Tractebel in 2003. Mr. Davignon served as the European Community's Commissioner for Industry and International Markets from 1977 to 1981 and as the European Community's Vice President for Research, Industry and Energy Policies from 1981 to 1984. Mr. Davignon is Chairman of Recticel, CMB and SN Air Holding and a director of Compagnie de Suez and Sofina.

James M. Denny, age 75, was appointed as Chairman of our Board of Directors in 2001. He joined our Board of Directors in 1996 following his retirement from Sears, Roebuck & Co., a multi-line retailer that offers a wide array of merchandise and related services, where he was Chief Financial Officer and subsequently Vice Chairman with oversight responsibility for a significant portion of the company's operations and staff functions. He previously served as Executive Vice President and Chief Financial and Planning Officer of G.D. Searle & Co., as well as Chairman of Pearle Health Services, Inc. He is a past Chairman of Northwestern Memorial Hospital and the Northwestern Memorial Foundation and has held directorships at Astra AB, ChoicePoint, Inc., The Principal Financial Group, The Allstate Corporation, and General Instruments, Inc. He is currently a director of GATX Corporation and a member of the advisory boards for several privately-held fund management companies. Mr. Denny also served as Senior Advisor at William Blair Capital Partners, Treasurer at the Firestone Tire & Rubber Co., and associate counsel at Dewey Ballantine Bushly and Wood, where he practiced law in New York and Paris.

Carla A. Hills, age 74, joined our Board of Directors in January 2007. Since 1993, she has served as the Chair and Chief Executive Officer of Hills & Company, International Consultants, a firm providing advice to U.S. businesses on investment, trade and risk assessment issues outside the United States. Mrs. Hills served as U.S. Trade Representative from 1989 to 1993, and was principal advisor on international trade to President George H. W. Bush. Under President Gerald R. Ford, she served as Secretary of Housing and Urban Development. Mrs. Hills currently serves on the international advisory boards of J.P. Morgan Chase, American International Group, Rolls Royce and the Coca-Cola Company. She is also Chair of the Inter-American Dialogue and the National Committee on U.S.-China Relations, Co-Chair of the Council on Foreign Relations and the International Advisory Board of the Center for Strategic and International Studies, a member of the Executive

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Committee of the Peterson Institute for International Economics and the Trilateral Commission, and a member of the board of the U.S.-China Business Council and the International Crisis Group.

John W. Madigan, age 70, joined our Board of Directors in December 2005. He is the retired Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Tribune Company, a media company, operating businesses in broadcasting, publishing and on the Internet. He is also a director of the McCormick Tribune Foundation and Boise Cascade Holdings, L.L.C. He also serves as a trustee of Northwestern University, Rush University Medical Center, The Chicago Council on Global Affairs and the Paley Center for Media in New York. He is a member of the Defense Business Board of the Department of Defense and is an advisor to Madison Dearborn Partners.

John C. Martin, age 56, has served as our President and Chief Executive Officer and a member of our Board of Directors since April 1996. Prior to joining us, Dr. Martin held several leadership positions in the antiviral chemistry division at Bristol-Myers Squibb Company and Syntex Corporation from 1978 until 1984. He previously served on the Centers for Disease Control/Health Resources and Services Administration's Advisory Committee on HIV and STD Prevention and Treatment. He is a member of the Presidential Advisory Council on HIV/AIDS, a member of the board of directors of the California Healthcare Institute and Gen-Probe Incorporated and a member of the board of trustees at the University of Chicago.

Gordon E. Moore, age 79, joined our Board of Directors in January 1996, and served as a member of our Business Advisory Board from July 1991 until January 1996. Dr. Moore retired from Intel Corporation, the world's largest semiconductor chip maker, where he was a co-founder and previously served as Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer. Dr. Moore is a former Chairman and now Senior Trustee of the California Institute of Technology, a member of the National Academy of Engineering and a Fellow of the Royal Society of Engineering (UK). Among his awards, he received the National Medal of Technology and the Presidential Medal of Freedom.

Nicholas G. Moore, age 66, joined our Board of Directors in March 2004. Mr. Moore is the retired global Chairman of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, a professional services firm formed in July 1998 by the merger of Coopers & Lybrand and Price Waterhouse. Prior to the merger, Mr. Moore was elected Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Coopers & Lybrand (U.S.) in 1994 and Coopers & Lybrand International in 1997. Mr. Moore serves on the Board of Directors of Bechtel Group, Inc., Network Appliance Inc., Wells Fargo & Company and two venture capital-backed, technology companies. He also served as Chairman of the Board of Trustees of St. Mary's College of California. Mr. Moore is a member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, the California Bar Association, and the California and New York Society of Certified Public Accountants.

Gayle E. Wilson, age 65, joined our board in October 2001. Wife of former Governor Pete Wilson, Mrs. Wilson served as California's First Lady from 1991 to 1999. Mrs. Wilson is a director of the College Access Foundation of California and the Ralph M. Parsons Foundation, a non-profit organization that provides higher education, social impact, civic and cultural issues and health grants. She is also the Chair of the Advisory Board of the California State Summer School for Math and Science, a member of the Board of Trustees of the California Institute of Technology, a community member to the board of the San Diego Consortium for Regenerative Medicine and a member of the board of the Burnham Institute for Medical Research.

There is no family relationship between Dr. Gordon Moore and Mr. Nicholas Moore.

Director Emeritus

In January 2006, our Board appointed Dr. George P. Shultz, one of our former directors, to serve as Director Emeritus. As an advisor to our Board of Directors, Dr. Shultz may attend Board meetings, including meetings of the Audit Committee and the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee, the committees on which he served prior to his retirement, in a non-voting capacity.

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Dr. Shultz served on our Board of Directors from January 1996 to January 2006. Dr. Shultz currently serves as Distinguished Fellow at the Hoover Institution and as a director of Fremont Group and Accretive Health. Dr. Shultz served as U.S. Secretary of State from 1982 to 1989 and earlier served as Secretary of Labor, Director of the Office of Management and Budget and Secretary of the Treasury. Previously, he served as Dean of the Graduate School of Business at the University of Chicago and as President of Bechtel Group, Inc. In 1989, Dr. Shultz was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom.

Board Committees and Meetings*Independence of the Board of Directors*

The NASDAQ listing standards require that a majority of the members of a listed company's board of directors must qualify as independent as affirmatively determined by our Board of Directors. After review of all relevant transactions and relationships between each director, and his or her family members, and us, our senior management and independent registered public accounting firm, our Board has determined that nine of our ten nominees for director are independent directors as defined in Rule 4200 of the NASDAQ Marketplace Rules. Dr. Martin, our President and Chief Executive Officer, is not an independent director within the meaning of the NASDAQ Marketplace Rules.

As required under applicable NASDAQ listing standards, our independent directors meet in regularly scheduled executive sessions at which only they are present.

Meetings of our Board of Directors; Attendance at Annual Meetings

Our Board has an Audit Committee, a Compensation Committee, a Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee and a Scientific Committee. All directors attended at least 75% of the aggregate of all meetings of our Board and of the committees on which they served during the year ended December 31, 2007. Current committee membership and the number of meetings of our full Board and committees held in 2007 are shown in the table below:

	Board	Audit Committee	Compensation Committee	Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee	Scientific Committee
Dr. Berg	Member			Member	Chair
Dr. Cogan	Member	Member			Member
Mr. Davignon	Member			Member	
Mr. Denny	Chair	Member		Member	
Mrs. Hills	Member			Member	
Mr. Madigan	Member	Member	Member		
Dr. Martin	Member				
Dr. Gordon Moore	Member		Chair		
Mr. Nicholas Moore	Member	Chair	Member		
Mrs. Wilson	Member			Chair	Member
Number of 2007 Meetings	5	12	5	3	3

Our Board expects directors to attend our annual meetings of stockholders. Eight Board members attended our 2007 annual meeting of stockholders.

*Committees of our Board of Directors**Audit Committee*

Our Board has determined that all members of our Audit Committee are independent directors as defined in Rule 4200 of the NASDAQ Marketplace Rules. Our Board has determined that each of Mr. Moore, Mr. Denny

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and Mr. Madigan is an audit committee financial expert, as defined in applicable Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) rules and applicable listing standards.

Our Audit Committee oversees, on behalf of our Board, our corporate accounting, financial reporting process and systems of internal accounting and financial controls. For this purpose, our Audit Committee performs several functions. Among other things, our Audit Committee:

evaluates the performance, independence and qualifications of the independent registered public accounting firm;

determines the engagement of the independent registered public accounting firm;

determines whether to retain or terminate the existing independent registered public accounting firm or to appoint and engage a new independent registered public accounting firm;

reviews and approves the retention and compensation of the independent registered public accounting firm to perform any proposed permissible non-audit services;

reviews and approves, in advance, all related party transactions;

monitors the rotation of partners of the independent registered public accounting firm on our engagement team as required by SEC and NASD rules;

reviews with the independent registered public accounting firm the scope, adequacy and effectiveness of, and compliance with, our accounting and financial controls and systems of internal controls;

reviews the financial statements to be included in our Annual Reports on Form 10-K and Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q; and

discusses with management and the independent registered public accounting firm the results of the annual audit and the results of their review of our quarterly financial statements.

Our Audit Committee is also responsible for establishing and maintaining procedures for receiving, reviewing and responding to complaints regarding accounting, internal accounting controls or auditing matters under the Complaint and Non-Retaliation Policy, which procedures are summarized on our website at <http://www.gilead.com> in the Investors section under Corporate Governance.

The Audit Committee charter is available on our website at <http://www.gilead.com> in the Investors section under Corporate Governance.

Compensation Committee

Our Board has determined that all members of our Compensation Committee are independent directors as defined in Rule 4200 of the NASDAQ Marketplace Rules. The members of our Compensation Committee are outside directors as determined under Section 162(m) of the Internal Revenue Code.

Our Compensation Committee has overall responsibility for approving and evaluating our executive officer compensation plans, policies and programs. These duties include:

approving the compensation philosophy for executive officers, including the compensation objectives, target pay levels and the peer group for executive compensation and performance benchmarking;

evaluating the performance of John C. Martin, our President and Chief Executive Officer, and determining his compensation arrangement each year;

determining the type and level of compensation for our other executive officers;

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overseeing the administration of our compensation plans, including our 2004 Equity Incentive Plan, Employee Stock Purchase Plan, corporate bonus plan, Deferred Compensation Plan and Code Section 162(m) Executive Bonus Plan; and

reviews and discusses the Compensation Discussion and Analysis beginning on page 41 below.

The Compensation Committee charter is available on our website at <http://www.gilead.com> in the Investors section under Corporate Governance.

Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee

Our Board has determined that all members of the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee are independent directors as defined in Rule 4200 of the NASDAQ Marketplace Rules.

Our Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee performs several functions. Among other things, our Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee:

identifies, evaluates and nominates directors for consideration by our full Board;

establishes criteria for Board and committee membership; and

reviews and recommends changes to our corporate governance policies and procedures.

Our Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee has evaluated and recommended each of the directors currently standing for election at the Annual Meeting.

Our Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee identifies and evaluates new director candidates based on a variety of criteria including:

the candidate's relevant experience;

the number and nature of other board memberships held;

the desired diversity and the collective expertise of our Board and its committees;

independence; and

possible conflicts of interest.

Our Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee also considers whether an individual will meet the highest standards of personal and professional integrity, will be able to contribute to an effective Board and will serve the long-term interest of our stockholders. In identifying potential director nominees, the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee considers Board candidates through a variety of methods and sources. These include suggestions from current Board members, senior management, stockholders, professional search firms and other sources. During 2008, we engaged Spencer Stuart to assist the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee in identifying and soliciting potential candidates to join our Board. Our Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee reviews all candidates in the same manner regardless of the source of the recommendation.

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It is the policy of our Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee to consider properly submitted stockholder recommendations of new director candidates. Any stockholder recommendation must include the candidate's name and qualifications for Board membership, the candidate's age, business address, residence address, principal occupation or employment, the number of shares beneficially owned by the candidate and information that would be required to solicit a proxy under federal securities law. In addition, the recommendation must include the stockholder's name, address and the number of shares beneficially owned. The recommendation should be sent to the Corporate Secretary, Gilead Sciences, Inc., 333 Lakeside Drive, Foster City, California 94404. The recommendation must be delivered to the Corporate Secretary prior to the applicable deadline described under "Stockholder Proposals" above.

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The charter of our Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee is available on our website at <http://www.gilead.com> in the Investors section under Corporate Governance.

Scientific Committee

Our Board has determined that all members of the Scientific Committee are independent directors as defined in Rule 4200 of the NASDAQ Marketplace Rules.

Our Scientific Committee was formed in January 2004 to advise our Board regarding our research strategies, the scientific merit of technology or products involved in licensing and acquisition opportunities and emerging science and technology issues. The charter of our Scientific Committee is available on our website at <http://www.gilead.com> in the Investors section under Corporate Governance.

Stockholder Communications with our Board of Directors

Stockholders may communicate with our Board by sending a letter to the Corporate Secretary, Gilead Sciences, Inc., 333 Lakeside Drive, Foster City, California 94404. The Corporate Secretary has the authority to disregard any inappropriate communications or to take other appropriate actions with respect to any inappropriate communications. Our Corporate Secretary reviews all communications from stockholders, but may, in his sole discretion, disregard any communication that he believes is not:

related to our business;

within the scope of our responsibility;

credible; or

material or potentially material.

If deemed an appropriate communication, the Corporate Secretary will submit a stockholder communication to our Chairman of the Board.

Code of Ethics

Our written Code of Ethics applies to all of our directors and employees, including our executive officers. The Code of Ethics is available on our website at <http://www.gilead.com> in the Investors section under Corporate Governance. Changes to or waivers of the Code of Ethics will be disclosed on the same website. We intend to satisfy the disclosure requirement under Item 5.05 of Form 8-K regarding any amendment to, or waiver of, any provision of the Code of Ethics by disclosing such information on the same website.

Executive Officers

The names of our executive officers who are not also directors of Gilead and certain information about each of them as of March 31, 2008 are set forth below.

Gregg H. Alton, age 42, is our Senior Vice President and General Counsel. Mr. Alton joined us in 1999, and was promoted to his current role in 2005. From 2001 until 2005, Mr. Alton served as our Vice President and General Counsel. From 1999 until 2001, Mr. Alton served as our Associate General Counsel. Prior to joining us, Mr. Alton was an attorney at the law firm of Cooley Godward Kronish LLP. In this role, Mr. Alton's practice focus was mergers and acquisitions, corporate partnerships and corporate finance transactions for healthcare and information technology companies. Mr. Alton is a member of the board and treasurer of the AIDS Healthcare Foundation, a member of the board of Oculus Innovative Sciences, Inc. and a member of the board of BayBio, a San Francisco Bay Area life sciences industry organization. He received his B.A. in Legal Studies from the University of California at Berkeley and his J.D. from Stanford Law School.

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Norbert W. Bischofberger, age 52, is our Executive Vice President, Research and Development and Chief Scientific Officer. Dr. Bischofberger joined us in 1990 as Director of Organic Chemistry, became Vice President of Organic Chemistry in February 1993 and was named Vice President of Research in August 1995. Dr. Bischofberger was appointed Senior Vice President, Research in January 1998. Dr. Bischofberger was named Senior Vice President, Research and Development in January 2000. He was promoted to Executive Vice President, Research and Development in November 2000 and to Chief Scientific Officer in March 2007. Prior to joining us, Dr. Bischofberger was a senior scientist in Genentech, Inc.'s DNA Synthesis group from 1986 to 1990. He received his B.S. in Chemistry at the University of Innsbruck in Austria and his Ph.D. in Organic Chemistry at the Eidgenossische Technische Hochschule (ETH) in Zurich, Switzerland and did postdoctoral work at Harvard University.

Kristen M. Metza, age 48, is our Senior Vice President, Human Resources. Ms. Metza joined us as Vice President, Human Resources in 2006 and was promoted to her current role in July 2007. Prior to joining us, Ms. Metza was Senior Vice President of Human Resources for Abgenix and Vice President of Human Resources for Applied Biosystems and Quantum Corporation. Ms. Metza received a B.A. in history and business administration, and completed her graduate work in industrial relations and organizational psychology at the University of Minnesota, Carlson School of Management.

John F. Milligan, age 47, is our Chief Operating Officer and Chief Financial Officer. Dr. Milligan joined us in 1990 as a Research Scientist, and in 1996, he became Director of Project Management and Project Team Leader for our collaboration with F. Hoffmann-La Roche Inc. on Tamiflu®. In 1998, he transitioned to Corporate Development and, in March 2000, he was promoted to Vice President, Corporate Development with responsibility for licensing, corporate partnerships and mergers and acquisitions. Dr. Milligan was promoted to Chief Financial Officer in March 2002. He was promoted to Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer in July 2003 and to Chief Operating Officer in March 2007. Dr. Milligan received a Ph.D. in Biochemistry from the University of Illinois and was an American Cancer Society postdoctoral fellow at the University of California at San Francisco.

Kevin Young, age 50, is our Executive Vice President, Commercial Operations. Mr. Young joined us in September 2004 as Executive Vice President of Commercial Operations. Mr. Young has over 20 years of experience in the biopharmaceutical industry, holding positions previously at Amgen, Inc. and Zeneca Pharmaceuticals (formerly ICI Pharmaceuticals). During his 12 years at Amgen, Mr. Young held a number of positions in Europe and the United States, most recently as Head of the U.S. Inflammation Business Unit, leading the re-launch of Enbrel® following the acquisition of Immunex Corporation. Mr. Young has undergraduate and graduate degrees in Sports Science and Exercise from Liverpool John Moores University and Nottingham University in England and has completed the Executive Program at the University of Michigan.

Table of Contents**PROPOSAL 2****RATIFICATION OF THE SELECTION OF INDEPENDENT****REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM**

Our Audit Committee has selected Ernst & Young LLP as our independent registered public accounting firm for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2008 and has further directed that we submit the selection of our independent registered public accounting firm for ratification by the stockholders at the Annual Meeting. Our Audit Committee has determined that the rendering of non-audit services by Ernst & Young LLP during the fiscal year ended December 31, 2007 was compatible with maintaining their independence. Ernst & Young LLP has audited our financial statements since our inception in 1987. Representatives of Ernst & Young LLP are expected to be present at the Annual Meeting, will have an opportunity to make a statement if they so desire and will be available to respond to appropriate questions.

Stockholder ratification of the selection of Ernst & Young LLP as our independent registered public accounting firm is not required by our Bylaws or otherwise. However, our Board is submitting the selection of Ernst & Young LLP to the stockholders for ratification as a matter of good corporate practice. If the stockholders fail to ratify the selection, our Audit Committee will reconsider whether or not to retain that firm. Even if the selection is ratified, our Audit Committee in its discretion may direct the appointment of a different independent registered public accounting firm at any time during the year if they determine that such a change would be in the best interests of us and our stockholders.

The affirmative vote of the holders of a majority of the shares present in person or represented by proxy and entitled to vote at the Annual Meeting will be required to ratify the selection of Ernst & Young LLP. Abstentions will be counted towards the tabulation of shares present in person or represented by proxy and will have the same effect as negative votes. Broker non-votes are counted towards a quorum, but are not counted for any purpose in determining whether this proposal has been approved.

Principal Accountant Fees and Services

The aggregate fees billed by Ernst & Young LLP for the years ended December 31, 2007 and December 31, 2006 for the professional services described below are as follows:

	2007	2006
Audit Fees ⁽¹⁾	\$ 3,548,000	\$ 4,000,000
Audit-Related Fees ⁽²⁾	30,000	33,000
Tax Fees ⁽³⁾	1,372,000	896,000
All Other Fees ⁽⁴⁾	2,000	2,000
Total	\$ 4,952,000	\$ 4,931,000

⁽¹⁾ Represents fees incurred for the integrated audit of our consolidated financial statements and of our internal control over financial reporting and review of the interim condensed consolidated financial statements, as well as fees incurred for audit services that are normally provided by Ernst & Young LLP in connection with other statutory or regulatory filings or engagements. During 2007, these fees also included services associated with our adoption of Financial Accounting Standards Board Interpretation No. 48, as well as our acquisition of Nycomed Limited. During 2006, these fees also included services associated with the issuance of our convertible senior notes and related transactions, our acquisitions of Corus Pharma, Inc., Raylo Chemicals Inc., and Myogen, Inc., as well as our adoption of Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 123 (revised 2004), *Share-Based Payment*, or SFAS 123(R).

⁽²⁾ Represents fees incurred for assurance and related services that are traditionally performed by Ernst & Young LLP, are reasonably related to the performance of the audit or review of our consolidated financial

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statements and are not reported under Audit Fees. During both 2007 and 2006, audit-related fees consisted of fees incurred primarily in connection with specified procedures performed by Ernst & Young LLP in relation to user-defined reports.

- (3) Represents fees primarily incurred in connection with domestic and international tax compliance. During 2006, these fees also related to the issuance of our convertible senior notes and related transactions, our acquisitions of Corus Pharma, Inc., Raylo Chemicals Inc., and Myogen, Inc., as well as our adoption of SFAS 123(R). During 2007, tax compliance fees increased due to additional tax returns, as well as ongoing work related to our 2006 acquisitions.
- (4) For both 2007 and 2006, fees for other professional services were related to access to Ernst & Young LLP's online research database. All of the services described above were pre-approved by our Audit Committee.

Pre-Approval Policy and Procedures

Our Audit Committee has adopted a policy and procedures for the pre-approval of audit and non-audit services rendered by our independent registered public accounting firm, Ernst & Young LLP. Under this policy, our Audit Committee and our Corporate Controller must both pre-approve all services to be provided by the independent registered public accounting firm, and the policy prohibits the engagement of the independent registered public accounting firm for certain specified services. The policy permits the engagement of the independent registered public accounting firm for services that are approved by our Audit Committee and our Corporate Controller in defined categories such as audit services, audit-related services and tax services. The policy also permits engagement of the independent registered public accounting firm for other services approved by our Audit Committee if there is a persuasive business reason for using the independent registered public accounting firm over other providers. The policy provides that as a general rule of thumb, the fees for these other services should be below 25% of total audit fees. Pre-approval may be given as part of our Audit Committee's approval of the scope of the engagement of the independent registered public accounting firm or on an individual explicit case-by-case basis before the independent registered public accounting firm is engaged to provide each service. The pre-approval of services may be delegated by our Audit Committee to a member of the Audit Committee. Our Audit Committee receives quarterly reports on the scope of services provided to date and planned to be provided by the independent registered public accounting firm in the future.

THE BOARD RECOMMENDS A VOTE FOR PROPOSAL 2.

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Stockholders are being asked to approve an amendment to our 2004 Equity Incentive Plan (the 2004 Plan) that will (i) increase the number of shares authorized for issuance under the 2004 Plan by 10,000,000 shares of our common stock, (ii) increase the limit on the maximum number of shares for which full value awards, such as restricted stock, restricted stock units, performance shares, performance units (to the extent settled in common stock) and phantom shares, may be issued under the 2004 Plan by 5,000,000 shares and eliminate stock appreciation rights from such limitation and (iii) expand and re-confirm the performance criteria required for vesting of one or more awards under the 2004 Plan in order to assure that the income tax deductibility of those awards granted to certain executive officers will not be subject to the \$1,000,000 per-person limitation otherwise imposed under Section 162(m) of the Internal Revenue Code (the Code).

The table below summarizes, as of February 29, 2008, the remaining share reserve under each of our equity incentive plans, the number of shares subject to outstanding awards under each such plan, the weighted average exercise price of those awards and the weighted average remaining contractual term. All amounts in such table and elsewhere in this proposal reflect the two-for-one split of our common stock effected in the form of a stock dividend on June 22, 2007.

Plan	Shares Available for Future Grant		Outstanding Awards ⁽¹⁾	
	Number of Shares	Number of Shares	Weighted Average Exercise Price ⁽²⁾	Weighted Average Remaining Contractual Term ⁽³⁾
2004 Plan	43,079,706 ⁽⁴⁾	52,444,750 ⁽⁵⁾	\$ 30.0274	8.26 years
1991 Stock Option Plan	<i>We no longer grant equity awards under this plan</i>	31,599,173	\$ 10.5932	4.62 years
1995 Non-Employee Director s Stock Option Plan	<i>We no longer grant equity awards under this plan</i>	1,834,750	\$ 5.9802	3.13 years
Triangle Pharmaceuticals 1996 Incentive Stock Plan	<i>We no longer grant equity awards under this plan</i>	416,039	\$ 9.4558	3.92 years
Corus Pharma, Inc. 2001 Stock Plan	<i>We no longer grant equity awards under this plan</i>	238,334	\$ 10.7835	6.43 years
Myogen, Inc. 2003 Equity Incentive Plan	<i>We no longer grant equity awards under this plan</i>	1,195,834	\$ 15.4058	7.04 years
Total:	43,079,706⁽⁴⁾	87,728,880	\$ 22.1234⁽⁶⁾	6.79 years⁽⁷⁾

(1) Does not take into account the 20,700 phantom shares granted to our non-employee Board members under the 2004 Plan.

(2) Represents the weighted average exercise price of the options outstanding on February 29, 2008 under each listed equity incentive plan.

(3) Represents the weighted average remaining contractual term of all options outstanding on February 29, 2008 under each listed equity incentive plan.

(4) Includes the 10,000,000 shares of our common stock for which stockholder approval is sought as part of this proposal.

(5) Includes the 576,620 shares of our common stock subject to performance share awards that will vest and become issuable upon the attainment of designated performance objectives, without any cash consideration or other payment required of the recipient.

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- (6) Represents the weighted average exercise price of all options outstanding on February 29, 2008 under all of our listed equity incentive plans.
- (7) Represents the weighted average remaining contractual term of all options outstanding on such date under all of our listed equity incentive plans.

General

We believe that a comprehensive equity compensation program serves as a necessary and powerful tool to attract, retain and incentivize individuals essential to our financial success and accordingly benefits all of our stockholders by allowing us to retain individuals who are expected to make significant contributions to the creation of stockholder value. We have structured the proposed amendment to the 2004 Plan to enable us to achieve the following objectives:

- 1. The opportunity for stockholders to review our equity incentive plan annually.** We believe it is a sound governance practice to provide our stockholders the opportunity to evaluate and vote on share increases to our equity compensation plan each year. We typically grant the majority of our employee equity awards in February each year. The share increase to the authorized reserve under the 2004 Plan for which we are now seeking stockholder approval is intended to provide us with sufficient shares to fund employee equity awards up to the 2009 annual meeting of stockholders, with a reserve for extraordinary circumstances.
- 2. Our continued ability to provide equity-based incentive compensation opportunities to substantially all of our U.S. employees and non-employee Board members, while maintaining our commitment to keep net annual dilution at less than 3% of total shares outstanding.** We intend to limit the net annual dilution resulting from our normal grant practices under the 2004 Plan to no more than 3% of our outstanding shares of common stock, subject, however, to any additional issuances that may become necessary or appropriate because of extraordinary events (such as acquisitions). Our net dilution resulting from our equity-based incentive compensation awards made in 2007, 2006 and 2005 was 1.4%, 1.5% and 1.5%, respectively. These percentages exclude options for 333,551 shares assumed in our acquisition of Corus and options for 2,927,473 shares assumed in the acquisition of Myogen, Inc. (Myogen). With respect to those assumed options, options for only 29,308 shares were granted by Corus in 2006 and options for 1,126,611 shares were granted by Myogen in 2006. If the options granted by Corus and Myogen in 2006 were added to our grants, the net dilution rate for 2006 would be 1.8%.

Net dilution refers to the percentage of the total number of shares of our common stock outstanding at the end of the calendar year that is represented by the equity-based incentive compensation grants made during such year, less any shares returned to the plan as a result of equity award terminations or forfeitures during such year.

- 3. The ability to maintain a market-competitive stock-based incentive program by having various types of equity compensation awards available under the 2004 Plan, including: stock options, restricted stock, restricted stock units, performance shares, performance units, phantom shares and stock appreciation rights.**⁽¹⁾ The various types of awards available under the 2004 Plan provide us with the flexibility to link employee performance with equity rewards and to respond to market-competitive changes in equity compensation practices. Based on where we are in our life cycle, management and our Board believe that stock

⁽¹⁾ The 2004 Plan also provides us with the ability to grant dividend equivalent rights with respect to certain types of awards made under the plan. We have never declared or paid a cash dividend and do not intend to grant any dividend equivalent rights in the foreseeable future. However, should we do so, we would treat the number of shares as to which such dividend equivalent rights are granted as subject to the 10,000,000-share limit applicable to full value share awards. In addition, the 2004 Plan does not allow us to award dividend equivalent rights with respect to shares subject to stock options or stock appreciation rights granted under the plan.

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options and, in some instances, performance shares and restricted stock units best align employee compensation with company performance. We continue to believe that stock options with an exercise price set at the full fair market value of our common stock on the date of grant will comprise the primary form of equity compensation for our broad-based employee population and non-employee Board members. For our executive officers, we also expect to grant performance shares and performance-based restricted stock units. The increase to the limit on the maximum number of shares for which full value awards may be made under the 2004 Plan for which we are now seeking stockholder approval will assure that a sufficient number of shares is available to fund restricted stock awards, restricted stock units and performance shares that we may have to make at increasing levels in order to assure that our equity arrangements remain competitive.

4. The furtherance of compensation and governance best practices. When the 2004 Plan was submitted for stockholder approval in 2004, we incorporated several provisions to protect stockholders and reflect corporate governance best practices. First, the 2004 Plan prohibits the repricing of stock options and stock appreciation rights without stockholder approval and does not contain an evergreen feature that would automatically replenish the number of authorized shares available under the plan. Second, there is a limit on the number of shares of restricted stock, restricted stock units, performance shares, performance units (to the extent settled in stock) and phantom shares (which are viewed by some stockholders as equivalent to full value shares) that may be issued under the 2004 Plan. That limit is currently 5,000,000 shares and will be increased to 10,000,000 shares if this proposal is approved. We have removed stock appreciation rights from this limit, because the amendment to the 2004 Plan also provides that upon the exercise of any stock appreciation rights granted under the 2004 Plan, the share reserve will be reduced by the gross number of shares as to which that right is exercised, and not by the net number of shares issued in settlement of such right. As a result, the exercise of stock appreciation rights under the 2004 Plan will be treated in the same manner as stock option exercises for purposes of calculating the available share reserve. Finally, the stockholder-approved 2004 Plan is the only plan under which new equity awards may be granted to our employees, other than our Employee Stock Purchase Plan.

5. The expansion and reapproval of the performance criteria under the plan will allow us to continue to award equity incentives with meaningful performance milestones that will qualify as performance-based compensation under Section 162(m) of the Code. Awards that so qualify will not be subject to the \$1,000,000 per-person limitation on the income tax deductibility of compensation paid to certain of our executive officers that would otherwise be imposed under Section 162(m) of the Code. Accordingly, awards of performance shares, performance units, restricted stock units and phantom shares that will not otherwise vest unless one or more of the performance criteria approved under the 2004 Plan are attained should be fully deductible for federal income tax purposes upon settlement. The stock options and stock appreciation rights we grant under the 2004 Plan are also designed to qualify as performance-based compensation that is not subject to the Section 162(m) limitation.

Background on Equity Compensation

Equity compensation has historically been a key element of our compensation program. We believe this practice has been a significant contributing factor to our corporate achievements and financial performance in 2007 and stockholder returns over the past three years. The ability to grant stock options, performance shares, restricted stock and restricted stock units also enables us to attract and retain the highest caliber of employees. Stock options, performance shares and performance-based restricted stock have also allowed us to link incentive rewards to company performance, to encourage employee ownership in us and to align the interest of employees and Board members with those of our stockholders.

The use of equity compensation is not unique to us, of course. Stock-based awards, and specifically stock options (but increasingly other forms of equity compensation), are a common form of compensation within our industry and are typically granted broadly throughout the organization. Without stock options, we would be at a disadvantage against our competitors for recruiting and retaining key talent in that we would be unable to offer the market-competitive total compensation arrangements necessary to attract, retain and motivate individuals

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critical to our future success. Without the ability to grant stock options (or other stock-based awards), we may be forced to increase cash compensation, thereby reducing resources available for the research and development or commercialization of our products.

We understand that stock-based compensation is a valuable and limited resource and that stockholders expect us to utilize this tool in an efficient manner. As a consequence, we have actively managed our stock plans over the past few years to meet stockholder expectations. Over the last three years, our average net annual dilution rate was 1.5% (excluding certain options assumed in the acquisitions of Corus and Myogen, as described above), and we are committed to maintaining a net dilution rate of less than 3% into the future, subject to any additional issuances that may become necessary because of extraordinary events (such as acquisitions). To stay within this limit, individual annual grants are linked directly to an employee's performance. Management and our Compensation Committee also carefully monitor and manage the total number of shares of our common stock available for issuance under the 2004 Plan, which is currently at the 50th percentile of our peer group.

We strongly believe that our equity compensation program and emphasis on employee stock ownership have been integral to our success to date, and that the equity program will continue to play a key role in our ability to achieve consistently superior performance in the years ahead. Our equity program is critical to our ability to recruit top-notch talent and to reward individual employee performance that results in increased stockholder value. Therefore, we consider approval of the increase in the shares authorized for issuance under the 2004 Plan to be vital to our continued success. Please see information under Compensation Discussion and Analysis Equity Compensation: Overview on page 49 below for more information concerning our policies and philosophy with regard to equity compensation for executive officers.

October 22, 2007 Restatement

On October 22, 2007, our Board of Directors adopted and approved a restatement of the 2004 Plan that was intended to facilitate the administration of such plan, clarify certain provisions of the plan relating to share counting and change in control transactions, and effect a series of technical revisions to the plan in order to address recent tax and accounting developments affecting the administration of the plan.

The principal changes effected by the restatement may be summarized as follows:

We clarified the gross counting provisions in effect under the 2004 Plan to assure that the share reserve is reduced by the gross number of shares that vest and become issuable under each award, and not by the net number actually issued after withholding of a portion of the shares in satisfaction of the applicable exercise price and withholding taxes.

We modified the change in control provisions to effect the following principal changes:

clarify the procedures for effecting the assumption of outstanding awards under the 2004 Plan in connection with change in control transactions involving either equity or cash consideration and

provide discretionary authority to the plan administrator to structure one or more awards so that those awards will vest in whole or in part upon a change in control event, whether or not those awards are assumed or replaced with economically equivalent awards.

We expressly authorized the following payment methods for satisfying the applicable withholding taxes in connection with the exercise, vesting or settlement of awards:

our withholding of a portion of the otherwise issuable shares,

the immediate open-market sale by the grantee of a portion of the issued shares, or

the grantee's delivery of existing shares of our common stock.

We expanded the capital adjustment provisions to allow for equitable adjustments to outstanding awards to reflect spin-off transactions and extraordinary dividends so that unfavorable accounting treatment will be avoided in the event those transactions occur.

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We effected the revisions necessary to assure that all deferral opportunities provided under the 2004 Plan comply with the applicable requirements of Section 409A of the Code.

Finally, we expanded the prohibition on the repricing of outstanding awards to include any stock appreciation rights granted under the 2004 Plan.

The 2004 Plan, as amended and restated to date, including the amendment you are being asked to vote on, is attached hereto as Appendix A. The affirmative vote of the holders of a majority of the shares present in person or represented by proxy and entitled to vote at the Annual Meeting will be required to approve the amendment to the 2004 Plan. Abstentions will be counted towards the tabulation of votes cast and will have the same effect as negative votes. Broker non-votes are counted towards a quorum, but are not counted for any purpose in determining whether this proposal has been approved. Should such stockholder approval not be obtained, then neither the proposed 10,000,000-share increase to the authorized reserve under the 2004 Plan nor the proposed 5,000,000-share increase to the maximum number of shares for which full value awards may be made under the 2004 Plan will be implemented, and the performance criteria for performance-vesting awards under the 2004 Plan will not be expanded to include the addition of the following financial metrics: earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation, amortization and stock-based compensation, market share, economic value added models and working capital targets. However, the 2004 Plan will continue in effect without those amendments, and awards will continue to be made under the 2004 Plan (as restated effective October 22, 2007) until the plan terminates on its currently scheduled May 25, 2014 expiration date.

Key Provisions

The 2004 Plan is designed to reflect prevailing corporate governance and executive compensation best practices. The following is a summary of the key provisions of the 2004 Plan, including the amendment to increase the number of shares authorized and reserved for issuance.

The summary does not purport to be a complete description of all the provisions of the 2004 Plan and is qualified in its entirety by reference to the provisions of the 2004 Plan itself.

Plan Termination Date:	May 25, 2014
Eligible Participants:	Executive officers and other employees, non-employee Board members and consultants in our employ or service or the employ or service of our subsidiaries or other related entities
Shares Authorized over Term of Plan:	101,439,407 ⁽¹⁾
Shares Available for Future Awards as of February 29, 2008:	43,079,706 ⁽²⁾
Shares Authorized as a Percent of Common Stock Outstanding on February 29, 2008 ⁽³⁾ :	10.9266%
Award Types:	(1) Incentive stock options (2) Nonstatutory stock options (3) Stock appreciation rights (4) Restricted stock (5) Restricted stock units (6) Performance units

(7) Performance shares

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(8) Phantom shares

(9) Dividend equivalent rights ⁽⁴⁾

Grant Limits Per Person Per Calendar Year:	Maximum number of stock options granted during calendar year:	2,500,000 ⁽⁵⁾
	Maximum number of shares of restricted Stock, restricted stock units, performance shares, performance units, phantom shares and stock appreciation rights granted during calendar year:	400,000 ⁽⁶⁾
	Maximum value of awards denominated in U.S. dollars granted during calendar year:	\$ 7,000,000
Limit on Maximum Number of Shares Subject to Restricted Stock, Restricted Stock Unit, Performance Share, Performance Unit (to the extent settled in shares) and Phantom Share Awards:	10,000,000 ⁽⁷⁾	
Vesting:	Determined by the Plan Administrator	
Not Permitted:	Repricing of stock options or stock appreciation rights, unless approved by stockholders	

(1) Includes (a) 70,400,000 shares authorized for issuance under the 2004 Plan, including the 10,000,000 share increase subject to stockholder approval at the Annual Meeting; plus (b) 31,039,407 shares that have as of February 29, 2008 been transferred in the aggregate to the 2004 Plan from the previously-authorized but unissued reserve under the Gilead Sciences, Inc. 1991 Stock Option Plan and the Gilead Sciences, Inc. 1995 Non-Employee Directors Stock Option Plan, including shares that were available for future award under such plans on May 25, 2004, the date the stockholders approved the 2004 Plan, and shares subject to awards outstanding under those plans on that date that have subsequently terminated or expired without the issuance of vested shares thereunder.

(2) Includes the 10,000,000 shares of our common stock for which stockholder approval is sought as part of this proposal.

(3) As of February 29, 2008, 928,370,809 shares of our common stock were outstanding.

(4) We have never declared or paid a cash dividend to stockholders in our history and do not intend to grant any dividend equivalent rights in the foreseeable future. In addition, dividend equivalent rights cannot be awarded with respect to shares subject to stock options or stock appreciation rights granted under the 2004 Plan.

(5) Under the 2004 Plan, an employee may be granted options to purchase up to an additional 1,000,000 shares of common stock in the calendar year in which his or her hire or promotion date occurs.

(6) Under the 2004 Plan, an employee may be granted restricted stock, restricted stock units, performance shares, performance units, stock appreciation rights or phantom shares for up to an additional 200,000 shares in the calendar year in which his or her hire or promotion date occurs.

(7) The increase in this limit from 5,000,000 shares to 10,000,000 shares is subject to stockholder approval at the Annual Meeting.

Eligibility

Executive officers and other employees, non-employee members of our Board of Directors and consultants in our employ or service or in the employ or service of our parent or subsidiaries (whether now existing or

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subsequently established) or other related entities are eligible to receive awards under the 2004 Plan. As of February 29, 2008, approximately 3,000 employees (including six executive officers) and nine non-employee Board members were eligible to participate in the 2004 Plan.

Share Reserve

As of February 29, 2008, 52,463,360 shares of common stock were subject to outstanding awards under the 2004 Plan, 5,859,591 shares had been issued under the plan pursuant to exercised options, settled awards and distributed phantom shares and an additional 43,079,706 shares of common stock remained available for future award, including the 10,000,000 shares for which stockholder approval is sought as part of this proposal.

As indicated in the chart above, there are limitations on the maximum number of shares for which any one participant may be granted stock options or other stock awards under the Plan in any calendar year. Accordingly, (i) no participant may receive stock options for more than 2,500,000 shares of common stock in any one calendar year (or for more than 3,500,000 shares in the calendar year of hire or promotion); (ii) no participant may be awarded restricted stock, restricted stock units, performance shares, performance units (to the extent settled in shares of common stock), stock appreciation rights or phantom shares covering more than 400,000 shares in the aggregate in any calendar year (or more than 600,000 shares in the calendar year of hire or promotion); and (iii) the value of all awards denominated in U.S. dollars granted in any single calendar year to any participant may not exceed \$7,000,000. Stockholder approval of this proposal will also constitute approval of each of those limitations for purposes of Section 162(m) of the Code. The approved limitations will assure that any deductions to which we would otherwise be entitled upon the exercise of stock options or stock appreciation rights granted under the 2004 Plan will not be subject to the \$1,000,000 limitation on the income tax deductibility of compensation paid per covered executive officer imposed under Section 162(m). In addition, shares issued pursuant to restricted stock, restricted stock units, performance shares, performance units or phantom shares awarded under the 2004 Plan may also qualify as performance-based compensation that is not subject to the Section 162(m) limitation, if the award covering those shares is approved by our Compensation Committee and the vesting of such award is tied to the attainment of the performance milestones based on one or more of the performance criteria discussed below.

The shares of common stock issuable under the 2004 Plan may be drawn from shares of our authorized or unissued shares or from shares reacquired by us, including shares repurchased on the open market. Shares subject to any outstanding options or other awards under the 2004 Plan that are forfeited, canceled or expire are deemed not to have been issued for purposes of determining the maximum number of shares which may be issued in the aggregate under the 2004 Plan. Unvested shares that are forfeited or repurchased by us at the lower of their original purchase price or their fair market value at the time of repurchase will become available for future grant.

The following share counting provisions are currently in effect under the 2004 Plan:

Should the exercise price of an option under the 2004 Plan be paid with shares of common stock, the authorized reserve under the 2004 Plan will be reduced by the gross number of shares for which that option is exercised, and not by the net number of shares issued under the exercised stock option.

Upon the exercise of a stock appreciation right granted under the 2004 Plan, the share reserve will be reduced by the gross number of shares as to which that stock appreciation right is exercised, and not by the net number of shares issued in settlement of the exercised stock appreciation right.

Should shares of common stock otherwise issuable under the 2004 Plan be withheld in satisfaction of the applicable withholding taxes incurred in connection with the exercise, vesting or settlement of an award under the 2004 Plan, then the number of shares of common stock available for issuance under the 2004 Plan will be reduced by the gross number of shares issuable at that time under such award, calculated prior to such share withholding.

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Valuation

The fair market value per share of our common stock on any relevant date under the 2004 Plan will be deemed to be equal to the closing sale price per share of our common stock on the immediately preceding trading date on the primary market on which our common stock is at the time traded. On February 29, 2008, the fair market value was \$45.46 per share, based on the closing sale price of our common stock on February 28, 2008 on the NASDAQ Global Select Market.

Administration

The Compensation Committee of our Board of Directors serves as the primary administrator of the 2004 Plan and has the exclusive authority to administer the 2004 Plan with respect to our executive officers and the non-employee members of our Board of Directors. However, our Board of Directors may administer the 2004 Plan with respect to eligible individuals other than executive officers and non-employee Board members and may also authorize one or more of Board committees or one or more of our officers to grant awards under the 2004 Plan to those eligible individuals. The term Plan Administrator, as used in this summary, means our Compensation Committee, our Board of Directors, any other committee of our Board and any officer or officers granted administrative authority under the 2004 Plan, to the extent each such entity or person is acting within the scope of such person's or entity's administrative jurisdiction under the 2004 Plan.

The Plan Administrator has the discretion to select the eligible individuals to whom awards are to be granted under the 2004 Plan and the terms and conditions of each award, including the number of shares of common stock underlying the award or the dollar amount of any cash award made under the plan, the vesting schedule in effect for the award, the issuance schedule for the shares to be issued in settlement of the award, the maximum term of the award and the provisions for satisfying the applicable withholding taxes upon the exercise, vesting or settlement of the award.

Awards

The 2004 Plan provides for the following types of awards: incentive stock options, nonstatutory stock options, stock appreciation rights, dividend equivalent rights, restricted stock, restricted stock units, performance units, performance shares and phantom shares. However, dividend equivalent rights may not be awarded with respect to shares of our common stock subject to stock options or stock appreciation rights granted under the 2004 Plan. Awards under the 2004 Plan will vest upon the completion of a designated service period and/or the attainment of pre-established performance goals.

To assure that the compensation attributable to one or more awards under the 2004 Plan will qualify as performance-based compensation that will not be subject to the \$1,000,000 limitation on the income tax deductibility of the compensation paid per covered executive officer under Section 162(m) of the Code, our Compensation Committee will have the discretionary authority to structure one or more awards so that the shares of common stock subject to those particular awards will vest only upon the achievement of certain pre-established performance goals. Such goals may be based on one or more of the following criteria: (i) revenue or revenue growth, (ii) achievement of specified milestones in the discovery and development of one or more of our products, (iii) achievement of specified milestones in the commercialization of one or more of our products, (iv) achievement of specified milestones in the manufacturing of one or more of our products, (v) expense targets, (vi) personal management objectives, (vii) stock price (including, but not limited to, growth measures and total stockholder return), (viii) earnings per share, (ix) operating efficiency, (x) operating margin, (xi) gross margin, (xii) return measures (including, but not limited to, return on assets, capital, equity, or sales), (xiii) net sales growth, (xiv) productivity ratios, (xv) operating income, (xvi) net operating profit, (xvii) net earnings or net income (before or after taxes), (xviii) cash flow (including, but not limited to, operating cash flow, free cash flow, and cash flow return on capital), (xix) earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation, amortization and/or stock-based compensation expense, (xx) economic value added, (xxi) market share, (xxii) customer satisfaction,

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(xxiii) working capital targets, and (xxiv) with respect to awards not intended to be performance-based compensation under Section 162(m), other measures of performance selected by the Plan Administrator.

Such performance criteria may be stated in terms of the attainment of specified levels of our performance relative to the performance of other entities and may also be based on the performance of any of our business units or divisions of any parent or subsidiary company. Each applicable performance criteria may include a minimum threshold level of performance below which no award will be earned, levels of performance at which specified portions of an award will be earned and a maximum level of performance at which an award will be fully earned. Each applicable performance criteria may be structured at the time of the award to provide for appropriate adjustment for one or more of the following items: (A) asset impairments or write-downs; (B) litigation judgments or claim settlements; (C) the effect of changes in tax law, accounting principles or other laws, regulations or provisions affecting reported results; (D) the effect of exchange rates for non-US dollar denominated net sales or goals based on operating profit, earnings or income; (E) accruals for reorganization and restructuring programs; (F) any extraordinary nonrecurring items as described in Accounting Principles Board Opinion No. 30 (as amended) and/or in management's discussion and analysis of financial condition and results of operations appearing in our Annual Report on Form 10-K filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission for the applicable year, (G) the operations of any business acquired by us or any parent or subsidiary or of any joint venture established by us or any parent or subsidiary; (H) the divestiture of one or more business operations or the assets thereof; or (I) the effect of any change in the outstanding shares of our common stock effected by reason of a stock split, stock dividend, stock repurchase, reorganization, recapitalization, merger, consolidation, spin-off, combination or exchange of shares or other similar corporate change or any distributions to our stockholders other than regular cash dividends.

The principal features of the various types of awards authorized under the 2004 Plan may be summarized as follows:

Stock Options. The exercise price of stock options granted under the 2004 Plan may not be less than the fair market value of our common stock on the grant date, and no stock option may have a term in excess of ten years. The granted option will generally become exercisable in one or more installments over a specified period of service measured from the grant date. Payment of the exercise price may be made in cash or in shares of our common stock. The option may also be exercised through a broker-dealer sale and remittance procedure pursuant to which the optionee effects a same day exercise of the option and sale of the purchased shares in order to cover the exercise price for the purchased shares and the applicable withholding taxes.

Stock Appreciation Rights. A stock appreciation right granted under the 2004 Plan will allow the holder to exercise that right as to a specific number of shares of common stock and receive in exchange an appreciation distribution from us in an amount equal to the excess of (i) the fair market value of the shares of common stock as to which the stock appreciation right is exercised over (ii) the aggregate base price in effect for those shares. The base price per share may not be less than the fair market value per share of the common stock on the date the stock appreciation right is granted, and the right may not have a term in excess of ten years. The distribution may be made in cash or in shares of our common stock.

Restricted Stock. The Plan Administrator may make awards of unvested shares of our common stock. The Plan Administrator will determine the vesting schedule of those shares at the time of the award (including any performance-vesting requirements), the amount of consideration to be paid, if any, for the restricted stock and the form in which such consideration may be paid.

Restricted Stock Units. A restricted stock unit awarded under the 2004 Plan will entitle the holder to receive one share of our common stock upon the completion of a designated service period and/or the attainment of specified performance objectives as determined by the Plan Administrator. The shares of common stock underlying the restricted stock units may be issued immediately upon vesting or may be deferred to a later date, as described below.

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Performance Shares. A performance share award will be denominated in shares of our common stock. At the time of the award, the Plan Administrator will determine the performance goals to be attained in order for the underlying shares to vest, any additional period of service required of the grantee after the performance goals are attained, the amount of consideration to be paid, if any, for the performance shares and the form in which such consideration may be paid. The performance shares which vest under the terms of the award may be settled in shares of our common stock or in cash. Settlement may occur at the time of vesting or may be deferred to a later date, as described below.

Performance Units. A performance unit award will be denominated in terms of a fixed dollar amount. At the time of the award, the Plan Administrator will determine the performance goals to be attained in order for the performance units to vest and any additional period of service required of the grantee after those performance goals are attained. The performance units which vest under the terms of the award will be paid in cash or may, at the discretion of the Plan Administrator, be settled in shares of our common stock with a fair market value equal to such cash amount. Settlement may occur at the time of vesting or may be deferred to a later date, as described below.

Phantom Shares. Phantom shares are denominated in terms of our common stock, but do not provide any actual stockholder rights to the individual. At the time of the award, the Plan Administrator will determine the performance criteria to be attained and/or the service period to be completed in order for the phantom shares to vest. Any phantom shares which vest under the terms of the award may be settled in shares of our common stock or in cash. Settlement may occur at the time of vesting or may be deferred to a later date, as described below.

Grants to Non-Employee Board Members

We also use the 2004 Plan to help administer our compensation program for the non-employee members of our Board of Directors. There is no automatic grant program in effect for our non-employee Board members under the 2004 Plan, and all option grants to our non-employee Board members are discretionary. However, our Board of Directors has established guidelines for the periodic award of stock option grants to the non-employee Board members in compensation for their service on our Board and Board committees. The grant guidelines for 2007 are described under *2007 Non-Employee Board Member Compensation* on page 71 below. Those stock option guidelines were initially approved and ratified by our Board in January 2006. In May 2007, our Board approved certain changes to the non-employee Board member compensation program effective for 2008 which are described under *2008 Non-Employee Board Member Compensation* on page 73 below. Any other stock award to a non-employee Board member which is not made pursuant to a predetermined schedule must be approved by a committee of the Board comprised of two or more non-employee Board members, none of whom may be the recipient of the stock award in question.

Under our Deferred Compensation Plan, non-employee Board members are allowed to defer receipt of all or a portion of their annual cash retainers in the form of phantom shares granted under the 2004 Plan.

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The following table sets forth, as to our Named Executive Officers who are identified in the Summary Compensation Table which appears on page 58 below and the other individuals and groups indicated, the number of shares of our common stock subject to option grants made under the 2004 Plan from January 1, 2007 through February 29, 2008, together with the weighted average exercise price per share for such option grants. No stock appreciation rights were granted during such period.

Name & Position	Number of Shares Underlying Options Granted	Weighted Average Exercise Price Per Share
<i>Named Executive Officers</i>		
John C. Martin President, Chief Executive Officer and Director	1,040,000	\$ 37.1731
Norbert W. Bischofberger Executive Vice President, Research and Development and Chief Scientific Officer	450,000	\$ 36.9044
John F. Milligan Chief Operating Officer and Chief Financial Officer	510,000	\$ 37.2329
Kevin Young Executive Vice President, Commercial Operations	470,000	\$ 37.1702
Gregg H. Alton Senior Vice President and General Counsel	210,000	\$ 37.1690
Caroline Dorsa Former Chief Financial Officer	100,000 ⁽¹⁾	\$ 46.2100
<i>Non-Employee Board Members</i>		
Paul Berg	60,000	\$ 41.4100
John F. Cogan	52,500	\$ 41.4100
Etienne F. Davignon		
James M. Denny	67,500	\$ 41.4100
Carla A. Hills	111,000	\$ 36.7543
John W. Madigan	52,500	\$ 41.4100
Gordon E. Moore	52,500	\$ 41.4100
Nicholas G. Moore	65,000	\$ 41.4100
Gayle E. Wilson	60,000	\$ 41.4100
All current executive officers as a group (6 persons)	2,835,000	\$ 37.2279
All current non-employee Board members as a group (9 persons)	521,000	\$ 40.4181
All employees, including current officers who are not executive officers, as a group	18,823,379	\$ 39.1545

⁽¹⁾ Caroline Dorsa resigned as Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer in January 2008. These options were canceled upon Ms. Dorsa's resignation.

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The following table shows, as to our Named Executive Officers who are identified in the Summary Compensation Table which appears on page 58 below and the other individuals and groups indicated, the number of shares of common stock subject to restricted stock, restricted stock units, performance shares and phantom shares awarded under the 2004 Plan between January 1, 2007 and February 29, 2008. No other type of stock award was made during such period.

Name & Position	Number of Shares Subject to Restricted Stock Awards	Number of Shares Subject to Restricted Stock Units	Number of Shares Subject to Performance Share Awards
<i>Named Executive Officers</i>			
John C. Martin			119,280
President, Chief Executive Officer and Director			
Norbert W. Bischofberger			39,500
Executive Vice President, Research and Development and Chief Scientific Officer			
John F. Milligan			46,000
Chief Operating Officer and Chief Financial Officer			
Kevin Young			41,500
Executive Vice President, Commercial Operations			
Gregg H. Alton			18,100
Senior Vice President and General Counsel			
Caroline Dorsa			24,000 ⁽¹⁾
Former Chief Financial Officer			
<i>Non-Employee Board Members</i>			
Paul Berg			
John F. Cogan			
Etienne F. Davignon	14,500		
James M. Denny			
Carla A. Hills			
John W. Madigan			
Gordon E. Moore			
Nicholas G. Moore			
Gayle E. Wilson			
All current executive officers as a group (6 persons)			275,510
All current non-employee Board members as a group (9 persons)	14,500		
All employees, including current officers who are not executive officers, as a group	24,000		337,860

⁽¹⁾ Caroline Dorsa resigned as Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer in January 2008. These awards were canceled upon Ms. Dorsa's resignation.

New Plan Benefits

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As of February 29, 2008 no awards had been made, and no shares had been issued, under the 2004 Plan on the basis of either the 10,000,000-share increase to the share reserve under the 2004 Plan or the 5,000,000-share

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increase to the maximum number of shares for which full value awards may be made under the 2004 Plan for which stockholder approval is sought as part of this proposal.

General Provisions

Transferability

Generally, awards under the 2004 Plan may not, prior to settlement, be transferred assigned, pledged or disposed of in any manner other than by will or the laws of inheritance following the grantee's death. However, grantees may designate a beneficiary to receive the vested portion of their awards in the event of their death, and the Plan Administrator also has the authority to allow the transfer of awards other than incentive stock options by gift or pursuant to a domestic relations order to members of the grantee's immediate family.

Termination of Employment

Upon termination of employment, the grantee will have a limited period in which to exercise outstanding stock options or stock appreciation rights as to any shares which are vested at that time. The applicable post-employment exercise period will be determined by the Plan Administrator, need not be uniform for all awards made under the 2004 Plan, and may reflect distinctions based on the reasons for termination of employment. Other outstanding awards held by a grantee at the time of his or her termination of employment (other than by reason of death or total and permanent disability) will be forfeited to the extent they are not vested at that time. If the grantee previously paid any cash consideration for the forfeited shares, then we will pay to such individual the lower of the cash amount paid for those shares or their then fair market value.

Deferral of Settlement

The Plan Administrator may provide selected grantees with the opportunity to defer receipt of the shares of common stock or other consideration due upon the settlement of their awards following the satisfaction of the applicable vesting requirements. The Plan Administrator will have the discretionary authority, subject to the applicable requirements of Section 409A of the Code, to establish the election process, the amounts eligible for deferral, the procedures for crediting interest or other investment return on the deferred amounts, the timing and form of payment of those deferred amounts and such other terms, conditions, rules and procedures as the Plan Administrator deems advisable for the administration of the deferral program.

Change in Control

Stock options and stock appreciation rights outstanding under the 2004 Plan at the time of a change in control will be subject to one or more of the following methods of disposition: (i) the options and stock appreciation rights may be assumed by the surviving corporation or replaced with economically equivalent cash or equity awards, (ii) the options or stock appreciation rights may vest in full immediately prior to the change in control and then terminate immediately after the consummation of the change in control, to the extent not previously exercised, or (iii) the options and stock appreciation rights may be continued in full force and effect following such change in control.

Any other awards outstanding under the 2004 Plan at the time of a change in control will automatically accelerate in full, and the shares of common stock subject to those awards will be issued as fully-vested shares, immediately prior to the change in control, except to the extent (i) those awards are assumed by the successor corporation or otherwise continued in effect or (ii) such awards are replaced with economically-equivalent cash or equity awards.

Awards under the 2004 Plan will vest in full in the event the grantee's service with us or the successor entity is terminated (actually or constructively) within a designated period following a change in control, whether or not

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those awards are assumed, replaced with an economically-equivalent substitute award or otherwise continued in effect. In addition, the Plan Administrator will have the discretion to structure one or more awards under the 2004 Plan so that the shares subject to those awards will vest immediately prior to the effective date of a change in control, whether or not those awards are assumed, replaced with an economically-equivalent substitute award or otherwise continued in effect.

A change in control will be deemed to occur in the event (a) we are acquired by merger or asset sale, (b) any person or group of related persons becomes directly or indirectly the beneficial owner of securities possessing more than fifty percent (50%) of the total combined voting power of our outstanding securities or (iii) certain changes occur in the composition of our Board of Directors.

The acceleration of vesting in connection with a change in control may be viewed as an anti-takeover provision, which may have the effect of discouraging a proposal to acquire or otherwise obtain control of Gilead.

Prohibition against Repricing

Without the consent of our stockholders, no award granted under the 2004 Plan may be repriced, replaced, regranted through cancellation or modified (other than in the event of certain changes in our capital structure as described below), if the effect would be to reduce the exercise or purchase price in effect for the shares underlying that award. In addition, the replacement or substitution of one award for another award is prohibited, absent stockholder consent, if such transaction would have the effect of reducing the exercise or purchase price of the underlying shares.

Adjustments

In the event any change is made to our outstanding common stock as a result of any stock split, stock dividend, recapitalization, combination of shares, exchange of shares, spin-off transaction or other change affecting our outstanding common stock as a class without our receipt of consideration, or should the value of the outstanding shares of our common stock be substantially reduced as a result of a spin-off transaction or an extraordinary dividend or distribution, or should there occur any merger, consolidation or other reorganization, then equitable and proportional adjustments will be made to the maximum number and class(es) of securities issuable under the 2004 Plan, the maximum number and class(es) of securities as to which awards of restricted stock, restricted stock units, performance shares, performance units (to the extent settled in shares of our common stock) and phantom shares may be made and the maximum number and class(es) of securities for which awards under the 2004 Plan may be made to any person during any calendar year. Outstanding awards under the 2004 Plan will also be equitably and proportionally adjusted as to the number and class(es) of securities and exercise price (or other cash consideration) per share in effect for each such award; provided, however, that the aggregate exercise price (or other cash consideration) will remain the same. The adjustments will be made in such a manner as the Plan Administrator deems appropriate to prevent the dilution or enlargement of benefits under the 2004 Plan and the outstanding awards thereunder, and such adjustments will be final, binding and conclusive.

Withholding

The Plan Administrator may provide holders of awards under the 2004 Plan with the right to use shares of our common stock in satisfaction of all or part of the federal and state income and employment withholding taxes to which they may become subject in connection with the exercise, vesting or settlement of those awards. Either of the following alternatives may be utilized to satisfy the applicable withholding taxes:

Stock withholding: The election to have us withhold, from the shares otherwise issuable upon the exercise, vesting or settlement of such award, a portion of those shares with an aggregate fair market value equal to the percentage of the withholding taxes (not to exceed 100%) designated by the holder. The shares so withheld will reduce the number of shares of common stock authorized for issuance under the 2004 Plan.

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Stock delivery: The election to deliver to us, at the time of the exercise, vesting or settlement of such award, shares of our common stock at the time held by such individual with an aggregate fair market value equal to the percentage of the withholding taxes (not to exceed 100%) designated by such individual. The shares of common stock so delivered will not be added to the number of shares of common stock authorized for issuance under the 2004 Plan.

In addition, the Plan Administrator may structure an award under the 2004 Plan so that a portion of the shares of common stock otherwise issuable under those awards will automatically be withheld by us in satisfaction of the withholding taxes which become applicable in connection with the exercise, vesting or settlement of that award.

Amendments and Termination

The Board may amend, suspend or terminate the 2004 Plan at any time; provided, however, no amendments to the 2004 Plan will be made without the approval of our stockholders, if such approval is required by applicable law or regulation or the listing standards of the exchange or market on which our common stock is primarily traded, or if such amendment would change any provisions of Section 4(b)(vi) or Section 13(a) of the 2004 Plan. Unless earlier terminated by our Board, the 2004 Plan will terminate on May 25, 2014.

Federal Income Tax Consequences

The following is a summary of the Federal income taxation treatment applicable to us and the participants who receive awards under the 2004 Plan.

Option Grants

Options granted under the 2004 Plan may be either incentive stock options which satisfy the requirements of Section 422 of the Code or non-statutory options which are not intended to meet such requirements. The Federal income tax treatment for the two types of options differs as follows:

Incentive Options

No taxable income is recognized by the optionee at the time of the option grant, and no taxable income is recognized for regular tax purposes at the time the option is exercised, although taxable income may arise at that time for alternative minimum tax purposes. The optionee will recognize taxable income in the year in which the purchased shares are sold or otherwise made the subject of certain other dispositions. For Federal tax purposes, dispositions are divided into two categories: (i) qualifying, and (ii) disqualifying. A qualifying disposition occurs if the sale or other disposition is made more than two years after the date the option for the shares involved in such sale or disposition is granted and more than one (1) year after the date the option is exercised for those shares. If the sale or disposition occurs before those two periods are satisfied, then a disqualifying disposition will result.

Upon a qualifying disposition, the optionee will recognize long-term capital gain in an amount equal to the excess of (i) the amount realized upon the sale or other disposition of the purchased shares over (ii) the exercise price paid for the shares. If there is a disqualifying disposition of the shares, then the excess of (i) the fair market value of those shares on the exercise date or (if less) the amount realized upon such sale or disposition over (ii) the exercise price paid for the shares will be taxable as ordinary income to the optionee. Any additional gain or loss recognized upon the disposition will be a capital gain or loss.

If the optionee makes a disqualifying disposition of the purchased shares, then we will be entitled to an income tax deduction, for the taxable year in which such disposition occurs, equal to the amount of ordinary income recognized by the optionee as a result of the disposition. We will not be entitled to any income tax deduction if the optionee makes a qualifying disposition of the shares.

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Non-Statutory Options

No taxable income is recognized by an optionee upon the grant of a non-statutory option. The optionee will in general recognize ordinary income, in the year in which the option is exercised, equal to the excess of the fair market value of the purchased shares on the exercise date over the exercise price paid for the shares, and the optionee will be required to satisfy the tax withholding requirements applicable to such income. We will be entitled to an income tax deduction equal to the amount of ordinary income recognized by the optionee with respect to the exercised non-statutory option. The deduction will in general be allowed for our taxable year in which such ordinary income is recognized by the optionee.

Stock Appreciation Rights

No taxable income is recognized upon receipt of a stock appreciation right. The holder will recognize ordinary income in the year in which the stock appreciation right is exercised, in an amount equal to the excess of the fair market value of the underlying shares of common stock on the exercise date over the base price in effect for the exercised right, and the holder will be required to satisfy the tax withholding requirements applicable to such income. We will be entitled to an income tax deduction equal to the amount of ordinary income recognized by the holder in connection with the exercise of the stock appreciation right. The deduction will be allowed for the taxable year in which such ordinary income is recognized.

Restricted Stock Awards

The recipient of unvested shares of common stock issued under the 2004 Plan will not recognize any taxable income at the time those shares are issued but will have to report as ordinary income, as and when those shares subsequently vest, an amount equal to the excess of (i) the fair market value of the shares on the vesting date over (ii) the cash consideration (if any) paid for the shares. The recipient may, however, elect under Section 83(b) of the Code to include as ordinary income in the year the unvested shares are issued an amount equal to the excess of (i) the fair market value of those shares on the issue date over (ii) the cash consideration (if any) paid for such shares. If the Section 83(b) election is made, the recipient will not recognize any additional income as and when the shares subsequently vest. We will be entitled to an income tax deduction equal to the amount of ordinary income recognized by the recipient with respect to the unvested shares. The deduction will in general be allowed for our taxable year in which such ordinary income is recognized by the recipient.

Restricted Stock Units

No taxable income is recognized upon receipt of restricted stock units. The holder will recognize ordinary income in the year in which the shares subject to the units are actually issued to the holder. The amount of that income will be equal to the fair market value of the shares on the date of issuance, and the holder will be required to satisfy the tax withholding requirements applicable to such income. We will be entitled to an income tax deduction equal to the amount of ordinary income recognized by the holder at the time the shares are issued. The deduction will be allowed for the taxable year in which such ordinary income is recognized.

Performance Shares/Performance Units/Phantom Shares

No taxable income is recognized upon receipt of such award. The holder will recognize ordinary income in the year in which the shares subject to the award are actually issued or in the year in which the award is settled in cash. The amount of that income will be equal to the fair market value of the shares on the date of issuance or the amount of the cash paid in settlement of the award, and the holder will be required to satisfy the tax withholding requirements applicable to such income. We will be entitled to an income tax deduction equal to the amount of ordinary income recognized by the holder at the time the shares are issued or the cash amount is paid. The deduction will be allowed for the taxable year in which such ordinary income is recognized.

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Deductibility of Executive Compensation

We anticipate that any compensation deemed paid by us in connection with the exercise of non-statutory options or stock appreciation rights or the disqualifying disposition of incentive stock option shares will qualify as performance-based compensation for purposes of Section 162(m) and will not have to be taken into account for purposes of the \$1,000,000 limitation per covered individual on the deductibility of the compensation paid to certain of our executive officers. Accordingly, the compensation deemed paid with respect to options and stock appreciation rights granted under the 2004 Plan will remain deductible by us without limitation under Section 162(m). However, any compensation deemed paid by us in connection with any other awards made under 2004 Plan will be subject to the \$1,000,000 limitation, unless the vesting of those awards is tied to performance goals based on one or more of the performance criteria described above.

Accounting Treatment

The accounting principles applicable to awards made under the 2004 Plan may be summarized in general terms as follows:

Stock-Settled Awards

Pursuant to the Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 123 (revised 2004), *Share-Based Payment* (SFAS 123(R)), we will be required to expense all share-based payments, including grants of stock options, stock appreciation rights, restricted stock, restricted stock units, performance shares and all other stock-based awards under the 2004 Plan. Accordingly, stock options and stock appreciation rights which are granted to our employees and non-employee Board members and payable in shares of our common stock will have to be valued at fair value as of the grant date under an appropriate valuation formula, and that value will then have to be charged as a direct compensation expense against our reported earnings over the designated vesting period of the award. For shares issuable upon the vesting of restricted stock units or performance shares awarded under the 2004 Plan, we will be required to amortize over the vesting period a compensation cost equal to the fair market value of the underlying shares on the date of the award. If the shares subject to any other awards made under the 2004 Plan are unvested at the time the award is made, then the fair market value of those shares at that time will be charged to our reported earnings ratably over the vesting period.

Cash-Settled Awards

Awards that are to be settled at a fixed cash amount established at the time the award is made will result in a fixed compensation expense equal to that cash amount and amortized ratably over the vesting period. If the cash amount payable under the award is not fixed at the time the award is made, then the award will be subject to mark-to- fair-value accounting treatment until the award is actually settled. Accordingly, at the end of the each accounting period prior to settlement, the fair value of the award will be measured, and additional compensation expense will result to the extent that value exceeds the fair value taken into account for prior periods the award is outstanding.

THE BOARD RECOMMENDS A VOTE FOR PROPOSAL 3.

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PROPOSAL 4

APPROVAL OF INCREASE IN NUMBER OF AUTHORIZED SHARES

OF COMMON STOCK

Our Board has adopted, subject to stockholder approval, an amendment to our restated certificate of incorporation. This amendment would increase the authorized number of shares of our common stock from 1,400,000,000 shares to 2,800,000,000 shares. These additional shares would be used by us for business and financial purposes that may include future stock splits, raising capital, establishing strategic relationships, acquisitions of other companies, businesses or products, equity incentives and compensation for employees and other transactions that our Board deems are in our best interest. The additional authorized shares would enable us to act quickly in response to appropriate opportunities that may arise for these types of transactions, in most cases without the necessity of obtaining further stockholder approval. We have no current plans, arrangements or understandings regarding the additional shares that would be authorized pursuant to this proposal.

As of February 29, 2008, there were 928,370,809 shares of common stock outstanding and held by our stockholders. In addition to these shares, as of February 29, 2008, there were 140,397,781 shares of common stock reserved for issuance under our equity incentive plans. Of this number, 87,747,490 shares were reserved for issuance upon exercise of outstanding options and performance share awards that were previously granted under our stock option plans, 43,079,706 shares were reserved for issuance upon exercise of options that may be granted in the future under our stock option plans and 9,570,585 shares were reserved for issuance under our Employee Stock Purchase Plan.

The additional shares of common stock would have rights identical to our currently outstanding common stock. Adoption of the proposed amendment and any issuance of the common stock would not affect the rights of our stockholders except for effects incidental to increasing the number of shares of the common stock outstanding. Incidental effects of the increase in the outstanding number of shares may include dilution of the earnings per share and voting rights of current holders of common stock. If the amendment is adopted, it will become effective upon filing of a certificate of amendment of our restated certificate of incorporation with the Secretary of State of Delaware.

We could also use the additional shares of common stock to oppose a hostile takeover attempt or delay or prevent changes in control or management of the company. For example, without further stockholder approval, our Board could sell shares of common stock in a private transaction to purchasers who would oppose a takeover or favor our current Board. Although this proposal to increase the authorized common stock has been prompted by business and financial considerations and not by the threat of any known or threatened hostile takeover attempt, stockholders should be aware that approval of this proposal could facilitate future efforts by us to deter or prevent changes in control of us, including transactions that our Board determines are not in the best interests of us or our stockholders, even though the stockholders would have received a premium for their shares over then-current market prices. At the present time, our Board has no intention to use these additional shares for anti-takeover purposes.

The affirmative vote of the holders of a majority of the outstanding shares of our common stock will be required to approve this amendment to our restated certificate of incorporation. As a result, abstentions and broker non-votes will have the same effect as negative votes.

THE BOARD RECOMMENDS A VOTE FOR PROPOSAL 4.

Table of Contents**SECURITIES AUTHORIZED FOR ISSUANCE UNDER EQUITY COMPENSATION PLANS**

The following table provides certain information with respect to all of our equity compensation plans in effect as of December 31, 2007:

Equity Compensation Plan Information

Plan Category	Number of Common Shares to be Issued Upon Exercise of Outstanding Options, Warrants and Rights (a)	Weighted-average Exercise Price of Outstanding Options, Warrants and Rights (b) ⁽¹⁾	Number of Common Shares Remaining Available for Issuance Under Equity Compensation Plans (Excluding Securities Reflected in Column (a)) (c) ⁽²⁾
Equity compensation plans approved by security holders ⁽³⁾ :			
2004 Equity Incentive Plan	47,712,287	\$ 28.2339	38,501,168
1991 Stock Option Plan ⁽⁴⁾	33,472,891	\$ 10.5221	
1995 Non-Employee Director s Stock Option Plan ⁽⁴⁾	1,991,200	\$ 5.7904	
Employee Stock Purchase Plan ⁽⁵⁾			9,570,585
All plans approved by security holders	83,176,378	\$ 20.5318	48,071,753
Equity compensation plans not approved by security holders			
Total:	83,176,378	\$ 20.5318	48,071,753

⁽¹⁾ Does not take into account 400,246 phantom shares, restricted stock awards and performance shares granted to directors and officers under our 2004 Equity Incentive Plan.

⁽²⁾ Includes approximately 9,600,000 shares reserved for issuance under our Employee Stock Purchase Plan.

⁽³⁾ Does not include 2,201,340 shares of common stock issuable upon exercise of assumed options under the Triangle Pharmaceuticals 1996 Incentive Stock Plan, Corus Pharma, Inc. 2001 Stock Plan and Myogen, Inc. 2003 Equity Incentive Plan. Such shares have a weighted-average exercise price of \$12.7132.

⁽⁴⁾ We no longer grant equity awards under this plan although stock options remain outstanding under such plan.

⁽⁵⁾ Under our Employee Stock Purchase Plan, participants are permitted to purchase our common stock at a discount on certain dates through payroll deductions within a pre-determined purchase period. Accordingly, these numbers are not determinable.

Table of Contents**SECURITY OWNERSHIP OF CERTAIN BENEFICIAL OWNERS AND MANAGEMENT**

The following table sets forth certain information regarding the ownership of our common stock as of February 29, 2008 by: (1) each beneficial owner of more than five percent of our common stock; (2) each director and nominee for director; (3) each executive officer named in the Summary Compensation Table on page 58 below; and (4) all of our current executive officers and directors as a group.

Beneficial Owner	Beneficial Ownership ⁽¹⁾	
	Number of Shares	Percent of Total
FMR LLC.	55,238,044 ⁽²⁾	6.0%
Axa Financial, Inc.	50,288,246 ⁽³⁾	5.4%
Gregg Alton	734,733 ⁽⁴⁾	*
Paul Berg	707,695 ⁽⁵⁾	*
Norbert W. Bischofberger	2,174,827 ⁽⁶⁾	*
John F. Cogan	188,987 ⁽⁷⁾	*
Etienne F. Davignon	696,000 ⁽⁸⁾	*
James M. Denny	1,156,900 ⁽⁹⁾	*
Caroline Dorsa ⁽¹⁰⁾	2,000	*
Carla A. Hills	82,187 ⁽¹¹⁾	*
John W. Madigan	186,974 ⁽¹²⁾	*
John C. Martin	9,519,333 ⁽¹³⁾	1.0%
John F. Milligan	2,391,773 ⁽¹⁴⁾	*
Gordon E. Moore	1,978,296 ⁽¹⁵⁾	*
Nicholas G. Moore	198,934 ⁽¹⁶⁾	*
Gayle E. Wilson	344,979 ⁽¹⁷⁾	*
Kevin Young	371,239 ⁽¹⁸⁾	*
All current executive officers and directors as a group (15 persons)	20,805,523 ⁽¹⁹⁾	2.2%

* Less than one percent of the outstanding shares of our common stock.

(1) This table is based upon information supplied by our directors, officers, and principal stockholders and Schedules 13D and 13G and amendments thereto filed with the SEC. Unless otherwise indicated in the footnotes to this table, and subject to community property laws where applicable, we believe each of the stockholders named in this table has sole voting and investment power with respect to the shares indicated as beneficially owned. Applicable percentages are based on 928,370,809 shares of common stock outstanding on February 29, 2008, adjusted as required by the rules promulgated by the SEC. Unless otherwise indicated, the address for each of the individuals and entities listed in this table is c/o Gilead Sciences, Inc., 333 Lakeside Drive, Foster City, California 94404.

(2) Based on information set forth in a Schedule 13G/A filed with the SEC on February 14, 2008 by FMR LLC (FMR) reporting sole power to vote or direct the vote over 3,198,212 shares and the sole power to dispose or to direct the disposition of 55,238,044 shares. Fidelity Management & Research Company, a wholly-owned subsidiary of FMR (FMRC), is the beneficial owner of 51,885,132 shares as a result of acting as investment adviser to various investment companies. Edward C. Johnson 3d (ECJ) and FMR, through its control of FRMC and the funds, each has sole power to dispose of the 51,885,132 shares owned by the funds. Neither FMR nor ECJ has the sole power to vote or direct the voting of the shares owned directly by the funds, which power resides with the funds' Boards of Trustees. FMR's beneficial ownership includes 7,689 shares beneficially owned through Strategic Advisers, Inc., a wholly-owned subsidiary of FMR. Pyramis Global Advisors, LLC (PGALLC), an indirect wholly-owned subsidiary of FMR, is the beneficial owner of 75,900 shares as a result of its serving as investment adviser to institutional accounts, non-U.S. mutual funds and investment companies owning such shares. ECJ and FMR, through their control of PGALLC, each has sole voting and dispositive power over such shares. Pyramis Global Advisors Trust Company (PGATC), an indirect wholly-owned subsidiary of FMR, is the beneficial owner of

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- 1,211,305 shares as a result of its serving as investment manager of institutional accounts owning such shares. ECJ and FMR, through their control of PGATC, each has sole dispositive power over 1,211,305 shares and sole power to vote or to direct the voting of 1,150,405 shares owned by the institutional accounts managed by PGATC. Fidelity International Limited (FIL) has sole dispositive power over 2,058,018 shares owned by it, with sole power to vote or direct the voting of 1,962,718 shares. Partnerships controlled predominantly by members of the family of ECJ or trusts for their benefit own shares of FIL voting stock with the right to cast approximately 47% of the total votes that may be cast by all holders of FIL voting stock. FMR and FIL view that the shares held by each other need not be aggregated for purposes of Section 13(d). The address of FMR is 82 Devonshire Street, Boston, MA 02109.
- (3) Based on information set forth in a Schedule 13G/A filed with the SEC on February 14, 2008 by AXA Assurances I.A.R.D. Mutuelle, AXA Assurances Vie Mutuelle, AXA Courtage Assurance Mutuelle, AXA and AXA Financial, Inc. (AXF), reporting sole power to vote or direct the vote of 29,775,300 shares, shared power to vote or direct the vote of 8,041,232 shares, sole power to dispose or to direct the disposition of 50,276,413 shares and shared power to dispose or to direct the disposition of 11,833 shares. AXA Investment Managers Paris (France), a related entity of AXA, has sole power to vote or direct the vote of 39,930 shares and sole power to dispose or direct the disposition of 39,930 shares. AXA Kenzern AG (Germany), a related entity of AXA, has sole power to vote or direct the vote of 2,224 shares and sole power to dispose or direct the disposition of 2,224 shares. AXA Rosenberg Investment Management LLC, a related entity of AXA, has sole power to vote or direct the vote of 696,901 shares and sole power to dispose or direct the disposition of 908,569 shares. AXA Framlington, a related entity of AXA, has sole power to vote or direct the vote of 633,000 shares and sole power to dispose or direct the disposition of 633,000 shares. AXA Equitable Life Insurance Company, a subsidiary of AXF, has sole power to vote or direct the vote of 836,175 shares and sole power to dispose or direct the disposition of 861,453 shares. AllianceBernstein L.P. (Alliance), a subsidiary of AXF, has sole power to vote or direct the vote of 27,567,070 shares, shared power to vote or to direct the vote of 8,041,232 shares, sole power to dispose or direct the disposition of 47,831,237 shares and shared power to dispose or to direct the disposition of 11,833 shares. Alliance s shares are reported to be acquired solely for investment purposes on behalf of client discretionary investment advisory accounts. The address of AXF is 1290 Avenue of the Americas, New York, New York 10104.
- (4) Includes 683,116 shares subject to stock options exercisable within 60 days of February 29, 2008.
- (5) Includes 1,044.76 phantom shares and 685,150 shares subject to stock options exercisable within 60 days of February 29, 2008.
- (6) Includes 149,394 shares held in trust for which Dr. Bischofberger and Inger Bischofberger, his wife, are trustees and over which Dr. Bischofberger has shared voting and investment power, 3,200 shares held in accounts for Dr. Bischofberger s minor children, for which he is the custodian having sole voting and investment power, and 959,500 shares subject to stock options exercisable within 60 days of February 29, 2008.
- (7) Includes 5,986.55 phantom shares and 183,000 shares subject to stock options exercisable within 60 days of February 29, 2008.
- (8) Includes 160,000 shares subject to stock options exercisable within 60 days of February 29, 2008.
- (9) Includes 801,700 shares subject to stock options exercisable within 60 days of February 29, 2008. The total also includes 177,400 shares held by a not-for-profit corporation, of which Mr. Denny is an investment manager; Mr. Denny disclaims any beneficial ownership of these shares.
- (10) Caroline Dorsa resigned as Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer in January 2008.
- (11) Includes 1,066.40 phantom shares and 81,000 shares subject to stock options exercisable within 60 days of February 29, 2008.
- (12) Includes 177,000 shares subject to stock options exercisable within 60 days of February 29, 2008 and 5,968 shares held indirectly.
- (13) Includes 8,000,876 shares subject to stock options exercisable within 60 days of February 29, 2008.
- (14) Includes 2,177,880 shares subject to stock options exercisable within 60 days of February 29, 2008.
- (15) Includes 885,000 shares subject to stock options exercisable within 60 days of February 29, 2008 and 394,656 shares held in trust.

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- (16) Includes 3,933.85 phantom shares and 195,000 shares subject to stock options exercisable within 60 days of February 29, 2008.
- (17) Includes 6,579.05 phantom shares and 138,400 shares subject to stock options exercisable within 60 days of February 29, 2008.
- (18) Includes 366,500 shares subject to stock options exercisable within 60 days of February 29, 2008.
- (19) Includes 18,611 phantom shares and an aggregate of 15,565,122 shares subject to stock options exercisable by directors and current executive officers within 60 days of February 29, 2008. See notes (4) through (18) above.

SECTION 16(A) BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP REPORTING COMPLIANCE

Section 16(a) of the Exchange Act requires our directors and executive officers, and persons who own more than ten percent of a registered class of our equity securities, to file with the SEC initial reports of ownership and reports of changes in ownership of our common stock and other equity securities. Executive officers, directors and greater than ten percent stockholders are required by SEC regulation to furnish us with copies of all Section 16(a) forms they file.

To our knowledge, based solely on a review of the copies of such reports furnished to us and written representations that no other reports were required during the fiscal year ended December 31, 2007, our executive officers, directors and greater than ten percent stockholders complied with all Section 16(a) filing requirements applicable to these executive officers, directors and greater than ten percent stockholders.

COMPENSATION COMMITTEE INTERLOCKS AND INSIDER PARTICIPATION

Our Compensation Committee consists of Dr. Gordon Moore (Chairman), Mr. John Madigan and Mr. Nicholas Moore. None of the members of our Compensation Committee during 2007 is currently or has been, at any time since our formation, one of our officers or employees. During 2007, no executive officer served as a member of the board of directors or compensation committee of any entity that has one or more executive officers serving on our Board or our Compensation Committee. None of the members of our Compensation Committee during 2007 currently has or has had any relationship or transaction with a related person requiring disclosure pursuant to Item 404 of Regulation S-K.

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EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION

COMPENSATION DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

Our Compensation Discussion and Analysis begins with an executive summary of our executive officer compensation program and then addresses the following topics:

the governance procedures in effect for our executive officer compensation program,

our compensation philosophy and practices regarding executive officer compensation,

the components of our executive compensation program, and

our compensation decisions for 2007 and for the first quarter of 2008.

Executive Summary

Our overarching compensation goal is to reward executive officers in a manner that supports a strong pay-for-performance philosophy and in a way that strives to maintain fair, reasonable and responsible compensation. We believe this is accomplished through the following principles and processes that we follow in establishing executive compensation:

1. Executive officer compensation is benchmarked annually against a set peer group of companies selected on the basis of relevant industry, size and complexity to ensure that our compensation opportunities are within the range of comparative norms.
2. Target compensation opportunities are established at the 50th percentile of the peer group for each element of compensation as well as total compensation. However, our program is flexible enough to allow our Compensation Committee to provide compensation above or below the 50th percentile in cases of exceptional individual and/or company performance.
3. A substantial portion of target total direct compensation (defined as base salary plus annual target bonus plus annual equity grant value) is delivered in the form of variable, performance-based cash and stock-based compensation that is structured to ensure that there is an appropriate balance between our long-term and short-term performance and a positive relationship between our operational performance and shareholder return. For the 2007 fiscal year, such variable compensation comprised 91% of target total direct compensation.
4. We do not offer guaranteed retirement or pension plan benefits. Instead, we provide our executive officers with the opportunity to accumulate retirement income through the equity awards we make to them and to defer their current income into our nonqualified deferred compensation program as well as our company-wide 401(k) plan.
5. We provide a severance plan that provides, consistent with peer company norms, standard severance benefits (by employee level) in the event of an involuntary termination of employment without cause, which are enhanced if the termination occurs in connection with a change in control.
6. Compensation recommendations for executive officers are developed by John C. Martin, our President and Chief Executive Officer (except with respect to his own compensation), with input from our Human Resources Department and management's compensation consultant. These recommendations are presented to our Compensation Committee and reviewed by a separate consultant who works solely with our Compensation Committee. Our Compensation Committee's independent consultant also advises our Compensation Committee with respect to the compensation arrangement for Dr. Martin.

For fiscal year 2007, the total direct compensation (defined as base salary plus actual annual bonuses awarded plus annual equity grant value) of the Named Executive Officers, who are identified in the Summary Compensation Table which appears on page 58 below, was, on average, above the 75th percentile of the peer

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group. Our 2007 fiscal year company performance relative to this same peer group approximated or exceeded the 75th percentile (and in many cases, the 90th percentile) with respect to the following quantifiable measures: earnings per share growth, return on assets, return on equity, revenue per employee, market capitalization per employee and one-year, two-year and three-year total shareholder return. Given our outstanding company performance, our long track record of superior performance relative to industry peers and the high caliber of our executive officers as demonstrated through their performance over several years, both our management and our Compensation Committee believe the level of total direct compensation for the Named Executive Officers, relative to market and the mix of the pay elements, is reasonable and appropriate based on the highly variable performance-based nature of our compensation program.

Governance Procedures for Executive Officer Compensation Program

Role of our Compensation Committee

Our Compensation Committee has overall responsibility for approving and evaluating our executive officer compensation plans, policies and programs. These duties include:

approving the compensation philosophy for executive officers, including the compensation objectives, target pay levels and the peer group for executive compensation and performance benchmarking,

evaluating the performance of Dr. Martin and determining his compensation each year,

determining the type and level of compensation for our other executive officers, and

overseeing the administration of our compensation plans, including our 2004 Equity Incentive Plan, Employee Stock Purchase Plan, corporate bonus plan, deferred compensation plan and Code Section 162(m) Executive Bonus Plan.

Our Compensation Committee operates pursuant to a charter that further outlines the Committee's specific authority, duties and responsibilities. The charter is periodically reviewed and revised by our Compensation Committee and our Board and is available on our website at <http://www.gilead.com> in the Investors section under Corporate Governance.

Role of Executive Officers in Compensation Decision-Making and Use of Outside Advisors

Dr. Martin, with input from Dr. John F. Milligan (our Chief Operating Officer and Chief Financial Officer) with respect to Dr. Milligan's direct reports, makes recommendations to our Compensation Committee for the compensation arrangements for the Named Executive Officers (except himself). In formulating his recommendations, Dr. Martin obtains both internal and external compensation data from our Human Resources Department. To provide the comparative market compensation data that Dr. Martin needs for purposes of his recommendations, our Human Resources Department has engaged the services of Compensia Inc., an outside compensation consultant. Accordingly, on an annual basis, Compensia prepares tally sheets, financial performance reports, market compensation reviews and other analyses to provide the Human Resources Department with the requisite market data to aid Dr. Martin in the formulation of his compensation recommendations for the other Named Executive Officers. Compensia serves solely as a consultant to management in the compensation decision-making process, and its services are retained solely at the discretion of management and may be terminated at any time.

Our Compensation Committee has the authority to engage the services of its own outside advisors, experts and others to assist it in determining the compensation of our executive officers. In 2007, our Compensation Committee retained Frederic W. Cook & Co. (FWC) as its independent compensation consultant. FWC's role in the compensation process for the 2007 fiscal year included the following functions:

review and advice to our Compensation Committee with respect to the compensation analyses and recommendations developed by management,

advice regarding the compensation for Dr. Martin, and

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analyses and recommendations relating to the compensation arrangement of our non-employee Board members. FWC provides consulting services solely to our Compensation Committee and does not receive professional fees from us for any other services.

Our Compensation Committee places considerable importance on Dr. Martin's recommendations because of his direct knowledge of each Named Executive Officer's performance and contribution to our financial performance. After review of peer group compensation information and consultation with FWC, our Compensation Committee determines executive officer compensation based on Dr. Martin's recommendations with such adjustments as it deems advisable. Our Compensation Committee determines Dr. Martin's compensation based on the advice and market data provided by FWC without any input from management.

Executive Compensation Philosophy and Framework

Compensation Objectives

Our executive compensation program is designed around six overarching principles:

1. Structure compensation programs with substantial components of variable, or at-risk, compensation to ensure that the actual compensation realized by the executive officers is directly and demonstrably linked to individual and company performance, with the result that actual executive officer compensation will be significantly below target in years where performance is below expectations and above target in years where performance is above expectations,
2. Offer market competitive compensation opportunities that will allow us to attract and retain executive officers capable of leading us to the fulfillment of our business objectives,
3. Ensure that our executive officers are focused on strategic financial and non-financial objectives essential to our longer-term success,
4. Align the interests of executive officers and stockholders in achieving long-term stock price performance through the use of equity incentives and executive ownership of company stock,
5. Balance the need for competitive compensation against our objective of providing reasonable and responsible pay arrangements in order to maintain a sustainable cost structure, and
6. Maintain an egalitarian culture with respect to compensation programs, such that all employees are eligible to participate in the same programs as the executive officers, subject to certain limited exceptions explained below.

Target Compensation and Mix of Compensation Elements

The main components used to support the objectives of our compensation philosophy are base salary, annual bonus, equity awards and certain other benefits (discussed in greater detail below under "Evaluation of Executive Officer Compensation" beginning on page 45). The combination of these pay elements allows us to provide a competitive total rewards arrangement to our executive officers. To date, we have not structured our total compensation offering for the executive officers so as to target each separate component of their compensation at a specific percentage of their total direct compensation for the year. However, variable compensation, particularly equity compensation, has historically represented the largest component. For example, over the last three years the average pay mix for Named Executive Officers has been 11% base salary, 9% annual bonus and 80% annual equity grant value (as measured in terms of the Black-Scholes value of stock options and the grant date fair market value of the shares of our common stock subject to other awards, such as performance shares). Employees in more senior roles have an increasing proportion of their compensation tied to longer-term performance because they are in a position to have greater influence on longer-term results.

For each element of compensation, our strategy has been to examine our peer group's compensation practices and set target awards at approximately the 50th percentile of the peer group for each element of

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compensation as well as target total direct compensation. This is the same target compensation position strategy we utilize across all our employee levels. However, our Compensation Committee has historically approved actual compensation levels for executive officers above and below the 50th percentile target based on individual performance, as well as company performance relative to internal goals and peers to ensure an appropriate pay-for-performance alignment. Moreover, the heavy emphasis on variable, or at-risk, compensation helps calibrate actual compensation to our performance because the executives will realize little or no value from those components of their compensation arrangement if we are not performing well.

Compensation Benchmarking

The peer group we examined in 2007 to assess the competitiveness of our executive compensation consisted of 14 biopharmaceutical and biotech companies that were similar to us with respect to several metrics, principally: business strategy, labor market competition, market capitalization, revenue and number of employees. The peer group companies include ten of the 165 companies comprising the NASDAQ Biotechnology Index, the peer group index included in the stock price performance graph, included in the Performance Graph in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2007.

The companies in the peer group have the following profile (based on most current information available as of December 2007):

	Industry Sector	Revenue		Market Capitalization		Employee Size	
		Range	Median	Range	Median	Range	Median
Peer Group	Biotech/ Biopharmaceutical	\$200 million to \$14.8 billion	\$1.6 billion	\$2.0 billion to \$70.6 billion	\$10.9 billion	1,000 to 20,000	2,700

Gilead Sciences, Inc. Biopharmaceutical \$4.2 billion \$42.8 billion 2,957
The companies comprising the Compensation Peer Group are: Allergan Inc., Amgen Inc., Amylin Pharmaceuticals Inc., Biogen-Idec Inc., Celgene Corporation, Cephalon Inc., Genentech Inc., Genzyme Corporation, ICOS, MedImmune Inc., Millennium Pharmaceuticals., PDL Biopharma Inc., Sepracor Inc. and Vertex Pharmaceuticals Inc.

We review the companies in our Compensation Peer Group annually and make adjustments as necessary to ensure they continue to properly reflect the market in which we compete for talented executives. We anticipate that in recognition of our growth, product lines and markets, the Compensation Peer Group for 2008 fiscal year compensation will have several new companies replacing companies that comprised our 2007 fiscal year peer group.

In addition, for 2007 fiscal year compensation, we evaluated the pay practices of five pharmaceutical companies that are larger than us with respect to market capitalization, revenue and employees. The purpose of this evaluation was to understand compensation practices of industry leaders to help us plan for our next stage of anticipated growth. The five companies were: Abbott Laboratories, Bristol-Myers Squibb Company, Eli Lilly and Company, Pfizer Inc. and Wyeth.

As further validation for the market competitiveness of our compensation programs, we also review annually the executive pay practices of other similarly situated companies as reported in industry surveys and reports from compensation consulting firms. These surveys are specific to the biopharmaceutical and biotech sector, and we request select (or custom) data cuts of these surveys so that the compensation information reflects the practices of companies that are similar to us.

Tally Sheets

Our Compensation Committee also reviews tally sheets at least on an annual basis and utilizes them, along with peer group analyses and financial performance reports, in making its compensation decisions. These tally

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sheets affix dollar amounts to each component of compensation for our Named Executive Officers, including current pay (salary and bonus), deferred compensation, outstanding equity awards, benefits, perquisites and potential change in control severance payments. Our Compensation Committee utilizes these tally sheets as a tool to help them evaluate the total amount of compensation provided to each executive officer and the impact any adjustment to the various elements of each officer's current compensation will have on total compensation. This analysis did not result in any modification to the compensation established for 2007.

Evaluation of Executive Officer Compensation (other than the former Chief Financial Officer which is described in the next section)

Base Salary

Base salary is the primary fixed compensation element in the executive pay program and relates to our compensation objective of providing competitive compensation that will allow us to attract and retain executives. As one of the few fixed compensation components in our executive officer program, base salary is intended to provide a minimum element of certainty and security to the executive officers on an ongoing basis and to support our goal of providing responsible compensation that is sustainable within our cost structure.

Our Compensation Committee believes that increases to base salary should reflect the responsibilities of the position, the individual's performance for the preceding year and his or her pay level relative to similar positions within the company and at peer companies. We have an annual merit budget, which is our overall budget for base salary increases. This budget includes recommended guidelines for increases based on each person's individual performance against annual goals and objectives and his or her compensation compared to similar positions within and outside of our company. These guidelines are used throughout our company for employees at all grade levels. Executive officer base salary increases are effective on February 1 of each year, which is the same effective date for the rest of our employees.

In January 2007, our Compensation Committee met to review and approve executive officer salary increases to be effective February 1, 2007. Dr. Martin presented his recommendations for the executive officers (except himself), including the Named Executive Officers. The salary increases proposed for 2007 represented an average increase of 7.9% over 2006 salary levels for the Named Executive Officers (excluding Dr. Martin).

Dr. Martin proposed base salary increases for Norbert W. Bischofberger, who was then serving as our Executive Vice President, Research and Development, and Kevin Young, our Executive Vice President, Commercial Operations, of 5% and 6%, respectively. The increases for Dr. Bischofberger and Mr. Young were in line with the budget for 2007 salary increases for our company as a whole and with the approved rate of increase for employees who similarly exceeded their stated individual performance objectives and who already had a base salary that was competitive with market. Dr. Bischofberger was promoted to Executive Vice President, Research and Development and Chief Scientific Officer in May 2007.

Dr. Milligan, who was then serving as our Chief Financial Officer in January 2007, also exceeded his stated individual performance objectives, but Dr. Martin proposed a larger salary increase for Dr. Milligan of 10%, due to his pay position relative to other members of the executive team and his importance to the organization. In May 2007, in connection with his appointment to Chief Operating Officer and interim Chief Financial Officer, Dr. Milligan received an additional 6.6% promotional increase to his base salary. Dr. Martin also recommended that Gregg H. Alton, our Senior Vice President and General Counsel, receive a larger than average increase of 10.5% as a result of his exceeding his stated individual performance objectives and due to his below market base salary relative to similarly-situated employees within our peer group.

Based on Dr. Martin's performance evaluation for these four individuals and our strong company performance overall, our Compensation Committee approved Dr. Martin's recommendations for these Named Executive Officers.

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Our Compensation Committee makes base salary recommendations for Dr. Martin that must be approved by our full Board. For 2007, our Compensation Committee recommended that Dr. Martin's salary be increased to \$1,050,000, which approximates the 50th percentile of other chief executive officers within our peer group. This resulted in a 5% increase to his base salary, which is in line with our salary increase budget for 2007. This increase reflects the positive view held by both our Compensation Committee and our full Board of Dr. Martin's overall performance and in particular, the achievement of key business initiatives and financial performance discussed in more detail under **Corporate Bonus** below, and our 2007 performance relative to our peer group, which is discussed in more detail under **Total Compensation** on page 55 below.

Annual Bonus Program

Our annual bonus program is an at-risk compensation arrangement designed to provide market competitive cash incentive opportunities that reward our executive officers (as well as all our employees) for the achievement of key operational goals that we believe will provide the foundation for creating longer-term shareholder value. Our executive officer bonus program is designed to accomplish two principal objectives. First and most importantly, the program is structured to achieve our overall objective of tying this element of compensation to the attainment of company and individual performance goals that will contribute to our financial success and create shareholder value. Secondly, the program is designed so that the bonuses paid to our Named Executive Officers should qualify as performance-based compensation which is not subject to the \$1,000,000 limitation on company income tax deductibility per covered Named Executive Officer imposed under Section 162(m) of the Internal Revenue Code. Accordingly, no bonuses would have been payable to our executive officers for the 2007 fiscal year unless our operating income for that year was at least \$1,721,000,000. The target was established to assure that a substantial performance hurdle had to be met before any bonuses would become payable for the 2007 fiscal year. For the 2007 fiscal year, we did meet the \$1,721,000,000 operating income target, and accordingly, each of our Named Executive Officers became eligible to receive a performance bonus.

In 2007, target bonus opportunities for the Named Executive Officers ranged from 40% to 110% of their base salary. These bonus opportunities were set at approximately the 50th percentile of our peer group and reflect what peer companies are providing as target incentive amounts for their CEOs and other Named Executive Officers. The actual amount a Named Executive Officer could have earned was between 0% and 150% of the target amount, subject to actual performance as measured against the applicable performance goals as determined by our Compensation Committee. The table below summarizes the 2007 bonus opportunities for the Named Executive Officers:

Named Executive Officer	2007 Bonus Opportunity as a Percent of Base Salary		
	Minimum	Target	Maximum
John C. Martin	0%	110%	165%
President, Chief Executive Officer and Director			
John F. Milligan	0%	60%	90%
Chief Operating Officer and Chief Financial Officer			
Norbert W. Bischofberger	0%	60%	90%
Executive Vice President, Research and Development and Chief Scientific Officer			
Kevin Young	0%	60%	90%
Executive Vice President, Commercial Operations			
Gregg H. Alton	0%	40%	60%
Senior Vice President and General Counsel			

For Senior Vice Presidents and Executive Vice Presidents, 75% of the annual bonus is based on company financial and non-financial performance metrics and 25% is based on attainment of individual performance goals. Individual performance is measured in terms of our Compensation Committee's assessment of achievements by the executive officer for the year. For Dr. Martin, 100% of the 2007 fiscal year bonus was tied

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solely to the attainment of our company financial and non-financial performance metrics as his incentive opportunity is based entirely on corporate achievement.

Specifically, company performance is measured in terms of our Compensation Committee's assessment of our performance in the following categories: financial achievement, product development (research and development), corporate development, government affairs, administration and operations. The weightings of each category may vary year to year depending on the importance of the goal area for a particular year. Within each category, our Compensation Committee considers our performance against a set of goals and objectives established for that category, the degree of difficulty in achieving those objectives and any particular events and circumstances that affected our performance. Based on these assessments, our Compensation Committee has discretion to assign a performance factor for each category of between 0 and 1.5. Accordingly, it is important to note two particular features of our annual bonus program:

Although our Compensation Committee measures the performance of the Corporation in terms of specific goals and objectives pre-established for each category, the target bonuses of the Named Executive Officers are not directly tied to those goals in the sense that the attainment of those specific objectives does not guarantee the Named Executive Officers his or her target bonus amount or any specified portion of that amount. Our achievement of a particular goal or set of goals within a category does not obligate our Compensation Committee to award any portion of the potential bonus amount for the year. The actual bonus amount for each Named Executive Officer is based on our Compensation Committee subjective assessment of both the company's overall performance for the year, as measured in terms of those specific objectives, and the contribution which each such individual made to that performance.

Should our Compensation Committee, in assessing the company's performance in terms of the six categories mentioned above, determine that the overall company performance factor for the fiscal year was less than 0.5, then no bonuses would be payable for that fiscal year, whether or not one or more specific objectives had been attained for that year.

These determinations and features also apply to all of our employees, except that the target bonus opportunities and the weighting of company and individual performance vary by employee level and bonuses payable to non-executive employees are not conditioned upon our achievement of the operating income goal described above.

Our Compensation Committee has the discretion to award up to an additional 10% weighting (in addition to the 100% bonus target for pre-set company performance goals) to reward for unplanned achievements. The table below summarizes our performance goal categories, 2007 weightings and our Compensation Committee's assessment of company performance as measured in terms of each category that were used to calculate the overall company performance factor of 1.40.

Company Performance Category		2007 Weighting (A)	2007 Result (B)	Total (A x B)
Financial	Commercial and Revenue Growth and Financial Performance	30%	1.40	0.42
Product Development	Research	10%	1.10	0.11
	Development	20%	1.30	0.26
Corporate Development and	Corporate Development	10%	1.30	0.13
Government Affairs	Government Affairs	5%	1.40	0.07
Administration	Finance, Legal, Human	15%	1.25	0.19
	Resources and Facilities			
Operations	Manufacturing	10%	1.40	0.14
Target Bonus Amount		100%		1.32
Unplanned Achievements		10%	0.08	0.08
Company Performance Factor				1.40

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Highlights of the 2007 achievements taken into account by our Compensation Committee in the bonus decision-making process include the following:

Financial and commercial growth: Exceeded \$4.2 billion in total revenues, a 40% increase over 2006, and increased our Non-GAAP net income by over 34% during the same period by carefully managing the growth of our expenses;

Product development: Exceeded research and development goals by receiving U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approval for Letairis (ambrisentan) for pulmonary arterial hypertension, filing for approval of Viread® for the treatment of hepatitis B in the United States and European Union and filing with the FDA for U.S. marketing approval for aztreonam lysine for inhalation for the treatment of cystic fibrosis. In addition, significant progress was made with preclinical and/or clinical evaluation of several pipeline product candidates, including increasing the enrollment of two clinical studies evaluating darusentan for the treatment of resistant hypertension;

Corporate development and government affairs: Achieved all corporate development objectives including the completion of Atripla®-related negotiations with Bristol Myers-Squibb Company and Merck & Co., Inc. for marketing in the European Union and rest of the world; entering into an agreement with Parion Sciences, Inc. to advance drug candidates for pulmonary disease; and signing an agreement with LG Life Sciences, Ltd. to advance drug candidates for fibrotic diseases. Also achieved all government affairs objectives including continuing to work with government authorities, industry organizations, policy institutes and opinion leaders to foster positive healthcare policy outcomes and improving the efficiency of developing world supply chains;

Product manufacturing: Achieved or exceeded all manufacturing objectives, including meeting supply and demand requirements for all our commercial products while ensuring appropriate inventory levels are maintained; rapid distribution of Letairis following approval and ensuring sufficient inventory levels to meet the demand at launch; and the acquisition of the manufacturing facility from Nycomed Limited, located in Cork, Ireland; and

Significant unplanned achievements: Received approval for and launched Atripla for the treatment of HIV in the European Union and Canada, and initiated an expanded access program for aztreonam lysine for patients with cystic fibrosis.

As part of the bonus decision-making process, our Compensation Committee also evaluated the performance of each of the Named Executive Officers (other than Dr. Martin) in relation to certain individual goals. The evaluation of each officer's performance against these goals was generally subjective as to the achievement of specific research, development or commercial goals that support our long-term objectives. We believe that achievement of these goals would both reward our Named Executive Officers for their performance and enhance shareholder value. Dr. Martin evaluated the performance of each of Dr. Milligan, Dr. Bischofberger and Mr. Alton and solicited input from Dr. Milligan for Mr. Young. It was determined that each individual had exceeded his individual goals. As a result of their strong personal performance, each of these executive officers received an individual performance factor in excess of 100%. The individual performance factors are summarized in the table below and reflect the extent to which their personal contributions benefited the company. In 2008, based on 2007 performance, our Compensation Committee approved the following bonus payments to our Named Executive Officers, which on average were 139% of their target annual bonuses. The approved bonus payments resulted in total cash compensation above the 50th percentile for the executive officer group. Our Compensation Committee also noted that our 2007 performance relative to this same peer group approximated or exceeded the 75th percentile (and in many cases the 90th percentile) with respect to the following quantifiable measures: earnings per share growth, return on assets, return on equity, revenue per employee, market capitalization per employee and total shareholder return.

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Bonus payments were made on March 14, 2008, which is the same date all employees received their 2007 bonuses. The following chart summarizes information with respect to the total bonus payment, including company performance and individual performance weightings and performance factors, used in the calculation of the total bonus payment to each of our Named Executive Officers for performance during 2007:

Named Executive Officer	Target Bonus (as % of Salary)	Target Bonus (Dollar Amount)	Company Performance		Individual Performance		Total Bonus Payment	Total Bonus Payment as % of Target
			Company Performance Factor	Weighting	Individual Performance Factor	Weighting		
John C. Martin	110%	\$ 1,155,000	140%	100%			\$ 1,617,000	140%
John F. Milligan	60%	\$ 387,000	140%	75%	140%	25%	\$ 541,800	140%
Norbert W. Bischofberger	60%	\$ 384,300	140%	75%	125%	25%	\$ 523,609	136%
Kevin Young	60%	\$ 318,000	140%	75%	140%	25%	\$ 445,200	140%
Gregg H. Alton	40%	\$ 168,000	140%	75%	140%	25%	\$ 235,200	140%

Equity Compensation: Overview

Equity compensation represents the largest component of the total direct compensation for our executive officers, including our Named Executive Officers. We believe this weighting is appropriate because it aligns the interests of our executive officers with those of our stockholders in achieving and sustaining long-term stock price growth. We believe that one of the most effective ways to accomplish this objective is to provide executive officers with a substantial economic interest in the long-term appreciation of our common stock through the grant of nonqualified stock options with an exercise price equal to the fair market value of our stock on the grant date as discussed under Equity Grant Practices below. Thus, our stock options provide value only if our stock price increases (which benefits all stockholders), and only if the executive or employee remains with us until his or her options vest. Our standard practice is to grant options to executive officers (as well as other employees) that vest ratably over a five-year period (e.g., the first 20% vests one year from the grant date and the remaining options vest 5% each quarter thereafter until fully vested). We believe this vesting schedule contributes significantly to the retention of our executive officers, because they must remain employed for at least one year before they can potentially realize any value from the option grant and will have to continue in our employ for a total of five years from the grant date in order to realize the maximum value. This vesting schedule is longer than what most of our peer companies offer, but we believe it is a critical element in executive retention and in the preservation of shareholder value.

In 2007, performance shares were introduced as part of each executive officer's annual merit equity grant. While we continue to believe that stock options are an appropriate equity compensation tool for our executive officers, we introduced this new form of equity to our executive officers because it provides an additional opportunity to measure and reward executive officers for achievement of various long-term performance measures as well as enhanced performance relative to peers. Currently, our other cash and equity incentive programs reward the achievement of internal goals and/or absolute stock price performance. We have observed that our market peers have also recently adopted the use of performance-based equity to motivate their executive officers to contribute to the creation of shareholder value in metrics other than stock price appreciation, and we believe that our performance share awards are consistent with developing competitive practices. Each performance share award is divided into three separate tranches, which was intended to serve as a special one-time transitional design so that participants do not have to wait for three years without an opportunity for payments. Each tranche has its own specified performance period and performance objectives, and the executive officer must under most circumstances remain in our continued employ through the applicable performance period in order to vest in any shares resulting from the attainment of the performance objective for that period. The applicable performance periods are of durations of one year, two years and three years, respectively. We believe that such performance periods, including the maximum three-year tranche, are appropriate because longer performance and vesting periods may dilute the intensity of the participant's focus on reaching the performance goals for the initial awards. For future annual grants starting in 2008, it is intended that the performance periods and related objectives will be entirely based on three-year periods. (See the section "Equity Compensation: 2007 Executive Equity Program" on page 51 for more details).

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Equity Grant Practices

Our Compensation Committee approves all equity grants to our executive officers. We do not backdate options nor grant options retroactively. In addition, we do not coordinate our option grants so that they are made before an announcement of favorable information or after an announcement of unfavorable information. We have not repriced options. Likewise, if our stock price declines after the grant date, we have not replaced already-outstanding options with lower-priced grants. Our practice is to approve annual stock award grants at the January Compensation Committee meeting, the date of which is set approximately one year in advance. Our Compensation Committee selected the January meeting as the date to approve annual equity grants because it coincides with our Compensation Committee's approval of other executive officer compensation decisions (e.g., base salary increases and bonus payments) based on its review of prior year company and individual performance. Further, both our Compensation Committee and our Board believe it is a better practice to approve executive officer grants during a regular meeting rather than by unanimous written consent, so that our Compensation Committee members have adequate time to ask questions of Dr. Martin regarding his recommendations for the other Named Executive Officers and our Compensation Committee, and full Board members can carefully deliberate on Dr. Martin's individual compensation arrangement. The exercise price for the executive officer stock option grants is set at the fair market value of our common stock on the grant date. As permitted under generally accepted accounting principles and in accordance with the express provisions of our stockholder-approved 2004 Equity Incentive Plan, we historically and consistently determined the fair market value under our stock option plans based upon the reported closing price of our stock on the trading day immediately preceding the date of grant. This enables our Compensation Committee to know the exercise price prior to the meeting, regardless of whether the meeting occurs prior to or after the close of the market, and allows us to communicate the award of the grants with the established exercise price to the optionees immediately following approval of the grants.

For administrative efficiency, our Board has delegated authority to Dr. Martin to approve equity grants to employees below the level of Vice President. Grants must be made in accordance with established guidelines for each grade level and subject to an annual equity pool approved by our Board, which for 2007 and 2008 was approximately 16,900,000 and 14,100,000 shares, respectively, less the number of shares awarded to Vice Presidents and above which are approved by our Compensation Committee. Dr. Martin and our Human Resources Department provide quarterly updates to our Compensation Committee regarding equity grants. Guidelines for the employee grade levels within the jurisdiction of Dr. Martin typically do not exceed 20,000 shares per individual.

Furthermore, we have adopted a policy that all grants to non-executive officer employees must be made on the 10th day of the month (unless the 10th falls on a weekend, in which case the grant date is the first business day thereafter). This applies to new hire awards, annual merit awards, promotion and other special recognition awards that may occur throughout the year. As a result of this policy, the exercise price for the annual merit grants to non-executive officers and the exercise price for executive officer grants will vary. Rather than having an exercise price equal to the fair market value of our common stock on the date of the January Compensation Committee meeting (which is the case for the annual executive officer grants), annual non-executive employee grants have an exercise price equal to the fair market value of our common stock on February 10 (unless the 10th falls on a weekend, in which case the grant date is the first business day thereafter), which is the date merit grants to non-executive employees are typically made each year.

We are sensitive to shareholder concerns about stock usage and dilution. As a consequence, management and our Compensation Committee have taken the following steps to manage our equity compensation program:

The annual net issuances of stock-based awards to employees are limited to 3% of the number of our outstanding shares of common stock, subject to any additional issuances occasioned by extraordinary events (e.g., acquisitions). Our actual averaged net issuance of stock-based awards over the past three fiscal years (exclusive of shares assumed through acquisitions) has been 1.5% of outstanding common stock, and was 1.4% this past year.

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The target grant levels for executive officer equity grants are structured to reflect peer group practice with respect to the economic value of equity compensation (as measured in terms of the Black-Scholes grant-date fair value) and the number of shares granted as a percent of total shares of common stock outstanding.

Equity grants to individual executive officers are generally adjusted from target based on the attained level of the individual performance goals for the preceding year, the expected future contribution and long-term retention of each executive officer and our performance compared to peer companies. Our Compensation Committee also takes into account outstanding options and other equity value already held by the Named Executive Officer at the time of grant.

We do not currently have stock ownership guidelines for the executive officers. Our Compensation Committee does not believe such requirements are necessary at this time because our executive officers, including the Named Executive Officers, have a long history of retaining ownership of our stock, with a median value in excess of ten times their annual base salary amount.

Equity Compensation: 2007 Executive Equity Program

For the 2007 fiscal year, 75% of each executive officer's merit equity award was granted in the form of stock options, subject to our current five-year vesting schedule. The remaining 25% was granted in the form of performance shares. This approach of granting stock options as the primary equity vehicle was adopted as we continue to believe that stock options are the best form of equity compensation to motivate and retain our executive officers for the long-term. We generally used a three-for-one stock option to performance share conversion ratio. For example, if the former target stock award for an executive officer was 100,000 stock options, the individual would receive an equity award for the 2007 fiscal year comprised of 75,000 stock options and 8,333 of performance shares. For 2007, executive officers were granted a specific number of performance shares. The actual number of shares issued will be determined at the end of the vesting performance period and based on company performance and the executive's continued service with the company. The performance shares were divided into three separate tranches, each with its own separate performance period and performance objective. The actual number of shares of our common stock that can be earned from each tranche of performance shares is calculated by multiplying the number of performance shares allotted to that tranche by a performance percentage ranging from 0% to 200% based on the attained level of company performance for the applicable period. In addition, the executive officer must continue in our employ until the completion of the applicable performance in order to vest in the actual number of shares earned for that period. Our Compensation Committee will determine the actual number of shares earned for each performance period based on the company's actual performance measured in terms of the following two performance criteria: (a) our total shareholder return (TSR) relative to the AMEX Biopharmaceutical Index (the Peer Group Index) and (b) our revenue growth relative to the Peer Group Index. The AMEX Biopharmaceutical Index was selected because it allows us to compare ourselves against a relatively stable and objective peer group which consists of 36 companies. The performance share awards that were made in 2007 were divided into the following three tranches for both vesting and performance measurement purposes in order to transition executive officers into the new program:

Tranche	Percent of Allotted Shares Eligible for Vesting	Performance Measurement Period		
		Total Shareholder Return (TSR)	Revenue Growth	Vesting Date
1	25%	2007 stock performance compared to 2006 stock performance	2007 revenues compared to 2006 revenues	By March 17, 2008
2	25%	Averaged combined 2007 and 2008 stock performance compared to 2006 stock performance	2008 revenues compared to 2006 revenues	By March 16, 2009
3	50%	Averaged combined 2007, 2008 and 2009 stock performance compared to 2006 stock performance	2009 revenues compared to 2006 revenues	By March 15, 2010

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Beginning with the 2008 performance share grant, there will only be a single three-year performance and vesting period, as this is more in alignment with the practices of our peers. The percentages in the table below represent the percent of allotted performance shares which would vest at the end of the applicable performance period based on our percentile rankings for both our relative revenue growth and TSR. For example, if at the end of the particular performance measurement period, our revenue growth is at the 85th percentile relative to the Peer Group Index and TSR is at the 50th percentile relative to the Peer Group Index, then 150% of the allotted performance shares for that period would vest. If our performance is at or above the 80th percentile of the Peer Group Index for both TSR and revenue growth at the end of the particular performance measurement period, then 200% of the allotted performance shares for that period would vest, representing the maximum award opportunity. If our performance is below the 20th percentile of the Peer Group Index for both TSR and revenue growth at the end of the particular performance measurement period then none of the allotted performance shares for that period would vest. For TSR, the beginning stock price is the average daily closing stock price for the calendar year prior to the beginning of the performance period (i.e., for the 2007 grant it is the average daily closing price for all of 2006). The ending stock price is the average daily closing stock price for the entire performance period. Beginning revenue is the revenue for the year ended just prior to the beginning of the measurement period (i.e., for the 2007 grant it is the 2006 revenue) and ending revenue is the annual revenue for the last year of the measurement period.

**PERFORMANCE PERCENTAGE USED TO DETERMINE THE
ACTUAL NUMBER OF SHARES TO BE AWARDED**

Our TSR vs. the Peer Group Index

≥ 80th percentile	100.0%	110.0%	150.0%	175.0%	200.0%
60th to 79th percentile	75.0%	85.0%	125.0%	150.0%	175.0%
40th to 59th percentile	50.0%	60.0%	100.0%	125.0%	150.0%
20th to 39th percentile	10.0%	20.0%	60.0%	85.0%	110.0%
< 20th percentile	0.0%	10.0%	50.0%	75.0%	100.0%
	< 20th	20th to	40th to	60th to	≥ 80th

percentile 39th percentile 59th percentile 79th percentile percentile
Our Revenue Growth vs. the Peer Group Index

The table below summarizes the 2007 merit option and performance share grants for the Named Executive Officers:

Name and Title	Stock Option Grant	Performance Share Grant		
		Threshold Number of Shares	Target Number of Shares	Maximum Number of Shares
John C. Martin	600,000	7,000	70,000	140,000
John F. Milligan	280,000	2,800	28,000	56,000
Norbert W. Bischofberger	260,000	2,600	26,000	52,000
Kevin Young	260,000	2,600	26,000	52,000
Gregg H. Alton	100,000	1,142	11,420	22,840

Dr. Martin recommended the above stock option and target performance share award levels for the Named Executive Officers (except himself) to our Compensation Committee in January 2007. Our Compensation Committee approved Dr. Martin's recommendations for the Named Executive Officers. In addition to the above amounts, the Named Executive Officers (except Dr. Martin) received an additional stock option grant in connection with our restructuring of the organization and the assumption by each such officer of broader job

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responsibilities. Drs. Milligan and Bischofberger and Mr. Young each received a stock option grant covering 70,000 shares in May 2007. Mr. Alton received an additional stock option grant covering 50,000 shares in July 2007.

Our Compensation Committee granted 600,000 stock options and 70,000 performance shares (at target) to Dr. Martin. Our Compensation Committee made this grant based on the following considerations: the competitive assessment of equity grant value to chief executive officers at our peer group companies; our operational, financial and shareholder return performance in 2006; and our consistent financial and stockholder return performance relative to our peers over the past few years.

Benefits and Perquisites

We do not provide pension plans or programs or post-retirement health coverage for our executive officers or employees, as we believe that awards under our equity compensation program provides them with a substantial vehicle to accumulate retirement income. This is also consistent with our philosophy of offering minimal fixed or guaranteed compensation and providing the majority of executive officer compensation through at-risk pay.

The benefits we offer our executive officers are substantially the same as those offered to all our employees. We provide medical and other benefits to executive officers that are generally available to other full-time employees, including participation in our employee stock purchase plan, group term life insurance program and a 401(k) plan. The 401(k) plan is a contributory defined contribution plan, and we will make a matching contribution on behalf of each participant equal to 50% of the first 6% of his or her compensation contributed to the plan, up to a maximum matching contribution of \$3,500 in 2007. All of our executive officers (other than Ms. Dorsa) participated in our 401(k) plan during 2007 and received matching contributions. In one instance, in May 2001, we provided Dr. Milligan a relocation loan with an annual principal and accrued interest forgiveness feature tied to his continued service. Additionally, we have provided limited commuting expenses to Mr. Young whose primary residence is in Southern California. See the Summary Compensation Table on page 58 below.

Nonqualified Deferred Compensation

We implemented our Deferred Compensation Plan in 2001 to allow our executive officers to save for retirement in a tax-effective way at minimal cost to the company. Executive officers are eligible to enroll in our Deferred Compensation Plan and defer a portion of their base salary and part of or all of their annual bonus otherwise payable to them, thereby deferring the taxation of these amounts until actual payment of the deferred amounts in future years. Each participant may also direct the investment of his or her account balance under the plan among a number of investment choices that mirror substantially all of the investment funds available under our 401(k) plan. See the Nonqualified Deferred Compensation table on page 64 below for detailed information regarding the account balances for each Named Executive Officer.

Post-Employment Obligations

We do not have employment agreements with any of our executive officers. All employment is at-will. However, we have adopted the Gilead Sciences, Inc. Severance Plan to provide severance benefits to our employees, including executive officers, upon:

an involuntary termination without cause, such as due to a company-wide restructuring, departmental reorganization, significant restructuring of an individual's job duties or due to a change in work location of more than 50 miles from the previous location, and

an involuntary termination without cause, or (for our executive officers) a resignation for good reason, in connection with a change in control.

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Upon an involuntary termination without cause, our Severance Plan provides for certain cash benefits, outplacement services and continued coverage under our health and welfare plans for a specified period. However, upon such termination, any stock awards held by our executive officers will not be subject to accelerated vesting or otherwise enhanced unless in connection with a change in control.

Should our executive officers be involuntarily terminated without cause, or otherwise resign for good reason, in connection with a change in control, then they would receive certain enhanced cash benefits, outplacement services and continued coverage under our health and welfare plans for a specified period. In addition, all stock awards held by the executive offices would fully vest as of the termination date. Our executive officers may also receive an additional cash payment equal to make them whole for any excise tax imposed on any compensation benefits received in connection with the change in control that are deemed to constitute a parachute payment subject to excise tax under the Internal Revenue Code (i.e. excise tax gross-up). The severance provisions associated with a change in control are the only payments provided to someone who is terminated in connection with a change in control (i.e. the individual does not also receive the severance provisions associated involuntary termination without cause).

We adopted our Severance Plan in order to preserve employee morale and productivity and encourage retention in the face of the disruptive impact of an actual or rumored change in control of the company. The Severance Plan also allows us to provide a standard set of severance benefits to new and existing employees and avoids negotiation of one-off arrangements with individual executive officers or employees. In addition, the program is intended to align the interests of our executive officers with those of our stockholders by enabling our executive officers to consider corporate transactions that are in the best interests of the stockholders and other constituents of the company without undue concern over