**Panelists**

Dennise A. De Jesús-Díaz, PhD  
Vice President of Scientific Operations  
Remedy Plan Therapeutics

At Remedy Plan, Dr. De Jesús-Díaz is responsible for Oncology research and development from discovery through clinical lead. In addition, she helps to integrate the science with the business aspects of the company through strategic planning. Dennise holds a BS in Biology from the University of Puerto Rico at Cayey, a PhD in molecular microbiology from Tufts University School of Medicine and completed her postdoctoral training at the NIH. She currently lives in Washington, DC, where she enjoys trying new foods and playing tennis with her husband.

Jenny Ro, PhD  
COO, Curious Reactor  
CEO, Flidea LLC

Dr. Ro is a scientist turned entrepreneur. She received her PhD in Cellular Molecular Biology from University of Michigan and later completed her postdoc research at HMS. During her PhD, she had first-hand experience in academic technology transfer. This experience ultimately spurred her to think deeply about the current state of technology transfer throughout the later part of her PhD and post doc training and co-found two companies to help create more working relationships between academic researchers and entrepreneurs.

Aaron K. Styer, MD  
Founding Partner and Co-Medical Director, CCRM Fertility Boston  
Associate Professor of Obstetrics, Gynecology and Reproductive Biology  
Harvard Medical School

Dr. Styer is a reproductive endocrinologist, founding partner, and medical director of CCRM Fertility Boston. He is board certified in obstetrics and gynecology and the subspecialty, reproductive endocrinology and infertility. Dr. Styer received his BS in biology from Duke University and his MD from Vanderbilt University School of Medicine. He completed residency in the Harvard Integrated Program in OBGYN at BWH/MGH. He completed a research fellowship and clinical fellowship in Reproductive Endocrinology and Infertility at MGH/HMS. Dr. Styer serves on the Board of Directors for Resolve New England and Fertility. He serves as an oral board examiner for the American Board of Obstetrics and Gynecology (ABOG). He is nationally recognized for his expertise and research in elective single embryo transfer, predictors of IVF success, ovulation induction, egg donation, and fertility outcomes in women with uterine fibroids and endometriosis. He has published more than 100 original abstracts, research articles, review articles, invited editorials, and book chapters.

**AGENDA**

**Vertex Pharmaceuticals**

10:00—10:45am  
Registration and Overview

10:45—11:30am  
Panel - Exploring science and scientists’ daily life at Vertex

11:30—12:45pm  
Lunch and networking with Vertex Scientists

12:45pm  
Shuttle Service to Harvard Medical School

**Harvard Medical School**

1:30—1:35 pm  
Welcome  
Joan Y. Reede, MD, MPH, MS, MBA

1:35—2:00 pm  
Plenary Session  
“A Career from Lab to Market”  
Speaker  
Ken Maynard, PhD, FAHA

2:00—3:45pm  
Panel One  
“Entrepreneurship and Understanding the Process”  
Moderator  
Ken Maynard, PhD, FAHA  
Panelists  
Karen Sinclair, JD  
Peter Day  
Bill Whelan, JD  
Elizabeth Garner, MD, MPH

3:45—4:00pm  
Break

2:00—3:45pm  
Panel Two  
“Breaking Through: Personal Paths to Innovation”  
Moderator  
Dennis A. Dean, II, PhD  
Panelists  
Dennise A. de Jesús-Díaz, PhD  
Jenny Ro, PhD  
Aaron K. Styer, MD  
Dennis A. Dean, II, PhD

5:00—6:00pm  
Dinner

**Career Development Series for Postdoctoral Fellows**

“How to Think About Entrepreneurship and Strategies from Lab to Market”

Friday, April 5, 2019  
10:00 am — 6:00 pm  
Harvard Medical School

Co-sponsored by Vertex
Elizabeth Garner, MD, MPH
Chief Medical Officer and Senior Vice President, Research and Development
Agile Therapeutics

Dr. Garner provides strategic leadership on Agile’s overall development strategy and leads the research, pharmacovigilance, and medical affairs teams in the advancement of the company’s product pipeline. Dr. Garner co-leads the development and execution of the company’s regulatory strategy and is Agile’s clinical lead for all correspondence and interactions with FDA. Previously, Dr. Garner was Vice President, Medical Affairs, Women’s Health/Preventive Care at Myriad Genetics. Before that, she was Senior Director at Abbott Laboratories; from 2007 to 2011, Dr. Garner was Associate Director and then Director, Clinical Research at Merck Research Laboratories. Dr. Garner also served as chair of the Next Generation HPV vaccine program Product Development Team. Dr. Garner received joint MD/MPH degrees from HMS and HSPH. She was trained in obstetrics and gynecology at BWH/MGH and completed a fellowship in gynecologic oncology at BWH/DFCI. She is also an author on numerous peer-reviewed scientific papers. Dr. Garner is a member of the Board of Directors for the American Medical Women’s Association; she is on the Board of CorStone and Board of the Executive Women of NJ and was a 2018 honoree at its Salute to the Policy Makers gala.

Peter Day
Global Group Head
Healthcare Investment Banking
Managing Director
Piper Jaffray

Peter Day joined Piper Jaffray in 2012 and has more than 18 years’ experience in biopharma investment banking, executing private and public capital raising, buy and sell-side mergers, acquisitions and partnership transactions, as well as convertible debt financings.

Prior to Piper Jaffray, Peter spent 11 years at Leerink Swann where he was a managing director and one of the earliest members of their investment banking team. Previously, Peter was an investment banker at William Blair & Company focusing on mergers and acquisitions. During his career, he has completed over 100 transactions, including raising over $5 billion in equity capital for life science companies and advising on M&A transactions with an aggregate value of nearly $5 billion. Peter received his MBA from Kellogg Graduate School of Management at Northwestern University and his BA from Denison University. Prior to business school, he was a risk management consultant at Aon Risk Services. Peter is also a board member and financial officer of the Italian Home for Children.

Karen Sinclair, JD
Director of Intellectual Property
Harvard University

Karen Sinclair oversees the development of Harvard’s patent portfolio. Karen advises on patent strategies as well as operational productivity to maximize the value of Harvard’s IP in support of commercialization efforts. She has the honor of directing a team of skilled attorneys and paralegals who secure Harvard’s patent rights and fulfill Harvard’s patent related obligations. Prior to joining Harvard, Karen served as Division IP Counsel at Thermo Fisher Scientific, supporting its laboratory products and consumables divisions. Previous to that, she worked in the Intellectual Property Department of Boston law firms K&L Gates LLP and Testa, Hurwitz & Thibeault, LLP, in the areas of patent prosecution, licensing and litigation.

Bill Whelan, JD
Co-chair, Life Sciences Practice
Mintz

Bill Whelan focuses his practice on securities law, venture capital, and mergers and acquisitions. He regularly represents technology-based companies, principally in the areas of biotechnology, medical technologies, healthcare IT, and other technology sectors. He routinely counsels these clients on many aspects of their corporate development, from initial organization and acquisition of technology, through private financing and initial public offering, to strategic alliances and business combination transactions. He also represents venture capital firms in portfolio investment activities and investment banks in public offerings and private placements of equity securities. Bill is also a key contributor to MintzEdge and is a member of Launchpad Venture Group and the New England Healthcare Executives Network, and regularly participates in activities of BIO, the Massachusetts Biotechnology Council, and MassMEDIC.

Bill Whelan is focuses his practice on securities law, venture capital, and mergers and acquisitions. He regularly represents technology-based companies, principally in the areas of biotechnology, medical technologies, healthcare IT, and other technology sectors. He routinely counsels these clients on many aspects of their corporate development, from initial organization and acquisition of technology, through private financing and initial public offering, to strategic alliances and business combination transactions. He also represents venture capital firms in portfolio investment activities and investment banks in public offerings and private placements of equity securities. Bill is also a key contributor to MintzEdge and is a member of Launchpad Venture Group and the New England Healthcare Executives Network, and regularly participates in activities of BIO, the Massachusetts Biotechnology Council, and MassMEDIC.

Dennis Dean, PhD
Scientific Site Director
Seven Bridges

Dr. Dean’s oversight responsibilities include system architects, engagement managers bioinformatics scientists and genomic data scientists. In this capacity, he is responsible for the success of his team members across commercial, government, and internal projects. He leads collaboration outreach with the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA), the US Department of Veteran Affairs Million Veteran Program (MVP), Blood Profiling Atlas in Cancer and oversee several projects with large pharmaceutical companies. Dr. Dean trained as a research fellow in medicine at the HMS and BWH in the Program for Sleep Epidemiology and the Program for Sleep and Cardiovascular Medicine. He earned his PhD in biomedical engineering and biotechnology and MS in computer science from the University of Massachusetts. He earned his B.S. in computer science from SUNY, Empire State College. Dr. Dean serves on the Biomedical Sciences Career Program Board of Directors.