

LEXICON PHARMACEUTICALS, INC.  
Form DEF 14A  
March 16, 2018  
UNITED STATES  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
Washington, DC. 20549

SCHEDULE 14A  
(Rule 14A-101)

INFORMATION REQUIRED IN PROXY STATEMENT  
SCHEDULE 14A INFORMATION

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

Filed by the Registrant  x  
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 Rule 14a-11(c) or Rule 14a-12

LEXICON PHARMACEUTICALS, INC.  
(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: N/A  
(2) Aggregate number of securities to which transaction applies: N/A  
(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): N/A  
(4) Proposed maximum aggregate value of transaction: N/A  
(5) Total fee paid: \$0  
 Fee paid previously with preliminary materials: N/A  
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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March 16, 2018

**TO OUR STOCKHOLDERS:**

I am pleased to invite you to attend the 2018 annual meeting of stockholders of Lexicon Pharmaceuticals, Inc. to be held on Thursday, April 26, 2018 at 8:00 a.m. CDT at the offices of the company, 8800 Technology Forest Place, The Woodlands, Texas.

Your vote is important, regardless of the number of shares that you hold. Whether or not you plan to attend the annual meeting, I hope you will vote as soon as possible, either electronically on the Internet, by telephone or by signing and returning the enclosed proxy card. Your proxy will not be used if you are present at the annual meeting and prefer to vote in person or if you revoke your proxy.

Thank you for your ongoing support of and continued interest in Lexicon Pharmaceuticals. We look forward to seeing you at the annual meeting.

Sincerely,

/s/ Lonnel Coats

Lonnel Coats  
President and Chief Executive Officer

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LEXICON PHARMACEUTICALS, INC.

8800 Technology Forest Place

The Woodlands, Texas 77381

(281) 863-3000

NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING OF STOCKHOLDERS

TO BE HELD APRIL 26, 2018

TO OUR STOCKHOLDERS:

The annual meeting of stockholders of Lexicon Pharmaceuticals, Inc. will be held on Thursday, April 26, 2018 at 8:00 a.m. CDT at the offices of the company, 8800 Technology Forest Place, The Woodlands, Texas, to:

•elect three Class III directors;

•hold an advisory vote on the compensation paid to our named executive officers;

•ratify and approve the appointment of Ernst & Young LLP as our independent auditors for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2018; and

•act on any other business that properly comes before the annual meeting.

You are entitled to vote at the annual meeting only if you are the record owner of shares of our common stock at the close of business on February 26, 2018.

It is important that your shares be represented at the annual meeting whether or not you plan to attend. Please cast your vote electronically on the Internet, by telephone or by signing and returning the enclosed proxy card as promptly as possible. If you are present at the annual meeting, and wish to do so, you may revoke the proxy and vote in person.

By order of the board of directors,

/s/ Brian T. Crum

Brian T. Crum

Secretary

The Woodlands, Texas

March 16, 2018

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LEXICON PHARMACEUTICALS, INC.  
8800 Technology Forest Place  
The Woodlands, Texas 77381  
(281) 863-3000

PROXY STATEMENT  
FOR  
ANNUAL MEETING OF STOCKHOLDERS

To Be Held April 26, 2018

GENERAL INFORMATION

Purpose of this Proxy Statement

We have prepared this proxy statement to solicit proxies on behalf of our board of directors for use at our 2018 annual meeting of stockholders and any adjournment or postponement of such meeting.

Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials

As permitted by rules adopted by the Securities and Exchange Commission, we are providing access to our proxy materials over the Internet. Accordingly, on or about March 16, 2018, we are mailing to our stockholders a notice containing instructions on how to access our proxy materials, including our proxy statement and annual report, and vote electronically over the Internet. The notice also provides instructions on how stockholders may request a paper copy of our proxy materials free of charge. Our proxy materials may be accessed by stockholders at any time after the date of mailing of the notice.

Date, Time and Place of Annual Meeting

The annual meeting will be held on Thursday, April 26, 2018 at 8:00 a.m. CDT at the offices of the company, 8800 Technology Forest Place, The Woodlands, Texas.

Matters to Be Considered at the Annual Meeting

At the annual meeting, our stockholders will be asked to consider and act upon the following matters:

- the election of three Class III directors;
- an advisory vote on the compensation paid to our named executive officers; and
- a proposal to ratify and approve the appointment of Ernst & Young LLP as our independent auditors for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2018.

Our board of directors does not intend to bring any other matters before the annual meeting and has not been informed that any other matters are to be presented by others. Our bylaws contain several requirements that must be satisfied in order for any of our stockholders to bring a proposal before one of our annual meetings, including a requirement of delivering proper advance notice to us. Stockholders are advised to review our bylaws if they intend to present a proposal at any of our annual meetings.

Shares Entitled to Vote

You are entitled to vote at the annual meeting and at any postponement or adjournment thereof if you were the record owner of shares of our common stock as of the close of business on February 26, 2018, the record date for the annual meeting established by our board of directors. On the record date, 105,591,828 shares of our common stock were outstanding. If you were the record owner of shares of our common stock on the record date, you will be entitled to one vote for each share of stock that you own on each matter that is called to vote at the annual meeting or at any postponement or adjournment thereof.

Quorum

We must have a quorum to conduct any business at the annual meeting. This means that at least a majority of our outstanding shares eligible to vote at the annual meeting must be represented at the annual meeting, either in person or by proxy. Abstentions are counted for purposes of determining whether a quorum is present. In addition, shares held by intermediaries that are voted for at least one matter at the annual meeting will be counted as being present for purposes of determining a quorum for all matters. This is true even if the beneficial owner's discretion has been withheld for voting on some or all other matters (commonly referred to as a "broker non-vote").



#### Vote Necessary to Approve Proposals

Our Class III directors will be elected by a plurality vote. As a result, the three persons receiving the greatest number of votes will be elected to serve as our Class III directors. Withholding authority to vote for a director nominee will not affect the outcome of the election of directors.

The approval on an advisory basis of the compensation paid to our named executive officers will require the affirmative vote of the majority of the votes cast with respect to such matter. Any abstention from voting or broker non-vote with respect to such matter will not count as a vote for or against the compensation paid to our named executive officers and will not affect the outcome of the advisory vote.

The ratification and approval of the appointment of Ernst & Young LLP as our independent auditors for the year ending December 31, 2018 will require the affirmative vote of a majority of the votes cast with respect to such matter. Any abstention from voting or broker non-vote with respect to such matter will not count as a vote for or against the ratification and approval of the appointment of Ernst & Young LLP as our independent auditors for the year ending December 31, 2018 and will not affect the outcome of the proposal.

Any other business that may properly come before the annual meeting for a vote will require the affirmative vote of a majority of the votes cast with respect to such matter unless a greater vote is required by law or our charter or bylaws. Any abstention or broker non-vote with respect to any such matter will not count as a vote for or against the proposal and will not affect the outcome of the proposal.

#### How to Vote Your Shares

You may vote in person at the annual meeting or by proxy. To ensure that your shares are represented at the annual meeting, we recommend you vote by proxy even if you plan to attend the annual meeting in person. Even if you vote by proxy, if you wish, you can revoke your proxy and vote in person at the annual meeting. If you want to vote at the annual meeting but your shares are held by an intermediary, such as a broker or bank, you will need to obtain from the intermediary either proof of your ownership of such shares as of February 26, 2018 or a proxy from such intermediary authorizing you to vote your shares at the meeting.

You may receive more than one proxy depending on how you hold your shares. If you hold your shares through an intermediary, such as a broker or bank, you may receive materials from them asking you how you want your shares to be voted at the annual meeting.

#### How to Vote by Proxy

**By Internet or Telephone.** You may vote electronically on the Internet or by telephone by following the instructions contained on the notice of Internet availability of our proxy materials. If you hold your shares through an intermediary, such as a broker or bank, please follow the voting instructions contained on the voting card used by the intermediary.

**By Mail.** If you request a paper copy of our proxy materials, you may vote by mail by completing, dating and signing the proxy card provided and mailing it in the pre-addressed envelope enclosed with the paper copy of our proxy materials.

#### How Your Proxy Will Be Voted

Giving us your proxy means that you are authorizing us to vote your shares at the annual meeting and at any adjournment or postponement thereof in the manner you direct. You may vote for our nominees for election as Class III directors, or withhold your vote for any one or more of those nominees. You may vote for or against the approval on an advisory basis of the compensation paid to our named executive officers and the ratification and approval of the appointment of Ernst & Young LLP as our independent auditors for the year ending December 31, 2018, or abstain from voting on those proposals.

If any of our nominees for election as Class III directors become unavailable for any reason before the election, we may reduce the number of directors serving on our board of directors, or our board of directors may designate substitute nominees, as necessary. We have no reason to believe that any of our nominees for election as Class III directors will be unavailable. If our board of directors designates any substitute nominees, the persons receiving your proxy will vote your shares for such substitute(s) if they are instructed to do so by our board of directors or, in the absence of any such instructions, in accordance with their own best judgment.

If you vote by proxy but do not specify how you want your shares voted, your shares will be voted in favor of our nominees for election as Class III directors, in favor of the approval on an advisory basis of the compensation paid to

our named executive

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officers, and in favor of the ratification and approval of the appointment of Ernst & Young LLP as our independent auditors for the year ending December 31, 2018.

If you vote by proxy and any additional business properly comes before the annual meeting, the persons receiving your proxy will vote your shares on those matters as instructed by our board of directors or, in the absence of any such instructions, in accordance with their own best judgment. As of the date of this proxy statement, we are not aware of any other matter to be raised at the annual meeting.

#### How to Revoke Your Proxy

You may revoke your proxy at any time before your shares are voted by providing our corporate secretary with either a new proxy with a later date or a written notice of your desire to revoke your proxy at the following address:

Lexicon Pharmaceuticals, Inc.  
8800 Technology Forest Place  
The Woodlands, Texas 77381  
Attention: Corporate Secretary

You may also revoke your proxy at any time prior to your shares having been voted by attending the annual meeting in person and notifying the inspector of election of your desire to revoke your proxy. Your proxy will not automatically be revoked merely because you attend the annual meeting.

#### Inspector of Election

Broadridge Financial Solutions, Inc. will count votes and provide a representative who will serve as an inspector of election for the annual meeting.

#### List of Stockholders Entitled to Vote

A list of our stockholders entitled to vote at the annual meeting will be available for inspection at the annual meeting. The stockholder list will also be available for inspection for ten days prior to the annual meeting at our corporate offices located at 8800 Technology Forest Place, The Woodlands, Texas. Any inspection of this list at our offices will need to be conducted during ordinary business hours. If you wish to conduct an inspection of the stockholder list, we request that you please contact our corporate secretary before coming to our offices.

#### Solicitation of Proxies and Expenses

We are asking for your proxy on behalf of our board of directors. We will bear the entire cost of preparing, printing and soliciting proxies. We will send notices of Internet availability of proxy materials and, if requested, paper copies of our proxy materials to all of our stockholders of record as of the record date and to all intermediaries, such as brokers and banks, that held any of our shares on that date on behalf of others. These intermediaries will then forward the notices and, if requested, paper copies of our proxy materials to the beneficial owners of our shares, and we will reimburse them for their reasonable out-of-pocket expenses for forwarding such materials. Our directors, officers and employees may solicit proxies by mail, in person or by telephone or other electronic communication. Our directors, officers and employees will not receive additional compensation for their solicitation efforts, but they will be reimbursed for any out-of-pocket expenses they incur. No solicitation of proxies will be made by specially engaged employees or paid solicitors.

#### Householding

As permitted by rules adopted by the Securities and Exchange Commission, we are delivering a single notice of Internet availability of proxy materials, annual report and proxy statement, as applicable, to any household at which two or more stockholders reside if we believe the stockholders are members of the same family, unless otherwise instructed by one or more of the stockholders. We will promptly deliver separate copies of these documents upon the written or oral request of any stockholder at a shared address to which a single copy of the documents were delivered. If your household received a single set of any of these documents, but you would prefer to receive your own copy, or if you share an address with another stockholder and together both of you would like to receive only a single set of these documents, please follow these instructions:

If your shares are registered in your own name, please contact our transfer agent, Computershare Inc., and inform them of your request by calling them at (877) 854-4583 or writing them at P.O. Box 30170, College Station, Texas 77842 or 211 Quality Circle, Suite 210, College Station, Texas 77845 for overnight correspondence.



If an intermediary, such as a broker or bank, holds your shares, please contact Broadridge and inform them of your request by calling them at (800) 542-1061 or writing them at Householding Department, 51 Mercedes Way, Edgewood, New York 11717. Be sure to include your name, the name of your brokerage firm and your account number.

PROPOSAL NUMBER 1:  
ELECTION OF DIRECTORS

Our board of directors, which currently has nine members, is divided or “classified” into three classes. Directors in each class are elected to hold office for a term ending on the date of the third annual meeting following the annual meeting at which they were elected. The current term of our Class III directors will expire at this annual meeting. The current terms of our Class I and Class II directors will expire at our 2019 and 2020 annual meetings of stockholders, respectively.

The board of directors has nominated and urges you to vote for the election of the individuals identified below, who have been nominated to serve as Class III directors until our 2021 annual meeting of stockholders or until their successors are duly elected and qualified. Each of these individuals is a member of our present board of directors. Your signed proxy will be voted for the nominees named below unless you specifically indicate on the proxy that you are withholding your vote.

Nominees for Class III Directors

The following individuals are nominated for election as Class III directors:

Name	Age	Position with the Company	Year First Became a Director
Philippe J. Amouyal	59	Director (Class III)	2007
Lonnell Coats	53	President and Chief Executive Officer and Director (Class III)	2014
Frank P. Palantoni	60	Director (Class III)	2004

Philippe J. Amouyal has been a director since August 2007 and is a managing director of The Invus Group, LLC, a position he has held since 1999. Previously, Mr. Amouyal was a vice president and director of The Boston Consulting Group, Inc. in Boston, Massachusetts, where he coordinated the global technology and electronics practice through most of the 1990s. Mr. Amouyal is a director of Weight Watchers International, Inc. and Blue Buffalo Pet Products, Inc., as well as a number of private companies in which Invus has invested. He holds an M.S. in engineering and a DEA in management from Ecole Centrale de Paris and was a research fellow at the Center for Policy Alternatives of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Mr. Amouyal provides us with the benefit of his broad business and financial experience, as well as his expertise in compensation and performance management and the assessment and prioritization of research and development projects, gained in his active participation in the identification, selection, negotiation and oversight of investments by The Invus Group and his consulting experience with The Boston Consulting Group. Mr. Amouyal is a designee of Invus, L.P. and Invus C.V. pursuant to our stockholders’ agreement with Invus described under the heading “Transactions with Related Persons - Arrangements with Invus.”

Lonnell Coats has been our president and chief executive officer and a director since July 2014. From 1996 through June 2014, Mr. Coats served in a series of leadership positions at Eisai Inc. and Eisai Corporation of North America, most recently as chief executive officer from 2010 to June 2014 and president and chief operating officer from 2004 to 2010. Prior to joining Eisai, Mr. Coats spent eight years with Janssen Pharmaceuticals, Inc., a division of Johnson & Johnson, where he held a variety of management and sales positions. Mr. Coats serves as a director of Blueprint Medicines Corporation and holds a B.S. from Oakland University.

Mr. Coats provides us with the benefit of his extensive experience in a wide variety of disciplines within the pharmaceutical industry, including the development and commercialization of pharmaceutical products, the management of pharmaceutical marketing and sales efforts and the planning and execution of strategic initiatives, as well as his organizational and management skills developed while serving in his various leadership positions at Eisai. Frank P. Palantoni has been a director since November 2004. Mr. Palantoni is chief executive officer of Laboratory M2, a clean technology company involved in animal health, crop protection and retail sectors. Mr. Palantoni was president of Palantoni & Partners LLC, an advisory firm for the consumer and health care industries, from 2013 to 2016. He previously served as president of the pet and animal health division of Central Garden & Pet Company, was a partner at P3 Capital Management LLC, an early stage consumer products equity fund, served as chief operating officer and chief executive officer of Prestige Brands Holding, Inc. and held a variety of senior management positions with Novartis AG, including president and chief executive officer, worldwide of the Gerber Products Company, and

chief executive officer for North American operations of the Consumer Health Division. Prior to joining Novartis, he held a series of senior management positions with The Danone Group. He holds a B.S. from Tufts University and an M.B.A. from Columbia University.

Mr. Palantoni provides us with the benefit of his extensive business operations experience, as well as his expertise in compensation and performance management and his broad business and management skills developed while serving in his various leadership positions in the consumer health products industry.

The Board of Directors recommends that stockholders vote “FOR” the foregoing nominees for election as Class III directors.

#### Current and Continuing Directors

The current directors of the Company are identified below:

Name	Age	Position with the Company
Raymond Debbane <sup>(3)</sup>	63	Chairman of the Board of Directors (Class I)
Philippe J. Amouyal <sup>(2)</sup>	59	Director (Class III)
Samuel L. Barker, Ph.D. <sup>(1)(2)</sup>	75	Director (Class II)
Lonnell Coats	53	President and Chief Executive Officer and Director (Class III)
Robert J. Lefkowitz, M.D. <sup>(3)</sup>	74	Director (Class I)
Alan S. Nies, M.D.	80	Director (Class I)
Frank P. Palantoni <sup>(1)(2)</sup>	60	Director (Class III)
Christopher J. Sobecki	59	Director (Class II)
Judith L. Swain, M.D. <sup>(1)(3)</sup>	69	Director (Class II)

<sup>(1)</sup> Member of the Audit Committee

<sup>(2)</sup> Member of the Compensation Committee

<sup>(3)</sup> Member of the Corporate Governance Committee

Information regarding the business experience of Mr. Amouyal, Mr. Coats and Mr. Palantoni is set forth above under the heading “- Nominees for Class III Directors.”

Raymond Debbane has been a director since August 2007 and became chairman of our board of directors in February 2012. Mr. Debbane is president and chief executive officer of The Invus Group, LLC, which he founded in New York in 1985 as the exclusive investment advisor of Benelux-based Artal Group S.A. In 1999, Artal became the controlling shareholder of Weight Watchers International, Inc., for which Mr. Debbane serves as chairman of the board of directors. He also serves as a director of Blue Buffalo Pet Products, Inc. and as chairman or director of a number of private companies in which Invus and Artal Group S.A. have invested. Before founding The Invus Group, Mr. Debbane was a manager in the Paris office of The Boston Consulting Group, Inc., where he did consulting work for a number of major European and international companies. Mr. Debbane holds an M.B.A. from Stanford University, an M.S. in food science and technology from the University of California at Davis, and a B.S. in agricultural sciences and agricultural engineering from American University of Beirut.

Mr. Debbane provides us with the benefit of his extensive financial markets and investment expertise gained in more than 30 years of leading the identification, selection, negotiation and oversight of a wide range of investments in his role as president and chief executive officer of The Invus Group, as well as his background in strategic consulting across a broad range of industries developed while with The Boston Consulting Group. Mr. Debbane is a designee of Invus, L.P. and Invus C.V. pursuant to our stockholders’ agreement with Invus described under the heading “Transactions with Related Persons - Arrangements with Invus.”

Samuel L. Barker, Ph.D. has been a director since March 2000 and served as chairman of our board of directors from 2005 to 2012. Dr. Barker previously co-founded and served as president and chief executive officer of Clearview Projects, Inc., a provider of partnering and transaction services to biopharmaceutical companies. Dr. Barker served in a series of leadership positions at Bristol-Myers Squibb Company until his retirement in 1999. His positions at Bristol-Myers Squibb included service as executive vice president, Worldwide Franchise Management and Strategy; president, United States Pharmaceuticals; and president, Bristol-Myers Squibb Intercontinental Commercial Operations. Dr. Barker also previously held executive positions in research and development, manufacturing, finance, business development and sales and marketing at Squibb Pharmaceuticals. Dr. Barker currently serves as a director of Cyclacel Pharmaceuticals, Inc. He previously served as a director of Cadence Pharmaceuticals, Inc. from 2006 until February 2014 when Cadence was acquired by Mallinckrodt Pharmaceuticals. Dr. Barker received his B.S. from

Henderson State College, his M.S. from the University of Arkansas and his Ph.D. from Purdue University. Dr. Barker provides us with the benefit of his extensive experience in a wide variety of disciplines within the pharmaceutical industry, including the development and commercialization of pharmaceutical products, the identification, evaluation and negotiation of collaborative agreements, and the management of pharmaceutical marketing and sales efforts, as well as his

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organizational and management skills developed while serving in his various leadership positions at Bristol-Myers Squibb and Clearview Projects.

Robert J. Lefkowitz, M.D. has been a director since February 2001 and a consultant to our company since March 2003. Dr. Lefkowitz is the James B. Duke Professor of Medicine, professor of biochemistry and a Howard Hughes Medical Institute investigator at Duke University Medical Center, where he has served on the faculty since 1973. Dr. Lefkowitz is a member of the National Academy of Sciences and has received more than 50 major awards for his research, including the 2012 Nobel Prize in Chemistry, the Shaw Prize, the Albany Medical Center Prize and the 2007 National Medal of Science. Dr. Lefkowitz received his B.A. from Columbia University and his M.D. from Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons.

Dr. Lefkowitz provides us with the benefit of his medical expertise and his extensive experience in biological and pharmaceutical research, particularly with respect to the identification of drug targets and preclinical evaluation of drug candidates, gained in more than 40 years as a member of the faculty at Duke University Medical Center.

Alan S. Nies, M.D. has been a director since November 2003 and chairman of our medical advisory board since March 2003. Dr. Nies served in a series of senior management positions during ten years at Merck & Co. Inc. until his retirement in 2002, including senior vice president, clinical sciences. Prior to joining Merck, Dr. Nies spent fifteen years as professor of medicine and pharmacology and head of the Division of Clinical Pharmacology at the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center. Dr. Nies holds a B.S. from Stanford University and an M.D. from Harvard Medical School.

Dr. Nies provides us with the benefit of his extensive clinical development experience, particularly with respect to the design, management and reporting of clinical trials, as well as his organizational and management skills developed while serving in his various leadership positions with Merck and the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center.

Christopher J. Sobecki has been a director since August 2007 and is a managing director of The Invus Group, LLC, which he joined in 1989. Mr. Sobecki is currently a director of Weight Watchers International, Inc., as well as a number of private companies in which Invus has invested. He holds a B.S. in industrial engineering from Purdue University and an M.B.A. from Harvard University.

Mr. Sobecki provides us with the benefit of his diversified business and financial experience, including a particular expertise in risk assessment and business strategy development, and relationships in the financial community gained in his active participation in the identification, selection, negotiation and oversight of investments by The Invus Group and his service as a director of public and private companies. Mr. Sobecki is a designee of Invus, L.P. and Invus C.V. pursuant to our stockholders' agreement with Invus described under the heading "Transactions with Related Persons - Arrangements with Invus."

Judith L. Swain, M.D. has been a director since September 2007. Dr. Swain is a visiting professor of medicine at the National University of Singapore and chief medical officer of Physiowave, Inc. She previously served as founding director of the Singapore Institute for Clinical Sciences, dean for translational medicine at the University of California, San Diego, chair of the Department of Medicine at Stanford University from 1997 to 2005, and on the medical faculties of the University of Pennsylvania and Duke University. Dr. Swain is currently a director of Avacen, Inc. She has previously served in a number of national and international leadership roles and as a director or member of the scientific advisory boards for a number of biomedical technology companies and is co-founder of Synecor, LLC. Dr. Swain received her B.S. from the University of California, Los Angeles and her M.D. from the University of California, San Diego.

Dr. Swain provides us with the benefit of her extensive medical and scientific research experience gained in her more than 30 years as a practicing physician and research scientist, as well as her organizational and management skills developed in her numerous leadership positions with a variety of prominent research and academic institutions.

#### PROPOSAL NUMBER 2:

#### ADVISORY VOTE ON COMPENSATION PAID TO NAMED EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

Section 14A of the Securities and Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, requires that we provide our stockholders with an opportunity to vote, on a non-binding and advisory basis, on the compensation of our named executive officers, as disclosed in this proxy statement in accordance with the compensation disclosure rules of the Securities and Exchange Commission.



As described below under “Executive and Director Compensation - Compensation Discussion and Analysis,” we have developed a compensation policy that is designed to attract and retain key executives responsible for our success and motivate management to enhance long-term stockholder value. We believe our compensation policy strikes an appropriate balance between the implementation of responsible, measured compensation practices and the effective provision of incentives for our named executive officers to exert maximum efforts for our success.

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Accordingly, we ask our stockholders to vote on the following resolution at the annual meeting: “RESOLVED, that the Company’s stockholders hereby approve, on an advisory basis, the compensation of the named executive officers, as disclosed in the Company’s proxy statement for the 2018 annual meeting of stockholders pursuant to the compensation disclosure rules of the Securities and Exchange Commission, including the Compensation Discussion and Analysis, 2017 Summary Compensation Table and the other compensation related tables and disclosure.”

As this vote is advisory, it will not be binding upon the board of directors or the compensation committee and neither the board of directors nor the compensation committee will be required to take any action as a result of the outcome of this vote. However, the compensation committee will carefully consider the outcome of this vote when considering future executive compensation policies.

The Board of Directors recommends that stockholders vote “FOR” the approval, on an advisory basis, of the compensation paid to our named executive officers, as disclosed in this proxy statement.

**PROPOSAL NUMBER 3:**

**RATIFICATION AND APPROVAL OF INDEPENDENT AUDITORS**

The board of directors has appointed the firm of Ernst & Young LLP as our independent auditors to make an examination of our accounts for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2018, subject to ratification by our stockholders. Representatives of Ernst & Young LLP, are expected to be present at the annual meeting, will have an opportunity to make a statement if they desire to do so and are expected to be available to respond to appropriate questions.

The Board of Directors recommends that stockholders vote “FOR” ratification and approval of the appointment of Ernst & Young LLP as our independent auditors for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2018.

**Compensation of Independent Auditors**

The following table presents the estimated aggregate fees billed and to be billed by Ernst & Young LLP for services performed during our last two fiscal years.

	Years Ended	
	December 31,	
	2017	2016
Audit fees <sup>(1)</sup>	\$563,257	\$421,100
Audit-related fees <sup>(2)</sup>	30,900	30,000
Tax fees	—	—
All other fees	—	—
	\$594,157	\$451,100

“Audit fees” include professional services rendered for (i) the audit of our internal control over financial reporting, as required by the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, for the fiscal years ended December 31, 2016 and 2017, (ii) the audit of our annual financial statements for the fiscal years ended December 31, 2016 and 2017, (iii) the reviews of the financial statements included in our quarterly reports on Form 10-Q for such years and (iv) the issuance of consents and other matters relating to registration statements filed by us.

“Audit-related fees” include assurance or related services reasonably related to our audit for the fiscal years ended December 31, 2016 and 2017. These fees related to the audit of the financial statements of our 401(k) plan.

The audit committee reviewed and approved all the fees described above. As part of its duties, the audit committee has determined that the provision by Ernst & Young LLP of the services described above is compatible with maintaining the auditors’ independence.

**Audit Committee Pre-Approval Policies and Procedures**

The audit committee has adopted policies and procedures requiring the pre-approval of all audit and non-audit services rendered by our independent auditors, either as part of the audit committee’s approval of the scope of the engagement of the independent auditors or on a case-by-case basis before the independent auditors are engaged to provide each service. The audit committee’s pre-approval authority may be delegated to one or more of its members, but any pre-approval decision must be reported to the full audit committee at its next regularly scheduled meeting.



#### Audit Committee Report

The role of the audit committee is to assist the board of directors in its oversight of our financial reporting process. The audit committee reviews our internal accounting procedures and consults with, and reviews the services provided by, our independent auditors.

The management of our company is responsible for the preparation, presentation and integrity of our financial statements, our accounting and financial reporting principles and internal controls and procedures designed to assure compliance with the accounting standards and applicable laws and regulations. Our independent auditors are responsible for auditing our financial statements and expressing an opinion as to their conformity with generally accepted accounting principles.

In the performance of its oversight function, the audit committee has reviewed and discussed the audited financial statements with management. The committee has also discussed with our independent auditors the matters required to be discussed by PCAOB Auditing Standard No. 1301, Communications with Audit Committees, as currently in effect. Finally, the committee has received the written disclosures and the letter from our independent auditors required by the applicable requirements of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board regarding our independent auditors' communications with the audit committee concerning independence, as currently in effect, and has discussed with our independent auditors their independence.

Based upon the review and discussions described in this report, and subject to the limitations on the role and responsibilities of the audit committee referred to in the audit committee charter, the audit committee recommended to the board of directors that the audited financial statements be included in our annual report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2017.

Audit Committee

Samuel L. Barker, Ph.D. (Chairman)

Frank P. Palantoni

Judith L. Swain, M.D.

The foregoing audit committee report shall not be deemed "filed" for purposes of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, or otherwise subject to the liabilities of that section, nor shall it be deemed incorporated by reference by any general statement incorporating by reference this proxy statement into any filing under the Securities Act of 1933 or under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, except to the extent that we specifically incorporate this audit committee report by reference, and shall not otherwise be deemed filed under such acts.

## STOCK OWNERSHIP OF CERTAIN BENEFICIAL OWNERS AND MANAGEMENT

The following table presents information regarding the beneficial ownership of our common stock as of February 26, 2018 by:

- each of the individuals listed in “Executive and Director Compensation - Summary Compensation Table for 2017”;
- each of our directors;
- each person, or group of affiliated persons, who is known by us to own beneficially five percent or more of our common stock; and
- all current directors and executive officers as a group.

Beneficial ownership is determined in accordance with the rules of the Securities and Exchange Commission computing the number of shares beneficially owned by a person and the percentage ownership of that person. Shares of common stock underlying stock options held by that person that are currently exercisable or exercisable within 60 days of February 26, 2018 and restricted stock units held by that person that are scheduled to vest within 60 days of February 26, 2018 are considered outstanding. These shares, however, are not considered outstanding when computing the percentage ownership of each other person.

Except as indicated in the footnotes to this table and pursuant to state community property laws, each stockholder named in the table has sole voting and investment power for the shares shown as beneficially owned by them. Percentage of ownership is based on 105,591,828 shares of common stock outstanding on February 26, 2018. Unless otherwise indicated in the footnotes, the address of each of the individuals named below is: c/o Lexicon Pharmaceuticals, Inc., 8800 Technology Forest Place, The Woodlands, Texas 77381.

	Beneficial Ownership			
	Number of	Shares Issuable		
	Shares	Pursuant to		
	Beneficially	Options		
	Owned	Exercisable or		
		Restricted Stock		
		Units Scheduled		
		to Vest within 60		
		Days of		
		February 26, 2018	Percentage	Ownership
Invus, L.P., Invus Public Equities, L.P., Invus C.V. and Artal International S.C.A. <sup>(1)</sup>	62,595,864	—	59.3	%
FMR LLC <sup>(2)</sup>	15,838,169	—	15.0	%
UBS Group AG <sup>(3)</sup>	5,595,669	—	5.3	%
Lonnell Coats	42,985	373,944	*	
Jeffrey L. Wade, J.D.	49,597	464,768	*	
Pablo Lapuerta, Ph.D.	24,613	263,965	*	
Alexander A. Santini	1,259	42,868	*	
Praveen Tyle, Ph.D.	—	64,873	*	
Raymond Debbane <sup>(4)</sup>	4,331,552	22,615	4.1	%
Philippe J. Amouyal	10,338	22,615	*	
Samuel L. Barker, Ph.D.	25,623	28,330	*	
Robert J. Lefkowitz, M.D.	10,338	22,615	*	
Alan S. Nies, M.D.	11,052	22,615	*	
Frank P. Palantoni	10,338	22,615	*	
Christopher J. Sobecki	10,480	22,615	*	
Judith L. Swain, M.D.	10,338	22,615	*	
All current directors and executive officers as a group <sup>(4)</sup> (15 persons)	4,602,838	1,918,710	6.1	%

\* Represents beneficial ownership of less than 1 percent.

(1)

Based upon a Schedule 13D/A filed with the SEC on November 26, 2014 and a Form 4 filed with the SEC on November 17, 2017, reflecting the beneficial ownership of our common stock by Invus, L.P., Invus Public Equities, L.P., Invus C.V., Artal International S.C.A. and related parties. Invus, L.P. and related parties may be deemed to have sole investment and voting power with respect to 35,402,689 of such shares and shared voting power with respect to 1,550,000 of such shares. Invus Public Equities, L.P. and related parties may be deemed to have sole investment and shared voting power with respect to 1,550,000

of such shares. Invus C.V. and related parties may be deemed to have sole investment and voting power with respect to 4,321,214 of such shares. Artal International S.C.A. and related parties may be deemed to have sole investment and voting power with respect to 21,321,961 of such shares. The address for Invus, L.P. and Invus Public Equities, L.P. is Clarendon House, 2 Church Street, Hamilton HM II, Bermuda. The address for Invus C.V. is Marten Meesweg 25, Rotterdam 3068 AV, Netherlands. The address for Artal International S.C.A. is Valley Park, 44, rue de la Vallée, L-2661 Luxembourg.

Based upon a Schedule 13G/A filed with the SEC on February 13, 2018, reflecting the beneficial ownership of our  
 (2) common stock by FMR LLC and related parties. FMR LLC has sole investment power with respect to all of such shares and sole voting power with respect to 4,383,295 of such shares. The address for FMR LLC is 245 Summer Street, Boston, Massachusetts 02210.

Based upon a Schedule 13G/A filed with the SEC on February 13, 2018 and certain representations made to us by UBS Group AG. The number of shares beneficially owned by UBS Group AG includes an indeterminate number  
 (3) of shares issuable upon conversion of our 5.25% Convertible Senior Notes due 2021. UBS Group AG has shared investment power with respect to all of such shares and sole voting power with respect to 5,278,497 of such shares. UBS Group AG disclaims beneficial ownership of all of such shares. The address for UBS Group AG is Bahnhofstrasse 45, Zurich, Switzerland.

(4) The number of shares beneficially owned by Mr. Debbane includes 4,321,214 shares beneficially owned by Invus C.V. and related parties. Mr. Debbane disclaims beneficial ownership of these shares.

#### 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 10% of our common stock, to file initial reports of ownership and reports of changes in ownership of our common stock with the Securities and Exchange Commission. Directors, executive officers and greater than 10% stockholders are required by Securities and Exchange Commission regulations to furnish us with copies of all such forms that they file. To our knowledge, based solely on our review of the copies of such reports received by us and on written representations by certain reporting persons that no reports on Form 5 were required, we believe that during the fiscal year ended December 31, 2017, all Section 16(a) filing requirements applicable to our executive officers, directors and 10% stockholders were complied with in a timely manner.

#### EQUITY COMPENSATION PLAN INFORMATION

The following table presents aggregate summary information as of December 31, 2017 regarding the common stock that may be issued upon exercise of options, warrants and rights under our 2017 Equity Incentive Plan and 2017 Non-Employee Directors' Equity Incentive Plan.

Plan Category	(a) Number of securities to be issued upon exercise of outstanding options, warrants and rights	(b) Weighted average exercise price per share of outstanding options, warrants and rights <sup>(2)</sup>	(c) Number of securities remaining available for future issuance under equity compensation plans (excluding securities reflected in column (a))
Equity compensation plans approved by security holders <sup>(1)</sup>	5,906,757	\$ 11.1653	6,565,872
Equity compensation plans not approved by security holders	—	—	—
Total	5,906,757	\$ 11.1653	6,565,872

(1)

Consists of shares of our common stock issuable upon the exercise of outstanding stock options or vesting of outstanding restricted stock units granted under our 2017 Equity Incentive Plan and 2017 Non-Employee Directors' Equity Incentive Plan or remaining available for issuance under those plans.

Reflects only the weighted-average exercise price per share of outstanding stock options granted under our 2017 Equity Incentive Plan and 2017 Non-Employee Directors' Equity Incentive Plan and excludes from such calculation (2) 945,723 restricted stock units granted under our 2017 Equity Incentive Plan pursuant to which shares of our common stock may be issued for no additional consideration.



## CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

### Independence of the Board of Directors

After reviewing all relevant transactions and relationships involving each member of the board of directors (and his or her family), the board of directors has affirmatively determined that Raymond Debbane, Philippe J. Amouyal, Samuel L. Barker, Ph.D., Robert J. Lefkowitz, M.D., Alan S. Nies, M.D., Frank P. Palantoni, Christopher J. Sobecki and Judith L. Swain, M.D., which members constitute a majority of the board of directors, are “independent” in accordance with the applicable listing standards of The Nasdaq Stock Market, Inc.

In making such determinations, the board of directors considered our consulting agreements with Robert J. Lefkowitz, M.D., under which Dr. Lefkowitz serves as a consultant to us on matters relating to our drug discovery and development efforts, and with Alan S. Nies, M.D., under which Dr. Nies serves as chairman of our medical advisory board. With respect to Raymond Debbane, Philippe J. Amouyal and Christopher J. Sobecki, the board of directors also considered the percentage of our outstanding common stock owned by Invus and its affiliates.

### Board Committees

**Audit Committee.** Our audit committee has been established in accordance with Section 3(a)(58)(A) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 to oversee our accounting and financial reporting processes and the audits of our financial statements. In that regard, the audit committee assists our board of directors in monitoring the integrity of our financial statements, the qualifications, independence and performance of our independent auditors and our compliance with legal and regulatory requirements. The audit committee operates pursuant to a charter that was last amended and restated by the board of directors on July 27, 2017, a copy of which appears on our website at [www.lexpharma.com](http://www.lexpharma.com) under the caption “Investors - Corporate Governance.”

The current members of our audit committee are Samuel L. Barker, Ph.D. (chair), Frank P. Palantoni and Judith L. Swain, M.D. The board of directors, in its business judgment, has determined that Dr. Barker, Mr. Palantoni and Dr. Swain are “independent” in accordance with the applicable listing standards of The Nasdaq Stock Market, Inc. The board of directors, in its business judgment, has also determined that Samuel L. Barker, Ph.D. is an “audit committee financial expert” as defined in Item 407(d)(5) of Regulation S-K.

**Compensation Committee.** Our compensation committee has been established to oversee the compensation of our employees, including our chief executive officer and other officers. The compensation committee also has responsibility for the evaluation and approval of all compensation plans, policies and programs, including the issuance of stock options, restricted stock units and other awards under our 2017 Equity Incentive Plan. The compensation committee operates pursuant to a charter that was last amended and restated by the board of directors on February 8, 2018, a copy of which appears on our website at [www.lexpharma.com](http://www.lexpharma.com) under the caption “Investors - Corporate Governance.”

The compensation committee may delegate any of its authority to subcommittees consisting of one or more compensation committee members, with all subcommittee decisions being presented to the full compensation committee at its next scheduled meeting. The compensation committee did not delegate any such authority with respect to 2017 compensation matters.

The compensation committee may retain compensation consultants, legal counsel or other advisors when it deems appropriate to assist in its evaluation of executive compensation. The compensation committee has engaged Korn Ferry Hay Group as an independent compensation consultant as described under the heading “Executive and Director Compensation - Compensation Discussion and Analysis.”

The compensation committee meets in connection with most regularly scheduled meetings of the board of directors, and holds meetings after the commencement of each year specifically devoted to evaluating corporate and individual performance during the prior year and making compensation decisions on such basis. In preparation for such decisions, our president and chief executive officer generally reviews the performance of officers other than himself and, in consultation with the compensation committee and at its direction, makes certain recommendations to the compensation committee relating to their compensation. The compensation committee reviews such recommendations and makes changes to such recommendations as it deems appropriate. All executive compensation determinations are made by the compensation committee in the absence of management.

The current members of our compensation committee are Mr. Palantoni (chair), Philippe J. Amouyal and Samuel L. Barker, Ph.D. The board of directors, in its business judgment, has determined that Mr. Palantoni, Mr. Amouyal and

Dr. Barker are “independent” in accordance with the applicable listing standards of The Nasdaq Stock Market, Inc. In making such determinations, the board of directors considered the matters relating to Mr. Amouyal described under the heading “Corporate Governance - Independence of the Board of Directors.”

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Corporate Governance Committee. Our corporate governance committee has been established to oversee all aspects of our corporate governance functions. In that regard, the corporate governance committee makes recommendations to the board of directors regarding the identification, evaluation and selection of candidates to serve on the board of directors, the composition of board committees and the development of other corporate governance functions. The corporate governance committee operates pursuant to a charter that was last amended and restated by the board of directors on February 7, 2013, a copy of which appears on our website at [www.lexipharma.com](http://www.lexipharma.com) under the caption “Investors - Corporate Governance.”

The corporate governance committee has not established any specific minimum qualifications for membership on our board of directors. Rather, the committee will generally consider all relevant factors, which may include independence, experience, diversity, leadership qualities and strength of character. As the corporate governance committee does not uniquely consider diversity relative to the other factors, the committee has not established a policy with regard to the consideration of diversity in identifying potential director candidates. The corporate governance committee uses its available network of contacts when compiling a list of potential director candidates and may also engage outside consultants when appropriate. The committee also considers potential director candidates recommended by stockholders and other parties and all potential director candidates are evaluated based on the above criteria. Because the corporate governance committee makes no distinction in its evaluation of candidates based on whether such candidates are recommended by stockholders or other parties, no formal policy or procedure has been established for the consideration of director candidates recommended by stockholders.

Any stockholder wishing to propose a potential director candidate may submit a recommendation in writing within the time frame specified in our bylaws. All such communications should be sent to 8800 Technology Forest Place, The Woodlands, Texas 77381, Attn: Corporate Governance Committee. Submissions should include the full name of the proposed candidate and a detailed description of the candidate’s qualifications, business experience and other relevant biographical information.

The current members of our corporate governance committee are Raymond Debbane (chair), Robert J. Lefkowitz, M.D. and Judith L. Swain, M.D. The board of directors, in its business judgment, has determined that Mr. Debbane, Dr. Lefkowitz and Dr. Swain are “independent” in accordance with the applicable listing standards of The Nasdaq Stock Market, Inc. In making such determinations, the board of directors considered the matters relating to Mr. Debbane and Dr. Lefkowitz described under the heading “Corporate Governance - Independence of the Board of Directors.”

#### Board Leadership Structure and Role in Risk Oversight

The current leadership structure of our board of directors reflects a separation of the roles of chairman and principal executive officer. This leadership structure is intended to provide our board of directors with an appropriate level of independence from management and encourage a high degree of autonomy within our board of directors.

Our board of directors administers its risk oversight responsibilities by evaluating the material risks, including operational risks and liquidity risks, facing our company or inherent in our corporate strategy. This is accomplished through regular discussions with management and by reference to the independent understanding and knowledge of many such risks possessed by members of our board of directors. Our board of directors regularly reviews the viability and prudence of our corporate strategy in light of the evolving nature of such risks and makes adjustments to that strategy when appropriate. Our board of directors oversees management’s implementation of our corporate strategy, remains alert for excessive risk-taking in such implementation and provides timely input to management regarding any critical risk issues. The efforts of our board of directors to oversee any risks relating to our financial reporting or internal accounting procedures are supplemented by the regular interactions of our audit committee with the individuals with day-to-day responsibilities for such functions.

#### Board and Committee Meetings and Attendance in 2017

The board of directors met five times in 2017 and took certain additional actions by unanimous written consent. In 2017, the audit committee met five times, the compensation committee met three times and took certain additional actions by unanimous written consent, and the corporate governance committee met two times. During 2017, none of our incumbent directors attended fewer than 75 percent of the aggregate number of meetings of the board of directors and committees during the period served.

It is our policy to encourage the members of our board of directors to attend all annual meetings of stockholders. All nine members of our board of directors attended our 2017 annual meeting of stockholders.

Code of Business Conduct and Ethics

We have adopted a code of business conduct and ethics that applies to all of our directors, officers and employees, the text of which appears on our website at [www.lexpharma.com](http://www.lexpharma.com) under the caption "Investors - Corporate Governance." We intend to disclose on our website the nature of any amendment to or waiver from our code of business conduct and ethics that applies to our principal executive officer, principal financial officer, principal accounting officer or controller, or persons performing similar

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functions within four business days following the date of such amendment or waiver. In the case of any such waiver, including an implicit waiver, we also intend to disclose the name of the person to whom the waiver was granted and the date of the waiver. To date, we have not granted any waivers under our code of business conduct and ethics.

#### Corporate Governance Guidelines

We have adopted corporate governance guidelines, including, among other things, guidelines with respect to the structure of our board of directors, director selection and qualifications, and non-employee director compensation. The text of our corporate governance guidelines appears on our website at [www.lexipharma.com](http://www.lexipharma.com) under the caption "Investors - Corporate Governance."

#### Stockholder Communications with the Board of Directors

We believe that our stockholders are currently provided a reasonable means to communicate with our board of directors and individual directors. As a result, our board of directors has not established a formal process for stockholders to send communications to the board of directors or individual directors. However, the corporate governance committee will consider, from time to time, whether adoption of a formal process for such stockholder communications has become necessary or appropriate. Stockholders may send communications to the board of directors or individual directors by mail at 8800 Technology Forest Place, The Woodlands, Texas 77381, Attn: Board of Directors or any individual director.

#### Compensation Committee Interlocks and Insider Participation

During 2017, Frank P. Palantoni, Philippe J. Amouyal and Samuel L. Barker, Ph.D. served as members of the compensation committee of our board of directors. Mr. Amouyal is a designee of Invus pursuant to our stockholders' agreement with Invus, L.P. described under the heading "Transactions with Related Persons - Arrangements with Invus." During 2017, none of our executive officers served as a member of the board of directors or compensation committee of another entity, one of whose executive officers served as a member of our board of directors or compensation committee.

#### TRANSACTIONS WITH RELATED PERSONS

##### Arrangements with Invus

In June 2007, we entered into a securities purchase agreement with Invus, L.P., under which Invus, L.P. made an initial investment in our common stock in August 2007. Invus, L.P. and its affiliates have subsequently made additional investments in our common stock and currently own approximately 59.3% of our outstanding common stock.

**Board of Directors.** Concurrently with the execution of the securities purchase agreement, we entered into a stockholders' agreement with Invus, L.P. under which Invus, L.P. and Invus C.V., which we collectively refer to as Invus, have the right to designate a number of directors equal to the percentage of all the outstanding shares of our common stock owned by Invus and its affiliates, rounded up to the nearest whole number of directors. Invus has designated three of the nine current members of our board of directors. While Invus has not presently exercised its director designation rights in full, it may exercise them at any time in the future in its sole discretion. To facilitate the exercise of such rights, we have agreed, upon written request from Invus, to take all necessary steps in accordance with our obligations under the stockholders' agreement to (1) increase the number of directors to the number specified by Invus (which number shall be no greater than reasonably necessary for the exercise of Invus' director designation rights under the stockholders' agreement) and (2) cause the appointment to the newly created directorships of directors so designated by Invus pursuant to its rights under the stockholders' agreement.

Invus also has the right to require proportionate representation of Invus-appointed directors on the audit, compensation and corporate governance committees of our board of directors, subject to certain restrictions.

Invus-designated directors currently serve as one of the three members of each of the compensation committee and corporate governance committee of our board of directors. No Invus-designated directors currently serve on the audit committee of our board of directors.

The provisions of the stockholders' agreement relating to Invus' rights to designate members of our board of directors and its audit, compensation and corporate governance committees will terminate if the percentage of all the outstanding shares of our common stock owned by Invus and its affiliates falls below 10%. Invus also has the right to terminate these provisions at any time in its discretion.

Registration Rights. Concurrently with the execution of the securities purchase agreement, we also entered into a registration rights agreement with Invus, L.P., pursuant to which Invus and its affiliates have certain demand and piggyback registration rights with respect to shares of our common stock held by them.

#### Related Party Transaction Policies

We have adopted written policies and procedures for the review, approval and ratification of interested transactions with related parties. Subject to certain exceptions provided in Item 404(a) of Regulation S-K, an “interested transaction” means any transaction, arrangement or relationship in which we are a participant and the amount involved will or may be expected to exceed \$120,000 in any calendar year, and in which any related party has or will have a direct or indirect material interest. A “related party” means (a) any executive officer, director, nominee for election as a director or any person beneficially owning five percent or more of our common stock and (b) any immediate family member of such parties.

All interested transactions are subject to the review and approval of our audit committee and if advance audit committee approval is not feasible, then the interested transaction will be considered for ratification at the audit committee’s next regularly scheduled meeting. In determining whether to approve or ratify any interested transaction, the audit committee will consider, among other factors it may deem appropriate, whether the interested transaction is on terms no less favorable than terms generally available to an unaffiliated third party under similar circumstances and the extent of the related party’s interest in the transaction. No director participates in any discussion or approval of an interested transaction for which he or she is a related party. On at least an annual basis, the audit committee reviews and assesses any ongoing interested transactions to ensure that the transaction remains appropriate.

## EXECUTIVE AND DIRECTOR COMPENSATION

## Compensation Discussion and Analysis

We have developed a compensation policy that is designed to attract and retain key executives responsible for our success and motivate management to enhance long-term stockholder value. All compensation decisions are made by our compensation committee pursuant to authority delegated by our board of directors. The annual compensation package for executive and other officers typically consists primarily of three elements:

a base salary, which reflects the responsibilities relating to the position and individual performance; variable annual cash bonus awards, determined relative to pre-established bonus targets expressed as a percentage of base salary; and

long-term stock-based incentive awards, designed to provide a continuing proprietary interest in our success.

We generally seek to set targeted total cash compensation, consisting of base salaries and annual cash bonus award targets, and total direct compensation, consisting of targeted total cash compensation and long-term stock-based incentive awards, at or near the median of a peer group of biopharmaceutical companies if such compensation level is justified by company performance, individual performance and prevailing financial conditions.

In determining peer group compensation, we use available data from a comprehensive survey of the compensation practices of several hundred companies in the biopharmaceutical industry. We expand on this survey data with reviews of the publicly-disclosed compensation practices of a group of biopharmaceutical companies selected for comparison purposes based on one or more factors, including market capitalization, revenues and stage of development.

For compensation decisions made in February 2015, this group of companies consisted of:

Acceleron Pharma Inc.	Idenix Pharmaceuticals Inc.	OncoMed Pharmaceuticals, Inc.
Anacor Pharmaceuticals, Inc.	ImmunoGen, Inc.	Orexigen Therapeutics, Inc.
Arena Pharmaceuticals, Inc.	Infinity Pharmaceuticals, Inc.	Portola Pharmaceuticals, Inc.
Ariad Pharmaceuticals, Inc.	Insmed Incorporated	Raptor Pharmaceuticals Corp.
Array Biopharma Inc.	Intercept Pharmaceuticals, Inc.	Receptos, Inc.
Avanir Pharmaceuticals, Inc.	InterMune, Inc.	Sangamo BioSciences, Inc.
Dyax Corp.	Ironwood Pharmaceuticals, Inc.	Sarepta Therapeutics, Inc.
Dynavax Technologies Corporation	Keryx Biopharmaceuticals, Inc.	Synergy Pharmaceuticals Inc.
Exelixis, Inc.	MacroGenics, Inc.	Tesaro, Inc.
Galena Biopharma, Inc.	Merrimack Pharmaceuticals, Inc.	Vivus, Inc.
Geron Corporation	Neurocrine Biosciences, Inc.	
Halozyme Therapeutics, Inc.	NewLink Genetics Corporation	

For compensation decisions made in February 2016, this group of companies consisted of:

Acceleron Pharma Inc.	Exelixis, Inc.	Orexigen Therapeutics, Inc.
Anacor Pharmaceuticals, Inc.	Keryx Biopharmaceuticals, Inc.	Portola Pharmaceuticals, Inc.
Arena Pharmaceuticals, Inc.	MacroGenics, Inc.	Sangamo BioSciences, Inc.
Array Biopharma Inc.	OncoMed Pharmaceuticals, Inc.	Sarepta Therapeutics, Inc.
Dynavax Technologies Corporation		

For compensation decisions made in February 2017, this group of companies consisted of:

Acceleron Pharma Inc.	Clovis Oncology, Inc.	MacroGenics, Inc.
Anacor Pharmaceuticals, Inc.	Corcept Therapeutics Incorporated	Neurocrine Biosciences, Inc.
Ariad Pharmaceuticals, Inc.	Exelixis, Inc.	Portola Pharmaceuticals, Inc.
Array Biopharma Inc.	Halozyme Therapeutics, Inc.	Sarepta Therapeutics, Inc.
Avanir Pharmaceuticals, Inc.	Ironwood Pharmaceuticals, Inc.	Supernus Pharmaceuticals, Inc.



For compensation decisions made in February 2018, this group of companies consisted of:

Acadia Pharmaceuticals Inc.	Corcept Therapeutics Incorporated	Portola Pharmaceuticals, Inc.
Acceleron Pharma Inc.	Dermira, Inc.	Sangamo BioSciences, Inc.
Arena Pharmaceuticals, Inc.	Dynavax Technologies Corporation	Sarepta Therapeutics, Inc.
Ariad Pharmaceuticals, Inc.	Halozyme Therapeutics, Inc.	Spark Therapeutics, Inc.
Array Biopharma Inc.	Intercept Pharmaceuticals, Inc.	Tesaro, Inc.
Clovis Oncology, Inc.	Ironwood Pharmaceuticals, Inc.	

The peer group of biopharmaceutical companies for which we obtained survey data and the additional groups of companies listed above do not necessarily coincide with the companies comprising the Nasdaq Biotechnology Index. Although we acknowledge the inherent limitations in comparing our compensation practices with the compensation practices of these companies, we believe that these comparisons are useful and important points of reference in making compensation determinations.

In making compensation determinations and reviewing comparative data, the compensation committee reviews total direct compensation in its totality, assigning dollar values to each of the elements of such compensation, including base salary, annual cash bonus award targets and long-term stock-based incentive awards. The committee generally allocates a greater percentage of total direct compensation to long-term stock-based incentive awards in acknowledgment of the unique challenges present in the biopharmaceutical industry and in order to reinforce the alignment of interests between our executive and other officers and our stockholders.

In determining the level and composition of compensation of each of our executive and other officers, we take into account various qualitative and quantitative indicators of corporate and individual performance. In evaluating the performance of management, the compensation committee takes into consideration such factors as the commercial performance of our approved drug products, our efforts and preparations for regulatory approval and commercial launch of our drug candidates, the progress exhibited by our drug candidates in human clinical trials, the number and quality of drug candidates in clinical trials, the number and quality of preclinical drug candidates, the value and scope of strategic collaborations and alliances with leading pharmaceutical companies, and the ability to otherwise finance our operations from external sources. In addition, the compensation committee recognizes performance and achievements that are more difficult to quantify, such as the successful supervision of major corporate projects and demonstrated leadership ability.

The compensation committee generally makes executive compensation determinations in February of each year, taking into account both company and individual performance over the preceding year, as well as prevailing financial conditions. The compensation committee meets at least once in advance of the meeting in which executive compensation determinations are actually made to discuss considerations relating to those determinations.

The compensation committee may also retain compensation consultants, legal counsel or other advisors when it deems appropriate to assist in its evaluation of executive compensation. In May 2015, the compensation committee engaged Hay Group, Inc. as an independent compensation consultant to assess the market competitiveness of our executive compensation and provide the compensation committee with recommendations based on such assessment. At the compensation committee's request, Hay Group produced and reviewed market executive compensation data, conducted interviews of certain officers, participated in certain compensation committee meetings and prepared an assessment of and recommendations with respect to our executive compensation. In May 2015, the committee assessed the independence of Hay Group and concluded that no conflict of interest exists that would prevent Hay Group from providing the services performed for the compensation committee under such engagement. In March 2017, the compensation committee engaged Korn Ferry Hay Group as an independent compensation consultant to assess the market competitiveness of the long-term stock-based incentive awards granted to our executive officers and provide the compensation committee with recommendations based on such assessment. At the compensation committee's request, Korn Ferry Hay Group produced and reviewed market data relating to long-term stock-based incentive

awards, participated in certain compensation committee meetings and prepared an assessment of and recommendations with respect to the long-term stock-based incentive awards granted to our executive officers. In March 2017, the committee assessed the independence of Korn Ferry Hay Group and concluded that no conflict of interest exists that would prevent Korn Ferry Hay Group from providing the services performed for the compensation committee under such engagement. The compensation committee did not engage any other consultants with respect to 2015, 2016 or 2017 compensation matters.

We received a favorable advisory vote on the compensation of our named executive officers at our 2017 annual meeting of stockholders, with over 99% of the votes cast with respect to such matter voting in favor of such compensation. The compensation committee believes those voting results affirm our stockholders' support of our approach to executive compensation and did not make any material changes to its approach. The compensation committee will continue to consider the outcome of our advisory

votes on executive compensation when making future decisions with respect to the compensation paid to our named executive officers.

#### Corporate and Individual Performance Criteria

##### February 2015 Compensation Determinations

In February 2015, the compensation committee made determinations regarding 2014 cash bonus awards and 2015 base salaries, bonus targets and long-term stock-based incentive awards, taking into account the following factors in its evaluation of corporate performance in 2014:

- the completion of a Phase 2 clinical trial of sotagliflozin in patients with type 1 diabetes, with positive results, and the progression of preparations for pivotal Phase 3 clinical trials of sotagliflozin in patients with type 1 diabetes;
- the progression of enrollment for a pivotal Phase 3 clinical trial of telotristat ethyl in patients with carcinoid syndrome;

- our entry into a strategic partnership with Ipsen Pharma SAS for the commercialization of telotristat ethyl outside of the United States, Canada and Japan;

- our progress relative to our objectives in advancing our other nonclinical drug development programs; and

- our performance relative to our objectives for financial performance, specifically relating to year-end cash and investments and business development.

The committee's compensation determinations in February 2015 reflected its assessment that we largely achieved our objectives relating to our drug development programs and partially achieved our objectives relating to our financial performance. Taking into account the balance of factors described above, it was the committee's assessment that our overall corporate objectives were largely achieved.

For named executive officers other than Mr. Coats, the compensation committee also took into account individual goals, which consisted principally of the expected individual contributions of each named executive officer towards the achievement of the year's corporate goals, together with Mr. Coats' and the committee's independent assessment of each named executive officer's overall performance and contributions to the company during the year, in the course of making subjective judgments about individual performance in connection with compensation determinations. Mr. Coats had no individual goals for 2014 apart from the corporate goals.

The committee's determinations for Mr. Coats were based entirely upon its determination of achievement of the year's corporate goals, together with the compensation committee's assessment of his strategic and operational leadership, as well as the terms of Mr. Coats' offer letter. For other named executive officers, the compensation committee based its determinations principally upon its determination of achievement of the year's corporate goals, but also took into account, to a lesser extent, each named executive officer's individual goals. In the case of Mr. Wade, the compensation committee took into account his contributions toward our financial management and our business development and alliance management activities, including our strategic collaboration with Ipsen, as well as his strategic and operational leadership. In the case of Dr. Lapuerta, the compensation committee took into account his contributions toward the progress in our drug development programs and commercialization preparations, as well as his strategic and operational leadership and participation in business development activities.

##### February 2016 Compensation Determinations

In February 2016, the compensation committee made determinations regarding 2015 cash bonus awards and 2016 base salaries, bonus targets and long-term stock-based incentive awards, taking into account the following factors in its evaluation of corporate performance in 2015:

- our entry into a strategic partnership with Sanofi for the worldwide development and commercialization of sotagliflozin;

- the expansion of our strategic partnership with Ipsen Pharma SAS for the commercialization of telotristat ethyl in Canada;

- the completion of a pivotal Phase 3 clinical trial and a second companion Phase 3 clinical trial of telotristat ethyl in patients with carcinoid syndrome, with positive results;

- our progress relative to our objectives in preparing for the filing of a new drug application and the commercial launch of telotristat ethyl in the United States;



the initiation of and progression of enrollment for Phase 3 clinical trials of sotagliflozin in patients with type 1 diabetes;

our progress relative to our objectives in advancing our other nonclinical drug development programs; and  
our performance relative to our objectives for financial performance, specifically relating to year-end cash and investments and management of our financial resources.

The committee's compensation determinations in February 2016 reflected its assessment that we largely achieved our objectives relating to our drug development programs and achieved our objectives relating to our financial performance. Taking into account the balance of factors described above, it was the committee's assessment that our overall corporate objectives were achieved.

For named executive officers other than Mr. Coats, the compensation committee also took into account individual goals, which consisted principally of the expected individual contributions of each named executive officer towards the achievement of the year's corporate goals, together with Mr. Coats' and the committee's independent assessment of each named executive officer's overall performance and contributions to the company during the year, in the course of making subjective judgments about individual performance in connection with compensation determinations. Mr. Coats had no individual goals for 2015 apart from the corporate goals.

The committee's determinations for Mr. Coats were based entirely upon its determination of achievement of the year's corporate goals, together with the compensation committee's assessment of his strategic and operational leadership.

For other named executive officers, the compensation committee based its determinations principally upon its determination of achievement of the year's corporate goals, but also took into account, to a lesser extent, each named executive officer's individual goals. In the case of Mr. Wade, the compensation committee took into account his contributions toward the establishment of our strategic collaboration with Sanofi, our financial management and our other business development and alliance management activities, as well as his strategic and operational leadership. In the case of Dr. Lapuerta, the compensation committee took into account his contributions toward the progress in our drug development programs, with favorable results in two Phase 3 clinical trials of telotristat ethyl, and commercialization preparations, as well as his strategic and operational leadership and participation in business development activities. In the case of Mr. Santini, the compensation committee took into account his contributions toward the progress in our commercialization preparations, as well as his strategic and operational leadership.

#### February 2017 Compensation Determinations

In February 2017, the compensation committee made determinations regarding 2016 cash bonus awards and 2017 base salaries, bonus targets and long-term stock-based incentive awards, taking into account the following factors in its evaluation of corporate performance in 2016:

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