



**Ben Askew** received his Ph.D. in Chemistry from the University of Pittsburgh in 1988 under the direction of Professor Julius Rebek. Dr. Askew's work at Pitt was highlighted in eleven publications in the *Journal of the American Chemical Society*. After graduating, he joined the Molecular Biophysics Department at AT&T Bell Labs as a Principal Investigator, where he worked on the development of molecular probes to study intracellular signal processing.

Ben has spent most of his professional career in the pharmaceutical industry. In 1991, Ben moved to Merck Research Labs in West Point, PA where he worked on a variety of drug discovery projects. During his 10 years at Merck, Ben contributed to the discovery of several compounds that advanced to clinical trials, including one that became a marketed drug, Aggrastat<sup>TM</sup>. In 2000, Ben was recruited to Amgen in Thousand Oaks, CA where he played a key role in building Amgen's Small Molecule Research Organization. In 2005, Ben joined the Serono Research Institute, in Rockland MA, as Head of Chemistry where he successfully built an oncology drug discovery unit. Following the acquisition of Serono by Merck KGaA of Darmstadt, Germany, Ben was appointed Vice President of Research and Global Head of NCE Technologies in 2007. In this role he was responsible for leading a global organization of over 500 employees and managing an annual research budget of over \$120M. In 2008, he received the company's prestigious President's Award in recognition of his role transforming the NCE Technologies organization.

Throughout his career in biomedical research, Dr. Askew has contributed to the discovery and development of three marketed drugs and several additional candidates currently in late stage clinical development. These accomplishments are documented in more than forty journal articles and forty US patents on which he is an inventor.

Last year Ben joined the Boston-based VC firm Third Rock Ventures, LLC as an Entrepreneur-in-Residence where he provides expert guidance and scientific leadership to the VC firm and its portfolio of companies. Ben also serves on the Board of Trustees at Gannon University, on the Scientific Advisory Board of Blueprint Medicines, and as a consultant for several Boston area biotechnology companies.