

DENNIS KLEID



DENNIS KLEID received his Ph. D. degree in Chemistry in 1972 under the guidance of Toby Chapman. After postdoctoral appointments with H. G. Khorana at MIT and Mark Ptashne at Harvard, he took a position in the Life Sciences Division at the Stanford Research Institute. He and his colleague, David Goeddel, were then lured away by Genentech, becoming the first full time scientists there. Hired specifically for the insulin project, Dennis and David were the first scientists to incorporate chemically synthesized DNA encoding human insulin into bacteria that expressed, after appropriate treatment, human insulin. His

research group also pioneered in isolating and cloning genes for non-infectious viral coat proteins, obtaining large amounts of the protein products, and using these for vaccines. His paper in *Science* (1981, 214, 1125-1129) won that journal's prestigious Newcomb-Cleveland Prize as their best paper that year. Since 1986 he has been Senior Patent Agent and Senior Scientist, defending Genentech's intellectual property in the highly litigious area of patent protection. He lists 38 publications and 6 patents. Several of the latter are foundations in the in the commercial development of the recombinant DNA field.

Dennis Kleid is a pioneer whose contributions have proved to be vital for the field of genetic engineering and in furthering the successful treatment of disease. He is an excellent example of the Chemistry Department preparing students who are "transforming the present and discovering the future."

