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**Corporate leaders Honored for their Contributions to Research
on Aging and Diseases of Aging**

Myriad Genetics and Sirtris CEOs Honored

Filling the Gap in Funding of the Nation's Scientists

NEW YORK, October 2, 2008 – Peter D. Meldrum, President and CEO of Myriad Genetics and Christoph Westphal, MD, PhD, CEO of Sirtris, will be honored October 6, 2008, along with leaders in the scientific community for their commitment to the field of aging research at an awards dinner hosted by the American Federation for Aging Research (AFAR). The dinner to be held at New York City's Grand Hyatt will raise money to fund the nation's emerging scientists who are conducting research into aging processes and age-related diseases.

Other honorees include: John W. Rowe, MD, Professor, Mailman School of Public Health, Columbia University, Arlan Richardson, PhD, Director, Barshop Institute for Longevity and Aging Studies, University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio, and Ana Maria Cuervo, MD, PhD, Associate Professor of Anatomy and Structural Biology at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine.

Peter Meldrum oversees a company devoted to the development of new therapeutic and molecular diagnostic products that save lives and improve the quality of life for patients around the world. Mr. Meldrum believes that the future of medicine lies in the creation of new classes of drugs that treat the underlying cause, not just the symptoms, of disease. Under his leadership, Myriad has made a long and strong commitment to the field of oncology and other diseases of aging, having discovered and commercialized

a number of diagnostic products for cancer, including genetic predisposition tests for breast cancer, ovarian cancer, colon cancer, uterine cancer, and melanoma. Myriad has also made a significant commitment to the treatment of cancer and has developed an exciting pipeline of drug candidates addressing hematologic cancers, brain tumors, melanoma, and other refractory tumors.

In 2004, Dr. Westphal founded Sirtris, now a GSK company, which is developing small molecule drugs that target the sirtuins, a recently discovered family of seven enzymes associated with the aging process. Modulation of the sirtuins offers the promise of drug discovery in multiple therapeutic areas.

Preclinical research has shown that the sirtuins play important roles in pathways for multiple diseases, including Type 2 Diabetes, cancer, neurodegeneration, cardiovascular disease, inflammation, and mitochondrial disorders. Sirtris researchers, including those who received early support from the American Federation for Aging Research, are working to translate this research into a potential new class of pharmaceuticals to treat diseases of aging, offering the ability for people to live longer, healthier lives.

“We are grateful for the consistent support of the private sector,” said Stephanie Lederman, Executive Director, AFAR. “With more scientists competing for fewer grant dollars, particularly the ones starting their careers, private funding remains as critical as ever. Our partnerships allow us to support many of the best and brightest researchers, but we still receive far more applications than we can fund. A growing aging population demands that scientific innovation continue,” she added.

During the last quarter century, aging research has yielded substantial breakthroughs. In laboratory animals, scientists have discovered ways to slow the development and progression of cancer, osteoporosis, heart disease, and other age-related diseases through interventions like caloric restriction

and genetic modification which changes the rate of aging. Scientists continue to broaden, adapt, and apply this knowledge to humans.

“At AFAR we believe that this basic research into the mechanisms of how and why we age is the starting point, not only for increasing our lifespan, but to understand and find the cures for leading causes of death and disability in the older population,” added Ms. Lederman.

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The American Federation for Aging Research’s mission is to support and advance healthier aging through biomedical research. AFAR fulfills this mission by supporting biomedical research that promotes healthier aging and furthers our understanding of aging processes and its associated diseases and disorders. Since 1981, AFAR has helped nearly 2,500 researchers begin and further their careers in gerontology and geriatric medicine by granting more than \$113 million to these dedicated scientists. To find out more about AFAR, please visit www.afar.org and our consumer website www.infoaging.org.