



## **Global life sciences leader appointed new CEO of Brussels South Charleroi BioPark**

### **Bertrand Alexandre to drive BioPark's next phase of expansion & internationalisation**

**Charleroi, Belgium, July 16 2021** – Brussels South Charleroi BioPark (BSCB), the science-driven biopark at the heart of Europe, is pleased to announce that Bertrand Alexandre, an international pharmaceutical and biotechnology business leader, has been appointed CEO to drive the next phase of the BioPark's growth. Mr Alexandre replaces Florence Bosco, who has taken an executive role at a pharmaceutical development company which recently joined the BioPark.

With a profile covering three decades' experience in a range of operational disciplines, across advanced therapies, small molecules and vaccines, he is well positioned to help drive the growth and expansion of the BioPark and its 85 members. An ambitious roll-out of new facilities is underway and priorities for Mr Alexandre will include bringing new companies into the vibrant community, including international companies looking to establish a European presence. Community development will also include attracting more strategic service providers, continuing to seed the establishment of new companies, and deepening relationships with the academic institutes on site, including Université Libre de Bruxelles (ULB) laboratories in immunology, neurosciences and oncology.

Mr Alexandre holds a Master's degree from Ecole Supérieure des Sciences Economiques et Commerciales (ESSEC) in France and a MBA from Kellogg School of Management (Northwestern University) in the USA. He brings to BSCB extensive expertise in business strategy, marketing, market access, finance and business development acquired via previous roles in Europe and Canada at Sanofi, the Boston Consulting Group, Boehringer Mannheim, GSK, and Cardio3Biosciences/Celyad. He has also acted as a consultant to entrepreneurial biotech companies at the start-up and financing stage, which will prove particularly useful to the development of the BioPark's incubator.

BSCB's 85 member companies range from local start-ups - including ULB spin-offs - to international CDMO such as ThermoFisher and Catalent, as well as academic institutions (ULB) and hospitals. Companies on site are active across a wide range of therapeutic modalities, covering small molecules, biologicals and cell and gene therapies. BSCB is a leading centre for cell and gene therapies, accounting for 20% of European manufacturing capacity. Its incubator has been involved in the creation of over 40 companies and its pre-seed Fund – the Butterfly Fund - is looking to support advanced therapy development, including through the recently launched Cell and Gene Therapy Accelerator<sup>1</sup>.

Bertrand Alexandre, CEO of BSCB, says, 'My personal mission has always been to make innovative therapies available to the patients who need them. I'm delighted to have been appointed CEO of Brussels South Charleroi BioPark to keep on developing the environment our members need to accelerate delivery of innovative healthcare solutions. I'm looking forward to making the BioPark the leading European destination for local and international cutting-edge biotech firms.'

Anne Prignon, Chairwoman of BSCB & Managing Director of Sambrinvest, adds, 'With his broad range of valuable experience in the pharma and biotechnology sectors, we are pleased to welcome Bertrand as the new CEO of BSCB, where he will play a key role in supporting and growing our innovative community. We would like to thank Florence Bosco for her important contribution to the success of the BioPark over the past



five years. Her work in establishing a company-seeding strategy in collaboration with local stakeholders, developing the real estate strategy and working closely with the Walloon Region provides a great platform for growth.'

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<sup>1</sup> Applications close on August 13 - <https://biopark.be/storage/news-pdf/1624979356.pdf>

For more information please contact:

**Brussels South Charleroi BioPark**

Emma Palmer Foster

[communications@biopark.be](mailto:communications@biopark.be)

**About Brussels South Charleroi BioPark**

Brussels South Charleroi BioPark is a science-driven Biopark located at the heart of Europe. Originally founded by the Université Libre de Bruxelles (ULB), it brings together a unique ecosystem of scientific, clinical and business expertise with world class facilities to create a perfect environment for drug research and development. Visit our [website](#) or follow us on [LinkedIn](#).