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ALBERT AND MARY LASKER FOUNDATION ELECTS VENROCK'S ANTHONY EVNIN, PH.D., AS NEW BOARD CHAIR

(New York, March 28, 2018)— The Albert and Mary Lasker Foundation today announced the appointment of Anthony Evnin, Ph.D. as Chair of its Board of Directors. Dr. Evnin, a biopharmaceutical industry pioneer, longtime venture capital investor at Venrock, and renowned philanthropist has served on the Lasker Board since 2013.

“Tony’s leadership in the investment community coupled with his knowledge of innovations in biotechnology will be invaluable to the organization’s mission to drive private and public support for biomedical research,” said outgoing Chair Willard J. Overlock, Jr.

“Tony brings a scientist’s eye and rigor coupled with a formidable track record as an investor and supporter of next-generation biotechnology innovations to this leadership role. We look forward to working with him to advance Lasker’s mission,” said Claire Pomeroy, M.D., President of the Albert and Mary Lasker Foundation.

In his acceptance remarks, Dr. Evnin stated that, “I am honored to be part of such an important organization and excited about the opportunity to continue Lasker’s support of medical and biomedical research and working to accelerate its impact at this time of unprecedented scientific promise to improve human health.”

Dr. Evnin started his career as a Research Scientist and Group Leader in Organic Chemistry at Union Carbide. Later, as Director of Product Development at Story Chemical, he discovered his talent for turning discoveries in the laboratory into business opportunities, eventually leading to his move into investments.

Dr. Evnin joined Venrock, a venture capital firm, in 1974, building the company’s healthcare franchise and targeting investments into dozens of emerging biotechnology and medical device start-ups. More than 30 of his investments have resulted in successful IPOs. Dr. Evnin has served on the boards of more than 50 biotechnology and medical technology companies.

In addition to his leadership role with the Lasker Foundation, Dr. Evnin also serves as a Member of the Boards of Overseers and Managers of Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, a Trustee of The Jackson Laboratory, a Director of the New York Genome Center, and a Trustee Emeritus of Rockefeller University and of Princeton University. He received his doctorate in Chemistry from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

About the Foundation: The Lasker Foundation seeks to increase support for biomedical research by celebrating the power of biomedical science to save and improve human lives. Through its internationally renowned Lasker Awards, educational initiatives, and public advocacy, the Foundation recognizes the most important achievements in science and public service, supports and encourages the scientific leaders of tomorrow, and raises awareness of the ever-present need for research funding. Established in 1942 by Albert and Mary Lasker, the Foundation is committed to inspiring robust and sustained support for biomedical research, fueled by Mary Lasker’s call to action: “If you think research is expensive, try disease!”

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