

# Discussion Forum on University Technology Management

*Jointly organized by The Croucher Foundation and  
Licensing Executive Society (China) – Hong Kong Chapter*

**Date:** November 18, 2003  
**Venue:** Office of The Croucher Foundation  
501 Nine Queen's Road Central, Hong Kong  
**Time:** 2:30 pm – 5:30 pm  
**Theme:** Drug Discovery

## **Program Run Down:**

2:30 – 3:00 pm      **Speaker:** Professor Paul M. Vanhoutte, M.D., PhD., D.H.C.  
Distinguished Visiting Professor  
The University of Hong Kong  
(See attached brief CV of Professor Vanhoutte)

**Topic:** “Drug Discovery – the Challenges”

It is important for technology managers and scientists involved in drug discovery to keep in mind that the ultimate goal of drug discovery is to obtain, as soon as possible, a reasonably safe therapeutic agent. A great danger is to build early dreams on molecular discoveries that are not necessarily relevant! Professor Vanhoutte's talk will describe the major steps of drug discovery and to help technology managers convey the message to the scientists that we treat people, not transfected cells!

3:00 – 5:00 pm      **Group Discussion**

**Moderator:** Ms Alice Ngan, Director  
Research and Technology Administration Office  
The Chinese University of Hong Kong

5:00 – 5:30 pm      **Refreshment**

## **BRIEF CURRICULUM VITAE**

of

Professor Paul M. Vanhoutte, M.D., PhD., D.H.C.  
Distinguished Visiting Professor  
The University of Hong Kong

Professor Paul M. Vanhoutte is currently a Distinguished Visiting Professor, and Director of the BioPharmaceutical Development Centre, at the University of Hong Kong. A native of Belgium, Professor Vanhoutte has a distinguished career both in the academia and the industry. His academic career started at the University of Ghent, followed by the Mayo Clinic, the University of Antwerp (Belgium), and Baylor College of Medicine (Houston TX, USA).

He also has many honorary appointments at universities from around the world. From 1992 to 2002, Professor Vanhoutte was Vice-President R&D, and Director of Discovery Research at the Institut de Recherches Internationales Servier, in Courbevoie (Paris, France). During his tenure as Director of Discovery Research at Servier, he supervised the discovery and preclinical development of drugs designed for the treatment of cardiovascular diseases, diabetes, obesity, central nervous system disorders, cancer and osteoarthritis. Professor Vanhoutte is a member of many professional societies. Since 1989, he is Editor-in-Chief of the Journal of Cardiovascular Pharmacology. He is also an editor of many international scientific journals. Professor Vanhoutte has numerous publications. His major scientific contribution has been to appreciate and analyse the importance of endothelial cells in the control of the underlying vascular smooth muscle in health and disease, and to highlight the complexity of that regulation.