



Yale & CURE  
**BIOHAVEN**  
entrepreneurship series



Featuring...



- Date** **Wednesday, November 18, 2009**  
3:30 P.M. Registration  
4:00 P.M. Seminar  
5:00 P.M. Networking, Refreshments & Wine Bar
- Location** **The Anlyan Center** auditorium, Yale Medical School (300 Cedar Street)
- RSVP** Registration is free but please RSVP in advance  
E-mail to [biohaven@yale.edu](mailto:biohaven@yale.edu) or call the **Yale OCR** main number: **(203) 785-6209**
- Speakers** **Joseph J. Catino, Ph.D.**, President & CEO, Helix Therapeutics  
**Peter M. Glazer, M.D., Ph.D.**, Professor & Chair of Therapeutic Radiology and Professor of Genetics at Yale University; Founder, Helix Therapeutics

**Helix Therapeutics** is a seed-stage company dedicated to establishing cures for genetic diseases using triplex-forming oligonucleotide (TFO) technology. This technology for targeted DNA modifications was discovered in the laboratory of Dr. Peter Glazer of Yale.

The technology facilitates targeted DNA modifications that can be designed, for example, to correct mutations, alter levels of gene expression, or functionally disrupt molecules critical to disease processes. The Helix approach does not rely on viral vectors and corrects the patients' own blood stem cells, providing stable, heritable changes through autologous cell therapy.

Through the use of SBIR grants and seed funding, Helix plans to advance preclinical projects targeting the human globin gene for applications on sickle cell anemia and beta-thalassemia, the CCR5 receptor for the HIV/AIDS population, and genetic mutations responsible for lysosomal storage disease. The current mission is targeting blood-based genetic diseases; however, the company envisions applications in a broad array of human genetic diseases as advances in human stem cell biology are realized.

In March 2009, Connecticut Innovations announced a \$515,000 investment in the company as part of a \$965,000 round involving Launch Capital, Connecticut Innovations (CI), individual investors, and a line of credit from Webster Bank. Helix was the first company to receive assistance through CI's Pre-Seed Support Services Program and then go on to qualify for investment through the Eli Whitney Fund.

*The Yale BioHaven Entrepreneurship Series features presentations designed to showcase regionally developed life science technologies that have progressed along the path to commercialization. Speakers at the BioHaven events represent both the scientific and business side of the enterprises.*

*The programs focus on key success factors of each company, scientific or technological advantage, business model, and lessons learned in starting and developing the business. The series also provides social networking opportunities for scientists/researchers in the Yale community.*

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