Stephen F. Flaim, PhD, FACC, FAHA – President Flaim Partners Consulting

Dr. Flaim is a member of the Editorial Board of the Journal of Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics, founding member of the Board of Directors, Chairman and CEO of the John G. Watson Foundation and is active in numerous regional and national scientific organizations. He is a Technology and Business advisor to the Institute for the Global Entrepreneur at the University of California, San Diego, Senior Special Advisor & Investor-in-Residence with the Innovation Office of the Division of Extramural Research Activities at the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute of the National Institutes of Health and an Entrepreneur-in-Residence with the Small Business Education and Entrepreneurial Development (SEED) Office in the Office of the Director at the NIH. Dr. Flaim is also a member of the SHARPphub external advisory committee.

Dr. Flaim holds a doctorate in Human Physiology and Pharmacology from the University of California at Davis and has held faculty positions in Medicine and Physiology at the Pennsylvania State University College of Medicine and senior management roles at the Johnson & Johnson Pharmaceutical Research Institute, the Squibb Institute for Medical Research, Alliance Pharmaceutical Corporation, Trega Biosciences, Inc., Galileo Pharmaceuticals, Inc., OncoFluor, Inc., CardioCreate, Inc. and Leading Biosciences.

Lebone C. Moses - President and CEO - Chisara Ventures, Inc.

Lebone C. Moses has two decades of experience advising business leaders, entrepreneurs, and boards across multiple industries, including Fortune 100 & 500 companies and large multi-national organizations. During her career she spent 17 years advancing through corporate leadership roles at two of the largest public accounting firms in the world (PwC and EY), as well as global financial institutions JPMorgan Chase and Fidelity Investments.

In 2019 she co-founded The River Wealth Institute, a 1-year financial wellness program and in 2021 she co-founded ACQUIRE, a NC-based program designed to equip black and brown entrepreneurs to acquire profitable businesses. Ms. Moses is a Certified Information Systems Auditor (CISA) and a Certified Information Privacy Professional (CIPP/US with a Bachelor of Science in Accounting and Information Systems from Bentley University, an MBA from Babson College and business certifications from Northwestern Kellogg (Risk Management), Babson College (Organizational Coaching), Bentley University (Executive Leadership), Duke University (Entrepreneurship and Innovation Center) and Startup@BerkeleyLaw (VC University). Ms. Moses began angel investing in 2012 and has focused her personal investment thesis on BIPOC and women entrepreneurs.

Eli Velasquez – Co-Founder & Managing Partner - International Innovation Associates

International Innovation Associates is a boutique strategy advisory firm that enables organizations to develop and deploy bespoke innovation initiatives. He is also co-founder & Managing Partner of the Investors of Color Network, a national network of Black, Latinx and Asian accredited investors focused on closing the racial funding gap in early-stage capital.

Prior to that, he was the Associate Vice Chancellor at Texas Tech University where he co-founded the Lubbock Angel Network, a group that has invested over $4M and seen four exits since its founding in 2015. His efforts in Texas led to over $20M in funding for startups, entrepreneurship programs and proof of concept funds. Before that, Mr. Velasquez worked for The Boeing Company in southern California, initially within Boeing’s Integrated Defense Systems (IDS) developing the Delta Rockets. In his last two years there, he worked as an Intellectual Property Consultant withing Boeing’s Intellectual Property Business (IPB) unit.

Mr. Velasquez obtained a B.S. in Mechanical Engineering from Boston University and his J.D. degree