



## Numab completes Management

**Wädenswil, Switzerland, January 19, 2012** – Numab AG, a Swiss Biotech company, today announces the completion of its Management team with:

- Tea Gunde, Head of Pharmacology
- Sebastian Meyer, Head of Biochemistry
- Roland Helfenstein, Head of Operations

David Urech, CSO and Co-CEO and Oliver Middendorp, CBO and Co-CEO commented: “The people are the basis for success. We are very proud about the completion of our management with these highly experienced and ambitious people. We are convinced that this team will make Numab a success”.

Tea Gunde holds an MSc in Molecular Biology and Immunology from the University of Zurich, and obtained her PhD in Molecular Biology from the University of Zurich in 2004. Before joining Numab, Tea was the Head of PK & PD at ESBATech. In this position she was leading a unit responsible for the development of bio-analytical methods in drug discovery and development, as well as for the pharmacodynamic and pharmacokinetic characterization of antibody fragment lead candidates. Furthermore, Tea was leading preclinical discovery and development projects in the field of ophthalmology where she was instrumental in the discovery and the development of ESBA1008, a VEGF-inhibitory antibody fragment for the therapy of retinal diseases. Tea’s work has been patented and was published in peer-reviewed journals. Tea and her team are key to Numab’s success in discovery and early development.

Sebastian Meyer and his team are responsible for the engineering, production and biophysical characterization of Numab’s antibody-based therapeutics. He graduated in Biochemistry from the University of Hamburg before obtaining a Doctor of Science from the University of Zurich. In his academic research Sebastian investigated structure and function of chloride channels and transporters, which resulted in several in peer-reviewed publications. Following his post-graduate research Sebastian joined Cytos Biotechnology serving as research scientist and later as group leader in bioprocess development. In this role he led several projects in the purification and chemical modification of therapeutic vaccines. Prior to joining Numab Sebastian was heading the downstream processing and analytics unit of ESBATECH. The groups in his unit were responsible for process development activities and characterization of novel scFv drug candidates for application in ophthalmic indications. With their extensive experience in protein biochemistry ranging from membrane proteins to antibody fragments and in a variety of applications spanning discovery through to cGMP processes Sebastian and his team are one of the driving forces for the success of Numab’s projects.

Roland Helfenstein is Numab's Head of Operations. In this function, he is in charge of Finance, Human Resources, Information Technology, Business Process Management and Communications. Roland started his professional life as a controller in the sports goods industry. From there he moved to the banking industry where he covered different functions in Marketing, Customer Experience Management, Six Sigma and Information Technology. While working in the private banking sector of Credit Suisse, he led and participated in numerous projects to improve the customer experience in Switzerland, the United States and Asia-Pacific. During this tenure at Credit Suisse, he spent more than 2.5 years living in Singapore. Roland holds a master's degree in business administration from the University of Zurich.

#### About Numab AG:

Numab is a recently founded, privately-owned Swiss biotech company located in Wädenswil, Zurich. The Company is managed by an experienced team and applies its proprietary breakthrough antibody discovery technology to offer first class antibody discovery to the pharmaceutical industry and to pursue proprietary development projects. Numab's breakthrough antibody discovery technology has been deliberately designed to approach complex integral membrane proteins such as GPCRs or ion channels, both major drug target classes that are not amenable to conventional antibody technologies. Traditionally, these target classes have been approached by small molecule drugs. Their use as therapeutics is, however, oftentimes limited by inadequate target specificities frequently resulting in treatment-limiting adverse effects. In contrast, antibodies are generally highly specific for their target thereby passing the shortcomings of small molecule drugs. In summary, Numab's technology allows exploiting the advantages of antibodies for a broader range of targets.

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