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UNITED STATES  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
Washington, D.C. 20549

**SCHEDULE 14A**

Proxy Statement Pursuant to Section 14(a) of  
the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (Amendment No. )

Filed by the Registrant

Filed by a Party other than the Registrant

Check the appropriate box:

- Preliminary Proxy Statement
- Confidential, for Use of the Commission Only (as permitted by Rule 14a-6(e)(2))**
- Definitive Proxy Statement
- Definitive Additional Materials
- Soliciting Material under §240.14a-12

**Celldex Therapeutics, Inc.**

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(Name of Registrant as Specified In Its Charter)

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(Name of Person(s) Filing Proxy Statement, if other than the Registrant)

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- No fee required.
- Fee computed on table below per Exchange Act Rules 14a-6(i)(1) and 0-11.
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- (4) Date Filed: \_\_\_\_\_
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**CELLDEX THERAPEUTICS, INC.**

**Perryville III Building  
53 Frontage Road, Suite 220  
Hampton, NJ 08827**

**NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING OF STOCKHOLDERS  
To be held on June 8, 2016**

To the Stockholders of  
Celldex Therapeutics, Inc.

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that the Annual Meeting of Stockholders of Celldex Therapeutics, Inc. (the "Company" or "we" or "us") will be held at the Olde Mill Inn, 225 Route 202, Basking Ridge, New Jersey 07920, on June 8, 2016 beginning at 9:00 a.m. local time. At the meeting, stockholders will act on the following matters to:

- elect seven directors to serve until the next Annual Meeting of Stockholders and until their respective successors shall have been duly elected and qualified;
- ratify the appointment of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP as our independent registered public accounting firm for the year ending December 31, 2016;
- approve, on an advisory basis, the compensation of the Company's named executive officers as disclosed in this proxy statement; and
- address any other matters that may properly come before the meeting.

Only stockholders of record at the close of business on April 20, 2016 are entitled to receive notice of and to vote at the Annual Meeting or any postponement or adjournment thereof.

Your vote is important. Whether you plan to attend the meeting or not, you may vote your shares by marking, signing, dating and mailing the enclosed proxy card in the envelope provided. If you attend the meeting and prefer to vote in person, you may do so even if you have already voted your shares. You may revoke your proxy in the manner described in the proxy statement at any time before it has been voted at the meeting.

By Order of the Board of Directors

Avery W. Catlin  
*Chief Financial Officer and  
Secretary*

April 25, 2016  
Hampton, NJ

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# CELLDEX THERAPEUTICS, INC.

Perryville III Building  
53 Frontage Road, Suite 220  
Hampton, NJ 08827

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## PROXY STATEMENT

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This proxy statement contains information related to the Annual Meeting of Stockholders to be held on June 8, 2016 at 9:00 a.m. local time, at the Olde Mill Inn, 225 Route 202, Basking Ridge, New Jersey 07920, or at such other time and place to which the Annual Meeting may be adjourned or postponed. The enclosed proxy is solicited by the Board of Directors of Celldex Therapeutics, Inc. The proxy materials relating to the Annual Meeting are being mailed to stockholders entitled to vote at the meeting on or about April 25, 2016.

### **Important Notice of Availability of Proxy Materials for the Annual Meeting of Stockholders to be held on June 8, 2016.**

**Our proxy materials, including our Proxy Statement for the 2016 Annual Meeting, 2015 Annual Report to Stockholders (which contains our Annual Report on Form 10-K/A) and proxy card, are available on the Internet at [www.proxyvote.com](http://www.proxyvote.com).**

### ABOUT THE MEETING

#### *Why are we calling this Annual Meeting?*

We are calling the Annual Meeting to seek the approval of our stockholders to:

- elect seven directors to serve until the next Annual Meeting of Stockholders and until their respective successors shall have been duly elected and qualified;
- ratify the appointment of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP as our independent registered public accounting firm for the year ending December 31, 2016;
- approve, on an advisory basis, the compensation of the Company's named executive officers as disclosed in this proxy statement; and
- address any other matters that may properly come before the meeting.

#### *What are the Board's recommendations?*

Our Board of Directors recommends that you vote:

- **FOR** the election of each of the seven director nominees;
- **FOR** the ratification of the appointment of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP as our independent registered public accounting firm for the year ending December 31, 2016; and
- **FOR** an advisory vote on the compensation of the named executive officers as described in this proxy statement.

#### *Who is entitled to vote at the meeting?*

Only stockholders of record at the close of business on the record date, April 20, 2016, are entitled to receive notice of the Annual Meeting and to vote the shares of common stock that they held on that date at the meeting, or any postponement or adjournment of the meeting. Holders of our common

stock are entitled to one vote per share on each matter to be voted upon. As of the record date, we had 98,718,484 outstanding shares of common stock.

***Who can attend the meeting?***

All stockholders as of the record date, or their duly appointed proxies, may attend the Annual Meeting. Please note that if you hold your shares in "street name" (that is, through a broker or other nominee), you will need to bring a copy of your proxy card delivered to you by your broker or a legal proxy given to you by your broker and check in at the registration desk at the meeting. For security reasons, you must comply with our pre-registration requirements, you must present a form of government issued photograph identification on the day of the Annual Meeting and you must arrive at least thirty minutes prior to the meeting in order to attend the Annual Meeting. If you are a stockholder of record and plan to attend the Annual Meeting, please contact Kathy Reamer by email at [kreamer@celldex.com](mailto:kreamer@celldex.com) or by phone at 908-200-7500 ext. 7508 to register to attend the Annual Meeting. If you hold shares through an intermediary, such as a bank or broker, and you plan to attend, you must send a written request to attend either by regular mail or email, along with proof of share ownership, such as a bank or brokerage firm account statement, confirming ownership to: Celldex Therapeutics, Inc., Perryville III Building, 53 Frontage Road, Suite 220, Hampton, NJ 08827, Attn: Kathy Reamer or [kreamer@celldex.com](mailto:kreamer@celldex.com). Attendance at the Annual Meeting will be limited to persons who pre-registered on or before June 3, 2016, who present a form of government-issued photograph identification on the day of the Annual Meeting, and who arrive by 8:30 am local time.

***What constitutes a quorum?***

The presence at the Annual Meeting, in person or by proxy, of the holders of a majority of our common stock outstanding on the record date will constitute a quorum for our meeting. Signed proxies received but not voted and broker non-votes will be included in the calculation of the number of shares considered to be present at the meeting.

***How do I vote?***

You can vote on matters that come before the Annual Meeting by completing, dating and signing the enclosed proxy card and returning it in the enclosed postage-paid envelope.

Your shares will be voted as you indicate on your proxy card. If you vote the enclosed proxy but you do not indicate your voting preferences, and with respect to any other matter that properly comes before the meeting, the individuals named on the proxy card will vote your shares FOR the matters submitted at the meeting, or if no recommendation is given, in their own discretion.

If you are a stockholder of record, to submit your proxy by telephone or via the Internet, follow the instructions on the proxy card. If you hold your shares in street name, you may vote by telephone or via the Internet as instructed by your broker, bank or other nominee.

If you attend the Annual Meeting and prefer to vote in person, you may do so even if you have already voted your shares by proxy.

***What if I vote and then change my mind?***

You may revoke your proxy at any time before it is exercised by:

- filing with the Secretary of the Company a notice of revocation;
- sending in another duly executed proxy bearing a later date; or
- attending the meeting and casting your vote in person.

Your latest vote will be the vote that is counted.

***What is the difference between holding shares as a stockholder of record and as a beneficial owner?***

Many of our stockholders hold their shares through a stockbroker, bank or other nominee rather than directly in their own name. As summarized below, there are some distinctions between shares held of record and those owned beneficially.

***Stockholder of Record***

If your shares are registered directly in your name with our transfer agent, Computershare Trust Company, N.A., you are considered, with respect to those shares, the stockholder of record. As the stockholder of record, you have the right to grant your voting proxy directly to us or to vote in person at the Annual Meeting.

***Beneficial Owner***

If your shares are held in a stock brokerage account or by a bank or other nominee, you are considered the beneficial owner of shares held in street name, and these proxy materials are being forwarded to you by your broker, bank or nominee which is considered, with respect to those shares, the stockholder of record. As the beneficial owner, you have the right to direct your broker as to how to vote and are also invited to attend the Annual Meeting. However, because you are not the stockholder of record, you may not vote these shares in person at the Annual Meeting unless you obtain a signed proxy from the record holder giving you the right to vote the shares. If you do not vote your shares or otherwise provide the stockholder of record with voting instructions, your shares may constitute broker non-votes. The effect of broker non-votes is more specifically described in "What vote is required to approve each proposal?" below.

***What are "broker non-votes"?***

Broker non-votes occur when nominees, such as banks and brokers holding shares on behalf of beneficial owners, do not receive voting instructions from the beneficial holders at least ten days before the meeting. If that happens, the nominees may vote those shares only on matters deemed "routine", such as the ratification of auditors. Nominees cannot vote on non-routine matters unless they receive voting instructions from beneficial holders, resulting in so-called "broker non-votes."

The election of directors (Proposal No. 1) and the advisory vote on the compensation of our named executive officers (Proposal No. 3) are not considered to be "routine" matters and brokers are not permitted to vote on those matters if the broker has not received instructions from the beneficial owner. Accordingly, it is particularly important that beneficial owners instruct their brokers how they wish to vote their shares. The ratification of our independent registered public accounting firm (Proposal No. 2) is considered to be a "routine" matter, and hence your brokerage firm will be able to vote on Proposal No. 2 even if it does not receive instructions from you, so long as it holds your shares in its name.

***What vote is required to approve each proposal?***

Holders of a majority of the outstanding shares entitled to vote must be present, in person or by proxy, at the Annual Meeting in order to have the required quorum for the transaction of business. Pursuant to Delaware corporate law, abstentions and broker non-votes will be counted for the purpose of determining whether a quorum is present. Abstentions and broker non-votes are not counted for the purpose of determining the number of votes cast and will therefore not have any effect with respect to any of the proposals.

Assuming that a quorum is present, the following votes will be required:

- With respect to the election of directors (Proposal No. 1), each nominee presented in Proposal 1 must be elected by a majority of the votes cast in person or by proxy at the Annual Meeting. Nominees are elected by a majority vote for non-contested director elections. Because the number of nominees properly nominated for the Annual Meeting is the same as the number of directors to be elected, the election of directors at this Annual Meeting is non-contested. If the number of votes "For" a nominee exceeds the number of votes "Withheld" (among votes properly cast in person or by proxy), then the nominee will be elected.
- With respect to the ratification of the appointment of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP as our independent registered public accounting firm (Proposal No. 2), approval will require the affirmative vote of a majority of the votes cast in person or by proxy at the Annual Meeting.
- With respect to the advisory vote on the compensation of our named executive officers as disclosed in this proxy statement (Proposal No. 3), approval will require the affirmative vote of a majority of the votes cast in person or by proxy at the Annual Meeting.

Holders of the common stock will not have any dissenters' rights of appraisal in connection with any of the matters to be voted on at the meeting.

***How are we soliciting this proxy?***

We are soliciting this proxy on behalf of our Board of Directors by mail and will pay all expenses associated therewith. Some of our officers and other employees also may, but without compensation other than their regular compensation, solicit proxies by further mailing or personal conversations, or by telephone, facsimile or other electronic means. We will also, upon request, reimburse brokers and other persons holding stock in their names, or in the names of nominees, for their reasonable out-of-pocket expenses for forwarding proxy materials to the beneficial owners of the capital stock and to obtain proxies.

**PROPOSAL 1: TO ELECT SEVEN DIRECTORS TO SERVE UNTIL THE NEXT ANNUAL MEETING  
AND UNTIL THEIR SUCCESSORS HAVE BEEN DULY  
ELECTED AND QUALIFIED**

**(Proposal No. 1)**

At the Annual Meeting, seven directors are to be elected. All directors of the Company hold office until the next Annual Meeting of Stockholders or until their respective successors are duly elected and qualified or their earlier resignation or removal.

It is the intention of the persons named in the proxies for the holders of common stock to vote the proxies for the election of the nominees named below, unless otherwise specified in any particular proxy. Our management does not contemplate that the nominees will become unavailable for any reason, but if that should occur before the meeting, proxies will be voted for another nominee, or other nominees, to be selected by our Board of Directors. In accordance with our by-laws and Delaware law, a stockholder entitled to vote for the election of directors may withhold authority to vote for certain nominees for directors or may withhold authority to vote for all nominees for directors. The director nominees receiving a plurality of the votes of the holders of shares of common stock present in person or by proxy at the meeting and entitled to vote on the election of directors will be elected directors. Broker non-votes will not be treated as a vote for or against any particular director nominee and will not affect the outcome of the election. Stockholders may not vote, or submit a proxy, for a greater number of nominees than the seven nominees named below.

**Nominees for Election**

The persons listed below are our current directors and have been nominated for re-election (the "Director Nominees") to fill the seven director positions to be elected by the holders of the common stock.

<u>Directors</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Year First Became Director</u>
Larry Ellberger (Chairman of the Board)	68	2003
Anthony S. Marucci (Chief Executive Officer)	54	2008
Herbert J. Conrad	83	2008
George O. Elston	51	2008
Harry H. Penner, Jr.	70	1997
Karen L. Shoos	62	2001
Richard A. van den Broek	50	2014

The following biographical descriptions set forth certain information with respect to the Director Nominees, based on information furnished to Celldex by each Director Nominee.

***Director Nominees***

**Larry Ellberger** was appointed Chairman of the Board of Directors in September 2009 and has been a director of Celldex since August 2003. Mr. Ellberger was formerly Chairman of the Board of Omrix BioPharmaceuticals, Inc. until its acquisition by Johnson & Johnson in 2008. From 2003 to July 2012, Mr. Ellberger was Founding Partner of HVA, Inc. a consulting firm specializing in business development, product acquisition and licensing, and mergers and acquisitions for pharmaceutical, biotechnology, drug delivery, and medical device companies. From October 2005 to May 2006, Mr. Ellberger was Interim Chief Executive Officer of PDI, Inc., a provider of sales and marketing services to the biopharmaceutical industry. Previously, he was a member of the Board of Directors of PDI and Chairman of the Audit Committee. From 2000 to 2003, Mr. Ellberger was Senior Vice

President and a member of the Board of Directors of Powderject PLC, a U.K. vaccine company. From 1995 to 1999, Mr. Ellberger held several senior executive positions at W.R. Grace & Co. including Interim Chief Executive Officer, Chief Financial Officer and Senior Vice President, Strategic Planning and Development. From 1975 to 1995, Mr. Ellberger held numerous senior executive positions at American Cyanamid Company, serving the last four years as Vice President, Corporate Development. Mr. Ellberger currently serves on the Board of Directors and is a member of the Audit and Nominating Committees of NeuroDerm, Ltd., a NASDAQ-listed Israeli biotech company. He is also a Director of The Jewish Children's Museum. Mr. Ellberger received a B.A. in Economics from Columbia College and a B.Sc. in Chemical Engineering from Columbia School of Engineering.

**Anthony S. Marucci** was appointed as permanent President and Chief Executive Officer of Celldex in September 2008 and as a director of Celldex in December 2008. Since May 2003, Mr. Marucci has held a number of roles with Celldex, including as a founder, Vice President, Chief Financial Officer, Treasurer and Secretary. In addition, he was Treasurer of Medarex, Inc. (now a part of Bristol Myers Squibb Co.) from December 1998 to March 2004. Mr. Marucci held a series of senior financial positions at Medarex from December 1998 to May 2003. Mr. Marucci is a member of the Board of Trustees of BioNJ Inc. and also served as its Treasurer through 2010. Mr. Marucci is a member of the Board of the College of Business and Public Management at Kean University. Mr. Marucci received his M.B.A. from Columbia University.

**Herbert J. Conrad** became a director of Celldex in March 2008 upon consummation of the AVANT Merger. Mr. Conrad had been a director of Celldex Research since March 2004. Mr. Conrad was President of the U.S. Pharmaceuticals Division of Hoffmann-La Roche, Inc., a pharmaceutical company, from 1982 until his retirement in 1993. Mr. Conrad currently serves as Chairman of the Board of Matinas BioPharma Holdings, Inc., a publicly-held biopharmaceutical company and a director of Arbutus Biopharma Corporation, a publicly-held biopharmaceutical company. Mr. Conrad serves as an Advisor to the Seaver Autism Center at Mount Sinai Hospital. In addition to serving on the board of directors of privately held biotechnology companies, Mr. Conrad has served as Chairman of the Board of Directors of Phamasset, Inc., GenVec, Inc. and Bone Care International, Inc. Mr. Conrad has also served as director of Savient Pharmaceuticals, Inc. and was a director and co-founder of Reliant Pharmaceuticals, Inc. He received B.S. and M.S. degrees from the Brooklyn College of Pharmacy and an honorary Doctorate in Humane Letters from Long Island University.

**George O. Elston** became a director of Celldex in March 2008 upon consummation of the AVANT Merger. Mr. Elston had been a director of Celldex Research since March 2004. Since October 2014, Mr. Elston has been the Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of Juniper Pharmaceuticals, Inc., a publicly-held pharmaceutical company focused on therapeutics for women's health. Mr. Elston was previously the Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of KBI Biopharma, Inc., a contract research firm to the biopharmaceutical industry, from February 2013 through September 2014. Mr. Elston has served as the managing partner of Chatham Street Partners, a strategic advisory firm to the Life Science industry since January 2010. From January 2008 to January 2010, Mr. Elston was Chief Financial Officer of Optherion, Inc., a privately held biopharmaceutical company. From May 2000 to September 2007, Mr. Elston held several senior executive roles at Elusys Therapeutics, Inc., a privately held biopharmaceutical company. Before joining Elusys, Mr. Elston was Chief Financial Officer of Trillium USA, Inc. Prior to Trillium, Mr. Elston was with C.R. Bard, Inc., an international manufacturer and distributor of medical devices, and with PricewaterhouseCoopers. Mr. Elston serves as a Trustee and is a member of the Audit and Nominating Committees of the Deutsche Bank DBX ETF Trust, a mutual fund trust. Mr. Elston received his B.B.A. in Public Accounting from Pace University and is a Certified Public Accountant.

**Harry H. Penner, Jr.** has been a director of Celldex since January 1997 and was Chairman of AVANT prior to the consummation of the AVANT Merger. Mr. Penner has served as Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Nascent BioScience, LLC, a firm engaged in the creation and development



of new biotechnology companies since 2001. From 1993 to 2001, Mr. Penner was President, Chief Executive Officer and Vice Chairman of Neurogen Corporation. From 1985 to 1993, Mr. Penner was an Executive Vice President of Novo Nordisk A/S, serving from 1988 to 1993 as Executive Vice President for North America and President, Novo Nordisk of North America, and from 1985 to 1988 as the company's Executive Vice President and General Counsel in Denmark. He has served as BioScience Advisor to the Governor and the State of Connecticut, as Co-Chairman of Connecticut United for Research Excellence, and as Chairman of the Connecticut Board of Governors of Higher Education and the Connecticut Technology Council. Mr. Penner is currently on the Board of Directors of New Haven Pharmaceuticals, Inc. (of which he is Executive Chairman), Prevention Pharmaceuticals, Inc., and Affinimark Technologies, Inc., all privately held companies of which he is a founder. In addition to having served on the board of directors of several public and privately held life science companies, Mr. Penner served on the Board of Directors and Audit Committee of Altus Pharmaceuticals, Inc. until October 2009. Mr. Penner received a B.A. from the University of Virginia, a J.D. from Fordham University, and an L.L.M. in International Law from New York University.

**Karen L. Shoos** has been a director of Celldex since May 2001. Since May 2013, Ms. Shoos has been Principal Investigator, AABB International Technical Assistance. From October 1994 to May 2013, Ms. Shoos was Chief Executive Officer of AABB. AABB is a professional standards setting and accrediting organization in the fields of blood and cellular therapies. Prior to AABB, from 1984 to 1994, Ms. Shoos held senior positions at the American Red Cross, including Acting Senior Vice President, Biomedical Services (1993- 1994) and Secretary and General Counsel (1990-1993). Prior to the American Red Cross, Ms. Shoos was a lawyer in private practice. Ms. Shoos earned her B.A. from Yale University and her J.D. from Case Western Reserve University.

**Richard A. van den Broek** has been a director of Celldex since December 2014. Mr. van den Broek has served as Managing Partner of HSMR Advisors, LLC, an investment fund focused on the biotechnology industry, since 2004. From 2000 through 2003, he served as a Partner of Cooper Hill Partners, LLC, an investment fund focused on the healthcare sector. Prior to working for Cooper Hill Partners, LLC, Mr. van den Broek had a 10-year career as a biotech analyst, starting at Oppenheimer & Co., then Merrill Lynch, and finally at Hambrecht & Quist, an investment bank focused on the technology and internet sectors. Mr. van den Broek currently serves on the Board of Directors of CogState Limited, an Australian listed company. Mr. van den Broek served on the Board of Directors of Pharmacyclics, Inc. (including the Audit, Compensation and Nominating Committees), a publicly-held drug development company until April 2015, Response Genetics, Inc. (including the Compensation and Nominating Committees), a publicly-held diagnostics company until September 2015, and Special Diversified Opportunities, Inc. until October 2015. Mr. van den Broek graduated from Harvard University and is a Chartered Financial Analyst.

#### **Family Relationships**

There are no family relationships among our Director Nominees, management and other key personnel.

#### **The Board of Directors and Its Committees**

##### ***Board of Directors***

We are currently managed by a seven member Board of Directors, a majority of whom are "independent" as that term is defined in the applicable NASDAQ listing standards. Other than Mr. Marucci, each of our directors is deemed "independent" as that term is defined in the applicable NASDAQ listing standards. Our Board of Directors met seven times in 2015. Each of the directors attended at least 75% of the aggregate of (i) the total number of meetings of our Board of Directors (held during the period for which such directors served on the Board of Directors) and (ii) the total

number of meetings of all committees of our Board of Directors on which the Director served (during the periods for which the director served on such committee or committees). Our annual meeting of stockholders is generally held to coincide with one of the Board's regularly scheduled meetings. We do not have a formal policy requiring members of the Board of Directors to attend our annual meetings, although our directors typically attend the annual meeting. Each of the then current directors attended the 2015 Annual Meeting of Stockholders.

#### ***Audit Committee***

The Board of Directors has established an Audit Committee currently consisting of George O. Elston, Chair, Larry Ellberger, and Harry H. Penner, Jr. The Audit Committee makes recommendations concerning the engagement of independent public accountants, reviews with the independent public accountants the scope and results of the audit engagement, approves professional services provided by the independent public accountants, reviews the independence of the independent public accountants, considers the range of audit and non-audit fees, and reviews the adequacy of our internal accounting controls. Each member of the Audit Committee is "independent" as that term is defined in the rules of the SEC and the applicable NASDAQ listing standards. The Board has determined that each Audit Committee member has sufficient knowledge in financial and auditing matters to serve on the Committee. The Board has designated George O. Elston as an "audit committee financial expert," as defined under the applicable rules of the SEC and the applicable NASDAQ listing standards. The Audit Committee met five times during 2015. Our Board has adopted an Audit Committee Charter, which is available for viewing at [www.celldex.com](http://www.celldex.com).

#### ***Compensation Committee***

The Board of Directors has established a Compensation Committee currently consisting of Karen L. Shoos, Chair, George O. Elston, Harry H. Penner, Jr. and Richard van den Broek. The primary function of the Compensation Committee is to assist the Board in the establishment of compensation for the Chief Executive Officer, to approve the compensation of other officers and senior employees and to approve certain other personnel and employee benefit matters. Each member of the Compensation Committee is "independent" as that term is defined in the rules of the SEC and the applicable NASDAQ listing standards. In 2015, the Compensation Committee engaged Radford, an Aon Hewitt Company, to provide guidance on various aspects of the company's board compensation programs. The Compensation Committee has assessed the independence of Radford and concluded that no conflict of interests exists under applicable SEC rules. The Compensation Committee met seven times during 2015. Our Board has adopted a Compensation Committee Charter, which is available for viewing at [www.celldex.com](http://www.celldex.com).

#### ***Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee***

The Board of Directors has established a Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee currently consisting of Herbert J. Conrad, Chair, Karen L. Shoos and Richard van den Broek. The primary function of the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee is to assist the Board in reviewing, investigating and addressing issues regarding Board composition, policy and structure; membership on Board committees; and other matters regarding our governance. Each member of the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee is "independent" as that term is defined in the rules of the SEC and the applicable NASDAQ listing standards. The Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee met two times during 2015. Our Board has adopted a Nominating and Corporate Governance Charter, which is available for viewing at [www.celldex.com](http://www.celldex.com).

### *Director selection criteria*

The Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee is responsible for reviewing, on an annual basis, the appropriate mix of professional competencies, key attributes, skills and experiences required of board members to work together as a team to properly oversee our strategies and operations. The process followed by the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee to evaluate any candidates whether identified or recommended by board members, management, members of the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee, stockholders or other external sources, includes meetings from time to time to evaluate biographical information and background material relating to potential candidates to the Board and interviews of selected candidates by members of the Committee and the Board. All nominees must have, at a minimum, high personal and professional integrity, exceptional ability and judgment, and be effective in collectively serving the long-term interests of all stockholders, all as described above. Other qualifications that may be considered by the Committee are described in the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee's Charter.

All board members are expected to possess certain key attributes necessary to creating a functional board: high personal and professional ethics, integrity and values; practical wisdom and mature judgment; an inquisitive and objective perspective; professional experience at a policy-making level in business, government, education or medicine; time availability for in-person participation at board and committee meetings; and a commitment to representing the long-term interests of our stockholders. We look for directors with professional competencies that include senior management operational experience, accounting and finance capabilities, deep industry-related experience, biologic development and manufacturing expertise, business development leadership, medical and scientific proficiencies, and government and public policy experience.

Each of our directors brings unique perspectives and experiences to the Board of Directors and contributes in guiding and directing our strategies to meet our business objectives and to provide value to our stockholders. For example, Messrs. Conrad, Ellberger, Marucci, Penner, and Ms. Shoos have all either currently or formerly been chief executive officers of life sciences or healthcare-related companies and have experienced the challenges of such a position. Messrs. Ellberger, Elston and Marucci have all formerly been chief financial and chief corporate development officers at pharmaceutical and life sciences companies and have completed a significant number of financing and business development transactions. Ms. Shoos has experience in the highly regulated blood supply and cellular therapies sectors which are similar to our regulated biologics industry. Mr. Penner has been the chief legal officer at a large public pharmaceutical company and for that company and for life sciences companies has completed a significant number of financing and business development transactions. Messrs. Conrad, Ellberger and van den Broek have many years of experience on the boards of directors of larger public pharmaceutical and life sciences companies. Mr. van den Broek also has many years of experience as a biotechnology analyst at multiple investment banks.

Independence also is an important selection criterion for nomination to our Board. Independent directors should be free of any relationship with us, our management, other directors or other parties that may impair, or appear to impair, the director's ability to make independent judgments. Independent directors must satisfy the criteria for independence established by NASDAQ. Currently all of our directors are independent except for our Chief Executive Officer, Mr. Marucci.

Additionally, all board members are expected to act in our best interests and the best interests of our stockholders and to avoid any conflicts of interest in accordance with our Code of Business Conduct and Ethics. In selecting director nominees, the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee seeks individuals who are free from conflicts of interest.

Finally, candidates should be enthusiastic and excited about their service on our Board and working collaboratively with existing board members to create value for all of our stockholders.

### ***Stockholder nominations for directorships***

Stockholders may propose a potential director candidate for consideration by the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee by submitting their names and background to the Secretary of Celldex at Perryville III Building, 53 Frontage Road, Suite 220, Hampton, NJ 08827. All such recommendations will be forwarded to the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee, which will review and consider only such recommendations if appropriate biographical and other information is provided, as described below, on a timely basis. All security holder recommendations for director candidates must be submitted to us not less than 120 calendar days prior to the date on which our proxy statement is released to stockholders in connection with our annual meeting, and must include the following information:

- the name and address of record of the security holder;
- a representation that the security holder is a record holder of our securities, or if the security holder is not a record holder, evidence of ownership in accordance with Rule 14a-8(b)(2) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934;
- the name, age, business and residential address, educational background, current principal occupation or employment, and principal occupation or employment for the preceding five (5) full fiscal years of the proposed director candidate;
- a description of the qualifications and background of the proposed director candidate which addresses the minimum qualifications and other criteria for Board membership approved by the Board from time to time and set forth in the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee's written charter;
- a description of any arrangements or understandings between the security holder and the proposed director candidate; and
- the consent of the proposed director candidate to be named in the proxy statement relating to our annual meeting of stockholders and to serve as a director if elected at such annual meeting.

Assuming that appropriate information is provided for candidates recommended by stockholders, the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee will evaluate those candidates by following substantially the same process, and applying substantially the same criteria, as for candidates submitted by Board members or other persons, as described above and as set forth in its written charter.

### ***Board Leadership Structure***

The Board recognizes that one of its key responsibilities is to evaluate and determine its optimal leadership structure so as to provide independent oversight of management. The Board understands that there is no single, generally accepted approach to providing Board leadership and that given the dynamic and competitive environment in which we operate, the right Board leadership structure may vary as circumstances warrant. Consistent with this understanding, the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee considers the Board's leadership structure on an annual basis. This consideration includes the pros and cons of alternative leadership structures in light of the Company's operating and governance environment at the time, with the goal of achieving the optimal model for effective oversight of management by the Board. Currently, the roles of Chief Executive Officer and Chairman of the Board are separate. Mr. Marucci, our Chief Executive Officer, is a member of our Board. Mr. Ellberger, an independent director, serves as Chairman of the Board. The Board believes that its current leadership structure provides independent board leadership, engagement, and oversight.

In addition, our independent committee chairs are responsible for leading committee meetings, determining committee meeting schedules, agenda and information flow, and reporting to the full Board on the committee's actions and areas of responsibilities.

## ***Risk Oversight***

Our management is responsible for assessing and managing risk and the Board of Directors oversees and reviews certain aspects of our risk management processes. The Board of Directors is involved in risk oversight through direct decision-making authority with respect to significant matters and the oversight of management by the Board of Directors and its committees. The Board is responsible for overseeing risks related to our overall operations and strategy, including, among others, product development, potential asset acquisitions, financial reporting, business continuity (including succession planning) and reputational risks faced by us.

The committees of the Board execute their oversight responsibility for risk management as follows:

- The Audit Committee is responsible for overseeing our internal financial and accounting controls and the work performed by the independent registered public accounting firm. As part of its oversight function, the Audit Committee regularly discusses with management and the independent registered public accounting firm our major financial and controls-related risk exposures and steps that management has taken to monitor and control such exposures. The Audit Committee also reviews our risk management insurance programs.
- The Compensation Committee is responsible for overseeing risks related to our cash and equity-based compensation programs and practices. As part of its oversight function, the Compensation Committee periodically discusses with the President and Chief Executive Officer as well as the Board of Directors, as necessary, the compensation plan for both executive officers and the independent directors, performance goals and objectives for the period and related achievement, peer group and other relevant compensation benchmarks and practices and other matters to ensure our compensation practices are in our best interest and that of our shareholders.
- The Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee is responsible for overseeing risks related to the composition and structure of the Board of Directors and its committees and our corporate governance. In this regard, the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee assesses the qualifications and independence of members of the Board, makes annual recommendations regarding Board and committee membership, and reviews any transactions between us and our officers, directors, affiliates of officers and directors or other related parties for conflicts of interest.

## ***Corporate Governance Matters***

Upon the recommendation of our Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee, we adopted amended and restated by-laws to among other things replace with plurality voting standard with a majority voting standard for uncontested elections of directors and eliminate the mandatory retirement age for directors. Since it is an uncontested election at this Annual Meeting, all director nominees are required to receive a number of "FOR" votes representing at least a majority of votes cast in the election. If such a director nominee fails to receive "FOR" votes representing at least a majority of votes cast and is an incumbent director, the by-laws require the director to promptly tender his or her resignation to the Board, subject to acceptance by the Board. The Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee of the Board would then be charged with making a recommendation to the Board as to whether to accept or reject the tendered resignation, or whether other action should be taken. In contested elections, where the number of nominees exceeds the number of directors to be elected, the plurality voting standard would continue to apply.

In addition, upon the recommendation of our Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee, we adopted corporate governance guidelines which are posted to our corporate website.

## Stockholder Communications

The Board of Directors will give appropriate attention to written communications that are submitted by stockholders, and will respond if and as appropriate. Absent unusual circumstances or as contemplated by committee charters, and subject to advice from legal counsel, the Secretary of Celldex is primarily responsible for monitoring communications from stockholders and for providing copies or summaries of such communications to the Board of Directors as he considers appropriate.

Communications from stockholders will be forwarded to all directors if they relate to important substantive matters or if they include suggestions or comments that the Secretary considers to be important for the Board of Directors to know. Communication relating to corporate governance and corporate strategy are more likely to be forwarded to the Board of Directors than communications regarding personal grievances, ordinary business matters, and matters as to which Celldex tends to receive repetitive or duplicative communications.

Stockholders who wish to send communications to the Board of Directors should address such communications to: The Board of Directors, Celldex Therapeutics, Inc., Perryville III Building, 53 Frontage Road, Suite 220, Hampton, NJ 08827, Attention: Secretary.

## Code of Business Conduct and Ethics

We have adopted a Code of Business Conduct and Ethics that applies to our directors, officers, and employees. The purpose of the Code of Business Conduct and Ethics is to deter wrongdoing and to promote, among other things, honest and ethical conduct and to ensure to the extent possible that our business is conducted in a consistently legal and ethical manner. Our Code of Business Conduct and Ethics is publicly available on our website at [www.celldex.com](http://www.celldex.com). If we make any substantive amendments to the Code of Business Conduct and Ethics or grant any waiver, including any implicit waiver from a provision of the Code of Business Conduct and Ethics to our Directors or Executive Officers, we will disclose the nature of such amendments or waiver on our website or in a current report on Form 8-K.

## Executive Officers

The following table sets forth certain information regarding our current executive officers:

<u>Name of Individual</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Position and Office</u>
Anthony S. Marucci	53	President, Chief Executive Officer and Director
Avery W. Catlin	67	Senior Vice President, Chief Financial Officer and Secretary
Thomas Davis, M.D.	51	Executive Vice President and Chief Medical Officer
Tibor Keler, Ph.D.	56	Executive Vice President and Chief Scientific Officer
Ronald Pepin, Ph.D.	59	Senior Vice President and Chief Business Officer
Richard Wright, Ph.D.	52	Senior Vice President and Chief Commercial Officer

**Anthony S. Marucci** was appointed as permanent President and Chief Executive Officer of Celldex in September 2008 and as a director of the Company in December 2008. See Mr. Marucci's biography under *Director Nominees* above.

**Avery W. Catlin** joined Celldex in January 2000. Mr. Catlin has more than 25 years of financial and business expertise in the biotechnology and medical device industries. Prior to joining Celldex, he served as Vice President, Operations and Finance, and Chief Financial Officer of Endogen, Inc., a public life science research products company, from 1996 to 1999. From 1992 to 1996, Mr. Catlin held various financial positions at Repligen Corporation, a public biopharmaceutical company, serving the last two years as Chief Financial Officer. Earlier in his career, Mr. Catlin held the position of Chief

Financial Officer at MediSense, Inc., a Massachusetts-based medical device company. Mr. Catlin currently serves on the Board of Directors of Corbus Pharmaceuticals Holdings Inc., a publicly-held biopharmaceuticals company, and is Chair of the Audit Committee. Mr. Catlin received his B.A. degree from the University of Virginia and his M.B.A. from Babson College and is a Certified Public Accountant.

**Thomas Davis, M.D.** became Executive Vice President and Chief Medical Officer of Celldex in July 2014. Dr. Davis served as Senior Vice President and Chief Medical Officer of Celldex from March 2008 to July 2014 and as Vice President of Clinical Development and Chief Medical Officer of Celldex from April 2006 to March 2008. Prior to Celldex, Mr. Davis served as Chief Medical Officer at GenVec from July 2005 to April 2006. Dr. Davis was also Senior Director of Clinical Science at Medarex. He has supervised clinical efforts in adult hematologic malignancies and marrow transplantation and therapeutic antibodies at the Cancer Therapy Evaluation Program (CTEP) of the National Cancer Institute (NCI) and worked with Dr. Ron Levy on the development of rituximab and idiotype vaccines at Stanford University. Dr. Davis received his B.A. degree in Biophysics from Johns Hopkins University, his M.S. degree in Physiology from Georgetown University and his M.D. from Georgetown University School of Medicine.

**Tibor Keler, Ph.D.** became Executive Vice President and Chief Scientific Officer of Celldex in July 2014. Since, May 2003, Dr. Keler has held a number of positions with Celldex, including as a founder, Senior Vice President and Chief Scientific Officer of Celldex, from March 2008 to July 2014, and Vice President, Research and Discovery and Chief Scientific Officer, from May 2003 to March 2008. In addition, he was Senior Director of Preclinical Development and Principal Scientist at Medarex from September 1993 to March 2004. Dr. Keler received his Ph.D. in Microbiology from the University of Pennsylvania.

**Ronald Pepin, Ph.D.** became Senior Vice President and Chief Business Officer of Celldex in July 2011. From June 2010 to April 2011, Dr. Pepin served as Vice President at Shire Pharmaceuticals. From August 2000 to December 2009, Dr. Pepin was Senior Vice President, Business Development at Medarex. Earlier in his career, Dr. Pepin was Executive Director of External Science and Technology at Bristol-Myers Squibb Company. Dr. Pepin received his B.A. from Tufts University and his Ph.D. in Genetics from Georgetown University.

**Richard Wright, Ph.D.** became Senior Vice President and Chief Commercial Officer of Celldex in July 2015. Dr. Wright served as Vice President of Commercial Operations of Celldex from April 2012 to July 2015. From November 2010 to April 2012, Dr. Wright was Managing Director of Navigant Consulting, a global life sciences consulting practice. From September 2003 to October 2010, Dr. Wright held several senior leadership roles at Bristol-Myers Squibb including Senior Vice President of the U.S. ImmunoScience Division. Dr. Wright currently serves on the Scientific Advisory Board for the Seaver Foundation, a nonprofit organization supporting the Center for Autism Treatment and Research at Mount Sinai Hospital. Dr. Wright received his B.S. in Biological Sciences from Rutgers University and his M.S. and Ph.D. in Microbiology and Molecular Genetics from The University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey (Rutgers University). He received an M.B.A. in Marketing and Finance from Columbia University.

## EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION

### Compensation Discussion and Analysis

#### *Introduction*

Our Compensation Committee oversees and administers our executive compensation programs. The Committee's complete roles and responsibilities are set forth in the written charter of the Compensation Committee adopted by our Board of Directors, which can be found at our website, [www.celldex.com](http://www.celldex.com).

#### *Overview*

Our executive compensation programs are designed to deliver compensation that is competitive with our peer group and that allows us to attract and retain superior talent who can perform effectively and succeed in a demanding business environment. Our compensation programs are also designed to reward performance against pre-established goals and align the interests of our executives with our stockholders. We believe that the compensation of our executive officers should focus executive behavior on the achievement of near-term corporate targets as well as long-term business objectives and strategies. We believe that pay-for-performance compensation programs, which reward our executives when they achieve individual and/or corporate goals, create stockholder value and thus have emphasized company and individual performance in setting compensation. We use a combination of base salary, annual cash incentive compensation programs, a long-term equity incentive compensation program and a broad based benefits program to create a competitive compensation package for our executive management team. We describe below our compensation philosophy, policies and practices with respect to our Chief Executive Officer, Chief Financial Officer and our three most highly compensated executive officers, other than the Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, who were serving as executive officers as of December 31, 2015, who are collectively referred to as our Named Executive Officers.

As a biopharmaceutical company focusing on the development of several immunotherapy technologies and preparing to transition to a fully-integrated biopharmaceutical company, we establish corporate goals that are designed to contribute to the development of our lead programs, to ensure that we manage our cash effectively and have sufficient funding to complete near term development activities for our lead drug candidates and to advance our commercialization planning activities and, where appropriate, to pursue partnerships and collaborations through which we can leverage the value of our drug candidates. We seek to link the financial interests of our Named Executive Officers to those of our stockholders by tying compensation to the achievement of these strategic corporate goals, which we believe will drive long-term stockholder value. Each year we establish corporate goals, the achievement of which we believe are essential to the long-term success of our business.

The Compensation Committee has adopted a compensation philosophy of targeting our executive compensation to the 50<sup>th</sup> percentile of executive compensation of our peer group and the Radford Global Life Sciences Survey results. Executive compensation may be above or below the 50<sup>th</sup> percentile based on an executive's experience, scope of position, individual performance and company constraints. The Compensation Committee increased annual base salary for our existing executive officers by 3.1% to 6.5% in mid-2015, depending on the position.

In December 2015 and January 2016, our Compensation Committee reviewed our performance relative to our 2015 corporate goals and concluded that we had achieved at least 97% of our business and financial operations goals, particularly with respect to progress in our lead clinical programs—our rindopepimut (or Rintega®), glebatumumab vedotin (or glemba) and varlilumab (or varli) programs. Subsequently, in March 2016, at the second interim analysis in the ACT IV study for Rintega, based on the recommendation of the independent Data Safety and Monitoring Board to discontinue the study as



it is unlikely to meet the primary overall survival endpoint in patients with minimal residual disease, we decided to discontinue the ACT IV study and do not anticipate investing in further development of Rintega. Our Compensation Committee approved annual bonus payments for our executive officers, which resulted in a payout of 95.8% to 97.8% of our executive officers' 2015 bonus target, depending on the position. Further, stock options granted to our executive officers in 2015 have exercise prices equal to 100% of the fair value on the date of grant and vest over four years, beginning with 25% vesting one year after the date of grant, then pro-rata vesting quarterly thereafter based on continued service. We believe that stock options structured in this manner encourage our executive officers to focus on increasing stockholder value and stock price appreciation over the long term and limit unnecessary risk taking behavior, while promoting retention.

In 2015, we (i) ended the year with cash, cash equivalents and marketable securities of \$289.9 million and (ii) accomplished the following significant clinical and operational milestones during the year:

- ACT IV, the Phase 3 registration study in newly diagnosed patients with GBM (n=745), completed enrollment in December 2014. The study design includes interim analyses conducted by an independent Data Safety and Monitoring Board (DSMB) for superiority and futility at 50% and 75% of events (deaths). The first interim analysis occurred in June 2015, and the DSMB recommended continuation of the study as planned.
- In November 2015, mature survival data from the Phase 2 ReACT study in patients with recurrent GBM were presented in a podium presentation at the 20th Annual Meeting of the Society for Neuro-Oncology (SNO). The primary endpoint of the study, progression-free survival at six months (PFS6), was met.
- During 2015, patient enrollment continued in the Company's Phase 2 randomized study (METRIC) of glemba in patients with metastatic triple negative breast cancers that overexpress gpNMB, a molecule associated with poor outcomes for triple negative breast cancer patients and the target of glemba. Based on the progress we made during 2015 we expect to initiate trial expansion into the European Union in the first quarter of 2016.
- During 2015, patient enrollment continued in the Phase 2 study of glemba in metastatic melanoma and based on our progress in 2015 we expect to complete enrollment in the first half of 2016 and to present data at an appropriate medical meeting in the second half of 2016.
- During 2015, we continued to advance plans to expand the study of glembatumumab vedotin in other cancers in which gpNMB is expressed.
- During 2015, the Phase 1/2 study of varlilumab and nivolumab (Opdivo®) in adult patients with multiple solid tumors completed enrollment to the dose escalation Phase 1 portion of the study. Celldex and Bristol-Myers Squibb have decided to advance this combination into Phase 2.
- In the fourth quarter of 2015, we opened enrollment for patients with multiple solid tumors in the dose escalation Phase 1 portion of the Phase 1/2 study of varlilumab and atezolizumab (anti-PDL1).
- Celldex continued to support a number of external collaborations, including studies of CDX-1401 and CDX-301 in combination with other immuno-oncology agents.

#### ***Independent Compensation Consultants***

The Compensation Committee believes that independent advice is important in developing Celldex's director and executive compensation programs and in 2015, 2014 and 2013 engaged Radford as its independent compensation consultant. In 2015 and 2013, Radford focused on director compensation and in 2014, Radford focused on executive compensation. In 2015, Radford also provided

advisory services in connection with the amendment and restatement of our 2008 Stock Option and Incentive Plan, including an increase in the number of shares reserved for issuance under the Plan. Radford reports directly to the Committee and provides guidance on trends in executive and non-employee director compensation, the development of specific executive compensation programs, the composition of the Company's compensation peer group and other matters as directed by the Committee. The Company also participated in various Radford surveys in 2015, 2014 and 2013. During 2015, 2014 and 2013, the Company paid Radford approximately \$35,300, \$52,300 and \$15,400, respectively, in consulting fees directly related to these services. In 2015, 2014 and 2013, Radford did not provide any other services to Celldex.

#### ***Data Used to Make Compensation Determinations***

In making decisions regarding the compensation of our executive officers, the Compensation Committee generally considers compensation and survey data for similarly situated executives at a comparison group of companies it considers our peer group. These comparison data are primarily used to gauge the reasonableness and competitiveness of executive compensation decisions.

We draw upon a pool of talent that is highly sought after by large and established pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies as well as by other development-stage life science companies, both within and outside our geographic areas. We believe that the compensation practices of our industry in general and of our select peer group in particular provide useful information to help us establish compensation practices that allow us to attract, retain, and motivate a highly talented executive team. We believe we must offer a compensation package to all of our officers and our other employees that is competitive with our peer group, as well as larger pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies from whom we frequently recruit. In addition, the comparator companies should be aligned with our current stage of development and have similar short and long-term growth objectives. In 2015, the Compensation Committee set the target level of total executive compensation, as well as the key elements of compensation, at the 50<sup>th</sup> percentile of our peer group, but then adjusted each of the elements based on an individual's performance and contribution to our strategic objectives. The Committee may need to adjust these levels in the future to attract or retain specific individuals.

We review the levels of cash, equity, and total compensation for all comparable officers in our peer group relative to the elements of compensation paid to our officers. In considering how these data relate to our existing compensation structure, we take into account our size, stage of development, performance, and geographic location as compared to these peer companies, as well as what we know about the comparable scope of responsibilities of our officers versus those of comparable executives at such peer group companies. With the assistance of our compensation consultant, Radford, we used two primary market frames of reference (which we refer to as the "market") against which to compare our total executive compensation practices and levels and inform our decisions regarding compensation of our officers as follows:

- **Select Peer Group**—A select group of national biotechnology companies at a similar stage of development as our company with similar headcount, market capitalization and in most cases, similar therapeutic targets, and
- **Radford Global Life Sciences Survey**—A national survey of executive compensation levels and practices that covers approximately sixty executive positions in over 600 multinational life sciences organizations.

We do not apply a specific weighting to either data source when making compensation comparisons. Instead, we develop competitive market guidelines using these data sources.

We review our peer group each year to ensure continued relevance as we grow and develop and the Compensation Committee approves our peer group prior to its adoption. The select peer group as

of March 2015 was analyzed and used to inform our decisions affecting executive compensation based on 2015 performance consisted of the following companies:

ACADIA Pharmaceuticals Inc.	Keryx Biopharmaceuticals, Inc.
Achillion Pharmaceuticals, Inc.	MacroGenics, Inc.
Alnylam Pharmaceuticals, Inc.	Merrimack Pharmaceuticals, Inc.
Anacor Pharmaceuticals, Inc.	Neurocrine Biosciences, Inc.
Ariad Pharmaceuticals, Inc.	New Links Genetics Corporation
blue bird bio, Inc.	PTC Therapeutics, Inc.
Clovis Oncology, Inc.	Puma Biotechnology, Inc.
Halozyme Therapeutics, Inc.	Seattle Genetics, Inc.
ImmunoGen, Inc.	Synageva BioPharma Corp.
Insys Therapeutics, Inc.	Tesaro Inc.

This peer group consisted of public companies in the biopharmaceutical industry with product candidates generally in late-stage development, annual revenues generally less than \$280 million (average of \$18.3 million), R&D expense less than \$220 million (average of \$74.4 million) and market capitalization in the range of \$600 million to \$7.2 billion (average of \$1.7 billion). We believe that, as of March 2015, this list was representative of the companies with whom we generally compete for talent.

#### ***Administration and Objectives of Our Executive Compensation Program***

The Compensation Committee of the Board of Directors, which comprises independent, non-employee directors, is responsible for establishing and administering the policies governing the compensation of our employees, including salary, bonus and stock option grants. The policy of the Compensation Committee is to compensate our employees with competitive salaries based on their level of experience and job performance. All permanent employees, including executive officers, are eligible for annual bonus awards based on achievement of our strategic corporate goals and participation in our stock option program. The stock option grants are made in accordance with our 2008 Stock Option and Incentive Plan, as amended (the "2008 Plan"). The Compensation Committee is also responsible for the administration of our 2004 Employee Stock Purchase Plan, as amended (the "2004 Plan"), in which employees participate on a voluntary basis.

Our Compensation Committee has designed our overall executive compensation program to achieve the following objectives:

- attract and retain talented and experienced executives;
- motivate and reward executives whose knowledge, skills and performance are critical to our success;
- provide a competitive compensation package that aligns the interests of our executive officers and stockholders by including a significant variable component which is weighted heavily towards performance-based rewards, based upon achievement of pre-determined goals;
- ensure fairness among the executive management team by recognizing the contributions each executive makes to our success;
- foster a shared commitment among executives by aligning our and their individual goals; and
- compensate our executives to manage our business to meet our near- term and long-term objectives.

We use a mix of short-term compensation (base salaries and cash incentive bonuses) and long-term compensation (equity incentive compensation) to provide a total compensation structure that is

designed to achieve these objectives. We determine the percentage mix of compensation structures that we think is appropriate for each of our executive officers. In general, the Compensation Committee believes that a substantial percentage of the compensation of our executive officers should be performance based. The Compensation Committee uses its judgment and experience and the recommendations of the chief executive officer (except for his own compensation) to determine the appropriate mix of compensation for each individual.

In determining whether to adjust the compensation of any of our Named Executive Officers, we annually take into account the changes, if any, in the following:

- market compensation levels;
- the contributions made by each executive officer;
- the performance of each executive officer;
- the increases or decreases in responsibilities and roles of each executive officer;
- the business needs for each executive officer;
- the relevance of each executive officer's experience to other potential employers; and
- the readiness of each executive officer to assume a more significant role within the organization.

In addition, with respect to new executive officers, we take into account their prior base salary and annual cash incentives, their expected contribution and our business needs. We believe that our executive officers should be fairly compensated each year relative to market pay levels within our industry.

#### ***Executive Compensation Components***

In order to both attract and retain experienced and qualified executives to manage us, the Compensation Committee's policy on executive compensation is to (i) pay salaries which are competitive with the salaries of executives in comparable positions in the biotechnology industry, and (ii) allow for additional incentive-based compensation through the payment of annual cash bonuses and the grant of stock-based incentive awards. This policy is designed to have a significant portion of each executive's total compensation be tied to our progress in order to incentivize the executive to fully dedicate himself or herself to achievement of corporate goals, and to align the executive's interest with those of our stockholders through equity incentive compensation.

Our executive compensation program is primarily composed of base salary, annual incentive cash compensation payable on an annual basis and equity compensation. In addition, we provide our executives with benefits that are generally available to our salaried employees, including medical, dental, group life and accidental death and dismemberment insurance, short- and long-term disability coverage and our 401(k) plan. Within the context of the overall objectives of our compensation programs, we determined the specific amounts of compensation to be paid to each of our executives in 2015 based on a number of factors including:

- our understanding of the amount of compensation generally paid by similarly situated companies to their executives with similar roles and responsibilities;
- the roles and responsibilities of our executives;
- the individual experience and skills of, and expected contributions from, our executives;
- the amounts of compensation being paid to our other executives; and
- our executives' historical compensation.

We discuss each of the primary elements of our executive compensation in detail below. While we have identified particular compensation objectives that each element of executive compensation serves, our compensation programs complement each other and collectively serve all of our executive compensation objectives described above. Accordingly, whether or not specifically mentioned below, we believe that, as a part of our overall executive compensation, each element to a greater or lesser extent serves each of our objectives.

#### *Base salary*

Each executive officer (except the chief executive officer whose performance is reviewed by the Compensation Committee) has an annual performance review with the chief executive officer who makes recommendations on salary increases, promotions and stock option grants to the Compensation Committee. We have historically established base salaries for each of our executives based on many factors, including average salary increases expected in the biotechnology industry in the Boston, Massachusetts and central New Jersey areas, competition in the marketplace to hire and retain executives, experiences of our Board members and leadership team with respect to salaries and compensation of executives in similarly situated companies in our industry and other similar industries, as well as additional factors which we believe enable us to hire and retain our leadership team in an extremely competitive environment. Our Compensation Committee annually reviews salary ranges and individual salaries for our executive officers. The Compensation Committee increased annual base salary for our executive officers by 3.1% to 6.5% in mid-2015, depending on the position. For 2014, the Compensation Committee increased annual base salary for our executive officers by 3.0% to 6.5%. For 2013, the Compensation Committee increased annual base salary by 2.9% to 3.3% for our executive officers.

#### *Annual Performance-Based Cash Bonus*

We have designed our annual cash bonuses to reward our executive officers for their individual performance and their actual performance and contributions to our corporate goals for each year, as approved in advance by our Compensation Committee and Board of Directors. The corporate goals are allocated between specific product and financial performance targets. Achievement of our corporate goals was, in 2015, the primary factor considered by our Compensation Committee in determining the annual bonuses for our executive officers. However, the Compensation Committee retains discretion to adjust any individual bonus based on assessment of such individual's performance. Our performance-based bonus plan emphasizes the contributions of each of our executive officers to the achievement of our corporate goals.

At the beginning of each calendar year, the Compensation Committee establishes annual corporate performance goals and target bonuses. In 2015 based on Radford's recommendation, the Compensation Committee established target bonuses of 55% of base salary for Mr. Marucci, 40% of base salary for Dr. Keler, Mr. Catlin and Dr. Davis and 30% of base salary for Dr. Pepin. Corporate goals are proposed by management, reviewed and approved by the Compensation Committee and also approved by the Board of Directors on an annual basis. The Compensation Committee considers and assigns a relative weight to appropriately focus efforts on corporate goals that are intended to enhance shareholder value.

The Compensation Committee reviewed the 2015 corporate goals at meetings held in January, July and October 2015, to gauge our levels of achievement and to assess whether the corporate goals approved earlier in the year remained relevant and complete. In December 2015 and January 2016, prior to approving 2015 incentive bonuses, the Compensation Committee evaluated our 2015 performance by assessing if, and the extent to which, we achieved or failed to achieve the corporate goals approved by the Board of Directors for 2015.

Our corporate goals for 2015 and the level at which the Compensation Committee determined they were achieved are as follows:

<b>2015 Corporate Goal</b>		<b>Relative Weight</b>	<b>2015 Achievement</b>
<b>(1) Late Stage Development Assets:</b>			
Rintega (Rindopepimut) Development Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue to execute the Phase 3 ACT IV pivotal registration study in accordance with applicable regulations, guidelines and plans</li> <li>Define and execute next clinical / regulatory steps for recurrent/ refractory GBM based on emerging results from the ReACT study</li> <li>Progress registration and marketing strategy in US and ROW, including key internal hires to support BLA submission and commercial launch</li> </ul>	40	100%
Glembatumumab Vedotin (CDX-011) Development Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue to accrued patients into the pivotal METRIC study in TNBC</li> <li>Initiate and continue patient accrual of the CDX-011 metastatic melanoma trial</li> <li>Support expanded development of CDX-011 through external collaborations (lung cancer, osteosarcoma, uveal melanoma)</li> <li>Progress registration and marketing strategy in US and ROW</li> </ul>	10	100%
Varilumab (CDX-1127) Development Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Complete site activation and initial dose escalation for CDX-1127 Phase 1/2 combination studies</li> <li>Support expanded development through external collaborations</li> <li>Assess opportunities for potential registration pathways for CDX-1127</li> <li>Identify CMOs and initiate external manufacturing activities to support EU and late stage development activities</li> </ul>	10	100%
<b>(2) Early Stage Development Assets:</b>		5	100%
CDX-1401 Development Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Execute development activities of CDX-1401 through internal and external collaborations</li> <li>Assess market opportunities for CDX-1401</li> </ul>		
CDX-301 Development Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Complete site activation and progress patient enrollment of the pilot study of CDX-301 in HSCT +/- Mozobil</li> <li>Support expanded development of CDX-301 through external collaborations</li> </ul>		
CDX-014 or Other Product Candidate Development Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Complete manufacturing and IND-enabling studies of CDX-014 to support IND filing</li> <li>Define 2<sup>nd</sup> generations and new product opportunities within research</li> </ul>		
<b>(3) Business and Financial Operations:</b>		35	91%
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide sufficient cash through either financings or partnerships and cost reductions to extend runway through 2017</li> <li>Execute on the Company's BD strategy for internal and external collaborations; access to new technologies; complete a licensing transaction with respect to pipeline assets in 2015, if appropriate</li> <li>Build infrastructure to support expanding Product Development and Commercial organizations</li> </ul>		
<b>Totals:</b>		<u>100</u>	<u>97%</u>

Prior to the Compensation Committee's December 2015 and January 2016 meetings, Mr. Marucci reviewed in detail the performance of each executive officer, excluding himself, and considered such individual's contributions to our success in 2015. Mr. Marucci's bonus recommendations were based on such individual performance assessments and the fact that the Company achieved 97% of its pre-determined corporate goals in 2015 and each employee, including the executive officers, contributed to our success in achieving the 2015 corporate goals.

The Compensation Committee discussed Mr. Marucci's recommendations for the Named Executive Officers and reviewed Mr. Marucci's performance for fiscal 2015. In particular, the Compensation Committee determined that our executive officers achieved their goals with respect to progress in our clinical programs, particularly our rindopepimut, glembatumumab vedotin and varlilumab programs, and to corporate development activities. Based on Mr. Marucci's recommendations for each of the Named Executive Officers, the Compensation Committee's review of Mr. Marucci's performance and the Compensation Committee's determination that 97% achievement of the corporate goals for 2015, the Compensation Committee determined that the annual cash incentives approved for each Named Executive Officer (including Mr. Marucci) should be set at 95.8% to 97.8% of the targets established for each Named Executive Officer, depending on the position.

The Compensation Committee determined that annual incentive bonuses paid to the Named Executive Officers for 2015, were fair, reasonable and appropriate based on the factors described above.

#### *Equity Compensation*

We also use stock options and equity-based incentive programs to attract, retain, motivate and reward our executive officers. Through our equity-based grants, we seek to align the interests of our executive officers with our stockholders, reward and motivate both near-term and long-term executive performance and provide an incentive for retention. Our decisions regarding the amount and type of equity incentive compensation and relative weighting of these awards among total executive compensation have been based on our understanding of market practices of similarly situated companies and our negotiations with our executives in connection with their initial employment or promotion.

We have adopted an equity grant policy that formalizes how we grant equity awards by setting a regular schedule for granting equity awards in connection with the hiring or promotion of any of our employees, granting annual equity awards and granting equity awards to non-employee directors. Such policy also outlines grant approval requirements and specifies the vesting schedule and exercise prices for restricted stock units and stock option awards. We believe that this policy will mitigate the risk that issues or concerns would be raised in the future regarding the timing of grants of equity awards to our officers, directors and employees.

All such grants to our Named Executive Officers are subject to prior approval by the Compensation Committee at a regularly scheduled meeting during the year. The date of grant and the fair market value of the award are based upon the date of the Compensation Committee meeting approving such grant. When granting equity-based awards, the Compensation Committee considers a number of factors in determining the amount of equity incentive awards, if any, to grant to our executives, including:

- the existing levels of stock ownership among the executive officers relative to each other and to our employees as a whole;
- previous grants of stock options to such executive officers;
- vesting schedules of previously granted options;

- the performance of the executives and their contributions to our overall performance;
- an outside survey of stock option grants and restricted common stock awards in the biotechnology industry;
- an internally prepared survey of similarly situated biotechnology companies' proxy statements;
- personal knowledge of the Compensation Committee members regarding executive stock options and restricted common stock awards at comparable companies;
- the financial statement impact of stock option awards on our results of operations; and
- the amount and percentage of our total equity on a diluted basis held by our executives.

Equity compensation awards to our Named Executive Officers primarily consist of stock option awards. Stock option awards provide our executive officers with the right to purchase shares of our common stock at a fixed exercise price typically for a period of up to ten years, subject to continued employment with us. Stock options are earned on the basis of continued service to us and generally vest over four years, beginning with 25% vesting one year after the date of grant, then pro-rata vesting quarterly thereafter. All historical option grants were made at what our Compensation Committee and Board of Directors determined to be the fair market value of our shares of our common stock on the respective grant dates.

On June 10, 2015, the Compensation Committee awarded stock options to all qualified employees, including stock options to purchase 280,000 shares, 116,500 shares, 116,500 shares, 92,000 shares and 92,000 shares of our common stock to each of Messrs. Marucci, Keler, Davis, Catlin and Pepin, respectively.

On April 11, 2015, the Compensation Committee of the Board of Directors approved the amendment and restatement of the 2008 Plan, subject to approval at the Annual Meeting by our stockholders, including an increase in the number of shares reserved for issuance thereunder by 6,950,000 to 14,350,000 shares. At the Annual Meeting of stockholders in June 2015, our stockholders approved such amendment and restatement of the 2008 Plan.

#### *Other Benefits*

We believe that establishing competitive benefit packages for our employees is an important factor in attracting and retaining highly qualified personnel. Executive officers are eligible to participate in all of our employee benefit plans, such as medical, dental, group life and accidental death and dismemberment insurance, short- and long-term disability coverage and our 401(k) plan, in each case on the same basis as other employees. We provide a matching contribution under our 401(k) plan.

#### *Employment Agreements and Post-Termination Compensation and Benefits*

We depend greatly on the intellectual capabilities and experience of our key executives. Our success is dependent on our ability to attract and retain highly skilled executives with significant experience in the biotechnology industry, particularly as we expand our activities in clinical trials, the regulatory approval process and sales and manufacturing. Therefore we entered into new employment agreements with each of our Named Executive Officers effective January 1, 2013.

In general, each employment arrangement provides for cash severance, 100% acceleration of any unvested options, restricted stock and/or other equity awards and continuation of certain employee benefits in the event that an executive's employment is terminated without cause or is terminated by the executive for good reason within a one year period immediately following a change of control. The cash severance consists of a single lump sum payment equal to (i) twenty-four (24) times Executive's highest monthly base compensation paid hereunder during the preceding twenty-four month period,



plus (ii) 150% (200%, in the case of Mr. Marucci) of the highest one-year Annual Bonus actually received by the Executive during the preceding two full fiscal years prior to the date of termination. We use a "double trigger" with respect to benefits that are to be provided in connection with a change of control. A change of control does not itself trigger benefits; rather, benefits are paid only if the employment of the executive is terminated by us other than for cause, death or disability or by the executive for good reason during the one year period immediately following the change of control. We believe a "double trigger" benefit maximizes shareholder value because it prevents a windfall to executives in the event of a change of control in which the executive retains significant responsibility as defined in his or her individual agreement, while still providing our executives appropriate incentives to cooperate in negotiating any change of control that may put their jobs at risk.

In addition to the benefits that only accrue in connection with a change of control, our agreements with the Named Executive Officers provide for cash severance, 25% acceleration of unvested options, restricted stock and/or other equity awards and continuation of certain employee benefits if we terminate their employment with us without cause or they terminate their employment with us for good reason, as such terms are defined in the applicable agreement with the executive officer. The cash severance consists of a lump sum cash payment equal to 100% (200% in the case of Mr. Marucci) of the executive's then existing base salary. A further discussion of the terms and projected payments under each of these agreements is set forth below under the heading *Potential Payments upon Termination of Employment or Change in Control*.

#### ***Committee Consideration of the Company's 2015 Shareholder Advisory Vote on Executive Compensation***

At our 2015 Annual Meeting of Shareholders, approximately 98% of the shares voted at the meeting approved, on an advisory basis, the compensation of the Named Executive Officers. Given that a majority of the shares voted approved the 'say on pay' advisory proposal, the Committee did not implement specific changes and continued with its performance-based compensation philosophy and its balanced approach to various components of its compensation program. However, the Compensation Committee does monitor the results of the annual advisory 'say-on-pay' proposal and refers to such results as one of many factors considered in connection with the discharge of its responsibilities, although the Committee does not assign a quantitative weighting to any such factors.

Our Board of Directors has determined that an advisory vote will be conducted on an annual basis.

#### **Summary Compensation Table**

The following summary compensation table reflects certain information concerning compensation for services in all capacities awarded to, earned by or paid during the years ended December 31, 2015, 2014 and 2013 to each person who served as our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer at any time during the year ended December 31, 2015 and the three most highly compensated executive

officers, other than the Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, who were serving as executive officers as of December 31, 2015 (collectively, the "Named Executive Officers").

Name and Principal Position	Years	Salary (\$)	Bonus \$(1)	Stock Awards (\$)	Option Awards \$(2)	Non-Equity Incentive Plan Compensation (\$)	Change in Pension Value and Nonqualified Deferred Compensation Earnings (\$)	All Other Compensation \$(3)	Total (\$)
Anthony S. Marucci <i>President and Chief Executive Officer</i>	2015	559,400	302,924	—	4,371,528	—	—	39,874	5,273,726
	2014	520,879	293,234	—	2,431,856	—	—	64,937	3,310,906
	2013	496,388	375,000	—	2,940,280	—	—	15,120	3,826,788
Avery W. Catlin <i>Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer</i>	2015	339,457	130,000	—	1,436,359	—	—	6,024	1,911,840
	2014	317,017	102,097	—	799,038	—	—	5,717	1,223,869
	2013	307,735	130,000	—	945,090	—	—	5,767	1,388,592
Thomas Davis, M.D. <i>Executive Vice President and Chief Medical Officer</i>	2015	434,421	165,000	—	1,818,868	—	—	9,297	2,427,586
	2014	407,453	148,960	—	1,011,826	—	—	8,749	1,576,988
	2013	389,404	200,000	—	1,207,615	—	—	8,364	1,805,383
Tibor Keler., Ph.D. <i>Executive Vice President and Chief Scientific Officer</i>	2015	409,996	159,000	—	1,818,868	—	—	3,800	2,391,664
	2014	384,517	158,500	—	1,011,826	—	—	3,763	1,558,606
	2013	367,484	186,000	—	1,207,615	—	—	3,651	1,764,750
Ronald Pepin, Ph.D. <i>Senior Vice President and Chief Business Officer</i>	2015	338,078	97,000	—	1,436,359	—	—	6,761	1,878,198
	2014	321,481	98,083	—	799,038	—	—	6,425	1,225,027
	2013	311,654	100,000	—	945,090	—	—	6,474	1,363,218

- (1) The amounts in the Bonus column include annual bonus amounts earned by each of our Named Executive Officers in 2015, 2014 and 2013.
- (2) The amounts in the Option Awards column reflect the dollar amounts for the aggregate grant date fair value of stock option awards made in fiscal years ended December 31, 2015, 2014 and 2013 for annual awards pursuant to the 2008 Plan.
- (3) The amounts listed in the All Other Compensation column includes our matching contribution to the 401(k) Savings Plan of each named executive officer and premiums paid for life insurance under our nondiscriminatory group plan for each named executive officer. In addition, Mr. Marucci's compensation includes (i) the annual premium of \$2,550 in 2015, 2014 and 2013 for a \$1,000,000 term life insurance policy, (ii) \$3,948, \$4,747 and \$4,260 for the personal use of a Company car in 2015, 2014 and 2013, and (iii) tuition reimbursement of \$24,634 and \$49,266 in 2015 and 2014 related to an executive master of healthcare leadership program.

#### Grants of Plan-Based Awards

The following table provides information on stock options and stock awards granted in 2015 to each of our Named Executive Officers.

Name	Grant Date	Estimated Future Payouts Under Equity Incentive Plan Awards			All Other Stock Awards: Number of Shares or Units (#)	All Other Option Awards: Number of Securities Underlying Options (#)	Exercise or Base Price of Option Awards (\$/Sh)(1)	Grant Date Fair Value of Stock and Option Awards \$(2)
		Threshold (#)	Target (#)	Maximum (#)				
Anthony S. Marucci	6/10/15					280,000	25.41	4,371,528
Avery W. Catlin	6/10/15					92,000	25.41	1,436,359
Thomas Davis, M.D.	6/10/15					116,500	25.41	1,818,868
Tibor Keler, Ph.D.	6/10/15					116,500	25.41	1,818,868
Ronald Pepin, Ph.D.	6/10/15					92,000	25.41	1,436,359

- (1) The exercise prices reflect the closing price of our common stock on the grant date.
- (2) The grant date fair value is generally the amount we would expense in our financial statements over the award's service period, but does not include a reduction for forfeitures.

### Outstanding Equity Awards at Fiscal Year-End

The following table sets forth certain information regarding the stock option grants and stock awards to our Named Executive Officers at December 31, 2015.

Name	Option Awards				Stock Awards				
	Number of Securities Underlying Unexercised Options (#) Exercisable	Number of Securities Underlying Unexercised Options (#) Unexercisable	Equity Incentive Plan Awards: Number of Securities Underlying Unexercised Options (#)	Option Exercise Price (\$)	Option Expiration Date	Number of Shares or Units of Stock That Have Not Vested (#)	Market Value of Shares or Units of Stock That Have Not Vested (\$)	Equity Incentive Plan Awards: Number of Shares, Units or Rights That Have Not Vested (#)	Equity Incentive Plan Awards: Market or Payout Value of Shares, Units or Rights That Have Not Vested (#)
Anthony S. Marucci(1)	—	280,000		25.41	6/10/25				
Anthony S. Marucci(1)	105,000	175,000		13.45	6/4/24				
Anthony S. Marucci(1)	157,500	122,500		16.36	7/1/23				
Anthony S. Marucci(1)	227,500	52,500		5.69	9/12/22				
Anthony S. Marucci	180,400	—		2.80	8/5/21				
Anthony S. Marucci	164,000	—		4.50	1/21/20				
Anthony S. Marucci	129,000	—		8.52	1/6/19				
Anthony S. Marucci	254,243	—		8.16	3/7/18				
Avery W. Catlin(1)	—	92,000		25.41	6/10/25				
Avery W. Catlin(1)	34,500	57,500		13.45	6/4/24				
Avery W. Catlin(1)	50,625	39,375		16.36	7/1/23				
Avery W. Catlin(1)	73,125	16,875		5.69	9/12/22				
Avery W. Catlin	80,000	—		2.80	8/5/21				
Avery W. Catlin	70,000	—		4.50	1/21/20				
Avery W. Catlin	11,000	—		8.52	1/6/19				
Thomas Davis, M.D.(1)	—	116,500		25.41	6/10/25				
Thomas Davis, M.D.(1)	43,687	72,813		13.45	6/4/24				
Thomas Davis, M.D.(1)	64,687	50,313		16.36	7/1/23				
Thomas Davis, M.D.(1)	93,437	21,563		5.69	9/12/22				
Thomas Davis, M.D.	104,500	—		2.80	8/5/21				
Thomas Davis, M.D.	95,000	—		4.50	1/21/20				
Thomas Davis, M.D.	76,400	—		8.52	1/6/19				
Thomas Davis, M.D.	148,825	—		8.16	3/7/18				
Tibor Keler, Ph.D.(1)	—	116,500		25.41	6/10/25				
Tibor Keler, Ph.D.(1)	43,687	72,813		13.45	6/4/24				
Tibor Keler, Ph.D.(1)	64,687	50,313		16.36	7/1/23				
Tibor Keler, Ph.D.(1)	93,437	21,563		5.69	9/12/22				
Tibor Keler, Ph.D.	99,000	—		2.80	8/5/21				
Tibor Keler, Ph.D.	90,000	—		4.50	1/21/20				
Tibor Keler, Ph.D.	72,250	—		8.52	1/6/19				
Tibor Keler, Ph.D.	254,243	—		8.16	3/7/18				
Ronald Pepin, Ph.D.(1)	—	92,000		25.41	6/10/25				
Ronald Pepin, Ph.D.(1)	34,500	57,500		13.45	6/4/24				
Ronald Pepin, Ph.D.(1)	50,625	39,375		16.36	7/1/23				
Ronald Pepin, Ph.D.(1)	73,125	16,875		5.69	9/12/22				
Ronald Pepin, Ph.D.	100,000	—		3.52	7/1/21				

(1) 25% of the options vest on the first anniversary of the grant date and the remainder vest quarterly (in equal amounts) over the subsequent 12 quarters.

### Option Exercises and Stock Vested

The following table sets forth certain information regarding the number of option exercises in fiscal 2015 and the number of shares of stock issued under the 2008 Plan that vested in fiscal 2015 and the corresponding amounts realized by our Named Executive Officers.

Name	Option Awards		Stock Awards	
	Number of Shares Acquired on Exercise (#)	Value Realized on Exercise (\$)	Number of Shares Acquired on Vesting (#)	Value Realized on Vesting (\$)
Anthony S. Marucci	—	—	—	—
Avery W. Catlin	60,000	\$ 754,000(1)	—	—
Thomas Davis, M.D.	—	—	—	—
Tibor Keler, Ph.D.	—	—	—	—
Ronald Pepin, Ph.D.	—	—	—	—

- (1) Represents the aggregate dollar amount realized by the named executive officer upon exercise of the options, calculated by determining the difference between the closing price on the date of exercise and the exercise price. These amounts do not correspond to the actual value received by the named executive officers.

### Employment Agreements

The terms and conditions of the employment agreements of Mr. Marucci, Mr. Catlin, Dr. Davis, Dr. Keler, and Dr. Pepin are governed by written employment contracts which became effective on January 1, 2013. The employment agreements provide, among other things, for:

- annual base salary (\$484,855 in the case of Mr. Marucci, \$303,187 in the case of Mr. Catlin, \$383,649 in the case of Mr. Davis, \$362,053 in the case of Mr. Keler and \$307,500 in the case of Mr. Pepin) or such greater amount as may from time to time be determined by the Board of Directors or the Compensation Committee thereof;
- eligibility for an annual bonus with a defined bonus target (55% of base salary in the case of Mr. Marucci, 40% of base salary in the case of Mr. Catlin, 40% of base salary in the case of Mr. Davis, 40% of base salary in the case of Mr. Keler and 30% of base salary in the case of Mr. Pepin);
- a lump sum severance payment equal to 100% (200% in the case of Mr. Marucci only) of the executive's then-existing annual base salary in the event that his employment is terminated without cause or he resigns "for good reason" (as defined in the employment agreement) and 25% accelerated vesting of any unvested equity awards; and
- accelerated vesting of any unvested equity awards (as defined in the employment agreement) and a lump sum cash payment equal to twenty-four (24) times the executive's highest monthly base compensation (not including bonus) during the twenty-four month period preceding the date of termination plus 150% (200% in the case of Mr. Marucci only) of the highest one-year annual bonus actually received by the executive during the two full fiscal years preceding the date of termination in the event of termination without cause or resignation "for good reason" by the executive within one year immediately following a change in control (as defined in the employment agreement).

The employment agreements had an initial term through December 31, 2015 and shall automatically renew for additional one year terms unless either party gives ninety (90) days prior written notice of its intent not to renew. The Company may terminate the employment agreements without cause, on 90-days' prior notice, or for cause, subject to a 30-day cure period in certain circumstances.

### Pension Benefits

None of our Named Executive Officers participate in qualified or nonqualified defined benefit plans sponsored by us.

### Nonqualified Deferred Compensation

None of our Named Executive Officers are covered by a defined contribution or other plan that provides for the deferral of compensation on a basis that is not tax-qualified.

### Potential Payments upon Termination of Employment or Change in Control

Our Named Executive Officers have provisions in their employment agreements regarding severance upon certain termination events or acceleration of stock options in the event of our change of control or termination following a change of control. These severance and acceleration provisions are described in "Employment Agreements," and certain estimates of these change of control benefits are provided in the tables below.

The following table describes the potential payments and benefits upon employment termination for our Named Executive Officers as if their employment had terminated as of December 31, 2015.

Executive benefits and payments upon termination	Voluntary resignation for no good reason	Voluntary resignation for good reason(1)	Termination by Celldex not for cause(1)	Termination by Celldex for cause	Voluntary termination by the executive for good reason or termination by Celldex without cause in connection with or following change of control(2)
<b><u>Anthony S. Marucci</u></b>					
Base salary	\$ —	\$ 1,135,614	\$ 1,135,614	\$ —	\$ 1,135,614
Bonus	—	—	—	—	605,848
Equity Awards Acceleration(3)	—	228,681	228,681	—	914,725
Continuation of Health Benefits	—	46,351	46,351	—	46,351
Total	<u>\$ —</u>	<u>\$ 1,410,646</u>	<u>\$ 1,410,646</u>	<u>\$ —</u>	<u>\$ 2,702,538</u>
<b><u>Avery W. Catlin</u></b>					
Base salary	\$ —	\$ 332,440	\$ 332,440	\$ —	\$ 664,880
Bonus	—	—	—	—	195,000
Equity Awards Acceleration(3)	—	74,202	74,202	—	296,806
Continuation of Health Benefits	—	34,195	34,195	—	34,195
Total	<u>\$ —</u>	<u>\$ 440,837</u>	<u>\$ 440,837</u>	<u>\$ —</u>	<u>\$ 1,190,881</u>
<b><u>Thomas Davis, M.D.</u></b>					
Base salary	\$ —	\$ 433,885	\$ 433,885	\$ —	\$ 867,770
Bonus	—	—	—	—	247,500
Equity Awards Acceleration(3)	—	94,447	94,447	—	377,787
Continuation of Health Benefits	—	46,351	46,351	—	46,351
Total	<u>\$ —</u>	<u>\$ 574,683</u>	<u>\$ 574,683</u>	<u>\$ —</u>	<u>\$ 1,539,408</u>

Executive benefits and payments upon termination	Voluntary resignation for no good reason	Voluntary resignation for good reason(1)	Termination by Celldex not for cause(1)	Termination by Celldex for cause	Voluntary termination by the executive for good reason or termination by Celldex without cause in connection with or following change of control(2)
<b>Tibor Keler, Ph.D.</b>					
Base salary	\$ —	\$ 409,523	\$ 409,523	\$ —	\$ 819,046
Bonus	—	—	—	—	238,500
Equity Awards Acceleration(3)	—	94,447	94,447	—	377,787
Continuation of Health Benefits	—	46,351	46,351	—	46,351
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ —</b>	<b>\$ 550,321</b>	<b>\$ 550,321</b>	<b>\$ —</b>	<b>\$ 1,481,684</b>
<b>Ronald Pepin, Ph.D.</b>					
Base salary	\$ —	\$ 337,444	\$ 337,444	\$ —	\$ 674,888
Bonus	—	—	—	—	145,500
Equity Awards Acceleration(3)	—	74,202	74,202	—	296,806
Continuation of Health Benefits	—	46,351	46,351	—	46,351
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ —</b>	<b>\$ 457,997</b>	<b>\$ 457,997</b>	<b>\$ —</b>	<b>\$ 1,163,545</b>

- (1) Upon termination without cause or resignation for good reason, the employee is generally entitled to a lump sum payment equal to 100% (200% in the case of Mr. Marucci only) of the employee's then annual base salary, continuation of certain employee benefits and 25% accelerated vesting of any unvested equity awards.
- (2) The employee is generally entitled to accelerated vesting of any unvested equity awards (as defined in the employment agreement) and a lump sum cash payment equal to twenty-four (24) times the executive's highest monthly base compensation (not including bonus) during the twenty-four month period preceding the date of termination plus 150% (200% in the case of Mr. Marucci only) of the highest one-year annual bonus actually received by the executive during the two full fiscal years preceding the date of termination in the event of termination without cause or resignation "for good reason" by the executive within one year immediately following a change in control (as defined in the employment agreement).
- (3) The value of each share subject to an option to purchase common stock that would be accelerated in the circumstances described above equals \$15.68 per share (the closing price on the last trading day of 2015), minus the exercise price per share;

#### Director Compensation

Directors who are not our employees are each entitled to receive a retainer fee of \$50,000 each fiscal year ("Annual Retainer"). The Chairman of the Board is entitled to receive an annual retainer fee of \$40,000 in addition to his or her Annual Retainer and any retainer for committee service. The Chairperson of each committee of the Board of Directors is entitled to receive an annual retainer fee of \$30,000 in addition to his or her Annual Retainer. Each committee member (other than the Chairperson of a committee) will receive an annual retainer of \$20,000 in addition to his or her Annual Retainer. Stipends and retainers are paid in advance on a quarterly basis. The Directors shall be reimbursed for necessary travel and business expenses as incurred but will not receive any additional fees for attending meetings or calls of the Board of Directors.

New board members receive an initial stock option grant to purchase 8,000 shares of the Company's common stock upon joining the Board. In 2015, all non-employee directors receive (i) an

annual grant of 6,500 shares of restricted stock each year and (ii) an annual stock option grant to purchase 10,300 shares of the Company's common stock following the annual stockholders' meeting.

As of December 31, 2015, our non-employee directors had the following stock options outstanding: Larry Ellberger—26,300, Herbert J. Conrad—44,179, George O. Elston—44,179, Harry H. Penner, Jr.—26,300, Karen L. Shoos—26,300 and Richard van den Broek—18,300.

The following table summarizes the annual compensation for our non-employee directors during 2015.

Name	Fees Earned or Paid in Cash (S)	Stock Awards (S)(1)	Option Awards (S)(2)	Non-Equity Incentive Plan Compensation (S)	Change in Pension Value and Nonqualified Deferred Compensation Earnings	All Other Compensation (S)	Total (S)
Larry Ellberger	110,000	165,165	160,810	—	—	—	435,975
Herbert J. Conrad	80,000	165,165	160,810	—	—	—	405,975
George O. Elston	100,000	165,165	160,810	—	—	—	425,975
Harry H. Penner, Jr.	90,000	165,165	160,810	—	—	—	415,975
Karen L. Shoos	100,000	165,165	160,810	—	—	—	425,975
Richard A. van den Broek	90,000	165,165	160,810	—	—	—	415,975

- (1) The amounts in the Stock Awards column reflect the grant date fair value of restricted stock awards of 6,500 shares made in 2015 to each of our non-employee directors for awards pursuant to the 2008 Plan subject to a vesting schedule whereby an equal number of the shares of common stock shall become vested and no longer be subject to risk of forfeiture (so long as the director remains a member of the Board as of such date).
- (2) The amounts in the Option Awards column reflect the grant date fair value of stock option awards of 10,300 shares made in 2015 to each of our non-employee directors for awards pursuant to the 2008 Plan subject to a vesting schedule whereby an equal number of the shares of common stock shall become vested and no longer be subject to risk of forfeiture (so long as the director remains a member of the Board as of such date).

#### Compensation Committee Interlocks and Insider Participation

The Compensation Committee of the Board of Directors is currently composed of the following four non-employee directors: Karen L. Shoos, Chair, George O. Elston, Harry H. Penner, Jr. and Richard van den Broek. None of these Compensation Committee members was an officer or employee of us during the year. No Compensation Committee interlocks between us and another entity existed.

#### Risk Considerations

We do not believe that our compensation practices and policies for our employees, including our executive officers, create risks or are likely to create risks that are reasonably likely to have a material adverse effect on our results of operations or financial condition. The Compensation Committee considered our strategic goals and operational practices and evaluated our incentive program design to assess whether these programs foster a business environment that might drive inappropriate decision-making or behavior. We are a biopharmaceutical company that is generating a pipeline of drug candidates to treat cancer and other difficult-to-treat diseases and do not yet generate earnings. While a significant portion of our executives' compensation is performance-based, we believe several features of our program mitigate inappropriate or excessive risk-taking that could harm shareholder value: we set performance goals that we believe are reasonable and set targets with payouts at multiple levels of performance, rather than an "all or nothing" approach. As discussed above in our Compensation Discussion and Analysis section we use a mix of performance goals in our annual and long-term incentive programs to align incentive compensation with a broad set of measures important to the creation of shareholder value.

## COMPENSATION COMMITTEE REPORT\*

Our Compensation Committee has reviewed and discussed the Compensation Discussion and Analysis with management and based on such review and discussion of the Compensation Discussion Analysis, the Compensation Committee recommended to the Board that the Compensation Discussion and Analysis be included in this proxy statement.

Compensation Committee:  
Karen L. Shoos, Chair  
George O. Elston  
Harry H. Penner, Jr.  
Richard van den Broek

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\* The foregoing report of the Compensation Committee is not to be deemed "filed" with the SEC (irrespective of any general incorporation language in any document filed with the SEC) or subject to Regulation 14A of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, or to the liabilities of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, except to the extent we specifically incorporate it by reference into a document filed with the SEC.



## REPORT OF THE AUDIT COMMITTEE\*

The undersigned members of the Audit Committee of the Board of Directors of Celldex submit this report in connection with the committee's review of the financial reports for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2015 as follows:

1. The Audit Committee has reviewed and discussed with management the audited financial statements for Celldex for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2015.
2. The Audit Committee has discussed with representatives of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP the matters which are required to be discussed with them under the provisions of Auditing Standard No. 16, *Communications with Audit Committees*. That Auditing Standard requires the auditors to ensure that the Audit Committee received information regarding the scope and results of the audit.
3. The Audit Committee has discussed with PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, the independent registered public accounting firm, the auditors' independence from management and Celldex including the matters in the written disclosures and the letter from the independent auditors required by PCAOB rule 3526.

In addition, the Audit Committee considered whether the provision of information technology services or other non-audit services by PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP is compatible with maintaining its independence. In reliance on the reviews and discussions referred to above, the Audit Committee recommended to the Board of Directors (and the Board of Directors has approved) that the audited financial statements be included in Celldex's Annual Report on Form 10-K/A for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2015 for filing with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

Audit Committee:  
George O. Elston, Chair  
Larry Ellberger  
Harry H. Penner, Jr.

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\* The foregoing report of the Audit Committee is not to be deemed "soliciting material" or deemed to be "filed" with the Securities and Exchange Commission (irrespective of any general incorporation language in any document filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission) or subject to Regulation 14A of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, or to the liabilities of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, except to the extent we specifically incorporate it by reference into a document filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

## Security Ownership of Certain Beneficial Owners and Management

The following table sets forth certain information as of April 13, 2016 with respect to the beneficial ownership of common stock of the Company by the following: (i) each of the Company's current directors; (ii) each of the Named Executive Officers; (iii) the current executive officers; (iv) all of the executive officers and directors as a group; and (v) each person known by the Company to own beneficially more than five percent (5%) of the outstanding shares of the Company's common stock.

For purposes of the following table, beneficial ownership is determined in accordance with the applicable SEC rules and the information is not necessarily indicative of beneficial ownership for any other purpose. Except as otherwise noted in the footnotes to the table, we believe that each person or entity named in the table has sole voting and investment power with respect to all shares of the Company's common stock shown as beneficially owned by that person or entity (or shares such power with his or her spouse). Under the SEC's rules, shares of the Company's common stock issuable under options that are exercisable on or within 60 days after April 13, 2016 ("Presently Exercisable Options") are deemed outstanding and therefore included in the number of shares reported as beneficially owned by a person or entity named in the table and are used to compute the percentage of the common stock beneficially owned by that person or entity. These shares are not, however, deemed outstanding for computing the percentage of the common stock beneficially owned by any other person or entity.

The percentage of the common stock beneficially owned by each person or entity named in the following table is based on 98,718,484 shares of common stock outstanding as of April 13, 2016 plus any shares issuable upon exercise of Presently Exercisable Options held by such person or entity.

Name and Business Address of Beneficial Owners*	Amount and Nature of Beneficial Ownership(1)	Percentage of Common Stock(2)
<i>5% Holders</i>		
FMR LLC 245 Summer Street Boston, MA 02210	14,796,853(3)	15.0%
Franklin Resources, Inc. One Franklin Parkway San Mateo, CA 94403-1906	9,804,892(4)	9.9%
OppenheimerFunds Inc. 2 World Financial Center 225 Liberty Street New York, NY 10281	8,901,692(5)	9.0%
State Street Corporation State Street Financial Center One Lincoln Street Boston, MA 02111	8,561,225(6)	8.7%
First Trust Portfolios L.P. 120 East Liberty Drive, Suite 400 Weaton, Illinois 60187	7,424,420(7)	7.5%
The Vanguard Group 100 Vanguard Blvd. Malvern, PA 19355	6,791,275(8)	6.9%
BlackRock, Inc. 55 East 52 <sup>nd</sup> Street New York, NY 10055	6,547,643(9)	6.6%
<i>Directors and Executive Officers</i>		
Avery W. Catlin	411,988(10)	**
Herbert J. Conrad	62,679(11)	**
Thomas Davis, M.D.	707,341(12)	**
Larry Ellberger	79,800(13)	**
George O. Elston	62,679(14)	**
Tibor Keler, Ph.D.	805,609(15)	**
Anthony S. Marucci	1,443,075(16)	1.4%
Harry H. Penner, Jr.	48,216(17)	**
Ronald Pepin, Ph.D.	315,249(18)	**
Karen L. Shoos	48,133(19)	**
Richard A. van den Broek	241,800(20)	**
Richard Wright, Ph.D	60,625(21)	**
<i>All Directors and Executive Officers as a group (11 persons)</i>	4,287,194(22)	4.2%

\* Unless otherwise indicated, the address is c/o Celldex Therapeutics, Inc., Perryville III Building, 53 Frontage Road, Suite 220, Hampton, NJ 08827.

\*\* Less than 1%.

(1) Unless otherwise indicated, the persons shown have sole voting and investment power over the shares listed.

- (2) Common stock includes all outstanding common stock plus, as required for the purpose of determining beneficial ownership (in accordance with Rule 13d-3(d)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended), all common stock subject to any right of acquisition, through exercise or conversion of any security, within 60 days of the record date.
- (3) Based solely on information set forth in a Schedule 13G/A filed with the SEC on February 12, 2016 by FMR LLC ("FMR") reporting that FMR: (i) beneficially owned 14,796,853 shares; (ii) had the sole power to dispose or direct the disposition of 14,796,853 shares; and (iii) had the sole power to vote or to direct the vote of 1,731,403 shares. In addition, the Schedule 13G/A shows that the following entities beneficially own certain of the shares reported: FMR Co., Inc. (beneficially owns 5% or more), Fidelity Institutional Asset Management Trust Company, and FIAM LLC. The Schedule 13G/A also shows that Abigail P. Johnson is a Director, the Vice Chairman, the Chief Executive Officer and the President of FMR. Members of the Johnson family, including Abigail P. Johnson, are the predominant owners, directly or through trusts, of Series B voting common shares of FMR, representing 49% of the voting power of FMR. The Johnson family group and all other Series B shareholders have entered into a shareholders' voting agreement under which all Series B voting common shares will be voted in accordance with the majority vote of Series B voting common shares. Accordingly, through their ownership of voting common shares and the execution of the shareholders' voting agreement, members of the Johnson family may be deemed, under the Investment Company Act of 1940, to form a controlling group with respect to FMR. Neither FMR nor Abigail P. Johnson has the sole power to vote or direct the voting of the shares owned directly by the various investment companies registered under the Investment Company Act (the "Fidelity Funds"), advised by Fidelity Management & Research Company, a wholly-owned subsidiary of FMR, which power resides with the Fidelity Funds' Board of Trustees. Fidelity Management & Research Company carries out the voting of the shares under written guidelines established by the Fidelity Funds' Board of Trustees.
- (4) Based solely on information set forth in a Schedule 13G/A filed with the SEC by Franklin Resources, Inc. on February 4, 2016, reporting that Franklin Advisers, Inc. has the sole power to vote or direct the vote over 9,769,225 shares and has sole power to dispose or direct the disposition of 9,769,225 shares; Fiduciary Trust Company International has the sole power to vote or direct the vote over 33,800 shares and the sole power to dispose or direct the disposition of 33,800 shares; and Franklin Templeton Investments (Asia) Ltd. has the sole power to vote or direct the vote over 1,867 shares and has the sole power to dispose or direct the disposition of 1,867 shares. The securities are beneficially owned by one or more open- or closed-end investment companies or other managed accounts that are investment management clients of investment managers that are direct and indirect subsidiaries (each, an "Investment Management Subsidiary" and, collectively, the "Investment Management Subsidiaries") of Franklin Resources Inc. ("FRI"). The voting and investment powers held by Franklin Mutual Advisers, LLC ("FMA"), an indirect wholly-owned Investment Management Subsidiary, are exercised independently from FRI and from all other Investment Management Subsidiaries. Charles B. Johnson and Rupert H. Johnson, Jr. (the "Principal Shareholders") each own in excess of 10% of the outstanding common stock of FRI and are the principal stockholders of FRI. FRI, the Principal Shareholders and each of the Investment Management Subsidiaries believe that they are not acting as a "group" and that the shares held by each other need not be aggregated for purposes of Section 13(d).
- (5) Based solely on information set forth in a Schedule 13G/A filed with the SEC by OppenheimerFunds, Inc. on February 2, 2016 reporting sole power to vote or direct the

vote over 8,901,692 and the sole power to dispose or to direct the disposition of 8,901,692 shares.

- (6) Based solely on information set forth in a Schedule 13G filed with the SEC by State Street Corporation as the parent holding company for 4 of its subsidiaries (each identified on Exhibit 1 to the Schedule 13G) on April 8, 2016 reporting shared voting and dispositive power with regard to 8,561,225 shares.
- (7) Based solely on information set forth in a Schedule 13G filed with the SEC by First Trust Portfolios L.P. on January 27, 2016 reporting sole power to vote or direct the vote over 7,349,420 and the sole power to dispose or to direct the disposition of 7,424,420 shares.
- (8) Based solely on information set forth in a Schedule 13G/A filed with the SEC by The Vanguard Group on February 10, 2016, reporting sole power to vote or direct the vote over 208,469 shares, shared power to vote or direct the vote over 5,900 shares, sole power to dispose or to direct the disposition of 6,582,906 shares and shared dispositive power over 208,369 shares. The shares reported include 202,469 shares held by Vanguard Fiduciary Trust Company, a wholly-owned subsidiary of The Vanguard Group, Inc. and 11,900 shares held by Vanguard Investments Australia, Ltd., a wholly-owned subsidiary of The Vanguard Group, Inc.
- (9) Based solely on information set forth in a Schedule 13G/A filed with the SEC by BlackRock, Inc. on January 26, 2016 reporting sole power to vote or direct the vote over 6,320,840 and the sole power to dispose or to direct the disposition of 6,547,643 shares.
- (10) Includes 361,249 shares of common stock underlying options which are or may be exercisable as of April 13, 2016 or 60 days after such date.
- (11) Includes 44,179 shares of common stock underlying options which are or may be exercisable as of April 13, 2016 or 60 days after such date.
- (12) Includes 698,973 shares of common stock underlying options which are or may be exercisable as of April 13, 2016 or 60 days after such date.
- (13) Includes 26,300 shares of common stock underlying options which are or may be exercisable as of April 13, 2016 or 60 days after such date.
- (14) Includes 44,179 shares of common stock underlying options which are or may be exercisable as of April 13, 2016 or 60 days after such date.
- (15) Includes 789,741 shares of common stock underlying options which are or may be exercisable as of April 13, 2016 or 60 days after such date.
- (16) Includes 1,392,643 shares of common stock underlying options which are or may be exercisable as of April 13, 2016 or 60 days after such date.
- (17) Includes 26,300 shares of common stock underlying options which are or may be exercisable as of April 13, 2016 or 60 days after such date.
- (18) Includes 315,249 shares of common stock underlying options which are or may be exercisable as of April 13, 2016 or 60 days after such date.
- (19) Includes 26,300 shares of common stock underlying options which are or may be exercisable as of April 13, 2016 or 60 days after such date.
- (20) Includes 18,300 shares of common stock underlying options which are or may be exercisable as of April 13, 2016 or 60 days after such date.
- (21) Includes 57,500 shares of common stock underlying options which are or may be exercisable as of April 13, 2016 or 60 days after such date.
- (22) Please refer to footnotes 10 - 21.

## **Section 16(a) Beneficial Ownership Reporting Compliance**

Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, requires Celldex's directors and executive, officers, and persons who are beneficial owners of more than 10% of a registered class of our equity securities, to file reports of ownership and changes in ownership with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC"). These persons are required by SEC regulations to furnish us with copies of all Section 16(a) forms they file. To our knowledge, based solely on a review of the copies of such reports furnished to us, and written representations that no other reports were required during the fiscal year ended December 31, 2015, all reports required to be filed under Section 16(a) were filed on a timely basis.

## **Transactions with Related Persons**

It is our policy that all employees and directors, as well as their family members, must avoid any activity that is or has the appearance of conflicting with Celldex's business interest. This policy is included in our Code of Business Conduct and Ethics. All directors and officers of Celldex complete a directors and officers questionnaire at the beginning of each year, in which they are asked to disclose family relationships and other related party transactions. Our Audit Committee must review and approve all related party transactions, as defined in Item 404 of Regulation S-K. Our Audit Committee's procedures for reviewing related party transactions are not in writing. Other than compensation arrangements for our named executive officers and directors, which are described in the section entitled "Executive Compensation", since January 1, 2015, there have been no transactions or series of similar transactions to which we were a party or will be a party, in which:

- the amounts involved exceeded or will exceed \$120,000; and
- any of our directors, executive officers or holders of more than 5% of our capital stock, or any member of the immediate family of the foregoing persons, had or will have a direct or indirect material interest.

**THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS RECOMMENDS THAT THE STOCKHOLDERS VOTE  
FOR THE ELECTION OF THE DIRECTOR NOMINEES**

**PROPOSAL 2: RATIFY THE APPOINTMENT OF  
PRICEWATERHOUSECOOPERS LLP AS OUR INDEPENDENT REGISTERED  
PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2016**

**(Proposal No. 2)**

The Audit Committee has reappointed PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP as our independent registered public accounting firm to audit the financial statements of the Company for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2016, and has further directed that management submit their selection of independent registered public accounting firm for ratification by our stockholders at the Annual Meeting of Stockholders. A representative of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP is expected to attend the Annual Meeting and will have an opportunity to make a statement, if he or she desires, and will be available to respond to appropriate questions. Neither the accounting firm nor any of its members has any direct or indirect financial interest in or any connection with us in any capacity other than as public registered accounting firm.

**Principal Accountant Fees and Services**

The following table summarizes the fees for professional services rendered by PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, our independent registered public accounting firm, for each of the last two fiscal years:

<u>Fee Category</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>
	<u>(In thousands)</u>	
Audit Fees	\$ 603	\$ 517
Audit-Related Fees	5	—
Tax Fees	254	43
All Other Fees	11	177
Total Fees	<u>\$ 873</u>	<u>\$ 737</u>

**Audit Fees**

Represents fees, including out of pocket expenses, for professional services provided in connection with the audit of our annual audited financial statements and of our internal control over financial reporting, the review of our quarterly financial statements included in our Forms 10-Q, accounting consultations or advice on accounting matters necessary for the rendering of an opinion on our financial statements, services provided in connection with the offerings of our common stock and audit services provided in connection with other statutory or regulatory filings.

**Audit-Related Fees**

Audit-related fees are for assurance and other activities not explicitly related to the audit of our financial statements.

**Tax Fees**

Tax fees are associated with tax compliance and tax planning related activities.

**All Other Fees**

All other fees consist of fees relating to the pre-implementation assessment of an upgrade to an enterprise resource planning system and accounting research tool.

The Audit Committee is responsible for appointing, setting compensation and overseeing the work of the independent auditors. The Audit Committee has established a policy regarding pre-approval of all auditing services and the terms thereof and non-audit services (other than non-audit services prohibited under Section 10A(g) of the Exchange Act or the applicable rules of the SEC or the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board) to be provided to Celldex by the independent auditor. However, the pre-approval requirement may be waived with respect to the provision of non-audit services for Celldex if the "de minimus" provisions of Section 10A(i)(1)(B) of the Exchange Act are satisfied.

The Audit Committee has considered whether the provision of Audit-Related Fees, Tax Fees, and all other fees as described above is compatible with maintaining PricewaterhouseCoopers, LLP's independence and has determined that such services for fiscal years 2015 and 2014 were compatible. All such services were approved by the Audit Committee pursuant to Rule 2-01 of Regulation S-X under the Exchange Act to the extent that rule was applicable.

The Audit Committee is responsible for reviewing and discussing the audited financial statements with management, discussing with the independent registered public accountants the matters required in Auditing Standards No. 16, receiving written disclosures from the independent registered public accountants required by the applicable requirements of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board regarding the independent registered public accountants' communications with the Audit Committee concerning independence and discussing with the independent registered public accountants their independence, and recommending to the Board of Directors that the audit financial statements be included in our annual report on Form 10-K.

**THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS RECOMMENDS THAT THE STOCKHOLDERS VOTE  
FOR THE RATIFICATION OF THE INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC  
ACCOUNTING FIRM**



### PROPOSAL 3: ADVISORY VOTE ON EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION

#### (Proposal No. 3)

Under the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act, or the Dodd-Frank Act, and Section 14A of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, or the Exchange Act, our stockholders are entitled to vote to approve, on an advisory (nonbinding) basis, the compensation of our Named Executive Officers as disclosed in this proxy statement in accordance with the Securities and Exchange Commission's rules.

As described in detail under the heading "Compensation of Executive Officers—Compensation Discussion and Analysis", our executive compensation programs are designed to retain and incentivize the high quality executives whose efforts are key to our long-term success. Under these programs, our Named Executive Officers are rewarded on the basis of individual and corporate performance measured against established corporate and strategic goals. Please read the section of this proxy statement under the heading "Compensation of Executive Officers—Compensation Discussion and Analysis" for additional details about our executive compensation programs, including information about the fiscal year 2015 compensation of our Named Executive Officers.

The Compensation Committee of our Board of Directors continually reviews the compensation programs for our Named Executive Officers to ensure they achieve the desired goals of aligning our executive compensation structure with our stockholders' interests and current market practices.

We are asking our stockholders to indicate their support for our Named Executive Officer compensation as described in this proxy statement. This proposal, commonly known as a "say-on-pay" proposal, gives our stockholders the opportunity to express their views on our Named Executive Officers' compensation. This vote is not intended to address any specific item of compensation, but rather the overall compensation of our Named Executive Officers and the philosophy, policies and practices described in this proxy statement. Accordingly, we are asking our stockholders to cast a non-binding advisory vote "FOR" the following resolution at the Annual Meeting:

"RESOLVED, that the compensation of the Named Executive Officers, as disclosed in the Company's Proxy Statement for the 2016 Annual Meeting of Stockholders pursuant to Item 402 of Regulation S-K, including the Compensation Discussion and Analysis, compensation tables and narrative disclosure is hereby APPROVED."

The say-on-pay vote is advisory, and therefore not binding on Celldex Therapeutics, the Compensation Committee or our Board of Directors. Nevertheless, our Board of Directors and our Compensation Committee value the opinions of our stockholders, whether expressed through this vote or otherwise, and, accordingly, the Board and Compensation Committee intend to consider the results of this vote among the many factors they consider in making determinations in the future regarding executive compensation arrangements.

Stockholder approval of this Proposal No. 3 will require the affirmative vote of a majority of the votes cast in person or by proxy at the Annual Meeting.

**THE BOARD RECOMMENDS A VOTE FOR THIS PROPOSAL NO. 3**

## STOCKHOLDER PROPOSALS

### Stockholder Proposals for 2017 Annual Meeting

Any stockholder proposals submitted pursuant to Exchange Act Rule 14a-8 for inclusion in Celldex's proxy statement and form of proxy for our 2017 Annual Meeting must be received by Celldex on or before December 29, 2016 in order to be considered for inclusion in our proxy statement and form of proxy. Such proposal must also comply with the requirements as to form and substance established by the SEC if such proposals are to be included in the proxy statement and form of proxy. Any such proposal shall be mailed to: Celldex Therapeutics, Inc., Perryville III Building, 53 Frontage Road, Suite 220, Hampton, NJ 08827, Attn.: Secretary.

Our by-laws state that the stockholder must provide timely written notice of such nomination or proposal and supporting documentation as well as be present at such meeting, either in person or by a representative. A stockholder's notice shall be timely received by Celldex at our principal executive office not less than seventy-five (75) days nor more than one hundred twenty (120) days prior to the anniversary date of the immediately preceding annual meeting (the "Anniversary Date"); provided, however, that in the event the annual meeting is scheduled to be held on a date more than thirty (30) days before the Anniversary Date or more than sixty (60) days after the Anniversary Date, a stockholder's notice shall be timely if received by Celldex at our principal executive office not later than the close of business on the later of (1) the seventy-fifth (75<sup>th</sup>) day prior to the scheduled date of such annual meeting or (2) the fifteenth (15<sup>th</sup>) day following the day on which such public announcement of the date of such annual meeting is first made by Celldex. Proxies solicited by our Board of Directors will confer discretionary voting authority with respect to these proposals, subject to SEC rules and regulations governing the exercise of this authority. Any such proposal shall be mailed to: Celldex Therapeutics, Inc., Perryville III Building, 53 Frontage Road, Suite 220, Hampton, NJ 08827, Attn.: Secretary.

### ANNUAL REPORT

Copies of our Annual Report on Form 10-K/A (including audited financial statements), as amended, filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission may be obtained without charge by writing to Corporate Secretary, Celldex Therapeutics, Inc., Perryville III Building, 53 Frontage Road, Suite 220, Hampton, NJ 08827. A request for a copy of our Annual Report on Form 10-K/A must set forth a good-faith representation that the requesting party was either a holder of record or a beneficial owner of our common stock on April 20, 2016. Exhibits to the Form 10-K/A will be mailed upon similar request and payment of specified fees to cover the costs of copying and mailing such materials.

Our audited financial statements for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2015 and certain other related financial and business information are contained in our 2015 Annual Report to Stockholders, which is being made available to our stockholders along with this proxy statement, but which is not deemed a part of the proxy soliciting material.

**OTHER MATTERS**

As of the date of this proxy statement, the Board of Directors does not intend to present at the Annual Meeting any matters other than those described herein and does not presently know of any matters that will be presented by other parties. If any other matter requiring a vote of the stockholders should come before the meeting, it is the intention of the persons named in the proxy to vote with respect to any such matter in accordance with the recommendation of the Board of Directors or, in the absence of such a recommendation, in accordance with the best judgment of the proxy holder.

By Order of the Board of Directors

/s/ AVERY W. CATLIN

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*Secretary*

Hampton, NJ  
April 25, 2016

CELDEX THERAPEUTICS, INC.  
 PERRYVILLE III BUILDING  
 53 FRONTAGE ROAD, SUITE 220  
 HAMPTON, NJ 08827

**VOTE BY INTERNET - www.proxyvote.com**

Use the Internet to transmit your voting instructions and for electronic delivery of information up until 11:59 P.M. Eastern Time the day before the cut-off date or meeting date. Have your proxy card in hand when you access the web site and follow the instructions to obtain your records and to create an electronic voting instruction form.

**ELECTRONIC DELIVERY OF FUTURE PROXY MATERIALS**

If you would like to reduce the costs incurred by our company in mailing proxy materials, you can consent to receiving all future proxy statements, proxy cards and annual reports electronically via e-mail or the Internet. To sign up for electronic delivery, please follow the instructions above to vote using the Internet and, when prompted, indicate that you agree to receive or access proxy materials electronically in future years.

**VOTE BY PHONE - 1-800-690-6903**

Use any touch-tone telephone to transmit your voting instructions up until 11:59 P.M. Eastern Time the day before the cut-off date or meeting date. Have your proxy card in hand when you call and then follow the instructions.

**VOTE BY MAIL**

Mark, sign and date your proxy card and return it in the postage-paid envelope we have provided or return it to Vote Processing, c/o Broadridge, 51 Mercedes Way, Edgewood, NY 11717.

TO VOTE, MARK BLOCKS BELOW IN BLUE OR BLACK INK AS FOLLOWS:

KEEP THIS PORTION FOR YOUR RECORDS  
 DETACH AND RETURN THIS PORTION ONLY

THIS PROXY CARD IS VALID ONLY WHEN SIGNED AND DATED.

The Board of Directors recommends you vote FOR the following:		For All	Withhold All	For All Except	To withhold authority to vote for any individual nominee(s), mark "For All Except" and write the number(s) of the nominee(s) on the line below.
		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
1. Election of Directors					
Nominees					
01 Larry Ellberger	02 Anthony S. Marucci	03 Herbert J. Conrad	04 George O. Elston	05 Harry H. Penner, Jr.	
06 Karen L. Shoos	07 Richard A van den Broek				
The Board of Directors recommends you vote FOR proposals 2 and 3.					
2 To ratify the appointment of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP as our independent registered public accounting firm for the year ending December 31, 2016.			For	Against	Abstain
			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3 To approve, on an advisory basis, the compensation of the Company's named executive officers as disclosed in this proxy statement.			For	Against	Abstain
			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>NOTE:</b> In their discretion, upon such other business as may properly come before the annual meeting or any adjournment or postponement.					
Please sign exactly as your name(s) appear(s) hereon. When signing as attorney, executor, administrator, or other fiduciary, please give full title as such. Joint owners should each sign personally. All holders must sign. If a corporation or partnership, please sign in full corporate or partnership name, by authorized officer.					
<input type="text"/>		<input type="text"/>		<input type="text"/>	
Signature [PLEASE SIGN WITHIN BOX]		Date		Signature (Joint Owners)	
				Date	

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**Important Notice Regarding the Availability of Proxy Materials for the Annual Meeting:** The Notice & Proxy Statement and Annual Report on Form 10-K/A is/are available at [www.proxyvote.com](http://www.proxyvote.com)

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**CELLEX THERAPEUTICS, INC.  
Annual Meeting of Stockholders  
June 8, 2016 9:00 AM**

**This proxy is solicited by the Board of Directors**

The undersigned hereby appoints Avery W. Catlin and Anthony S. Marucci, and each of them, as the true and lawful attorneys, agents and proxies of the undersigned, with full power of substitution, and hereby authorizes them to represent and to vote, as designated on the reverse side, all shares of common stock of Celldex Therapeutics, Inc. held of record by the undersigned on April 20, 2016 at the Annual Meeting of Stockholders to be held at the Olde Mill Inn, 225 Route 202, Basking Ridge, NJ 07920, on June 8, 2016 at 9:00 a.m. local time, or at any adjournment or postponement thereof.

**This proxy, when properly executed, will be voted in the manner directed herein. If no such direction is made, this proxy will be voted in accordance with the Board of Directors' recommendations.**

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**Continued and to be signed on reverse side**

QuickLinks

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