

Susan Desmond-Hellmann

Susan Desmond-Hellmann has served as president, Product Development at Genentech from March 2004 through April 30, 2009. In this role, she has been responsible for Genentech's Development, Process Research & Development, Business Development, Product Portfolio Management, Alliance Management and Pipeline Planning Support functions. Desmond-Hellmann also has served as a member of Genentech's executive committee since 1996.

Desmond-Hellmann joined Genentech in 1995 as a clinical scientist and was named chief medical officer in 1996. In 1999, she was named executive vice president, Development and Product Operations. Desmond-Hellmann is board-certified in Internal Medicine and Medical Oncology and completed her clinical training at the University of California, San Francisco, following completion of a Bachelor of Science in pre-medicine and a medical degree at University of Nevada, Reno. She also holds a Master's Degree in Public Health from the University of California, Berkeley.



Prior to joining Genentech, Desmond-Hellmann was associate director of clinical cancer research at Bristol-Myers Squibb's Pharmaceutical Research Institute. While at Bristol-Myers Squibb, she was the project team leader for Taxol.

Desmond-Hellmann has also served as assistant professor, Hematology-Oncology at UCSF. During her tenure at UCSF, Desmond-Hellmann spent two years as visiting faculty studying AIDS and cancer at the Uganda Cancer Institute. She also spent two years in private practice before returning to clinical research.

In January 2009, Desmond-Hellmann joined the Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco's Economic Advisory Council for a three-year term. In July 2008, she was appointed to the California Academy of Sciences Board of Trustees. She was named to the Biotech Hall of Fame in 2007 and as Healthcare Businesswomen's Association's "Woman of the Year" for 2006.

Desmond-Hellmann was named to FORTUNE magazine's "Top 50 Most Powerful Women in Business" list in 2003-08 and in 2001. In 2004-06, The Wall Street Journal listed Desmond-Hellmann as one of its "Women To Watch." From 2005 to 2008, she served a three-year term as a member of the American Association for Cancer Research Board of Directors, and from 2001 to 2009 she served on the executive committee of the board of directors of the Biotechnology Industry Organization. She has served on the corporate board of Affymetrix since 2004.