Board of Advisors Bio

Joshua Boger, PhD  
Founder of Vertex Pharmaceuticals Inc.

Dr. Joshua Boger is the founder of Vertex Pharmaceuticals Incorporated.  

He retired as Vertex’s Chief Executive Officer in 2009 and stepped down from its board in 2017, where he chaired its Science & Technology Committee, completing over 28 years with the company. Prior to founding Vertex in 1989, Joshua worked for more than a decade at Merck Sharp & Dohme Research Laboratories, where he headed both the Departments of Biophysical Chemistry and Medicinal Chemistry of Immunology & Inflammation.

In addition to serving as an honorary member of the Greater Boston Food Bank’s Board of Advisors since 2014, Joshua is Vice-Chair of the Museum of Science and Chair of the Celebrity Series of Boston.

Joshua attended Wesleyan University, where he earned a Bachelor of Arts in both Chemistry and Philosophy. He later went on to achieve a master’s and doctorate in chemistry from Harvard University. He also performed postdoctoral research in molecular recognition in the laboratories of the Nobel-prize winning chemist, Jean-Marie Lehn at the Université Louis Pasteur in Strasbourg, France. He has authored over 50 scientific publications and holds 32 issued U.S. patents in pharmaceutical discovery and development.