

## **Pamela Contag, Ph.D.**



Pamela R. Contag, Ph.D., is currently the CEO of Cygnet Biofuels and a member of the Merrick & Co Consultancy. Dr. Contag founded four venture-backed start-up companies; Xenogen Corp. completed a public offering in 2004 and was subsequently acquired; Cobalt Technologies, now in product demonstration; Cygnet Biofuels, developing microbial systems for biofuel production. Dr. Contag was named one of the “Top 25 Women in Small Business” by Fortune magazine.

Dr. Contag’s current company, Cygnet, focuses on the microbial conversion of feedstock to high value co-products and bioreactor scale-up for bioprocessing. From 2006-2008, as CEO of Cobalt Technologies, she led a team of Biologists, Physicists and Engineers to develop bioreactor technology for the continuous production of biobutanol, now in demonstration scale. She founded and was CEO of Xenogen Corporation that was twice honored with the R&D 100 award for biological analysis systems. With more than 25 years of microbiology research experience, Dr. Contag is widely published in the field of Microbiology and Optical imaging and has over 36 patents and patent applications. Dr. Contag received her Ph.D. in Microbiology and Immunology at the University of Minnesota Medical School in 1989 and completed her Postdoctoral Training at Stanford University School of Medicine in 1993 specializing in Microbial Physiology and Host/Pathogen Interactions.

Dr. Contag has held various consulting and board positions, public, private and not-for-profit. Those positions include a consulting Professorship at Stanford School of Medicine in the Department of Pediatrics (1999-present), the Dean’s Advisory Board of the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health (1999-2005). Dr. Contag was a Director of Xenogen Corporation (Nasdaq) (1995-2005) and was CEO and Chairman of Cobalt Technologies (2005-2008) and a Delcath (Nasdaq) Board Member (2008-2011). She also joined in 2009 the DOE Biomass technology Advisory Committee and two nonprofit boards, Springboard Enterprises, an accelerator of women entrepreneurs and the Molecular Sciences Institute as executive chairman and in 2011 merged that entity into MSI/VTT, and remains a Director. In 2010 Dr. Contag joined the Merrick Engineering Consultancy specializing in the energy field and in 2011 Dr. Contag was named to the Start-up America Foundation National Board.