

Merrion Pharmaceuticals plc
IEX: MERR
Dublin, Ireland
11 September 2008

**Merrion announces the resignation from its Board of Directors of
James S. Manuso, Ph.D.**

Merrion Pharmaceuticals plc (“Merrion” or the “Company”) today announced that Dr. James S. Manuso has resigned from the Company’s Board of Directors. Dr. Manuso served as a director of Merrion, Chairman of the Company’s Compensation Committee, and a member of its Audit and Nominating and Corporate Governance committees since 2006. Dr. Manuso currently serves as Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer of SuperGen, Inc. (NASDAQ: SUPG).

Dr. Michael McKenna, Chairman of the Board, commented, “The Merrion Board and I want to thank Dr. Manuso for his service to Merrion, during a period in which the Company raised €6 million of mezzanine financing, reorganized the Company, raised €8 million on admission to the IEX market of the Irish Stock Exchange, and announced a partnership deal with Novo Nordisk. Dr. Manuso’s chairmanship of the Compensation Committee of the Board was instrumental in assuring that our US and EU compensation practices were competitive and consistent with regulatory mandates, and he tirelessly introduced the Company to multiple, US-based bankers, analysts and investment funds.”

Dr. Manuso said, “I am honored to have helped Merrion and to have worked with the dedicated and talented team of individuals that make up the Company. I expect the coming years will be very dynamic for Merrion.”

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