

Dr. John Younger began his career as a physician and scientist at the University of Michigan, where he cared for patients and led an NIH-funded research program for 20 years. He left his clinical practice and academia in 2015 to launch his first biotech start-up, Akadeum Life Sciences, now based out of Ann Arbor and San Francisco. In 2019 he was appointed as the Vice President for Science and Technology at the University City Science Center, where he currently oversees all of its commercialization programs. These include a grant program supporting new technologies across 20 mid-Atlantic research institutions, a best-in-class business accelerator system in Philadelphia, and an early-stage investment portfolio. He has a long-standing interest in how science is funded across the national R&D enterprise, and currently serves on the National Advisory Council for NIGMS, the third largest institute within the NIH.