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# SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

## FORM 8-K

### CURRENT REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

Date of report (Date of earliest event reported): **April 6, 2006**

## ISIS PHARMACEUTICALS, INC.

(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Charter)

**Delaware**

(State or Other Jurisdiction of Incorporation)

**000-19125**

(Commission File No.)

**33-0336973**

(IRS Employer Identification No.)

**1896 Rutherford Road**

**Carlsbad, CA 92008**

(Address of Principal Executive Offices and Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: **(760) 931-9200**

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions:

- Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)
  - Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)
  - Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
  - Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))
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#### **Item 5.02 Departure of Directors or Principal Officers; Election of Directors; Appointment of Principal Officers.**

Effective April 6, 2006, Mr. Christopher F.O. Gabrieli resigned as a member of the Board of Directors of Isis Pharmaceuticals, Inc. to run for Governor of the state of Massachusetts. Mr. Gabrieli served for over ten years on the Isis Board. During his tenure, he contributed as the chairman of a number of Board Committees and provided critical input on important issues. We appreciate Mr. Gabrieli's contribution and wish him continuing success.

As a result of Mr. Gabrieli's resignation, the Isis Board is reducing the number of individuals who may serve on the Board from nine members to eight members.

#### **SIGNATURE**

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized.

**ISIS PHARMACEUTICALS, INC.**

Dated: April 10, 2006

By: /s/ B. Lynne Parshall

**B. LYNNE PARSHALL**

Executive Vice President,

Chief Financial Officer and Director