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ACURA PHARMACEUTICALS, INC Form 8-K December 16, 2010

UNITED STATES 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

December 16, 2010

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported)

ACURA PHARMACEUTICALS, INC.

(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Charter)

State of New York (State of Other Jurisdiction of Incorporation) 1-10113 (Commission File Number) 11-0853640 (I.R.S. Employer Identification Number)

616 N. North Court, Suite 120
Palatine, Illinois 60067
(Address of principal executive offices) (Zip Code)

(847) 705-7709 (Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

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 (see General Instruction A.2. below):

- o Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)
- o Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17CFR 240.14a-12)
- o Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17CFR240.14d-2(b))
- o Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17CFR 240.13e-4(c))

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Item 5.02 Departure of Directors or Principal Officers; Election of Directors; Appointment of Certain Officers; Compensatory Arrangements of Certain Officers.

(e)

On December 16, 2010 we awarded cash bonuses to the executive officers listed below, in the amounts provided:

Name	Title	Bonus Award
	President and C h i e f E x e c u t i v e Officer	\$124,000
Robert B. Jones	Senior Vice President and C h i e f Operating Officer	\$99,000
Peter A. Clemens	Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer	\$88,000
	Vice President, Technical Affairs	\$47,000
Robert A. Seiser	Vice President, Controller and Treasurer	\$28,000
James F. Emigh	Vice President, Marketing and Administration	\$24,000

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SIGNATURES

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

ACURA PHARMACEUTICALS, INC.

Date: December 16, 2010 By: /s/ Peter A. Clemens

Peter A. Clemens

Senior Vice President & Chief

Financial Officer