



NEWSLETTER

of the European Society for Animal Cell Technology

May 2007

A Word from the Chairman

Florian Wurm

Dear Friends and Members of ESACT,

It seems that the upcoming DRESDEN meeting is raising a lot of interest, also with respect to new membership. May I just for this reason welcome most warmly all the new members who will receive this Newsletter for the first time.

We - the "old" members are well aware that one strong motivation for you, the newcomers, to join our society was the sharply discounted entry fee for the most exciting cell culture technology meeting ahead of us. Dresden-ESACT, under the leadership of Dr. Hansjörg Hauser has assembled a program of top scientific quality, combined with a spectacular venue in one of the most attractive cities of the German EAST.

I hope, however, that newcomers will be also a source of rejuvenation of ESACT and will provide us with new ideas, both scientifically, but also with respect to the way how we try to keep ESACT on top of the needs and trends in animal cell culture technology. To make this quite clear to everybody: The work we - the members of the Executive Committee of ESACT - do, is not remunerated and we need new members of the ESACT community to eventually join in this effort. So again to the Newcomers - please fully enjoy the upcoming meeting in Dresden, but also try to find out what **you can do for ESACT** (!), now or in the near future.

Florian Wurm

20th ESACT-Meeting Cells & Culture

17th to 20th June 2007 - Dresden,
Germany

Hansjörg Hauser

The 20th ESACT Meeting is approaching rapidly!

The scientific programme has now been completed and is available on the internet at <http://www.esact2007.org/>

Apart from five prominent keynote speakers and ten invited speakers, approximately 35 oral contributions from submitted abstracts will be made. They were chosen by the Scientific Committee from all the submitted abstracts.

The trade exhibition – the largest and best known of its kind – again forms an integral part of this ESACT meeting and promotes and underlines the interaction among academic and industrial scientists. As in previous meetings, posters and coffee breaks will be part of the trade exhibition, providing excellent possibilities to interact.

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Contributions should be sent to elletter@esact.org

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The European Society for Animal Cell Technology

Meanwhile, an area of 800 m² has been allocated to 74 exhibitors. Nevertheless, companies wishing to participate and be represented in the trade exhibition are encouraged to contact the meeting organizer. The conference center offers further exhibition space.

A general assembly will be organized as in every meeting. It will take place at the conference center in Dresden during lunch time on Tuesday, June 19, 2007.

The 2nd JIN Fair, a career consultancy forum directed towards students and recent graduates of the Animal Cell Technology field will also take place, organized by ESACT and run by the Consulting Firm Kleen Linnebo & Partner.

Registrations are still possible. Registration fee (for ESACT members: 880 Euro) includes the book of abstracts, a list of participants, a copy of the Meeting Proceedings (to be distributed in early 2008), beverages during the coffee breaks, lunches from Monday-Wednesday, an excursion on Tuesday (June 19) and access to the conference dinner (ESACT Party) on Wednesday (June 20).

We are looking forward to an exciting and stimulating meeting and are inviting you wholeheartedly to join us at ESACT 2007 in Dresden/Germany!

On behalf of the Organizing, Scientific and Executive Committees,

Hansjörg Hauser

Election of the Executive Committee 2007-2009

Stefanos Grammatikos

Christophe Losberger

Online Election

This year ESACT has implemented an online electronic voting system for the Executive Committee elections. The feedback we have received so far shows that the majority of our members appreciates this new system.

The electronic voting system we are using guarantees anonymity. There is no way whatsoever for anybody (including the election administrators) to know who has voted for whom.

As the new system is very easy to use (compared to the old partially paper-based system), we hope that members' participation in the election process will increase.

Who can vote ?

All ESACT members who had a paid membership for 2007 on April 30 (including honorary members) and who have a correct and valid email in our records.

If you belong to this category and have not received your voting code in the beginning of May, please contact us (admin@esact.org), so that we check why you have not received it.

How can I vote ?

The complete instructions are detailed in the email you have received in May. This email is important because it contains your registration code which is absolutely unique and can not be generated again. So if you are planning to vote when you will be in Dresden, after you have met the candidates, please be sure to bring your code with you.



You should simply go to following site:
<http://www.campus-vote.com/elections/ORG/ESACT07/>
and enter your code in the blank field. And fill in your ballot with your preferred candidates !

From there you can also give your feedback concerning the election process and this is anonymous too.

OFFICERS FOR THE PERIOD 2007-2009

(Appointed by the current Executive Committee)

Chairman:	Florian M. Wurm EPFL, Switzerland
Vice-Chairman:	Martin Fussenegger ETH Zurich, Switzerland
Treasurer:	Alain Bernard UCB SA, Belgium
Secretary:	Stefanos Grammatikos BI Pharma, Germany

Presentation of Candidates for Regular Membership

Paula M. Alves

Born in 1967, Lisbon, Portugal. Received her B.Sc. in Biochemistry at the Faculdade de Ciências, Universidade do Lisboa (FCUL) in 1991 and her Ph.D. in Biochemistry at the Instituto de Tecnologia Química e Biológica, Universidade Nova de Lisboa in 2001. Group leader (2002-...) and Head of the Animal Cell Biotechnology Laboratory of IBET (2007-...), working in biochemistry/molecular biology of mammalian cell lines, primary cultures, co-cultures and immortalised cells as applied in brain cell culture models, viral assembly, cell differentiation and handling for regenerative medicine as well as integration of bioreaction and downstream integration for biopharmaceuticals and vaccine development. Over fifty publications in refereed journals.

Motivation Statement

Throughout the years since I started my Ph.D. work I have benefited enormously from ESACT's activities. Attending meetings since 1991 (Brighton), I was kept abreast of the newer developments in more mature areas at the same time as being given the opportunity to look out of the frame into areas of new opportunity, always strong at ESACT's meetings.

I was given grants, presented my work through posters and talks and now my own students are attending the ESACT meetings. I was involved in the organization of the poster award in the Granada and Harrogate meetings.

In Harrogate (2005) I was elected member of the ESACT Executive Committee; since then I've been trying to serve the Animal Cell Technology Community and, in particular, to represent the ESACT members and their wishes. Since I have enjoyed this work I would like to continue and thus I am proposing myself as a candidate for the elections to the ESACT Committee that will be elected during the General Assembly at the Dresden meeting.

Dana Andersen

Dana Andersen is the Director of Early Stage Bioprocess Development at Genentech. He currently leads the departments responsible for developing the cell culture and purification processes for recombinant human therapeutic proteins and antibodies to support Research and early stage clinical development, and has over 11 years of experience at Genentech, primarily in the area of cell culture development.

Prior to joining Genentech, he performed post-doctoral research in the laboratory of J. Bailey at the ETH in Zürich and completed his Ph.D. work at Stanford University, investigating the effects of cell culture factors on glycosylation in recombinant CHO cells. He is originally from Colorado and received his B.S. in chemical engineering from the University of Colorado at Boulder.

Motivation Statement

I have greatly enjoyed and appreciated attending and participating in numerous ESACT meetings and believe that this organization plays an important role in the advancement of the cell culture field. As a co-organizer of the upcoming 2010 Cell Culture Engineering meeting and the current chairman of the American Chemical Society Division of Biochemical Technology's Executive Committee, I hope to bring perspective from these other parts of the cell culture community and to provide input to be sure that these organizations are complementary and aligned in serving the interests of the global cell culture community. I also believe that is critical to maintain strong, scientifically-driven meetings such as ESACT provides, and will work to be sure that these meetings and this organization play a key role in the development of the next generation of leaders in this field.

John Bonham-Carter

After two media businesses in Montpellier, France, and in London, I joined Adaptive Biosystems. I became sales director with facility design & build company WH Promotion, before starting my own company Magellan Instruments (UK & SE). In addition, I now work as European Sales Director for Finesse and live in Stockholm.

Current activities: IChemE/BESG committee member; ESACT 2009 conference; Nordic Bioprocess Network (NbiNet); previous co-organiser of conferences SCI Monitoring 2000, M3C 2002 and ESACT 2005.

Motivation Statement

I aim to improve ESACT and the conference for all members. I will improve the conference back-office organisation to help with the burden on the conference committee and reduce the financial risk to the society (both are serious issues in my view). I will improve the finances of ESACT, with a goal of doubling the number of bursaries in 2009 from 2007. I will work to increase the number of other benefits to members such as JIN.

Barry C. Buckland

PhD in Biochemical Engineering at University College London obtained in 1974. Joined the Merck Research laboratories (Rahway, NJ, USA) in 1980 and built a world class Bioprocess R&D group. Current position is Research Vice President of Bioprocess R&D. Leader of process development of all biologically made product candidates within the MRL pipeline and manufacture of Clinical Supplies during the past 20 years. Products developed within this timeline include MEVACOR[®], ZOCOR[®], IVOMECE[®], CANCIDAS[®], RECOMBIVAX HB[®], VAQTA[®], VARIVAX[®], COMVAX[®], ROTATEQ[®] (Rotavirus vaccine), ZOSTAVAX[®] (shingles vaccine) and GARDASIL[®] (HPV vaccine).

External awards and appointments include being elected to the National Academy of Engineering in 1997 and Fellow of University College London in 1998. Chaired two International Conferences on Cell Culture (Cell Culture Engineering IV and Cell Culture Engineering V) and co-chaired the first three International Conferences on Metabolic Engineering. Co-Chaired the first International conference on Vaccine Technology (2006). Author or co-author of over 70 papers. Visiting Professor at University College London.

Motivation Statement

By serving on the Executive Committee I would be in an excellent position to build bridges to the North American community in both Cell Culture and vaccines. This would further help to strengthen the excellent conferences organized by ESACT. It would also help the Cell Culture community to act together internationally on issues of importance to our profession. My experience with organizing Cell Culture Engineering twice and as Chair of Engineering Conferences Foundation will help me to be an effective contributor to ESACT.

Francesc Gòdia

Professor of Chemical Engineering at Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, Spain. Research activity focused on the field of Biotechnology and Biochemical Engineering, and more specifically in the culture of mammalian cells for the production of proteins with interest in diagnostic and therapy of diseases, and the cellular, metabolic and tissue engineering. Work in the development of industrial fermentation processes, immobilized biocatalysts, bioreactor design, and the development of biological life support systems for long term manned missions in Space. Co-founder of the spin-off company HEXASCREEN Culture Technologies, focused on the development of a platform of minibioreactors for screening in Biotechnology.

Became interested to contribute to ESACT since attending his first ESACT meeting in 1992. Served on the ESACT Executive Committee for several years, and as Chairman of the 18th ESACT Meeting held in Granada in 2003.

President of the Spanish Society for Biotechnology from 2002 to 2006. Member of the Executive Board of the European Federation of Biotechnology since 2005.

Motivation Statement

I have enjoyed working for ESACT during a number of years, including organising General Meetings (Granada 2003), and I would like to keep contributing to and increasing the activities of our Society. Particularly, in addition to the support I could provide to future meetings organisers, I would like to explore the organisation of training activities on Animal Cell Technology.

Hansjoerg Hauser

Head of the Division Molecular Biotechnology at the Helmholtz Centre for Infection Research (formerly GBF) in Braunschweig, Germany. Graduated from the University of Stuttgart-Hohenheim and the University of Konstanz. Doctoral degree received from the University of Konstanz in 1977. Worked as a Post-Doc at the Max Planck Institute for Molecular Genetics, Berlin and at the German Cancer Centre, Heidelberg. In 1981 H. Hauser became Research Associate at the GBF. In 1982 he received an EMBO fellowship to work at the MRC-Institute in Mill Hill/London. In 1986 he started the research group "Genetics of Eukaryotes". Since 1994 he is head of the department for "Gene Regulation and Differentiation" and holds his position as head of the Molecular Biotechnology Division since 1995. Teaches at the University of Oldenburg and at the Medical University of Hannover. Further, he is a visiting professor at the University of Lisbon and acts as a Scientific Advisor for several international biotech companies.

Hansjörg Hauser's expertise is in molecular biology with emphasis on gene regulation in mammalian cells. His interests include gene regulation in the interferon system and other innate immune reactions, transcription activation and signal transduction that mediate consequences of infections, and translational research concerning gene expression in biotechnology and gene/cell therapies. He has published more than 150 papers and appears as inventor in a series of patents. Coordinator for several projects funded by national agencies and the EU.

Motivation Statement

Through membership in the ESACT Executive Committee I wish to contribute to ESACT matters with particular focus on the scientific orientation of the Society, organisational issues and advice for future scientific meetings.

Georg Schmid

Having earned my Master's degree in Chemical Engineering at Universities of Karlsruhe and Leeds I entered the field of biotechnology with my PhD thesis on Enzymatic Cellulose Degradation completed at the Institute of Biotechnology at the Research Centre Jülich, Germany. I moved into cell culture research through a post-doc position at the Chemical Engineering Department of the University of California, Berkeley. Upon returning to Europe I worked for Behringwerke in Marburg before joining F. Hoffmann-La Roche where I have been responsible for protein supply of numerous research projects as well

as involved in technical development of biologics from the Roche pipeline and of in-licensed product candidates. I have been active in the organization of several ESACT, CCE and JAACT conferences and served as Roche representative to the Animal Cell Technology Industrial Platform (ACTIP).

Specific areas of technical expertise include: Baculovirus expression system, hydrodynamic stress, metabolic flux analysis, on-line process monitoring and control, and large-scale transient transfection.

Motivation Statement

My motivation to join the ESACT Executive Committee is to help run and strengthen this organization that has been invaluable to my work in the cell culture field and has provided for a network of colleagues during my professional life.

Books

Christophe Losberger

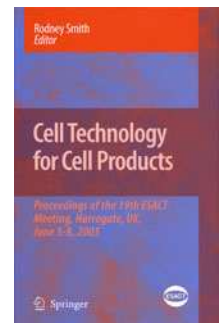
Cell Technology for Cell Products

Proceedings of the 19th ESACT Meeting, Harrogate, UK, June 5-8, 2005

Smith, Rodney (Ed.) 2007, LXXIX, 824 p., Hardcover

ISBN: 978-1-4020-5475-4

The 19th ESACT meeting was to highlight the novel capabilities of the industry to move the products towards the clinic and was attended by a wide range of workers in the industry and for many it was their first ESACT meeting. The meeting was started with a session on Transcription to Secretion with a notable set of presentations on the emerging issues. The other sessions that followed Therapeutic Cell Engineering, Gene Medicine, Cells to Tissue, Protein products and Process Technology guided the delegates through the advances made for the progression of the biotechnology towards the industrial application of the products from cells. The meeting was supported by some exceptional invited speakers from around the world whose contributions complemented the emerging technologies and the changes being made at the industrial end of the ESACT spectrum. The proceedings here include the short papers adding the knowledge of the previous meetings and provide a reference for the researcher entering, or continuing in the field of Animal Cell Technology.



This book was recently distributed to all the participants of the 19th ESACT meeting in Harrogate. If you wish to order it online, please visit the "Proceedings" section of www.esact.org where you will find a direct link to the publisher.

Cell Culture and Upstream Processing

Mike Butler

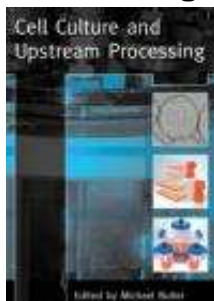
ISBN:9780415399692

Publisher:Taylor and Francis.

Publication Date: 01/03/2007

Pages: 250

Upstream processing refers to the production of proteins by cells genetically engineered to contain the human gene which will express the protein of interest. The demand for large quantities of specific proteins is increasing the pressure to boost cell culture productivity, and



optimizing bioreactor output has become a primary concern for most pharmaceutical companies. Each chapter in Cell Culture and Upstream Processing is taken from presentations at the highly acclaimed IBC conferences as well as meetings of the European Society for Animal Cell Technology (ESACT) and Protein Expression in Animal Cells (PEACe) and describes how to improve yield and optimise the cell culture production process for biopharmaceuticals, by focusing on safety, quality, economics and operability and productivity issues.

Cell Culture and Upstream Processing will appeal to a wide scientific audience, both professional practitioners of animal cell technology as well as students of biochemical engineering or biotechnology in graduate or high level undergraduate courses at university.

Membership

Christophe Losberger

ESACT welcomes the following new members:

Heenan Mary	Wyeth Medica Ireland
Kayser Kevin	SAFC Biosciences
Lattenmayer Christine	Sandoz GmbH, Cell Culture Development Schafftenau
Lemaitre Regis	Max Planck Institute for Cell Biology and Genetics
Omasa Takeshi	Osaka University
Sly Jae	Strategic BioPharm Consulting Inc
Weiss Bettina	University of Applied Sciences
Büssow Konrad	Helmholtz Centre for Infection Research
Hoy Cynthia	Genitope Corporation
Keun Bum Choe	TS BIO Research Center
Kunert Renate	Inst. of applied microbiology
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Lahoti Varun	University College Dublin
Maimann Stefanie	Siegfried Biologics GmbH
Moo Young Murray	University of Waterloo
Mullan Brian	Centocor Biologics
Munro Trent	University of Queensland
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Patel Sanjay	Genitope Corporation
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Sandmoeller Andrea	Kleen Linnebo & Partner Consultancy
Sevcik Mojmir	BioVendor - Laboratory Medicine Inc.
Siwiora Sonja	University of Bielefeld
Castiglioni Sonia	Areta International
Tonso Aldo	Universidade de São Paulo
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