



European Society
for Animal Cell Technology

Newsletter

Dec 2016

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Lausanne
2017

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Key Upcoming Dates

25th ESACT Meeting 2017

Lausanne: May 14th-17th 2017

Abstract submission: January 18th 2017

Early registration: March 15th 2017

Animal Cell Technology Course 2017; 7th edition

Llafranc 2017 – September 24th to 28th

Early-registration deadline: June 30th 2017

Bursary application deadline: June 30th 2017

Registration deadline: August 15th 2017

Cells Culture-based Viral Vaccines Course 2017; 2nd edition

Llafranc 2017 – September 19rd to 22th

Early-registration deadline: June 30th 2017

Bursary application deadline: June 30th 2017

Registration deadline: August 15th 2017

Biochemical and Molecular Engineering XX

July 24th – 28th, 2017, Newport Beach, CA, USA

13th PEACe conference

September 16th – 20th, 2017, Valencia, Spain

Course on Production of Biologicals, 2017

July 31th – August 4th, 2017, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

Course on Cells and Animal Models for Drug Discovery, 2017

European Society for Animal Cell Technology - ESACT e.V. : www.esact.org

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Word of the Chairman

Dear members and friends of ESACT,

you have certainly realized that the next ESACT meeting 2017 in Lausanne is unfolding very promisingly. The Organizing and the Scientific Committee with Matthieu Stettler as meeting chairman have cleared all the early hurdles and also gathered a very strong team of keynote and invited speakers. It is your time to contribute by sending abstracts for oral or poster presentations prior to the deadline of 18 January 2017.

As you know the European Commission has not been any more interested in funding Animal Cell technology for the last 15 years. Before, this support was realized by academic-industry grants that have significantly enhanced the ACT development in Europe. Interestingly, the British colleagues have recognized the need for such funding and found support by the UK-government. Sponsored by BBSRC/NIBB and co-sponsored by EPSRC the creation of BioProNET, a network in bioprocessing, could be realized (<http://biopronetuk.org/>). While such a system for whole Europe is missing the Animal Cell Technology Industrial Platform, ACTIP, with help of ESACT - after a long struggle - was able to initiate such a program. Under the umbrella of IMI 2 relevant projects, initiated by academia and joint to industry, will be supported. While this call is still specific for process control it might be worth to dip into the WEB site announcement (<https://www.imi.europa.eu/content/future-topics>).

Let me thank our colleagues at ACTIP for their engagement. We are happy that ESACT has observer status at ACTIP meetings and the XC keeps pushing the link between academic ACT and its industrial partners.

I wish you all a Holy Christmas and a Very Happy New Year 2017 when I expect to meet most of you in Lausanne.

Best wishes

Your chairman

Hansjörg Hauser

Nomination call for the ESACT XC Election 2017

The current XC of ESACT for the period 2015-2017 is:

Chairman	Hansjörg Hauser
Vice-Chairman	Paula Alves
Treasurer	Nicole Borth
Secretary	Yvonne Genzel

Regular Members	Niall Barron
	Michael Betenbaugh
	Véronique Chotteau
	Hitto Kaufmann
	Isabelle Knott

The positions of regular members (normally 4 members) are to be voted on for the upcoming elections to the ESACT Executive Committee. The next Committee will be elected during the General Assembly at the 25rd ESACT meeting in Lausanne, Switzerland in May 2017.

An email asking for nominations has been sent to all ESACT members. Please send your nominations (ideally two ESACT members supporting one nomination) by e-mail to elsvdberg@esact.org together with a short CV and a motivation statement (both from the candidate). You can also propose yourself; in this case, please contact Yvonne Genzel (genzel@mpi-magdeburg.mpg.de).

Please respect strictly the deadline for your response: February 6, 2017.

The elections will be prepared and done electronically. A newsletter presenting all nominates CV and motivation letter and the electronic election procedure will be prepared and circulated by March. The dates for the online elections will be defined in the next XC meeting (February 2017).

We thank you for your active participation in this process and look forward to seeing you again in Lausanne.

Yvonne Genzel & Els van den Berg

25th ESACT Meeting - Lausanne 2017



The next ESACT scientific meeting will take place from **May 14 to 17, 2017 in Lausanne, Switzerland**. The scientific committee is preparing a highly informative scientific programme under the following theme: **Cell technologies for innovative therapies**. This has to do with the fact that the meeting is organised at the heart of one of the most innovative regions in the field of biomedical research. The conference venue is located within the campus of the EPFL, a university which ranks among the best institutions worldwide and has a very strong focus in life sciences. In short, this is a great place for innovation and certainly a great place to meet in order to hear about innovation and learn about the latest advances in our field.

As ESACT members, I encourage you to make an extra effort generating interest for the meeting in the coming weeks. Talk to people you meet and share your enthusiasm and experiences from past meetings. If you have the opportunity, talk to young scientists about the grants offered by ESACT (visit the meeting website for more details). Most importantly, each and every one can contribute to the quality of the scientific programme: **the abstract submission system is open until January 18**.

Looking forward welcoming you in Lausanne very soon.

Matthieu Stettler

ESACT Frontiers Program

The ESACT Frontiers group is proud to have hosted the 1st ESACT Frontiers retreat in Lyon, France, from October 20th to October 22nd, 2016. The program enabled almost one hundred students and young professionals from 18 different countries to participate, network and share their knowledge and experience with others working in the Animal

Cell Culture field through oral and poster presentations. The program also provided students the opportunity to develop soft skills through dedicated workshops (career development, collaboration and think tank) and informative seminars (public speaking and emotional intelligence). Participant's feedback was overwhelming positive! Don't miss out the meeting video to get a feel for the enthusiastic ambiance in the following link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AgcTT7gnNkA..> and get your own videos ready for the Video Contest at the 25th ESACT in Lausanne, Switzerland.

ESACT Frontiers Group

ESACT Office News

As many of you already know, I am in the process of taking over Antonio Roldao's responsibilities at the ESACT Office.

They say that new brooms sweep clean... And therefore, we start with a new website. The old one has served very well for many years, but we thought it was a good idea to modernize and optimize. We expect the new website up and running in the first months of 2017.

We will, at the same time, also make a few changes in membership registration and payment of membership to facilitate our members.

And finally, to allow payments by credit cards as well, next to PayPal and bank transfers, a new bank account will be opened soon.

So, many things to do, to make life easier for our members.

With my best wishes for a very happy and healthy New Year, both in your personal and professional life.

Els van den Berg

ESACT Grants



ESACT Grants are still running! New deadlines for submission of applications are January 1st, May 1st and September 1st each year. The applications will be reviewed by the XC. Grants provided are a contribution towards coverage of registration fee, accommodation or travel. In addition, each recipient is awarded a 3-years free ESACT membership. The review of the grant application is considered equal to a membership review. Detailed information can be found on the ESACT homepage.

Yvonne Genzel

ESACT Courses

In 2016, the 6th Edition of the Animal Cell technology Course, coordinated by Francesc Gòdia and Paula Alves, took place in Llafranc (Girona, Spain) and for the first time a new course was celebrated on Cell Culture-based Viral Vaccines, coordinated by Amine Kamen, Yvonne Genzel and Francesc Gòdia, also in Llafranc. Both Courses were very well attended, reaching the limit of 30 participants, with a very good balance between participants from academia and industry, from many countries. The Courses were very intensive but also gave time to enjoy Llafranc beach, nice weather, and networking among the participants and lecturers. The feed-back from the participants was very good, and both Courses will have a new edition in 2017. The registration will be open in January through the ESACT website for:

7th ESACT Course on Animal Cell Technology from September 24th to 28th 2017.

2nd ESACT Course on Cell Culture-based Viral Vaccines from September 19th to 22nd 2017

Other ESACT related events

Course in Rio de Janeiro, July 2017



The "7th International School on Production of Biologicals" (7th ISPB) will be held in Rio de Janeiro (Brazil) on July 31-August 4, 2017. Registrations will open on April 10th, 2017 and lower registration fees apply to those registering earlier. The event website is www.peq.coppe.ufrj.br/biopharma.

It is the seventh edition of a biannual international intensive training course that has been organized by the Cell Culture Engineering Laboratory of the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro since 2004. With a focus on biopharmaceuticals, vaccines & other biologicals, it addresses important aspects related to cell line development, upstream & downstream technology, formulation & characterization, as well as regulatory & market issues.

In addition to the theoretical lectures along each day, late afternoon parallel case study sessions allow the participants to get deeper insights into specific topics and to have enough interaction with the speakers. The course is known to be an excellent opportunity not only for learning, but also for networking.

Speakers from 10 different countries are expected, including many internationally renowned members of the ESACT. From the past editions, we know that the event is appreciated by both beginners and experienced people interested in animal cell bioprocessing. Similarly to previous editions, participants from academia and industry from a wide range of countries are expected, with an estimated audience of about 150 people. Since the first edition, more than 750 people of all continents have already participated of this event.

ESACT has sponsored the 3 last editions of this event, which were held in 2011, 2013 and 2015.

Leda Castilho

Biochemical and Molecular Engineering XX

The 20th Conference on Biochemical and Molecular Engineering will take place July 16-20, 2017 in Newport Beach, CA, USA.



The conference aims to bring together more than 200 academic and industrial participants from all over the world and sustain this meeting's tradition of fostering academic and industrial exchange with a visionary and inspiring touch. In addition to a comprehensive series of oral sessions, this conference will be designed to foster networking and facilitate informal discussion on the latest advances and future directions of biochemical and molecular engineering among participants through the inclusion of poster sessions and workshops.

Session topics:

- *Synthetic Biology and Network Design*
- *Genomes*
- *Tissue and Stem Cell Engineering*
- *Biorenewables and Biofuels*
- *Advances in Bioprocessing*
- *Challenges of Miniaturization and Automation in Bioprocess Development*
- *Vaccine Design: From Prevention to Therapeutic Approaches*
- *Bionanotechnology*
- *Protein Design, Expression, Processing and Formulation*
- *Practical Applications of Modelling: From Protein Structures to Processes*
- *Visions for Biochemical and Molecular Engineering*

Engineering Conferences International (ECI) is a not-for-profit, global engineering conferences program that provides opportunities for the exploration of problems and issues of concern to engineers and scientists from many disciplines. For additional information please visit: <http://www.engconf.org/17am>

Nicole Borth

13th PEACe conference

The 13th Conference on Protein Expression in Animal Cells (13th PEACe) will take place September 24-28, 2017 in Valencia, Spain.



From Monday to Thursday, the 7 sessions including an industrial workshop will follow the now established tradition of a PEACe meeting with presentations from selected leaders in the field of animal cell technology. The value of this type of meeting in an inspiring environment is certainly in the congenial atmosphere that is conducive to a free interchange of ideas from the almost equal mix of industrial and academic participants. As established at the 11th PEACe conference, several student bursaries will be awarded. Abstracts are currently being accepted and a sizeable number of abstracts will be chosen for oral presentations.

Session 1: Cell Engineering

Session 2: Protein Engineering

Session 3: Expression Systems

Session 4: Enhancing Expression and Quality of Difficult-to-Express Proteins

Session 5: Manipulation, Monitoring and Control of Protein Quality

Session 6: Innovation via Prediction

Session 7: Vaccines and vaccine production

PEACe is organized by PEIS, a not for profit organization. For additional information please visit: <http://www.peace-conference.org>

Mark Smales

Course on “Cells and Animal Models for Drug Discovery”, October 2017

The course will take place October 16th-27th, 2017 in Montevideo Uruguay.



This training course will cover critical aspects of mammalian cell and animal based screens for the discovery and identification of biologically active compounds. We provide an intensive, hands-on, 10-days training course, combining lectures, participant's posters and case studies sessions as well as practical activities in a wet lab. The course comprises lectures covering the following topics:

- Target identification and validation
- Preclinical testing: role of cell and animal models during drug development
- Assay development and validation: criteria for a robust and reliable cell assay for each stage/question
- Cell line selection: how to choose the best cell line for the purpose and assay
- Frequently used cell-based HTS assays: points to consider
- Complex cellular assays: HCS, reporter cell lines, 3D- and siRNA-based screens
- Stem cells, iPS, organoids
- Alternative animal models for drug testing
- Equipment and logistic: automation, data storage and data analysis

Post-Docs, PhD, Master Students, and Scientists working in the field of drug discovery are welcome to apply. Deadline for receipt of applications by local organizers: 16 July 2017. For more information: secretaria@pasteur.edu.uy

Mariela Bollati-Fogolín

ESACT Office Matters

Important Reminder

Until the changes on membership, databases and homepage are all in place the old accommodations still hold. Therefore:

I would like to stress once again that the official ESACT e.V. bank account to which you should transfer the membership fees, if you wish to use this method, is the following:

Bank name: Deutsche Bank Privat-Und
Geschaeftskunden Ag

Account Nr: 0189191

BLZ: 27070024

IBAN: DE55 2707 0024 0018 9191 00

SWIFT Code: DEUTDEDB270

ESACT e.V. Address: SK Frankfurt, Zeilweg 42,
60430 Frankfurt am Main, Germany

Please note that for transfers in Euros within Germany the Account Nr and BLZ are needed while for transfers outside Germany IBAN and SWIFT Code are needed. All bank transfers should be in Euro. Membership fees are 20€/year and the members should take all costs associated with the transfers.

We encourage all ESACT members to use the bank transfer method rather than the PayPal system for the payment of membership fees due to economic reasons related with the transaction cost of PayPal for ESACT. In the era of online banking, transferring into the ESACT account should be as easy as PayPal.

All ESACT accounts in Belgium, Switzerland and the UK to which ESACT members were used to transfer their membership fees have been closed. Therefore, future payments of membership fees must be done to the ESACT e.V. bank account provided above.

Els van den Berg