

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
ESACT - Granada, 13th May
2003**

13h00 - 14h30





Agenda:

- Chairman's Report (Otto-Wilhelm Merten)
- Treasurer's Report (Elisabeth Lindner-Olsson)
- Secretary's Report (Alain Bernard)
- Election of the new committee
- Proposal for modification of the constitution - status of "associate" members
- Vote on the new constitution
- Proposition and vote for new honorary members: Prof. Bryan Griffiths and Prof. Caroline MacDonald
- Electronic votes via the ESACT web site
- An audience view of the ESACT-Newsletters
- First feedback on the 18th ESACT-Meeting, Granada/Spain (Francesc Gòdia)
- Presentation of the 19th ESACT-Meeting, Harrogate/U.K. (Rodney Smith)
- The 20th ESACT Meeting, who and where?
- Any other business



Chairman's report:

- Services to our members:
 - ESACT Meetings
 - Interim and supported Meetings
 - Publications
 - Bursaries and travel supports for the participation of young scientists at ESACT Meetings
 - Support for training, EoI, Marie Curie Research Training Network
 - Web site, JIN
- Policy:
 - Status of ESACT
 - ESACT constitution and its modification
 - Interactions with other societies

Services to our members:



ESACT Meetings

- Services to the ESACT-members during the last two years:
 1. organisations of the general scientific meetings:
 - Tylösand-Meeting (2001),
 - Granada-Meeting (2003),
 - future meeting: Harrogate-Meeting (2005)
 - and 2007?

ESACT Meetings

- Tylösand-Meeting, in the hotel Tylösand outside the town of Halmstad
Topic « Animal Cell Technology. From Target to Market »
chairperson: Elisabeth Lindner-Olsson
- 650 delegates
- 55 booths
- 7 sessions, 6 keynote lectures, 14 invited speakers, 29 lectures selected from abstracts, 182 posters



ESACT Meetings

- Granada-Meeting, in the Palacio de Congresos in Granada
Topic « Animal Cell Technology meets Genomics »
chairman: Francesc Godia
- 650 delegates
- 60 booths
- 5 sessions, 1 pre-meeting workshop, 6 keynote lectures, 11 invited speakers, 30 lectures selected from abstracts, 201 posters



ESACT Meetings

- Harrogate-Meeting, in the Harrogate International Centre, North Yorkshire, England,
June 5th-9th 2005
Topic « to be decided »
chairperson: Rodney Smith

20th ESACT 2007



**SEARCH FOR A MEETING-
CHAIRMAN/ORGANIZER!**

Interim and supported Meetings

- Services to the ESACT-members during the last two years:

2. organisation of interim meetings:

2.1. collaboration between ESACT and ESGT (the European Society of Gene Therapy), at each general meeting a session is co-organized:

- 9th ESGT Meeting, Antalya/TR, Nov. 2001,
- 10th ESGT Meeting, Antibes/F, Oct. 2002,
- (18th ESACT Meeting (session 3)),
- 11th ESGT Meeting, Edinburgh/U.K., Nov. 2003

Interim or supported Meetings

2.2. Supporting the

« 3rd Recombinant Proteins Production: A comparative view on host physiology »

(organized by the EFB section on Microbial Physiology, Sociedade Portuguesa de Microbiologia, IBET/ITQB - Universidade Nova de Lisboa),

Tavira/P, 11th to 14th November 2004

Local ESACT-Meetings

- **ESACT-UK - Meeting**

- once a year

- brief report from Rod Smith

- **BELACT - Meeting**

- every 18 months

- modification of the name → **BELHACT**

- IXth BELACT-Meeting, 21st of March 2003,

VUB campus-Jette, Brussels,B

IXth BELACT Meeting

- « Gene therapy - from stem cells to gene therapy », org. K. Thielemans/M. Raes:

Névessigsky MT. Anti-tumoral vaccination with dendritic cells

Peschanski M. Strategies for cell- and gene-therapy for the treatment of Huntington 's disease.

Rogister B et al. Experimental basis for stem cell transplantation in neurological diseases.

Jahagirdar B. Pluripotency of mesenchymal stem cells derived from adult marrow.

Malarme D. Production of viral vectors for gene therapy.

Pinset C. Muscular stem cells, as a tool in cell therapy: application to urinary incontinence.

ESACT publications:

- ESACT-Newsletters - available as hard copy, as well as on the ESACT web site
- Published three times a year
- Editors:
 - Steve Oh, editor in chief
 - Lisa Hunt □, co-editor
 - Merlin Goldman, new co-editor
 - with the help of Jürgen Lehmann
- ESACT eNEWS, edited by Christophe Losberger

ESACT publications:

- Publications available via the ESACT secretariat (B. Griffiths):
 1. **Proceedings of the 17th ESACT Meeting - Animal Cell Technology: From Target to Market.**
Eds. Lindner-Olsson E, Chatzissavidou N, Lüllau E £ 50 + postage
 2. **Proceedings of the 16th ESACT Meeting - Animal Cell Technology: Products from Cells, Cells as Products.**
Eds. Bernard A, Griffiths B, Noé W, Wurm F £ 20 + postage
 3. **Proceedings of the 15th ESACT Meeting - New Developments and new Applications in Animal Cell Technology.**
Eds. Merten O-W, Perrin P, Griffiths B £ 20 + postage (this price includes also the special issue of Cytotechnology with selected papers from the 15th ESACT-Meeting)
 4. **Proceedings of the 14th ESACT Meeting - Animal Cell Technology: From Vaccines to Genetic Medicine.**
Eds. Carrondo MJT, Griffiths B, Moreira JLP £ 13 + postage



ESACT publications:

- Publications available from Kluwer Academic Publishers at reduced rates for ESACT and JAACT members:
 - Cytotechnology 228.00 Euors/year
 - Methods in Cell Sciences 68.50 Euros/year
- ESACT-books (available from Kluwer Academic Publishers at reduced rates (-30%) for ESACT and JAACT members):
 - Cell Engineering Vol. 3: Glycosylation (eds. Al-Rubeai M et al.)
100.00 Euros
 - Cell Engineering Vol. 2: Transient Expression (eds. Al-Rubeai M et al.)
99.50 Euros
 - Cell Engineering Vol. 1 (eds. Al-Rubeai M et al.)
109.00 Euros



ESACT publications:

- Publications available from Kluwer Academic Publishers:
 - Proceedings of the 13th ESACT Meeting - Animal Cell Technology:
Developments towards the 21st Century
(eds. Beuvery EC, Zeijlemaker WP, Griffiths JB) 659.50 Euros
 - Recombinant Protein Production with Prokaryotic and Eukaryotic Cells -
A Comparative View on Host Physiology
(eds. Merten O-W et al.) 150.00 Euros



Books published by ESACT members:

- **Cell and Tissue Culture for Medical Research** (eds. Doyle A, Griffiths B), John Wiley & Sons Ltd 123.80 Euros
- **The Encyclopedia of Cell Technology** (eds. Spier RE, Griffiths B, Scragg AH), John Wiley & Sons Ltd 935.30 Euros
- **Cell & Tissue Culture: Laboratory Procedures** (eds. Doyle A, Griffiths JB, Newell DG), John Wiley & Sons Ltd US\$ 1375.00
- **Cell and Tissue Culture: Laboratory Procedures in Biotechnology** (eds. Doyle A, Griffiths JB), John Wiley & Sons Ltd 115.50 Euros
- **Cell Culture: Essential Techniques** (eds. Griffiths JB, Doyle A), John Wiley & Sons Ltd 37.20 Euros

Bursaries and travel supports for participation of young scientists at ESACT Meetings

- Bursaries for young scientists taking part at ESACT-Meetings for the first time, with the following rules:
 - European nationals or individuals working in the EU
 - Have not attended an ESACT meeting previously
 - Age less than 35 years old
 - Have submitted a presentation (oral or poster)
- Travel grants for some of the students having got a bursary (since the Lugano-Meeting), the rules are established by the meeting chairman.

Bursaries and travel supports for participation of young scientists at ESACT Meetings

- Bursary for one young scientist chosen during the BELACT-Meeting and one during the ESACT-UK-Meeting.
- ESACT provides also a limited number of bursaries to young students to take part in lab courses in animal cell technology.
- In dependence of the EU policy during some meetings EU-bursaries for young students were/are available.

EoI

- In the frame of the 6th framework programme, co-submission of an EoI on **Dedicated training activities in animal cell culture technology** (ACTraining Network) by ESACT and ACTIP:

Reason, draw the attention of the EU to the need of the training of specialists (lack of specialists at all levels) in industrial animal cell technology →



Marie Curie Research Training Network

- “ Development and optimisation of industrial large scale animal cell technology and downstream processing of biologicals ”

- **Objective:**

Create a research network between university/ research institutes and companies active in the field of animal cell biotechnology for training of students in the field of animal cell biotechnology and large scale animal cell technology

Level: PhD and Post Doc

General objectives of the training network: PhD-version

- 2-3 years study at the university, and
- 0.5-1.5 years in industry
- Each PhD student should not attend more than, let us say, three different places (companies and research institutes included).
- Participation in theoretical courses (8) and regular meetings organized in the frame of the programme: ~8 weeks in total

General objectives of the training network: PhD-version

Courses:

- specially organized for this network in one of the partner institutions
- might also be courses normally organized like the EFB courses (e.g.: Bioprocess Engineering Course) or courses organized by Universities (e.g.: Cell and Tissue Reactor Engineering, Univ. Minnesota)



General objectives of the training network: Post Doc-version

- 1-2 years in industry, 0-1 year at the university
- Participation at the regular meetings (1 - 2 per year) for scientific exchange
- **Partners:** actually establishment of the consortium, deadline for submission of the dossier to the EU: **19th of November 2003**



Web site, JIN

- Thanks to Christophe Losberger the ESACT web site, in general, and JIN, in particular, are behaving well and developing satisfyingly.

→ Christophe will present the situation and the recent developments of our web site and JIN.

Policy:





Status of ESACT:

- ESACT is a legal organisation in the U.K.
- ESACT is registered by the INLAND REVENUE
- ESACT has a TAX number
- ESACT is not a Charity (too complicated, not necessary for the moment, because the actual registration is sufficient for the EU)

ESACT- constitution

- Proposed modification:

transformation of the associated membership status (held by all non-European members of ESACT) into ordinary membership status (held by all ESACT members who live and work in Europe).



ESACT- constitution

- Why?

because it seems outdated and also unfair to maintain two different membership stati, one for Europeans, and a second one for Non-Europeans.

→ Therefore, the proposition for the modification of the constitution of ESACT

ESACT- constitution

- Immediate consequences:
 - none
 - all members have the same rights and obligations
 - there will be the
 - ordinary membership status
 - and for some special cases the
 - honorary membership status

ESACT- constitution

- **Future consequences:**
 - more overseas activities, in particular, towards North America
 - two future cases possible:
 - 1. Creation of ISACT** (International Society for Animal Cell Technology) by members of ESACT, JAACT, and responsables from the Cell Culture Engineering Conferences, or
 - 2. Transformation of ESACT into ISACT**



ACTIP

- **Animal Cell Technology Industrial Platform:**
 - regular contacts between ESACT and ACTIP and mutual information
 - submission of position papers and proposals to the EU (EoI, Marie Curie Research Training Network)→
 - joint lobbying activity



EFB - European Federation of Biotechnology

- ESACT is a member society of the EFB
→ Informations from the EFB on new sections, meetings, and training courses
- Actually - only a very loose contact
- 11th European Congress on Biotechnology (EFB), Basel, 24th - 29th of August, 2003,
General Assembly: 24th of August, 2003.



Interactions with other societies

ESGT

- 9th ESGT-Meeting, Antalya/TR, 2nd - 4th November 2001:
ESACT-ESGT session on « Cell process »
 - **M. Wisher** (BioReliance, Stirling)
 - **J.-M. Guillaume** (Aventis Pharma, Gencell, Vitry)
 - **K. Gelse et al.** (Univ. Erlangen-Nürnberg)
 - **A. Aints et al.** (Karolinska Inst., Stockholm)
 - **H.J. Arteaga et al.** (Karolinska Inst., Stockholm)



Interactions with other societies

ESGT

- 10th ESGT-Meeting, Antibes/F, 13th - 16th October 2002:
ESACT-ESGT session on « Regulatory Affairs, Safety Issues, and Cell Technology »
 - **L. Tsang** (MCA, London): Update on European Guidelines on Gene Transfer Medicinal Products.
 - **D. Galbraith** (Q-One, Glasgow): Industrial point of view on the European Guidelines. Focus on industrial aspects.
 - **C. Geny-Fiamma, C. Millot, C. Rocca, O. Danos, O.-W. Merten** (Généthon, Evry): Optimization of the production of retroviral vectors.
 - **H. Merget-Millitzer** (MainGen, Frankfurt): Retroviral Transduction of peripheral blood stem cells in a GMP compliant setting for a phase I gene therapy trial.
 - **T. Ericksson (1), Y. Takeuchi (2), C. Templin (1), S. Farhadin (1), J. Wood (1), B. Oldmixon (1), K. Sulling (1), G. Quinn (1), Y. Kitagawa (3), T. Miyazawa (3), R. Weiss, C (2). Patience (1)** ((1) Imerge BioTherapeutics, (2) UCL, London, (3) Osaka Univ, Osaka): Identification of human receptors for pig endogenous retrovirus.



Interactions with other societies

JAACT

- ASSACT 2001-symposium (**Asian Seminar on Animal Cell Technology**), Kyoto, 8th - 10th November 2001, chairman: Yasuo Kitagawa:
6 sessions, about 200 delegates, invitation of 26 (young) researchers and students from 12 Asian countries.



Interactions with other societies

JAACT

- **ASSACT 2001-symposium:**

ESACT session (2) on "Status and future of European Animal Cell Technology », the following European speakers were invited:

- Elisabeth Lindner Olsson (Metcon Medicin AB, Lidingö/Sweden):
Overview of 17th ESACT-Meeting (Tylösand/Sweden, June 10-14th, 2001)
- Francesc Godia (Univ. Autònoma de Barcelona/Spain): Metabolic Engineering efforts in Animal Cell Technology, and presentation of the 18th ESACT-Meeting
- Martin Wisher (BioReliance, Stirling/U.K.): Ensuring the viral safety of cell and gene therapy products.
- B. Hörnlimann (Public Health Consulting and Research on Prion Diseases in Man and Animals, Zug/Switzerland): Clinical and laboratory surveillance of bovine spongiform encephalopathy



Interactions with other societies

JAACT

- **15th JAACT-Meeting**, Fuchu City, 11th - 15th November 2002, chairman: Kazumi Yagasaki

More than 200 delegates from 17 countries, about 100 lectures and posters (plenary lectures, symposia, oral sessions, seminars, technical workshops, ESACT special lectures and posters)



Interactions with other societies

JAACT

- 15th JAACT-Meeting:

- 3 ESACT special lectures:

M. Carrondo (IBET, Oeirs/P): « Controlled growth of animal cells for biopharmaceutical production - Genetic and chemical synchronization approaches »

F. Wurm (EPFL, Lausanne/CH): « Transient gene expression: A novel mammalian cell-based technology for recombinant protein production »

O.-W. Merten (Généthon, Evry/F): « Optimization of the production of retroviral vectors »



Cell Culture Engineering Conferences:

- Reinforce the relations and interactions between ESACT and the Cell Culture Engineering Conferences
- Try to get more profoundly implanted in North America, e.g. getting more American members
- Eventually organize meetings together
- Etc.



Cell Culture Engineering Conferences:

- Cell Culture Engineering IX.
- March 7-12, 2004.
- Paradisus Riviera Cancun Beach & SPA Resort, Cancun, Mexico.
- Chairpersons: Lynne Krummen (Genentech, CA), Octavio T. Ramirez (National Autonomous University of Mexico).

Election of the new Executive Committee:



- Officers (elected):
 - O.-W. Merten (ESACT-Chairman)
 - A. Bernard (Secretary)
 - M. Fussenegger (Treasurer)
 - R. Smith (Chairman of the Harrogate-Meeting)
- Candidates for the four open positions of ordinary members of the Executive Committee:
 - S. Clarke (Lorantis, UK)
 - J. Coco-Martin (DSM Biologics, NL)
 - F. Gòdia (Autonom University of Barcelona, E)
 - S. Grammatikos (BI Pharma, D)
 - H. Hauser (GBF, D)
 - R. Wagner (GBF, D)
 - F. Wurm (EPFL, CH)

Secretary's report

- As of April 2003
 - 269 full members (250 in 2001)
 - 78 associates (114 in 2001)
 - 8 honorary members (6 in 2001)
 - TOTAL : 355 members (370 in 2001)
 - 8 pending applications

(Note : 37 wrong e-mails)