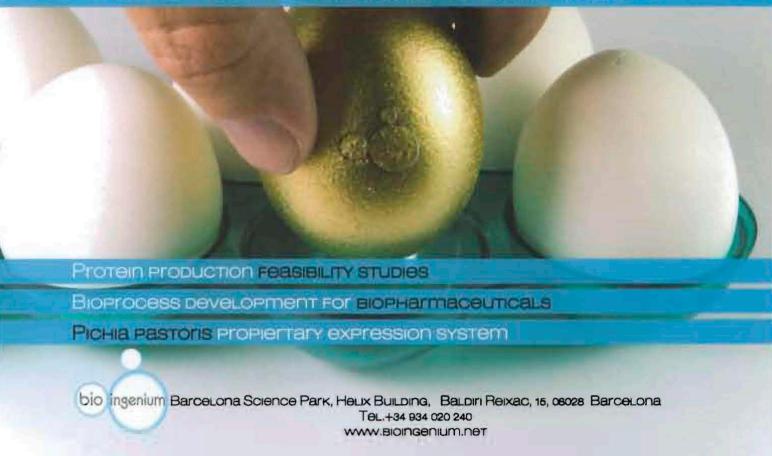


EUROPEAN FEDERATION OF BIOTECHNOLOGY

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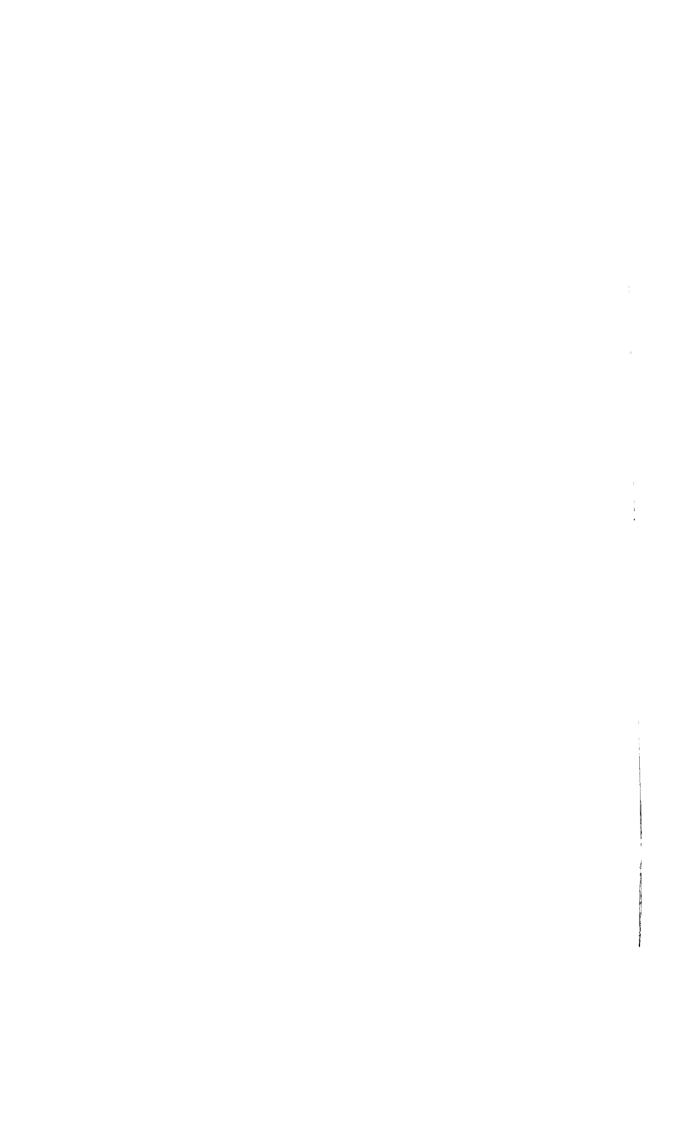
www.mtc.es

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Other centres in Madrid, Valencia, Tarragona and Amposta



EUROPEAN FEDERATION OF BIOTECHNOLOGY

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EFB MISSION STATEMENT

As the Voice of Biotechnology in Europe, the aim of the Federation is:

to promote co-operation, on scientific grounds, between national and cross national member societies, their individual members and scientists from Academia and Industry, for the general advancement of biotechnology as an interdisciplinary field of research and as a means of furthering the scientific development and application of manufacturing processes in Europe.

STATUTES

EFB is a not-for-profit Association with registered offices at the University of Liège, Belgium. Its activities are governed by Statutes, which can be found at:

http://www.efb-central.org/index.php/Main/efb_statutes_2004

EFB works to promote the safe, sustainable and beneficial use of biological resources by promoting scientific excellence in biotechnology as an interdisciplinary field, and by supporting the scientific development and application of manufacturing processes in Europe.

GOVERNANCE

The General Assembly is the highest authority of the Federation. It provides the forum at which all fundamental matters of relevance are discussed. Voting members of the General Assembly include one representative of every institutional member, and voting members of the Executive Board. It meets every two years, immediately preceding the European Congress of Biotechnology, and also calls an electronic meeting each year to approve the audited accounts, as required by Belgian law. The General Assembly elects nine of the voting members of the Executive Board.

The Executive Board is responsible for the daily operation of the Federation, and as such has authority to decide on all activities other than those that explicitly require approval by the General Assembly. There are three groups of Executive Board members.

Ex officio members include a President, who is elected by the remaining members of the Executive Board; 2 to 4 Vicepresidents, Section Chairs, Chairs of Task groups, the Treasurer, and the Secretary General (currently in abeyance).

There are 9 elected members: three each from Academia, Industry, and the Regional Branch Offices.

Two non-voting members can be Co-opted members proposed by the President: their nomination must be approved by a simple majority of the Executive Board.

MEMBERSHIP

Our Institutional Members listed in this Directory play a vital role in maintaining links between Industry, Academia and Government. Furthermore, institutional membership fees increasingly sustain the work of the Federation.

Value of being an European Federation of Biotechnology Institutional Member

Innovation in science and technology is the foundation for Europe's vision of a knowledge based economy. In this transformation, society expects a cleaner, greener industry, a better choice of products, and more productive agriculture. Our ability to promote and build an enterprising and innovative culture will be critical for bringing scientific discoveries to market. To meet this challenge, the responsibility in this diverse and complex area will be borne by scientists in the public and private sectors. Closer dialogue between science and society is a significant priority that those of us privileged with a position to take action must embrace.

Much is therefore expected of biotechnology in health care, industrial microbiology and new plant varieties for the food, feed and chemical sectors. The European Federation of Biotechnology (EFB) was established in 1978 as a unique organisation that enhances the implementation of the most recent scientific advances in biotechnology in the interests of society, industry and the environment. Through its membership, task groups, specialized sections and regional branch offices EFB brings together scientists by providing a forum for highlighting challenges and opportunities to develop biotechnology to the advantage not only of Europe, but also worldwide. Europe can and must be competitive and proactive, and EFB plays a key role in providing a voice for science and scientists in this dialogue.

Our European Congress of Biotechnology provides a shop window for the latest developments in biotechnology worldwide, and was recently opened by Craig Venter highlighting current developments in genomics and systems biology.

The support of our Institutional Members provides a significant part of the funding that enables EFB Sections, Task Groups, the Executive Board and our Central Office in Barcelona to function effectively. Specialist EFB activities include symposia and workshops at which advances in fundamental research are presented. Task Groups are forging collaborations in the developing biotechnology markets in China, Latin America, Russia and the Indian Sub-continent. Supported by the European Commission, the EAGLES Task Group has highlighted how advances in biotechnology help solve problems of food and health in developing countries. None of this would be possible without the financial support of our Institutional Members, which is gratefully acknowledged. Institutional Membership provides opportunities to contribute to the development of biotechnology in Europe, and both formal and informal interaction with the many young biotechnologists who take part in our activities.

Much more needs to be done in organising the massive effort needed to promote the value of scientific innovation. We believe that the best response we can give to the present economic downturn is to pool our strengths and collectively work towards a shared vision for the future.

The contribution of EFB Institutional Members enables us to continue this activity. In return for their support, EFB provides many direct benefits that are attractive to different groups of institutional members, as listed below.

Benefits available to European Federation of Biotechnology Institutional Members

In return for their support, EFB provides Institutional Members the following direct benefits:

- Voting rights at the annual EFB General Assembly.
- Opportunities to influence position papers submitted to the European Commission.
- Invitation to an annual strategic policy meeting.
- Consultation regarding EFB strategy and future activities.
- Invitation to provide articles and position papers for publication in the EFB Journal **New Biotechnology**.
- Acknowledgement and reduced fees for advertising in New Biotechnology and other EFB publications.
- Listing in the EFB Directory, which is regularly updated.
- Preferential advertising rates in the EFB Directory.
- Decreased charges for exhibition space at the European Congress of Biotechnology.
- Other rights of an EFB Institutional Member, as listed in the EFB Statutes.
- Preferential registration fees for all EFB events.

In addition there are opportunities to join a small group of EFB Sponsors who, in return for a larger annual contribution of €10, 000 or more, enjoy special extra benefits. Sponsors are acknowledged with direct links to their websites. They are encouraged to use the EFB logo to promote their activities and they are offered prime exhibition space at the European Congress of Biotechnology. Their representatives are invited to key events such as informal lunches with policy makers from the European Commission; and to meetings of other keynote speakers and leading industry representatives at the biennial European Congress of Biotechnology. Free registrations at the European Congress of Biotechnology, advertisements

in the EFB Directory, in **New Biotechnology** and in the EFB Newsletter can be included in a sponsorship package.

For further information, please feel free to contact: Marc Van Montagu; President,

E-mail: marc.vanmontagu@ugent.be

Jens Sundbye, Treasurer, E-mail: js@biomedicoforum.dk

Free EFB Personal Membership

Personal membership of EFB is free. We invite individual biotechnologists from any part of the world to register electronically. Personal members will then receive regular electronic information about EFB activities including the electronic EFB Newsletter, and will have access to the EFB website.

ADMINISTRATION

European Federation of Biotechnology. Parc Científic Barcelona.Torres R+D+I. Baldiri Reixac 4-8 08028 Barcelona Spain

E-mail: efb@efb-central.org

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For personal membership enquiries, contact:

fernando@efb-central.org camilo@efb-central.org

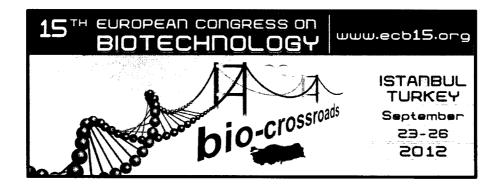
For financial or Institutional Membership information, contact:

karsten@efb-central.org

For information about the Executive Board, General Assembly or constitutional matters, contact the Vice-president:

i.a.cole@bham.ac.uk

EUROPEAN CONGRESS OF BIOTECHNOLOGY



The European Congress of Biotechnology is the showcase of the Federation, typically lasting for 3 to 4 days and attended by between 1 000 and 2 000 participants. Every aspect of biotechnology, especially emerging technologies, is represented.

The central theme of the 15th European Congress on Biotechnology is Biocrossroads; analyzing the impact of the life sciences industry in addressing humanity's great challenges, looking at society to see the remaining and emerging needs, and presenting the science that will address these new challenges.

The theme Biocrossroads will be addressed through 4 parallel Scientific Streams:

Health & Medicine Focusing on the latest achievements in biotechnology to improve existing treatments and put forward novel approaches, with a special focus on the development of new innovative and targeted medicines that will impact future medicines and therapies.

Industrial Biotechnology A multidisciplinary approach including applied biocatalysis, biochemical engineering, microbial physiology and systems biology — all focused on

innovation in industrial biotechnology and the development of the Knowledge-Based Bio-Economy.

Plant & Environmental Biotechnology Exploring the benefits and challenges derived from the application of biotechnologies in agriculture and their key role in providing the biomass the world needs, including sessions on the latest developments in the fields of environmental biotechnology and biodiversity.

Systems Biology & Technology Novel "omics" and technology based approaches for dramatically increasing and improving capacities for experimentation in Biotechnology, especially at the molecular level.

Contact:

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Fax: +90 312 219 57 01 Email: gozde@zed.com.tr Web: http://www.ecb15.org

Scientific Information

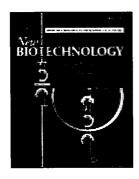
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Web: http://www.ecb15.org

EFB JOURNAL: New Biotechnology



New Biotechnology is the official journal of the European Federation of Biotechnology (EFB) and is published bimonthly by Elsevier. It covers both the science of biotechnology and its surrounding political, business and financial milieu. The journal publishes peer-reviewed basic research papers, authoritative reviews, feature articles and opinions in all areas of biotechnology. It

reflects the full diversity of current biotechnology science, particularly those advances in research and practice that open opportunities for exploitation of knowledge, commercially or otherwise, together with news, discussion and comment on broader issues of general interest and concern. The outlook is fully international.

The scope of the journal includes the research, industrial and commercial aspects of biotechnology, in areas such as: Healthcare and Pharmaceuticals; Food and Agriculture; Biofuels; Genetic Engineering and Molecular Biology; Genomics and Synthetic Biology; Nanotechnology; Environment and Biodiversity; Biocatalysis; Bioremediation; Process engineering.

New Biotechnology takes a scientific approach to non-scientific issues, and also comments on matters of safety, regulation, international relations, public perceptions, ethical and societal aspects, education, and research funding.

ISSN: 1871-6784 Editor-in-Chief: Mike Taussig, Cambridge, UK

For more information about the journal, its editorial board, instructions to authors, and tables of contents, please see the journal home page (www.elsevier.com/locate/nbt).

For submission of papers to *New Biotechnology* please go to http://ees.elsevier.com/nbt .

EFB SECTIONS

Sections are responsible for promoting scientific developments in specialised areas of biotechnology. This is achieved through the organisation of symposia, workshops, training courses, and position papers. Each section has its own statutes, Chairperson, and Board. Roles of Sections include identification of bottlenecks and research challenges, as well as the promotion of collaboration and enhanced awareness across specialist activities.

Section contact details and current activities can be found at the EFB website:

http://www.efb-central.org

Section on Biochemical Engineering Science (ESBES)

Biochemical Engineering Science is an applied science discipline comprising elements from the BioSciences as well as from the defining disciplines of Engineering Science, namely Physics and Mathematics, used to create models for Biological Systems in both small and large scale and to solve these models numerically in order to guide both experimental work and design of processes. Special topics of Biochemical Engineering Science include Analysis of Bioreactors and of Downstream Process equipment in order to optimize the yield of the desired products and of the productivity of the system. Thus, Biochemical Engineering Science can also lead to better control systems through an understanding of the systems dynamics, and through incorporation of molecular tools on a quantitative basis it may lead to the discovery and design of completely new processes or products for the Bio Industry.

The European Federation of Biotechnology established its first Section, the Section on Biochemical Engineering Science (ESBES), in August 1995 by interlinking the Working Parties on Bioreactor Performance, Downstream Processing, and Measurement and Control of the European Federation of Biotechnology. ESBES organises activities that encourage integration and interaction such as:

- * Biennial congresses on Biochemical Engineering Courses
- Exchanges of PhDs, Post-doctoral fellows and lecturers between European laboratories
- * Workshops on new developments

Presently the Section on Biochemical Engineering Science is an active association of 5 Working Groups:

- * Working Group on Downstream Processing
- Working Group on Modelling, Monitoring, Measurement & Control (M3C)
- * Working Group on Bioreactor Performance
- * Working Group on Biocatalysis
- Working Group on Bioenergy Systems

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www.dechema.de/

Section on Microbial Physiology

Microbial growth and metabolism play key roles in all of the major geochemical cycles of Planet Earth, consuming and replenishing carbon, nitrogen, hydrogen and sulphur in the biosphere. Microbes can be extremely beneficial. They are essential tools in environmental biotechnology, biodegradation, composting, the supply of fresh drinking water, the safe disposal of sewage, and in food, wine and beer production. But they can also cause disease and food deterioration. Microbial physiology is the study of microbial structure and function, in particular, how microbial activity responds to changes in the environment. It is therefore the key to controlling detrimental aspects of microbes, and to exploiting them for the good of the human race.

The EFB Section on Microbial Physiology was founded on 17 August 1997, during an EFB General Assembly. One of its main activities is the organization of high-level scientific symposia. Major features of these activities are:

- 1. they are interdisciplinary, bringing together molecular microbiologists, geneticists, environmental and industrial biotechnologists and chemical engineers;
- 2. they are truly international, typically attended by participants from across the world;
- 3. all sectors are represented: industry, academia, research institutes and government agencies.

Meetings are organized at 2 to 4 year intervals around a series of focused themes that include:

- * recombinant protein production;
- * analysis of microbial physiology at the single cell level;
- * microbial response to environmental stress;

- bacterial electron transfer processes and their genetic regulation; and
- * the physiology of yeast and filamentous fungi.

Other activities include participation in short courses; drafting of position papers for the European Commission, and provision of expertise for European governmental agencies.

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E-mail: <u>J.A.Cole@BHAM.AC.UK</u> http://www.organobalance.de/EFB/

Associated Section on Pharma Medical Biotechnology (EAPB)



The European Association of Pharma Biotechnology (EAPB) is the representative of pharmaceutical biotechnology in Europe.

EAPB, as the Associated Section on Pharma Medical Biotechnology of the EFB, is dedicated to the advancement of biotechnology in pharmaceutical sciences, specifically as applied to industrial materials, processes, products and their associated issues.

As a non-profit organization EAPB provides a central network linking academia, industry and regulatory bodies. Accordingly its members are professionals from biotechnology and pharmaceutical companies, governmental authorities, academia and scientific organizations.

Events organized by EAPB promote collaborations between science and industry in the sector of pharmaceutical biotechnology. Specifically the technology transfer focused Science to Market Conferences intent to enhance the economical output of scientific research and direct them into marketable technologies and biopharmaceutical products.

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http://www.eapb.org/

Section on Applied Biocatalysis (ESAB)

The EFB section on Applied Biocatalysis (ESAB) is active in the field of Industrial Biotechnology. Industrial Biotechnology is the application of biotechnology for the industrial production and processing of chemical substances, materials and bio-energy. Industrial Biotechnology exploits the synthetic capabilities of the natural world for human needs and typically leads to greener production processes. This technology is mainly based on biocatalysis (the use of enzymes to catalyse chemical reactions) and fermentation technology (directed use of microbial metabolism). Industrial biotechnology (also referred to as white biotechnology) stands apart from the red biotechnology (directed towards health care) and green biotechnology (genetically modified agricultural crops).

Industrial Biotechnology is a technology with a particularly broad application potential in a variety of industries such as the chemical and pharmaceutical industry, the food and feed industry, agro-industry, textile industry, energy sector, etc. These industries increasingly rely on biocatalytic processes to perform a wide range of reactions, improve the cost-effectiveness of existing processes and develop new products and applications. The use of biocatalysis can have significant performance benefits compared to conventional chemical technology, such as a high reaction selectivity, higher reaction rate, increased conversion efficiency, improved product purity, lowered energy consumption and a significant decrease in waste generation. The processes of industrial biotechnology will often rely on renewable resources as a raw material and typically lead to significant ecological and economical benefits.

The former working party on Applied Biocatalysis transformed itself into an EFB Section in September 2000. ESAB is led by a scientific committee consisting of about 40 members from

all European countries. Individual scientists with an interest in Industrial Biotechnology are requested to become a member so that they can actively participate in the activities of ESAB and support the development of Industrial Biotechnology in Europe. The mission of ESAB can be summarized as follows:

- * To promote the industrial application of useful biocatalysts
- * To develop the science and engineering aspects of industrial biotechnology
- * To promote industrial biotechnology in European and national science policies
- * To identify key topics which may be rate-limiting for the development of industrial biotechnology and to take steps to stimulate these areas, particularly through the organisation of scientific meetings and conferences.

Contact Info:

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E-mail: roland.wohlgemuth@sial.com

http://www.esabweb.org/

Upcoming Events:

2nd Conference on Multistep Enzyme-catalyzed Processes 10 – 13 April 2012, Graz

Following the successful 1st Conference on Multistep Enzyme-catalyzed Processes started by ESAB in 2006, the 2nd conference will take place in the week after Easter 2012. Multiple enzymes in cascades, Enzymes and metal/chemo-combined catalysis, Artificial metabolism and catalyst networks, Synthetic enzymatic pathways in cells, Enzymatic steps combined with domino reactions (spontaneous cascades) and Cascades for cofactor recycling will be the topics of this MECP12 conference.

Website: http://mecp12.uni-graz.at/

9th International Conference on Protein Stabilisation, 2 - 4 May 2012, Lisbon, Portugal

The congress is intended to highlight the recent advances in protein folding, denaturation and stabilisation. Particular focus will be given to stabilisation procedures in terms of thermodynamic principles, methods to preserve structure and understanding interactions with its environ-ment, damping the molecular motions of the proteins, and their use in industrial applications, biocatalysis, incorporation into bioreactive coatings, biosensors and medicine namely of the-rapeutic proteins among others relevant use.

Website: http://prostab2012.ist.utl.pt/

ECB 15, September 2012, Istanbul, Turkey

Applied biocatalysis will be focused on innovation in industrial biotechnology and the development of the Knowledge-Based Bio-Economy.

Website: http://www.ecb15.org/.

Section on NanoBiotechnology

The emerging area of nanobiotechnology, due to its highly interdisciplinary profile combining what were previously separate and to some extent unrelated disciplines such as engineering, materials science, biology, pharmacy and medicine, demands new structures to bring experts together.

The European Federation of Biotechnology Section on NanoBiotechnology is a joint venture with NabiA, the Nanobiotechnology Association. NaBiA is the merge and continuation of Nano2Life and Frontiers, the two Networks of Excellence on this field supported by the European Commission during the FP6 programme. The application fields of nanobiotechnology are similar to those traditionally addressed by biotechnology: medical or biological diagnosis, drug design, medical applications, food and environmental monitoring, only that powered by the amazing capabilities of the control of matter at the nanoscale.

The scientific focus of nanobiotechnology lies mainly on a viable interface between biological and non-biological entities at the nanoscale. Success is vital as the communication between these two "worlds" at the molecular level which is leading to breakthroughs in the design of a whole new set of tools and sensors with unforeseen potential especially for medical devices, the pharmaceutical and food industries, and other application fields, e.g., process technology or environmental monitoring.

Mission

The aim of the Nanobiotechnology Section of the European Federation of Biotechnology is to facilitate the diffusion of nanobiotechnology in the biotechnology industry. The section provides, on the basis of the corresponding European Network of Excellence Nano2Life, information and assessment about:

- * Recent scientific and technical developments in the field of nanobiotechnology that could impact the Biotechnology industry.
- * Novel education and training courses for professionals.
- * Easy access to the main research institutes and industrial companies active in the field of nanobiotechnology.

Besides this core activity, the section works in close cooperation with existing EFB Task Groups on dedicated subjects, for instance on public perception and acceptance of nanotechnology for life sciences, and a nanobiotechnology technical roadmap for the biotechnology industry (how to make optimal use of these new and emerging technologies in the next years). Multimedia supported communication and dissemination activities will provide thorough education and awareness of the scientific and industrial community outside the European Federation of Biotechnology and the general public about the impact of nanobiotechnology on industry and society. This will ensure development of nanobiotechnology devices, material and services according to the needs of European industry and in agreement with international social and ethical standards, which will support sustainable development of the European economy in this.

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http://www.efb-central.org/nanotobio/index.html

http://www.ibecbarcelona.eu

Section on Plant Biotechnology

Contact Info:

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Section on Phyto-Pharmaceuticals

Currently there is intense interest worldwide for studying medical treatment derived from traditional medicine sources. The EFB therefore deems it appropriate to start a section on phyto-pharmaceutical science which will network with European scientific experts in the field from various countries which have source material based on natural plant materials from in particular China, Latin America, India and Russia. This section will aim to encourage via its members the establishment of scientific procedures and norms for enabling new biomedical health treatments in prevention of and intervention in the course of human diseases. The section will aim to be a channel for high level research investigation and global co operations to enable new drug discoveries.

In contrast to target oriented Western medicine, traditional use of herbal medicines such as TCM (Traditional Chinese Medicine) uses a holistic, synergetic and personalized approach for diagnosis and treatment. Although products like those from TCM are sold in many countries, there is an insufficient post-market surveillance system, lack of control over quality and safety, no integration of existing knowledge on adverse effects, uncertainty over IPR issues and regulatory requirements, and in general a large need for more advanced knowledge and new approaches to R&D. At the scientific level at the present time there is little understanding about the mechanisms of action of many such therapies, which would be immediately valuable for evidencebased evaluation and improved regulation. Given the complexity of both the human body plus the often complex compositions of the herbal extracts, this requires multidisciplinary research applying advanced tools, in conjunction with holistic approaches, to decipher the scientific fundamentals of the medication.

As the EFB has established Regional Branch Offices (RBO) in

Europe and via its task group on international relation, RBOs outside Europe, these can be natural elements for interacting with particular national requirements and national granting bodies including the European Commission and also be available to stimulate networking and high level scientific cooperation between our European members and important interested bodies such as the Chinese Ministeries, responsible for regulating and overseeing the proper use of phyto-pharmaceuticals.

The Board of the new Section will contain representatives of interested parties. To start, the Chairman has been nominated to be Professor Brian Clark and the Executive Director Mr. Jens Sundbye, both at the Danish RBO of the European Federation of Biotechnology.

All Section Members are welcome to become an active participant in this EFB Section.

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Section on Environmental Biotechnology

Objectives and Activities of the section

The EFB section on Environmental Biotechnology is active in the following fields: a) biomonitoring and bioremediation of xenobiotic compounds occurring in soils, sediments, groundwater and wastewaters; b) the clean up and sanitation of water; c) integrated disposal and valorization (biorefinery concept) of by-products, wastes, effluents and surplus of the agro-food industry with the production of bio-based chemicals, materials and fuels; d) CO₂ biocapture, etc.. Environmental biotechnology is mainly based on the tailored exploitation of enzymatic and microbial processes already occurring in the treated environmental matrices or established in bioreactors with dedicated configurations and working operations.

Environmental Biotechnology provides effective and sustainable (from the economical, environmental and social point of view) tools and strategies for a) monitoring and reducing the risk to humans from contaminated sites and from the storage of municipal and industrial (bio)wastes; b) cleaning up and enabling the reuse of industrial wastewater (thus reducing the industrial use of natural water); c) turning biowaste with high environmental impact into biobased, biodegradable and biocompatible chemicals, materials and fuels, with a remarkable reduction of i) human risks associated with the biowaste disposal, ii) use of polluting fossil fuels or food crops for producing chemicals and fuels, and iii) CO₂ production and climate change impacts.

Environmental Biotechnology has a broad application potential in a variety of industries such as those involved in the sustainable remediation of sites and wastewaters and the innovative chemical and energetic valorization of biowastes but also, considering the possible end users of the bio-based products resulting from the biowaste biorefineries, in the chemical, textile, and agro-industry as well as in the energy sector.

The EFB Section on Environmental Biotechnology is led by a scientific committee consisting of about 50 members coming from academia, research centers, governmental institutions and industries from European countries. Individual scientists with an interest in Environmental Biotechnology are encouraged to become members so that they can actively participate in the activities of the section and support the development of Environmental Biotechnology in Europe.

The mission of the section can be summarized as follows:

- To develop the science and engineering aspects of modern environmental biotechnology;
- To identify the most prominent European R&D priorities and stakeholder needs in the area of sustainable bioremediation of contaminated sites and wastewaters, biowaste biorefining, water sanitation, CO₂ fixation, etc.;
- To promote such priorities and needs towards the European Commission, the OECD, the European Technology Platforms and other European Agencies dealing with environmental protection and restoration;
- To promote international conferences on Environmental Biotechnology in Europe and partner Countries;
- To promote Environmental Biotechnology in the national science policies of European Countries.

Contact Info:

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CNR - Water Research Institute (http://www.irsa.cnr.it/)

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Fax: +39 06 90672787

Important Links:

Erasmus Mundus - Doctorate on Environmental Technologies for Contaminated Solids, Soils and Sediments. http://www.internationaldoctorate.unicas.it/

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Environmental Microbiology & Biotechnology Conference 2012

10 - 12 April 2012 Facoltà di Ingegneria - via Terracini 28, Bologna Italy

The conference will focus on the sustainable decontamination of polluted habitats, water resource purification and reuse, biofixation of climate change-inducing gases and the production of biobased chemicals, materials and fuels from biowaste or/and via the exploitation and management of novel microbes from non conventional or impacted habitats. These are aspects of modern Environmental Microbiology and Biotechnology which should enable this forum to address several of the major "Europe 2020" priorities and to contribute to build up a more sustainable and competitive knowledge-based economy in Europe and in the Partner Countries.

Contact:

Fabio Fava, Chair of the Conference www.emb2012.org/

Section on Biodiversity

The Section on Biodiversity, an initiative of the European Federation of Biotechnology, was founded on 27 February 2003. The main task of this section is to investigate and debate the impact of Biotechnology on Biodiversity.

Priority topics of the EFB Section on Biodiversity are:

- · Benefits and threats from GMO's
- How can the view on Biodiversity help in research and development?
- Enhance the knowledge about soil microbiology and agricultural biodiversity
- Biodiversity and Population Genetics: A wide field of research
- Active participation in the development and outlining of research programmes on an European level.
- For an overview of the topic Biodiversity related to Biotechnology see

Ammann, K. (20110921)

Review: Can GM crops help to enhance biodiversity? Open Source Version. In ASK-FORCE contribution AF-11, Vol. AF-11, pp. 88. Ammann K., Neuchatel

http://www.ask-force.org/web/AF-11-Biodiversity/AF-11-Biodiversity-Biotechnology-20110921-opensource.pdf

The section leader is maintaining a blog contribution list on biodiversity debate topics:

http://www.efb-central.org/index.php/forums/

Download a summary of the latest updates from September 2011 of all contributions

http://www.ask-force.org/web/ASK-FORCE-Summary/ASK-FORCE-Summary.pdf

The section leader acted also as Guest Editor, together with Prof. em. Ingo Potrykus for the Journal of New Biotechnology: Vatican conference on GM crops and developing countries May 2009, online open source publication 20101130: it can be downloaded at

<u>http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/</u> issue/43660-2010-999729994-2699796

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Section on Medicines Development

With the mapping of the human genome, biotechnology is of increasing importance for development of new and targeted medicines and will impact future medical practice. This calls for an optimising of the current medicines R&D process and a rethinking of the process. It is for this reason that the Section on Medicines Development was established in 2003. This Section covers all aspects of Medicines Development (which today all will involve biotech in one way or other) as well as all processes within the R&D cycle from idea through research, applied research, preclinical, clinical, regulatory and post-marketing follow-up

The EFB Section on Medicines Development is a platform for all stakeholders and sciences related to development of medicines. NSMF follows two tracks:

Streamlining:

Activities to optimise and reengineer the current drug research & development processes utilising contemporary scientific knowledge by removing bottlenecks and developing new tools. Fresh approach:

To re-evaluate the entire drug development process and create a new efficient flow of knowledge generation and management without compromising safety based on recent scientific and technological advances including genome research.

NSMF enjoys strong support from EC DG Research as well as from EUREKA. A steadily increase in members of the section is reflecting that also universities, hospitals, medicines agencies, pharmaceutical companies, and SMEs from most countries in Europe are interested in engaging in this major and strategic initiative. NSMF webpage (www.nsmf.org) provides information about NSMF including an overview of NSMF, reports from workshops, and NSMF relevant events and activities.

At the Board Meeting that took place in the margins of the 14th European Congress of Biotechnology, on September 13, 2009 in Barcelona, the Section on Medicines Development has initiated a joint effort to reform its strategic agenda in the post-IMI era. Key issues on the agenda have included:

- a. Streamlining activities with patient/consumer/citizen groups (who also work on medicine development and recently achieved some major EU-projects). Specific examples include the EFGCP/EGAN's working party on "roadmap to treatment". A structural collaboration is expected to be very productive.
- b. Operating a focussed website (perhaps as part of the EFB-website) bringing information on NSMF together.
- c. Taking a responsibility for the biotechnology and the SMDsectors in the planned Virtual Patient Academy.
- d. Formulating a manifest for governments/politicians containing opportunities and barriers and also views how to proceed.
- e. Identifying the points where where our roads cross with EFGCP, with EuropaBio, with EFPIA, with EuroBio and discuss the options for common action on these cross roads.

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Section on Public Engagement and Communication

Biotechnology has a key impact on an incredible number of things in our daily life. Scientific discoveries force society to face new questions on the development and the applications of research. Therefore, it is necessary to give impulse and to develop a new culture of knowledge, which is able to bring together the opportunities of life science and the demands of safety, health issues and quality of life, of the economy and the sustainable development. In order to achieve this, it is essential to make decisional and scientific processes transparent to the public and to communicate effectively with citizens. It is also fundamental that scientists do not forget to be citizens in the first place. A more participatory scientific development requires new ways of interaction, new tools for communication, new decisional processes, a new scientific culture and a better engagement with the public, as well as training in communication.

The EFB Section on Public Engagement and Communication aims at bridging together the so many experiences in Europe and network those active in public engagement and communication in the field of biotechnology, from every sector, and from many disciplines.

The Section is engaged in creating new partnerships for European projects, in exchanging best practices, in training scientists and new professionals and engaging with schools.

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Associated Section YEBN (Young European Biotech Network)

"Biotechnology and young people's networks are both essential components of Europe's scientific and technological futures. Accordingly, I strongly endorse the goals and activities of the YEBN." - Philip Campbell, Ph.D. Editor-in-chief, Nature Biotechnology is a key factor for sustainable development of our future. The Young European Biotech Network (YEBN) is a non-profit organisation that aims to strengthen the co-operation among European Countries in order to promote a responsible and dynamic community of young scientists and increase the competitiveness of the European Life Science sector worldwide. YEBN was founded in December 2002 in Bertinoro, Italy, by four student organisations active in several European countries. Today, YEBN consists of several hundred members in 15 European countries.

Linking people together has proven to be vital for businesses. A successful scientist has to seek out contacts at conferences as well. Networking is a crucial aspect, not only for career, but for information and also sometimes for fun. YEBN links people within its network and to the outside world, either through its member database or through specific networking events, such as conferences, meetings or workshops. In doing this, YEBN achieves an internal and a vertical integration of its members, for example with academia, other organisations (such as the European Federation of Biotechnology) and companies.

Young Life Scientists are often concerned with their future career. YEBN has built specific career services, such information on job matching databases and its internal networking database to help YEBN members in critical questions, i.e. on getting information of research groups in other countries.

Young people most often have great ideas, as well as the courage and motivation to realize them. Yet, sometimes the space is missing for the creativity to be put into reality.

YEBN helps you to realize your own ideas by helping to find human resource to fill your team, helps you to find financial aid, management skills and most importantly provides its name to leverage your endeavour. Genetic engineering, cloning and other issues have caused widespread anxiety and debates in society. YEBN is dedicated to provide society with unbiased and objective knowledge and information on Life Science, from young involved scientists. YEBN aims for these objectives by representing a young generation of open-minded scientists who can be regarded as trustworthy. Specific projects and Task Groups within YEBN are focused on science and society, public perception and communication of science. A project called BioPop of a new model for science communication and sociology of science under the FP6 program of the European Commission" was accepted and run from 2004.

Everyone is welcome to join and initiate projects in YEBN, membership is free. We encourage persons with different backgrounds but strong interest in biotechnology to join, in order to create a fruitful interdisciplinary forum.

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EFB TASK GROUPS

Task groups are responsible for addressing a task serving the Federation under the guidance of the Executive Board. Biotechnology in Europe is increasingly inter-dependent upon the rest of the World, so increasingly Task Groups are forging links with other regions including China (EFBIC), India, Russia, Latin America and a range of developing countries.

Membership of a Task Group is by invitation only. Interested persons should contact the respective Task Group Chairman.

The main activities of the Task Groups are:

- to promote <u>international cooperation</u> with China (EFBIC), South East Asia, Eastern Europe and South America, with a particular interest for Europe's responsibilities towards developing countries.
- to initiate and/or organise specialised meetings and to be involved in the planning of the European Congresses on Biotechnology (ECB).
- to promote education and training.
- to prepare position papers, reviews and expertises on topical issues.
- to publish on new developments in science and on new application.
- to collaborate as teams of experts with the European Commission in research funding.
- to promote public understanding of biotechnology.
- to stimulate innovation in biotechnology.

Task Group on Safety in Biotechnology

The objective of the Task Group on Safety in Biotechnology is to help maintain the excellent safety record of biotechnological operations through its activities and by creating an information network through its members and members from other organisations.

For further information on the activities of this Task Group please contact:

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Task Group on Education, Mobility and Professional Qualifications

The Task Group on Education, Mobility and Professional Qualifications is composed of scientists and managers committed to higher education in the field of biotechnology, in fostering people's mobility within the European Research Area and beyond, and in ensuring professional qualifications are equally recognised across the European Union.

Some key Universities contribute to the activities, and a close collaboration with European institutions such as the European Commission, EuropaBio and the European University Association provide the network for the task group's activities.

The Task Group has the following main objectives:

- Identify potential collaborations among Universities, in the field of biotech education, and address common issues in educational standards.
- 2) Address mobility issues, specific to undergraduate and graduate students in Biotechnology and Life Sciences.
- 3) Propose potential joint programs, where its members would like to build up more tight collaborations.
- 4) Play a role in the field of professional qualifications, and contribute in shaping a common frame in Europe.

The Task Group has arranged various courses and workshops and also played a key role in developing a variety of European biotechnology education initiatives. This has included the Code of Conduct for Biotechnologists, the European Doctorate in Biotechnology and Professional accreditation for biotechnologists.

If you wish to become a member of the Task Group on Education Mobility and Professional Qualifications, please contact:

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Task Group on International Relations (TGIR)

The EFB Task Group TGIR aims at the promotion of international (global) interactions and cooperation between governments, industries and academics in the field of biotechnology. Specifically, TGIR formulates proposals to the European Commission and implements EC programmes to establish strategic relations.

One of the main activities of the Task Group is European Focus on Biotechnology in China (EFBIC). EFBIC's purpose is to establish strategic relations in biotechnology between decision makers in Europe and China and facilitate collaborations in research, training and innovation among European and Chinese scientists.

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HEALTH COMPETENCE IN EUROPE

Gigo.



Healthcompetence is a pan-European Research Information System making key information accessible on all projects funded by the EC within Health Science in the 6th and 7th Framework Programmes (FP6 & FP7); EFB is a partner in this project. The information includes the projects' results in terms of publications, patents and technology offers, and is an open source of information for the stakeholders, such as project coordinators, scientists, technology transfer officers, research administrators, policy makers & programme managers within academia, industry, the EC and other funding agencies. Healthcompetence serves in this way to support the stakeholders in their efforts to find collaboration partners, do benchmarking, analyse networks, make research performance assessments and get answers to European policy issues.

A key challenge is to collect all the information and continuously keep it correct and up-to-date. The approach is therefore based on the basic principle of reusing as much information as possible, and in parallel provides benefits on all levels, from the individual researcher to the management level at the EC. Healthcompetence reuses information from a range of sources, with project information from the EC as a starting point. To include information on the projects' results HealthCompetence. eu is connected to PubMed for publications and the European Patent Office (EPO) for patent information. This information is then quality assured through validation processes on

different levels, from the individual researcher to the EC. Healthcompetence gives in this way research organisations and individual researchers, both within Europe and internationally, versatile possibilities to access and reuse the most complete and accurate information available on EC-funded projects. For more information please visit http://www.healthcompetence.eu/

Health Competence Partners:

AVEDAS AG http://www.avedas.com Germany

Inserm-Transfert SA http://www.inserm-transfert.fr/ France

European Federation of Biotechnology http://www.efb-central.org Spain

REGIONAL BRANCH OFFICES

EFB and its activities are administered and supported by the following offices:

- EFB Central Office (ECO).
- The ECO takes care of most administrative matters of EFB.
- EFB Regional Branch Offices (RBOs).
- The RBOs address a number of regional tasks and support selected EFB Sections and Task Groups. Regional Tasks include:
 - Representing EFB in their region.
 - Keeping good contacts with the national biotechnologists and the regional authorities.
 - Ensuring EFB presence at relevant biotech events in their region.
 - Arranging regional events.
 - Distributing EFB and EC info in their region and providing regional information for the EFB website.



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