

BIO 2006 Chicago

Doing Business Globally Track - 11 April 2006, 11:00 am – 12:30 pm, Room: 403B

Excellence Through Partnerships: EU Research Funding for Biotech R&D

How can companies and research institutes benefit from collaboration? This session will feature world-renowned investigators from a leading research institute and companies that are involved in large-scale R&D collaborations. They will explain the benefits of doing collaborative and multidisciplinary R&D in biomarker discovery, defining structures of key drug targets and developing a breast-cancer chip in a European setting. The essential drivers for biotechnology R&D are huge investment, the integration of resources and expertise, and collaborative, multidisciplinary research teams. A coherent package of funding is crucial for meeting those ambitious research challenges that are out of reach of individual teams, institutes and even countries, both EU member states and beyond. The European Commission manages the world's largest public funding program for collaborative research in life sciences, amounting to about 1 billion USD annually.

Speaker: Dr Hanno Langen, Head of Proteomics research, Roche

Dr Langen is also a member of the Human Proteome Organisation's global advisory council which brings together world leading expertise in the field of proteomics from both the academic and commercial sectors. He is an expert in high throughput proteomics research, and involved in many scientific collaborations around the world.

Speaker: Dr Laura van 't Veer, COO and co-founder, Agendia BV

Dr Laura van 't Veer (47) has a 20-year track record in molecular oncology research (more than 80 papers published in peer-reviewed journals) and has developed Agendia's MammaPrint® gene expression profiling service. Laura van 't Veer was for 10 years head of the Family Cancer Clinic at the Netherlands Cancer Institute (NKI). She is presently head of the clinic's DNA-diagnostic laboratory and she is also a staff member at the NKI's department of Molecular Pathology. Her main responsibilities at Agendia include the set-up and running of the company's central laboratory, clinical research and the development of new profiles.

<http://www.agendia.com/common.asp?id=30>

Speaker: Dr. Roslyn Bill, Reader, Aston University

Roslyn Bill is a Reader in Molecular Biosciences, in the School of Life and Health Sciences at Aston University. Her field of expertise is in membrane protein biology, with a specific interest in solving the bottleneck in the production of membrane proteins that currently precludes their high-throughput structural determination. Her chosen approach uses yeast as the production host to which she applies the tools of integrative biology, in particular genomic profiling. She is also the coordinator of the E-MEP project. Her group's main interest is in the general field of membrane protein biology. An estimated 30-40% of eukaryotic proteomes are membrane-associated (Science (2001) 291, 1304-1351) and approximately 80% of the cellular responses to signals are initiated by, or generated through, membrane proteins. It is therefore clear that a complete picture of the workings of the cell can never be achieved if the

biology of the membrane proteome is ignored. This challenge must be addressed with top priority, and is particularly relevant following the completion of the human genome sequencing project, when the full complement of membrane proteins, most of undefined function, may now be identified in Homo sapiens.

Chair: Octavi Quintana Trias, MD, MPH, Director “Health”, Research DG, European Commission

Octavi Quintana Trias is an MD MPH specialist in Critical Care. He has worked as attending physician in an Intensive Care unit for 8 years. He served as director of the Regional Hospital of Málaga (Spain) and later he worked as Senior advisor at the Ministry of Health of Spain. Since May 2002 Octavi Quintana is the Director for Health Research at the European Commission, in the Directorate-General for Research.

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