



FEBS NEWS

Issue 1/January, 2006

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For Your Information

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Dear Colleagues,

A new year has taken its start, and the 2006 FEBS Congress is only approx. six month away. This year, the Congress will take place in Istanbul, and again this year, the programme is packed with exiting topics and people — if you have not already done so, have a look at the Congress website, www.FEBS2006.org. Furthermore, please remember that the FEBS Forum for Young Scientists will take place in connection with the congress (p. 3).

2006 marks "a changing of the guards" in terms of FEBS officers — on page 3 you will get a brief presentation of some known and some new faces in FEBS. Furthermore, you will be presented with the face of Luc Van Dyke (ELSF/ISE), as well as to his article, "Science policy — working together to shape our future". Luc is the debater in this issue of FEBS News, and will elaborate on the current status and importance of science policy science making within Europe (p.9).

Finally, this issue will also bring you news from FEBS Letters and FEBS Journal, as well as new opportunities, such as up-coming FEBS courses (p. 8) and job opportunities (p. 10-13).

I wish all of you a successful and happy 2006!

Kind regards,

Camilla

About FEBS News:

- FEBS News is published every second Monday in every second month (starting January).
- E-mail alerts containing a link to FEBS News, are send to approx. 16,000 subscribers in more than 50 countries, whenever a new issue is out.
- To subscribe, unsubscribe or change your contact details simply send an e-mail to newsletter@febs.org, stating "subscribe", "unsubscribe" or "change" in the subject line. You can also subscribe on-line at www.febs.org/e-mail_registration.asp. Do notice that we will not distribute, in any way, your data to third parties without your consent.
- As a service to our more than 40,000 members, FEBS offers **FREE** advertising of academic positions (PhD's, Post Doc's and Senior Post Doc's) in this newsletter and at our website.
- This issue as well as all back issues of FEBS News are available online at www.FEBS.org
- Question and enquiries about FEBS News should be addressed to Camilla Krogh Lauritzen (camilla@febs.org).
- Next issue will be out on **March 13, 2006**. Deadline for entries (all types) is **March 1, 2006**.

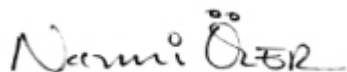
Dear Colleagues,



The Turkish Biochemical Society would like to take this opportunity to renew its invitation to meet in Istanbul on 24-29 June, 2006. With the efforts of our colleagues throughout Europe and the helping hands extended across continents, the theme of "Molecules in Health and Disease" has taken on many shapes and colours. We believe that the Symposia available at www.FEBS2006.org provide each of you with a suitable scientific platform that intersects with your field of interest. To help you plan your trip, the "Survival Crew" has put in information on hotels, transportation and other technical aspects of life in The City, supplemented by a sampling of recreational possibilities.

We look forward to sharing the excitement of the Congress with you and extend our warmest greetings.

Sincerely yours,



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Do you wish to attend FEBS' Young Scientists Forum? **— remember to apply before January 16!**

As in the previous years, a FEBS Forum for Young Scientists will be held in connection to the annual FEBS Congress. The Forum is sponsored by FEBS, and aims to give young members - PhD students and recently graduated PhDs - of FEBS constituent societies an opportunity to come together in an exclusively interactive environment, allowing them to get to know one another and to exchange notes on their research and career plans for the future. Each participant will be expected to contribute to the activities by giving a 15-minute oral presentation of his/her research project.

FEBS Forum for Young Scientists each year attracts more than hundred young scientists from all over the FEBS community, and 2006 will be no exception.

For detailed information, please see

www.FEBS2006.org



FEBS Q&A

FEBS FELLOWSHIPS

Q: I have applied for a FEBS Fellowship in December 2005. When will I know whether or not my application has been successful ?

A: This depends on which type of Fellowship you have applied for.

If you have applied for one of our *Long-Term Fellowships*, the application deadlines are before April 1st or October 1st. Meaning that if you have sent your application in December, you will receive an answer after April 1.

If you have applied for a *Short-Time Fellowship*, you will receive an answer after approx. an 8 week processing period, around late February/start of March, depending on the application date. Remember that applications for this type of fellowships are received on an on-going basis, but should reach the Chairman of the FEBS Fellowships Committee at least two months before the proposed starting date.

All details regarding FEBS fellowships are available online at www.febs.org/Activities/Fellowships/Fellowship_INFO.HTM

Furthermore, you can find a list of answers to frequently asked questions about FEBS Fellowships at **FEBS Bulletin Board** in the section "FEBS Fellowships" (www.febs.org/FebsBB/postlist.php?Cat=0&Board=fellow)

News from the Organisation

FEBS FACES



Prof. **Jolanta Baranska**, Nencki Institute of Experimental Biology (Warsaw, Poland) has become Chairman of FEBS 1.1.2006.

Prof. Baranska replaces Prof. Israel Pecht, who has served as Chairman of FEBS for the past two years.

Contact details: please see <http://www.febs.org/Organization/EXEC.HTM>



Prof. **Balázs Sarkadi**, National Medical Center (Budapest, Hungary) has become Vice-Chairman of FEBS 1.1.2006.

Prof. Sarkadi replaces Jolanta Baranska, who has served as Vice-Chairman of FEBS in the past year.

Contact details: please see <http://www.febs.org/Organization/EXEC.HTM>



Prof. **Félix M. Goñi**, Universidad del País Vasco (Leioa, Spain) has become Chairman of FEBS Publications Committee 1.1.2006.

Prof. Goñi replaces Prof. Willy Stalmans, who has served as chairman for the Committee in the past nine years.

Contact details: please see <http://www.febs.org/Organization/EXEC.HTM>



Dorte Holst Pedersen (Copenhagen, Denmark) will be taking over the position as FEBS Secretary/Secretary to the Secretary General on February 14, 2006. Mrs. Holst Pedersen will replace Mrs. Inge Detlefsen, who has served in this position since 1999.

Dorte Holst Pedersen will be situated in the FEBS Secretariat in Copenhagen.
Contact details: Please see www.FEBS.org



the Message Board

"TIPS OF THE MONTH"

"My favourite e-source to obtain information about viruses "The Universal Virus Database" www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/ICTVdb/index.htm . It includes not only complete lists of viruses ordered according hosts, genome types, virus names or other aspects, there are also detailed descriptions plus references available and many pictures give an excellent impression about the different morphology of the virus families. Many other tools and a tutorial make this website particularly interesting for anyone who wants to obtain information about viruses."

Andreas Giessauf, Austria

"My favorite link is www.scopus.com/scopus/home.url . It is designed to be an all science, comprehensive access point for a library, with coverage of 13,000 titles from over 4,000 STM publishers, plus coverage of over 100 open access journals .Scopus draws from all major databases, including EMBASE, Compendex, MEDLINE, etc., as well as from individual publishers"

Nirpendra Singh, India

What is **your** favourite e-source of knowledge? Send us the link to the website that you find most useful as a scientist, include a few words on why you find it particularly useful, and you might win a 128 MB memory stick to store your e-data on!

Read more in the forum "FEBS e-newsletter" at **FEBS** Bulletin Board, www.febs.org/FebsBB/

Deadline for sending candidate links to the November/December draw is **March 3, 2006**.

The winning links and their endorsers will be presented in the March issue of FEBS news.



FEBS CONGRESS 2006 — REGISTER BEFORE MARCH 3, AND SAVE MONEY!

If you are planning to participate in the 31th FEBS Congress in Turkey, why not save a little? The Congress website is open for registration, and if you register before March 3, you can save up to 250 Euro!

If you have not decided yet, then have a look at www.FEBS2006.org — We look forward to seeing you!

WOULD YOU LIKE TO ADVERTISE IN FEBS NEWS?

FEBS offers free advertising of academic positions and announcements from FEBS members looking for one, e.g. a post doc!

For further details see here:

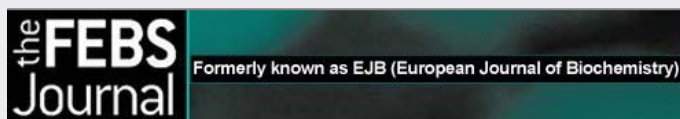
www.febs.org/FebsBB/showflat.php?Cat=0&Number=179&an=0&page=0#Post179

(if you are on-line, simply click the link)

or contact Camilla Krogh Lauritzen (Camilla@febs.org)



News from the FEBS Journal



Dear Fellow Scientists

We enter 2006 with a very successful year behind us: submissions up, impact factor up, and an optimistic view of what we might achieve, with your help, in the year to come.

There will be some further improvements coming through shortly. For example, we are about to move to an updated version of our electronic online submission system. And, given the improved quality of the artwork that we are receiving electronically from authors, we expect to have to send fewer queries after acceptance of a paper for publication. This will accelerate publication times which even now, with our publishing partners' help, are outstandingly short. Papers are already published online ahead of the hard copy, which makes them immediately citable by virtue of their DOI (digital object identifier) – and it is impressive how the worldwide penetration of the electronic version of the journal is bringing in vast numbers of hits and downloads.

Reviews in *FEBS Journal*

Remember, anyone can read reviews online and download them free of charge from the time of publication. All reviews published in *FEBS Journal* (and the former EJB) can be accessed free of charge on the *FEBS Journal* online websites: the Blackwell Publishing service Synergy (<http://www.blackwell-synergy.com/>) and the Highwire platform (<http://content.febsjournal.org> and <http://highwire.stanford.edu/>).

These sites are easily reached by hotlinks from the *FEBS Journal* website, www.febsjournal.org

The following reviews and minireview series have appeared in recent issues of *FEBS Journal*:

Evolutionary mechanisms acting on proteinase inhibitor variability by J.T. Christeller (Vol. 272/22)

Structural and functional specificities of PDGF-C and PDGF-D, the novel members of the platelet-derived growth factors family by L.J. Reigstad, J.E. Varhaug and J.R. Lillehaug (Vol. 272/22)

The C-type lectin-like domain superfamily by A.N. Zelensky and J.E. Gready (Vol. 272/24)

Orphan GCPRs, sleep and circadian rhythms. The minireview series coordinated and introduced by Olivier Civelli was published in *FEBS Journal* issue 272/22. It comprises:

The hypocretins and sleep by L. de Lecea and J.G. Sutcliffe

Neuropeptide S as a novel arousal promoting peptide transmitter by R.K. Reinscheid and Y.-L. Xu

From heart to mind: The urotensin II system and its evolving neurophysiological role by H.-P. Nothacker and S. Clark

Prokineticin 2 and circadian clock output by Q.-Y. Zhou and M.Y. Cheng

Amyloid fibrils. The minireview series coordinated and introduced by Jan Johansson was published in *FEBS Journal* issue 272/23. It comprises:

Aspects on human amyloid forms and their fibril polypeptides by P. Westermark

Structures for amyloid fibrils by O.S. Makin and L.C. Serpell

The Yin and Yang of protein folding by T.R. Jahn and S.E. Radford

Mechanisms of amyloid fibril self-assembly and inhibition. Model short peptides as a key research tool by E. Gazit

Mathematical model database

Mathematical models from papers published in *FEBS Journal* and the former EJB are available on the mathematical modelling website linked to *FEBS Journal*. You can access and try them out free of charge online at <http://jjj.biochem.sun.ac.za/database/index.html>. Full details of how to submit models for inclusion on the mathematical model database can be found in our Instructions to Authors (at <http://www.febsjournal.org>) and at the relevant website (<http://jjj.biochem.sun.ac.za/febsj>).





News from the FEBS Journal *continued...*

Paper with mathematical models published in *FEBS Journal* issue 273/1:

Optimal observability of sustained stochastic competitive inhibition oscillations at organellar volumes by K.L. Davis and M.R. Roussel

The FEBS Journal Prize for 2005

The Editors are currently considering the papers published in 2005 that are eligible for this prize of €10,000, to be awarded to the first author of the most outstanding paper who is a graduate student or young post-doctoral research worker. An announcement will be made soon. The Prize continues for papers pub-

lished in 2006.

We look forward to receiving original research papers, suggestions for reviews and minireview series and meetings reports from you for publication in *FEBS Journal* in the coming year.

Richard Perham, Chairman of the Editorial Board
Vanessa Wilkinson, Editorial Manager
Gail Entwistle, Deputy Editorial Manager
Jane Bartolozzi, Editorial Secretary
Juanita Goossens, Editorial Secretary
Ilana Wooster, Editorial Secretary

News from FEBS Letters



Dear Fellow Scientist,

Happy New Year! All of us at the FEBS Letters Editorial Office would like to wish you all a happy and healthy 2006.

The end of 2005 saw the final "Jeff's View" published in FEBS Letters. Over the past few years Jeff as provided our readers with 18 marvelous views, each of which has made us smile at his wit and think about science a little differently. For those of you who will miss Jeff in future issues of FEBS Letters, or would like to introduce his view to colleagues, friends or family, we have put together the collection of his essays as a book entitled: "Jeff's View on Science and Scientists". This book is published in a handy format that makes it a perfect companion while traveling to conferences or visiting other labs. The book can be obtained directly through the Elsevier website.

We are sure that you enjoyed Jeff's View as much as we did. At the Editorial Office we always eagerly awaited the next view and thoroughly enjoyed reading them. We are sad that his last view has been published and would like to thank Jeff Schatz for enriching the journal over the last five years.

Continuing in 2006 is our "Spotlight on..." series where each month you get to know one of our editors more closely. This month features Frances Shannon of the Australian National University in Canberra who specializes in transcriptional regulation, molecular immunology and epigenetics. Next month we will feature, Veli-Pekka Lehto who has been an editor of

FEBS Letters since 2000. Veli is from the University of Helsinki in Finland and handles manuscripts mechanisms of human diseases, such as the cellular and molecular biology of cancer, neurodegeneration and neuro-muscular diseases.

The FEBS Publications Committee, who oversees all aspects of the FEBS publications, has a new chairman. For the past nine years Prof. Willy Stalmans at the University of Leuven, Belgium, has provided guidance and feedback on every aspect of the journal from contract negotiations with the publisher, to hiring new editors and continuously advising the editorial office in important and often delicate matters of the Journal. We have all thoroughly enjoyed working with him and would like to thank him for the enormous amounts of time he has spent in always taking such good care of FEBS Letters.

We are looking forward to working with Prof. Stalmans' successor, Prof. Felix Goni of the *Unidad de Biofísica* in Bilbao, Spain and hope to have a fruitful interaction with him.

The FEBS Letters Young Scientist Award winner for the corresponding author (40 years old or less) of the best research letter published in 2005 will soon be chosen. To be eligible for the 2006 award submit your manuscript to FEBS Letters at: <http://ees.elsevier.com/febsletters>.

Best wishes,

The FEBS Letters Editorial Office

Felix Wieland, Managing Editor
Patricia McCabe, Assistant Managing Editor
Tine Walma, Assistant Editor
Anne Mueller, Editorial Assistant



Formerly known as EJB
(European Journal of Biochemistry)

In 2005, FEBS Journal published over 500 articles in the areas of biochemistry, molecular biology, bioinformatics, genomics and proteomics, molecular cell biology, the molecular biology of disease, systems biology and nanoscience.

Keep in touch with all the latest articles published in FEBS Journal by signing up for free email table of content alerts!!

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the FEBS Journal

www.febsjournal.org



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**Publish in the FEBS
publications!**

Why publish in FEBS Letters ?

FEBS Letters is the internationally renowned journal combining a high-quality peer review process and over 35 years experience in rapid publication.

Transparent and Qualified Peer Review Process

All of our Editors are active scientists and known experts in their field, ensuring competent manuscript handling. Authors can follow the progress of their manuscript online.

Rapid Publication

Online manuscript processing ensures rapid handling and publication. Accepted papers are published online prior to printing.

Online Availability

Immediate free access to Minireviews and Special Issues. Free access to full-text articles after twelve months. Direct links to full-text articles from PubMed. Completely free to scientists working in low-income nations through HINARI and AGORA.

Non Profit

FEBS Letters is a society journal owned by The Federation of European Biochemical Societies (FEBS). FEBS is the copyright holder of all articles. The income flows back into the scientific community.

Annual Prize

A yearly prize of €10,000 is awarded to the young scientist who is the corresponding author of the most outstanding research letter.

Details at <http://www.febsletters.org>

International Focus

Diverse editorial board representing 18 countries. Published articles originate from over 50 countries.

Free Colour Figures No Page Charges

Use of colour is encouraged (free colour at the editor's discretion).

FEBS Letters



Upcoming FEBS Courses

FEBS ADVANCED COURSE

From Functional Genomics to Molecular Proteomics
Basic Techniques of Gene Analysis
Practical and Lecture Course

OCTOBER 2 - 13, 2006 - YEREVAN ARMENIA
Deadline for applications: 02.06.2006

Invited Speakers and Tutors:

H. Ajrapetyan V. Berezin E. Bock M. Grigorian
P. Gromov I. Gromova P. Guldberg R. Hoffmann
M. Jäättelä E. Lukanidin A. Lykkesfeldt U. Ralfkiaer

Organizers:
Noona Ambartsumian
Tamara Sarkisian

Location:
Center of Medical Genetics
National Academy of Sciences of Armenia

ARMENIAN ASSOCIATION OF BIOCHEMISTS

<http://www.febsplc06-40.dk/>

FEBS Special Meeting
Cellular Signaling - Dubrovnik
May 26-June 1, 2006

Keynote Lectures
Jean-Marie Lehn, France
Aaron Ciechanover, Israel

EMBO

Application deadline: March 1, 2006
Early registration: March 15, 2006

<http://www.dubrovnik-conference.org/>

See the complete list of FEBS Advanced Courses, Special Meetings, etc. in 2006 at

www.FEBS.org/Activities/Advanced_Courses/Advc06.htm



FEBS Debate

**Science policy — working together to shape our future***By Luc Van Dyke*

In Europe, science policies and programmes are the result of a complex interplay between national and European decision-making. For instance, funding stem cell research at a European level is subject to a moratorium because it is prohibited in some member states, whilst a EU directive on research animal welfare is imposed on national legislations.

The division of work between national and European level should be based on the principle of subsidiarity, whereby the EU would get involved only if it brings added value to the national level. Interpreting this principle, however, is not trivial. Until the recent proposal to establish a European Research Council (ERC), basic research, for instance, was considered a national scope, similar to higher education. On the other hand, national programmes and priorities are often selected on the model of the EU Framework Programme.

Scientists should engage themselves in the science policy process both at a national and European level because it determines their career and future. This mantra has been repeated very often, but with limited success. Very understandably so, for without a dedicated instrument to structure and convey their message, it is very difficult for individual scientists to get involved.

This is why FEBS, in conjunction with EMBL and EMBO, in 2000 established the European Life Sciences Forum (ELSF), a platform of scientific organizations meant to become the voice of the life scientists' community in the policy arena. But a structure without agenda is useless, and defining an agenda common to life sciences organizations turned out to be extremely difficult. The breakthrough came with the debate on the ERC, an instrument to fund basic research on a bottom-up basis at a European level. The ERC is now about to be established: An executive agency will be created by the EC and funding will be provided by the EU budget. Most importantly, scientific leadership will be in the hands of a council composed of prominent practicing scientists. The lobbying of

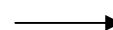
the scientific community has paid off. Undoubtedly, ELSF has played a pivotal role in this success, alone initially, then by catalysing the involvement of European organisations in all disciplines under the flagship of the Initiative for Science in Europe (ISE).

Several lessons can be learnt from this:

1. Visionary scientific leaders must provide the initial impetus and long-term commitment.
2. A professional structure with dedicated staff must be implemented to coordinate and carry out the actions, which implies that financial means must be made available (its is a good investment for the future, as shown by the creation of the ERC).
3. Being truly representative, both in term of number of scientists/organizations and legitimacy, of the scientific community is essential to be influential.
4. The agenda must be relevant to all partners (specialized issues should be dealt with by specific organisations), timely and realistic.

Does it mean that individual scientists are useless in this process? Certainly not! As organizations such as ELSF/ISE work on behalf of the scientific community, scientists must provide input and endorse their initiatives. Engaged scientists can also provide useful contacts and convey the message at a local, national and European level. Finally, and most importantly, senior scientists must play a key role in educating and raising awareness on science policy issues amongst the younger generation.

ELSF and ISE have become a very useful tool for the scientific community and a recognized partner for the Commission and Members of the Parliament. On these premises, ELSF is now preparing for the next crusade: The development of research infrastructures and their crucial role in the future of the life sciences.





FEBS Debate *continued...*

ELSF and ISE have become a very useful tool for the scientific community and a recognized partner for the Commission and Members of the Parliament. On these premises, ELSF is now preparing for the next crusade: The development of research infrastructures and their crucial role in the future of the life sciences.

Luc van Dyck is Secretary, Initiative for Science in Europe (ISE), and Executive Coordinator, European Life Sciences Forum (ELSF). E-mail: luc.vandyck@elsf.org

*We encourage you to share your view on the issues raised by this month debater — join the debate in the **"Science policy — working together to shape our future"** forum at **FEBS Bulletin Board**, www.febs.org/FebsBB!*

*If you have questions or technical problems related to the **FEBS Bulletin Board**, please contact the administrator, Peter Ott (peter.ott@febs.org).*

Opportunities

FULL TIME FACULTY POSITION OFFERED LEUVEN, BELGIUM

A full time faculty position offered within the field of Molecular Genetic at the Faculté des sciences, Département de biologie, Université catholique de Louvain. The successful candidate will be involved in teaching assignments and research mainly in the field of molecular genetic, preferably microbiology .

The applicant will:

- (a) be responsible for teaching courses at the three study levels (i.e. undergraduate, graduate and postgraduate), as well as in programmes of continuing education;
- (b) supervise the final diploma work (i.e. master thesis) of graduate students, as well as PhD theses;
- (c) be involved in (and/or supervise, promote) research programmes.

Requirements:

- (a) a PhD degree in biology or equivalent ; a significant scientific record proved by international publications ;
- (b) either studied abroad for an extensive period or had substantial experience outside UCL;
- (c) experience in and aptitude for teaching at university level the capacities required to undertake academic research at a high level and to advise, or lead, a research team;
- (d) a good knowledge of both spoken and written French. If this is not the case, the applicant should be ready to learn French within a year. Fluency in English and other languages is an additional advantage.

You can read more about the position as well as the application procedures here:
http://www.crct.ucl.ac.be/Postes_acad_vacants_2006_2007/SC_842.htm

Start date: September 1, 2006

Contact person:

Prof.Th. Hance

E-mail: hance@ecol.ucl.ac.be Tel.: +32 (0)10 47 34 93



Opportunities

MSC/PHD STUDENTSHIPS IN THE LIFE SCIENCES AVAILABLE

THE INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF BREMEN (IUB), GERMANY

The graduate school "Biological Recognition" (**BioRec**) at the International University Bremen (IUB) in Bremen, Germany, has ten studentships (with full tuition waiver) available starting September 1, 2006.

Biological Recognition is one of the most fascinating phenomena of life. Specific recognition events occur at all levels of complexity in biological systems, and their investigation requires a convergence of the disciplines of the life sciences, including structural and computational biology, biochemistry, biophysics, cell biology, physiology, and biotechnology. Faculty from these and neighboring areas have come together in **BioRec** to combine their expertise in research and teaching.

Students who enter **BioRec** with a B.Sc. (or equivalent six semesters of study) are taken to the final degree of Ph.D. within five years. In addition to practical training in three rotation laboratories and the doctoral thesis research, **BioRec** offers a combination of carefully designed didactic courses, a lively seminar program with opportunities for oral presentation and defense of scientific information and hypotheses, and teaching experience.

IUB (<http://www.iu-bremen.de>) is a private English-language research and teaching university in Northern Germany, founded in 1999, with American-type BSc, MSc, and PhD degree programs in the Arts and Sciences. It is an excellent place for graduate training in the life sciences: faculty have ambitious and interactive research programs, scientific work takes place in new and well-equipped laboratories, and other graduate (such as Nanomolecular Sciences) and undergraduate programs (Biology, Biochemistry and Cell Biology, Bioinformatics and Computational Biology, Biochemical Engineering) create a vigorous scientific environment.

As students for the **BioRec** graduate program, we seek applicants with outstanding undergraduate records in the biological, chemical, or physical sciences who show great promise of successful careers in research. Our students will enthusiastically approach a research oriented graduate program and demonstrate leadership, creativity, and commitment in the pursuit of new scientific knowledge. We offer stipends for all successful applicants which are guaranteed for two years in the first instance. A prospectus with more details and information about applying to **BioRec**, is at the website, www.iu-bremen.de/biorec/.

Application deadlines are February 1st and May 1st, 2006. Please contact us with any additional questions at biorec@iu-bremen.de.

POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWSHIP OFFERED

LEUVEN, BELGIUM

Post doctoral fellowship funded by EU programme on 'Peroxisomes in health and disease'. The goal of the project is to understand the liver phenotype of mouse models with peroxisomal deficiencies by investigating alterations in expression profiles and by cell biological, biochemical and histological approaches. One of the focuses is the connection between peroxisomes, cholesterol and bile acid metabolism, and nuclear receptors. This will also further our understanding of the pathogenesis of peroxisomal diseases in man. The fellowship is funded by EU programme on 'Peroxisomes in health and disease'.

The applicants should have a background in biochemistry and molecular biology. Expertise with gene expression analysis is an advantage.

The post is available immediately for one year with the possibility to extend up to two years.

Applications including a CV and the names of two referees should be sent before January 31 to:

Myriam.baes@pharm.kuleuven.be. For more information please call +32 16 347283



Opportunities

PHD STUDENTSHIP AVAILABLE

LEUVEN, BELGIUM

The Procter and Gamble (P&G) European Technical Centre in Strombeek (Belgium) is currently seeking a

A Marie Curie fellow (for 36 months) with a Masters degree in Chemistry, Chemical Engineering, Biotechnology; Food Technology or Textile Engineering for a vacancy at the Lab of Molecular Plant Physiology.

The research training focuses on investigating the potential of different enzymes and biosurfactants in the development of sustainable detergents with focus on bleaching enzymes like lipoxxygenase and laccase, hydrolases like carbohydrases, cellulases and cutinases, transferases for the synthesis of biosurfactant, and detergent formulation with performance measurement and impact on textiles and fabrics in laundry process. During the training, the fellow will increase the fundamental understanding of the relative performance of enzymes and biosurfactants in a detergent formulation on a wider range of soil relevant substrates, and replace current mass chemistry in the detergent formulation by enzymes. On long term, the objective is to achieve a breakthrough in the development of novel enzymes, biopolymers and biosurfactants that do not harm the environment and human health. The training is carried out by the Catholic University of Leuven (B) and P&G Eurocor (B).

We need young talented individuals who have background in (bio) chemistry, molecular plant physiology, biotechnology, enzymology or textile engineering. Experience in the field of enzyme kinetics, carbohydrate metabolism and molecular biology is desirable. In addition to technical excellence, we also look for skills such as passion for winning, creativity, innovation, initiative, communication, leadership and the ability to work with others. The successful candidate must have excellent analytical and conception skills and should fluently speak English. The fellow will particularly focus on investigating the potential of (plant-derived) transferase enzymes for the synthesis of biosurfactants.

During the fellowship you will:

- work on your own project as part of a European project team,
- have an opportunity to put your technical skills to work on intellectually challenging problems,
- improve your team working and soft skills through practical experience and interactive training courses,
- learn to work effectively with people of different nationalities and cultural backgrounds,
- experience the working environment in at a technology leader, as well as
- gain guidance on your professional development

The eligible researcher must have less than 4 years of research experience and no PhD degree. Researchers with a Belgian nationality or who have worked or studied for 12 or more months in Belgium during the last three years, can NOT apply for this vacancy. The exceptions being: (a) Belgian nationals who have worked and resided in a Third Country for the last 4 years (b) researchers with a dual nationality (Belgian-other), (c) who have not resided in Belgium for the past 5 years or (d) researchers from Third Countries

The fellowship will be available from 1 February 2006 onwards. P&G has an equal opportunities policy with respect to race, gender, religion or disability. Women are encouraged to apply. Further details on the specific trainings may be obtained by writing to Dr. Wim Van den Ende at Katholieke Universiteit Leuven, Biology Department, Faculty of Science, Institute of Botany and Microbiology, Laboratory of Molecular Plant Physiology (LMP), Kasteelpark Arenberg 31, B-3001 Leuven- Heverlee or preferably by e-mail: wim.vandenende@bio.kuleuven.be.

Application deadline: January 13, 2006

Prof. André Van Laere

Laboratorium voor Moleculaire Plantenfysiologie Instituut voor Plantkunde en Microbiologie Kasteelpark Arenberg 31
B-3001 Leuven (Heverlee)

E-mail: Andre.VanLaere@Bio.KULeuven.ac.be Phone: +32 163 21501; Fax: +32 163 21967

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Opportunities

POST DOC OFFERED

PARIS, FRANCE

A post-doc position in a CEA-funded project in Biology of Yeast Transcription is available for two years in the group of Michel Riva and Christophe Carles in Saclay. The laboratory is located close to Paris (France) in a competitive scientific environment.

We are looking for an open-minded, highly motivated molecular biologist with a desire to unravel how the communication of the three nuclear transcriptional machineries for the biosynthesis of the ribosome components is achieved at the molecular level. This will require prior training in biochemistry and molecular biology. Previous work using yeast could be an advantage. Skills of particular relevance will be RNA labeling, quantification of RNA and proteins using blotting techniques as well as protein-protein and protein-DNA interactions. Experience with ChIP analysis could be a plus. The position is suitable for a person that has just graduated with an excellent PhD thesis. The successful candidate should have good communication (in French or in English) and collaboration skills. Start date around May 1, 2006, salary around 45,000 euros/year.

Applications should consist of:

- (1) Cover letter (max two pages), which includes a motivation for application, career vision, as well as an account on own strengths and weaknesses.
- (2) Complete CV with personal details, full address and e-mail address, details on education and training, research experiences, list of publications, other interests/hobbies and any other information deemed relevant.
- (3) Names and contact details of at least two persons that could serve as reference.

Complete applications should reach the following address :

Dr. Christophe Carles or Dr. Michel Riva

SBGM. Bâtiment 144, CEA/Saclay. 91191 Gif sur Yvette Cedex France

Tel: 33 1 69 08 84 17

Deadline for application: February 28th, 2006.

Requests for information should be addressed to Dr. Christophe Carles: christophe.carles@cea.fr

web site: <http://www-dsv.cea.fr/ltg>



WWW of upcoming events

What: Comparative Immunology in the post-genomics area

When: February 21, 2006

Where: London, UK

For detailed information please see:

<http://www.euroscicon.com>

What: Symposium on Environmental Biocatalysis: From remediation with enzymes to novel green processes

When: April 23-26, 2006

Where: Cordoba, Spain

For detailed information please see:

www.icp.csic.es/abg/envbc2006

What: 31st FEBS Congress

When: June 24-29, 2006

Where: Istanbul, Turkey

For detailed information please see:

www.febs2006.org

What: BioScience2006: BioScience for the 21st Century

When: July 23-27, 2006

Where: Glasgow, UK

For detailed information please see:

www.BioScience2006.org

What: 13th International Congress of the Society for Free Radical Research International

When: August 15-19, 2006

Where: Davos, Switzerland

For detailed information please see:

www.sfrr-congress.org

What: 9th International Summer School on Biophysics

When: September 16–28, 2006

Where: Rovinj (Red Island), Croatia

For detailed information please see:

www.irb.hr/biophysics

What: 14th International Conference of the International Society of Differentiation

When: October 7-11, 2006

Where: Innsbruck, Austria

For detailed information please see:

www.meduniwien.ac.at/innere-med-1/onkologie/re_netwo.htm