WWW GUIDE

Cell and tissue culture on the web

Robert S. Sikorski and Richard Peters

Much of today's science is dependent on the technology of creating and maintaining pure cultures of cells and tissues in vitro. This is

Robert Sikorski and Richard Peters are Howard Hughes Medical Institute fellows at the National Cancer Institute and Harvard Medical School, respectively (rss@nchgr.nih.gov and rpeters@vp3.med.harvard.edu). especially true in biotechnology. To be on the cutting edge of this field, one needs access to media recipes, culture repositories, equipment suppliers, and, most importantly, hot tips from others about how to use all these elements effectively.

Because all of this information is contained on the World Wide Web (Web), this month we used our Web search engine to examine the sites that had the most useful information on this topic. In reviewing over 400 web sites, we selected twelve sites that we felt were outstanding (see below). We based our evaluations on both the quality of information available at each location and the ease with which each site could be navigated. We have included the site's page name, internet address, and a brief description to help you get started in using the Web as a quick way to gather the information you need for your specific research needs.

CELL AND TISSUE CULTURE SITES	
Page name/URL Plant Tissue Culture Information Exchange http://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/tisscult/tcintro.html	Comments . A collection of various plant tissue culture techniques from Texas A&M University.
The American Type Culture Collection Home Page http://www.atcc.org/atcc.html	. An excellent online search engine to quickly retrieve information about specific cell lines.
Development Studies Hybridoma Bank On Line http://www.gdb.org/Dan/DSHB/dshb.intro.html	. A searchable collection of over 250 monoclonal antibodies from the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development.
CCInfo Search Interface	. A searchable database maintained by the World Wide Federation for Culture Collections.
HyperCLDB. http://www.biotech.ist.unige.it/cldb/indexes.html	. A site in Italy with a searchable database of human and animal cell lines.
Gopher Menu of the ECACC	. A site at the European Collection of Animal Cell Cultures with techniques and a searchable Gopher menu.
Culture Collections Menu	. A nice list of useful cell culture resources compiled by the Human Genome Mapping Project Resource Center at the MRC.
Categories Index	. An extensive database of addresses, telephone numbers and, in some cases, web sites of suppliers of specific products. The Cell Biology Reagents database is particularly well done.
LabSEARCH Directory	. A searchable database of biomedical materials available for academic research laboratories.
Online Ordering for Biologists and Biochemists http://mbcr.bcm.tmc.edu/buying.html	A hotlist of companies that provide on-line product manuals and ordering capability. This site is maintained by the Molecular Biology Computer Resource group at Baylor College of Medicine.
CGSC: E. coli Genetic Stock Center http://cgsc.biology.yale.edu/top.html	. A searchable database of <i>E. coli</i> strains. You must request a password to log in.
Salmonella Genetic Stock Center http://www.ucalgary.ca/~kesander/	. A searchable database of Salomonella strains.

PEOPLE

Organogenesis Inc. (Canton, MA) has announced the appointment of **Donna L**. **Abelli** as vice president of finance and chief financial officer. She had been a partner with Coopers & Lybrand LLP in Boston, where she focused on high-technology companies, particularly in the biotechnology area.



CombiChem (San Diego, CA) has announced the appointment of Vicente Anido, Jr. as president and CEO. He was previously president of the Americas region of Allergan, and vice president of business management for Marion Merrell Dow. Royce Laboratories (Miami, FL) has announced that Jack Bleau will join Royce Laboratories as vice president of sales and marketing. Previously, he had been with Ciba Geneva Pharmaceuticals (Geneva Pharmaceuticals, a division of Ciba-Geigy Corporation). Mr. Bleau replaces Gene Sokol, who will become the company's vice president of business development.

NaPro BioTherapeutics (Boulder, CO) has announced the appointment to its board of directors of Vaughn D. Bryson, Mark B. Hacken, and Arthur Hull Hayes, Jr. Concurrently, two members of the board, Lawrence Helson, and Arthur D. Harrison, have resigned as directors. Mr. Bryson is currently vice chairman of Vector Securities International. Mr. Hacken is currently president of MBH International, a retail and health care consulting company. Dr. Hayes is president and chief operating officer of MediScience Associates and is a professor of medicine at New York Medical College and Pennsylvania State University College of Medicine. From 1981 to 1983 (during the first Reagan administration) Dr. Hayes served as Commissioner of Food and Drugs (FDA), US Department of Health and Human Services.

BioTechnica International (Peoria, IL) said Bruno Carette, its vice president of sales and marketing, will replace J.C. Gouache as the president and chief operating officer, effec-