

ANNOUNCEMENTS/

DECEMBER MEETINGS.

Dec. 4-6. Drug discovery conference. E. Brunswick, NJ. Info: Technology Management Group, Conferences Division, 25 Science Park, New Haven, CT 06511-1968. Tel: 203-786-5445.

Dec. 5-6. Implementation strategies for research animal well-being: institutional compliance with regulations. Baltimore, MD. Info: Conferences, Scientist Center for Animal Welfare, 4805 St. Elmo Ave., Bethesda, MD 20814.

Dec. 10-11. Aerosol drug delivery system. Atlanta, GA. Info: Pharmaceutical Division, Technomic Publishing, 851 New Holland Ave., Box 3535, Lancaster, PA 17604. Tel: 800-233-9936.

Dec. 16-20. U.S.-Japan symposium on drug delivery systems. Maui, HI. Info: Controlled Release Society Administrative Office, 1020 Milwaukee, Ste. 235, Deerfield, IL 60015. Tel: 708-808-7071.

Dec. 17-19. Conference on targeted cancer therapy. London. Info: Jayne Whelan, Targeted Cancer Therapy, Dept. of Clinical Oncology, Royal Free Hospital School of Medicine, Rowland Hill St., London NW3 2PF, United Kingdom. Tel: 44-71-794-1564.

JANUARY MEETINGS

Jan. 2-6. Obstetrics, gynecology, perinatal medicine, emergency medicine and the law. Kauai, HI. Info: American Society of Law & Medicine Conference Registrar, Ste. 150 - GPM Bldg., San Antonio, TX 78216-5674. Tel: 512-341-8131.

Jan. 12-15. Antisense strategies. Philadelphia, PA. Info: The New York Academy of Sciences, 2 E. 63rd St., New York, NY 10021. Tel: 212-838-0230.

Jan. 14-16. The world at risk: natural hazards and climate change. Cambridge, MA. Info: Center for Global Change Science, MIT Bldg., 54-1312, Cambridge, MA 02139. Tel: 617-253-4902.

Jan. 19-24. Advances in gene technology: feeding the world in the 21st century. Miami Beach, FL. Info: Miami Bio/Technology Winter Symposia, P.O. Box 016129, Miami, FL 33101. Tel: 800-642-4363.

EXECUTIVE CHANGES

Enzytech (Cambridge, MA) named Howard Bernstein vice president, research.

Somatix (Alameda, CA) announced the appointment of David Carter to chief executive officer.

Dura Pharmaceuticals (San Diego, CA) promoted David Sudolsky to vice president of business development.

ACtech (Norwood, MA) hired Alexander Floyd as operations manager.

Alkermes (Cambridge, MA) named Scott

Putney vice president of molecular biology.

Genetic Therapy (Gaithersburg, MD) announced the appointment of Gerard McGarity to vice president and director of development.

Clinical Technologies (Elmsford, NY) appointed Robert Baughman Jr. vice president, director of research and development.

Anderson Instrument (Fultonville, NY) appointed Bradford Brooks president and chief executive officer.

NIRSystems (Silver Spring, MD) announced that John Carroll has joined the company as market manager—pharmaceuticals.

Lifecore Biomedical (Chaska, MN) appointed John Heinmiller vice president and chief financial officer, and Gary Harper director of marketing for the oral restorative division.

Biomira (Edmonton, Alberta, Canada) announced the appointment of Alex McPherson as president and chief executive officer.

Roche Biomedical Laboratories (Burlington, NC) promoted Jean Smith Neff to senior vice president.

Natural Product Sciences (Salt Lake City UT) named James Jensen as vice president for corporate development and legal affairs.

C.W. Brabender (S. Hackensack, NJ) is pleased to announce Oliver von Kemenczk has been named technical manager.

Oncor (Gaithersburg, MD) announced the appointment of George Evanega as president and chief operating officer.

Immologic (Cambridge, MA) announced the appointment of Malcolm Morville to the position of senior vice president, development and preclinical research.

G.H. Besselaar Associates (St. David's, PA) appointed Gerald Faich chief executive officer.

Marrow-Tech (La Jolla, CA) announced that Michael Sabolinski will be joining the company as vice president of clinical affairs.

CORRESPONDENCE/

CULTURE GAPS

To the editor:

I would like to point out that two critical errors were made during the editing of "Growth of Transformed C-127 Cells in Bioreactors for Large-scale t-PA Production." (*Bio/Technology* 9: 805-810, Sept. 1991). The first (on p. 805) concerns the t-PA productivity of the hybrid C-127 cell line we used: this should read 1-3 µg per 10⁶ cells per day rather than 1-3 fg per 10⁶ cells per day. The second (on p. 806) concerns the projected yield of the Belco Bioreactor: this is given correctly in Table 2 as 145 mg per day but incorrectly in the text as 14.5 mg per day.

Edward McKillip
Wyeth-Ayerst Research
145 King of Prussia Road
Radnor, PA 19087

To the editor:

I was very disappointed to note the omission of Verax from your list of Sources of Cell Culture (Table 3 in "Cell Culture Over-sold." *Bio/Technology* 9: 810-812 1991). However, you may have inadvertently left us out. Because we are a privately held company and do not release sales figures, you are probably not aware that our annual revenues exceed the combined total of your list, with the exception of Celltech.

In addition, I believe that the overall tone of the article was not conducive to positively promoting bioprocessing as a necessary and key element for the success of numerous biopharmaceutical products and companies. Why didn't you present the issue in a more balanced and realistic manner?

Michael W. Young
VERAX Corporation
6 Etna Road
Lebanon, NH 03766-7504

Apologies are due for misquoting Rudi Blien of Bristol-Myers (Syracuse, NY) on the subject of selecting cell culture systems on the basis of downstream attributes. What he said was: "I would be looking at what the cell does in the broth, at what it does at harvest, and at its health status during the process. Therefore, the less DNA in the harvest, the better. And that implies that what is needed is either less cells, less cell damage or more cell retention."

—John Hodgson

SMOOTHING WRINKLES

To the editor:

I want to correct a mistake that appeared in the article "Wanted: Companies to Attack Aging." [*Bio/Technology* 9: 822-823 Sept 1991], in which it was stated that Senetek had shown that *Drosophila melanogaster* transformed with a vector containing an elongation factor 1-α (EF-1α) gene have a longer lifespan than control flies. Although Senetek researches in this area, the work quoted was in fact carried out by John Shepherd and colleagues in Walter Gehring's laboratory in Basel, Switzerland [*Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. U.S.A.* (1989) 86: 7520-7521], and not in our laboratories. Similarly, it has not (yet) been shown that our proprietary compound "Factor X" reverses such age-related change: as wrinkles and loss of elasticity in cells *in vitro*.

Nicholas J. Coppac
Senetek plc
Voldbjergvej 14A
8240 Risskov