

19th ESAB NEWSLETTER – December 2005

1. Upcoming ESAB events in 2006 (incl. deadlines)

The symposium on **Multistep Enzyme Catalysed Processes** will take place from 18-21 April 2006, in Graz/AT, organised jointly by the Research Centre Applied Biocatalysis and ESAB. The website <http://www.applied-biocat.at/mecp06> is continuously being updated. The deadline for all kinds of presentations is **19 December 2005!!** I have been told that the organisers will be flexible, but you really should submit your contribution before Christmas!

The symposium on **Environmental Biocatalysis: From remediation with enzymes to novel green processes** will be held in Cordoba/ES, from 23-26 April 2006 under the auspices of ESAB, see www.icp.csic.es/abg/envbc2006. The deadline for posters and cheap registration is **31 January 2006**.

The 3rd Symposium on **Biocatalysis in the Food and Drinks Industries** will take place in Wageningen/NL from 24-26 September 2006. This event is jointly organised by ESAB and the graduate school VLAG; the organising committee is led by Maurice Franssen. The following invited speakers have confirmed their participation: Egon Bech Hansen (Danisco), David Clark (DMV), Lutz Fischer (Univ Hohenheim), Scott Power (Genencor/Danisco), Jens Schrader (DECHEMA), Jeroen Hugenholtz (NIZO Food Research), Jan Delcour (Cath. Univ. Leuven), Albert Doderer (Heineken). More details will be published early 2006 at the website <http://www.wau.nl/vlag/conf.htm>.

There are plans for a second symposium on **Protein Design and Evolution for Biocatalysis**. Organisers will be prof. Uwe Bornscheuer (DE) and dr. Roland Wohlgemuth (Fluka, CH). The location will be Greifswald, north-east Germany; the date will probably be early September 2006. In conjunction with this event there will be a course on Directed Evolution in Vilnius, Lithuania, organised by prof. Juozas Kulys and Roland Wohlgemuth. Details on both events will be announced later.

2. Brussels affairs

The final draft of the Strategic Research Agenda of the Technology Platform on Sustainable Chemistry, of which Industrial Biotechnology is one of the pillars, is now available at our website (http://www.esabweb.org/Technology_Platform.html).

3. Season's greetings

Dear ESAB members, the year 2005 is almost over. From our point of view, it was a very successful year. We have had several excellent symposia. We contributed to the publication of a very stimulating Vision Paper on Industrial Biotechnology, and a Strategic Research Agenda which will enable all of us to perform Sustainable Chemistry by using White Biotechnology. Thanks to the efforts of our friends at DECHEMA, we have a beautiful website now.

Concerning our plans for 2006, we will continue to organise useful events for you, as you can read in the first part of this newsletter. At the end of 2006, FP7 will start and we will continue our efforts to have calls for proposals which are relevant for our field of research, right from the start.

On behalf of the ESAB Board and Scientific Committee, I wish you a very Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

Maurice Franssen (chairman of ESAB)