Andreas Sputtek

Von:	SFC@portland-services.com
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An:	Dr Andreas Sputtek

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E-BULLETIN DECEMBER 2011

Dear Colleague

Welcome to the final E-Bulletin for 2011. The Society elections have just been completed, and the results sent out by e-mail to our members. This was the first election run on the electronic voting system overseen by Portland Customer Services, our professional Secretariat. It was also a busy year in the Board cycle with 6 positions to be filled. I would like to thank Secretary Andreas Sputtek for the hard work he contributed, along with the Portland staff, to introduce the system. Electronic voting was identified by our members as one improvement which they wanted to see, and the system seems to have worked well in this first year, with only minor problems encountered. We would certainly like to hear your opinions and suggestions for further improvements, please send them to the e-mail address at the given at the end of this bulletin.

As President, I would like to add my thanks to all those members who agreed to stand for election. To progress, our Society needs to tap into new ideas and expertise from as many of our members as possible, and by standing for election, these individuals greatly help towards those ideals. I would like to congratulate the successful candidates: **Erik Woods** (President-elect), **Yuksel Acga** (Secretary), **Gloria Elliott** (Treasurer), and Governors-at-large **Andreas Sputtek**, **Barbara Reed**, and **Eric James**.

What's New?

1. Cryo2012 Meeting

We have a lot of new information about Cryo 2012, from our hosts Joaquin Rodriguez, Edgardo Guibert and their group in Rosario, Argentina. As heralded before, this will be a unique and exciting opportunity to meet with our cryobiology colleagues across Latin America.

CRYO 2012, Rosario, Argentina, June 3-6, 2012

CRYO 2012 will be the 49th Annual Meeting of the Society for Cryobiology. The meeting will cover a wide range of subjects including hypothermia, physiology of resistance to cold in plants, and applications of cryobiology in conservation/freeze-drying, surgery, cell, and tissue and organ preservation. Relevant aspects of biology, molecular biology, physics, chemistry, physical chemistry, biochemistry, physiology, medicine, transfusion medicine, cryosurgery, cryomicroscopy, mechanical engineering, tissue engineering and transplantation will also be covered. For major information, visit the web page: http://www.cryo2012.org

Important dates

Abstract submission deadline – 15 March 2012.

Early registration deadline - 2 May 2012

Conference Desk

The Conference Desk will be located in entrance hall of the Ros Tower hotel. In urgent cases until the meeting and during usual working time (8-17hs, local time), the desk for further information can be reached using: +54-341-4238990 extension 35 (phone) +54-341-4238990 (fax)

During the meeting, the opening hours of the Conference Desk will be as follows: Saturday, June 2, 2012 - 17:00 - 21:00 Sunday, June 3, 2012 - 7:30 - 19:30 Monday, June, 4, 2012 - 7:30 - 19:30 Tuesday, June, 4, 2012 - 7:30 - 13:30 Wednesday, June, 4, 2012: 7:30 - 19:30

Registration

Early Registration Rates

Members: US\$300, Non-Members: US\$400, Students: US\$150, One Day Registration: US\$200

Registration rates will increase on Wednesday, May 2, 2012

Members: US\$350, Non-Members: US\$450, Students: US\$200, One Day Registration: US\$200

Methods of payment

The following forms of payment will be enabled:

- 1. deposit in bank account, in bank of USA.
- 2. VISA credit card
- 3. MASTERCARD Credit card
- 4. Cash (in secretary desk during the congress)

Scientific Program

There will be 3 symposia, 6 sessions of free communications and 2 poster sessions. This year the PLS Crystal Award Competition will take place in a single session on Wednesday 6 from 8:30 – 13:00. The Best Poster Award Competition takes place during the poster sessions on June 3 and June 4 from 16:00 - 18:00. Both awards and the Society for Cryobiology Student Travel Grants will be handed over during the Awards lecture on June 6, 16:00 - 18:00 hs.

The Web Site

<u>http://cryo2012.org/</u> is also being updated, and contains links to information about the city and environment of Rosario. *Save the Dates – June 3 -6, 2012!*

Members – please note that these dates are a little earlier in the year than usual for our Annual Meeting – to allow for the seasons' change to the Southern Hemisphere.

Details for Student Travel Grants will be announced early in 2012 and information placed on the Society web site.

2. Annual Dues – New Online Renewal Option

Our Secretary Andreas Sputtek has been working hard with Portland to put in place a new on line payment option. Renewal forms have been sent out by post some time ago. This year the OPTION of an online renewal via a secure server has been introduced:

https://www.portlandpress.com/secure/sfc/memform/default.htm

and we kindly ask members to use this option. The information needed is the membership number (which is specified on the renewal forms sent). If not at hand, members can contact Portland Customer Services using : <u>sales@portland-services.com</u>

3. Knowledge Transfer, Consensus Practices and the Society

Members of our Society are continuing to link with professional societies (SLTB and ISBER) in the discussions about developing consensus guidelines in cryobiology and plan to have a first stage report in the New Year. We encourage any members who want to be involved in that to contact the President (mail address below).

4. End of the Year and Changes for the Board

As we move into 2012, the new Board representatives will take office. We welcome John Crowe as our President with our best wishes , and he will be leading the team with the newly-elected Officers and Governors at large.

The full details will be announced early in the New Year, and anyone wanting to contact the Society can use the e-mail address shown at the end of this Newsletter.

I would like to take the opportunity to say that I have greatly enjoyed the President's role, and to thank the many, many people in the Society who has helped me over the past 2 years! The importance of cryobiology in science and medicine continues to be recognised, and there will be many exciting challenges and opportunities in the future, and our new President will be taking those forward, with all our membership.

Members' Services

Want to find out the latest, up-to-date information on our Society, link to other members or add your comments? Check out the Society Web site at http://www.societyforcryobiology.org/

Want to publish your paper in Cryobiology?

• Go to Member's Area and Publications - Details can be found for on-line submission or electronic access to past volumes.

• How about visiting and contributing to one of the Bulletin Board / Announcements sections?

Members Corner

You are invited to use this space to Announce exciting New progress in your areas of Cryobiology, new projects starting or grant successes, important publications or vacancies in your research groups.

Dr Gloria Elliot, UNC Charlotte, USA has a post-doctoral position for 2012

• Researching new preservation agents and formulations to preserve biologics. For details - Contact : <u>gdelliot@uncc.edu</u>

UK Consortium funding for Development of a GMP Cryogenic Cold Chain for clinical deivery of Regenerative Medicine Therapeutics

• Groups in the NIBSC UK Stem Cell Bank, University of Manchester & University College London, Roslin Cells Ltd, and led by Asymptote Ltd, have been awarded a grant of £1.4 millions from the UK Technology Strategy Board to develop GMP-compliant cryopreservation technologies which will allow future progress and clinical translation across a range of cellular therapies.

• Further details can be seen at <u>http://www.innovateuk.org/content/news/85-million-grant-funding-to-boost-uks-regenerative.ashx</u>

Liquidus tracking under investigation in UK as a new approach to cryopreservation

• University College London are also involved in a joint project with Planer plc, UK, to investiage liquidus tracking as a method for scale up in cryopreservation technologies.

• Information can be found at :

http://news.biocompare.com/News/NewsStory/405017/Planer-Supporting-PhD-Student-To-Test-Cryo-Preservation-Of-Larger-Volume-Cells-Using-Planer-Liquidus-Tracker.html

(If you have news or a wish to see other items in the E-Bulletin, let me know).

Barry Fuller President Society for Cryobiology sfc@portland-services.com

07.12.2011