

The US-EC Task Force on Biotechnology Research

Virtual Tissues Conference

April 21-23 2009, Research Triangle (NC, USA)

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US-EC Task Force on Biotechnology Research



Purpose

To increase mutual understanding of US and EC programs and activities related to biotechnology research and to serve as a forum for information exchange and the planning of cooperative activities



The US–EC Task Force on Biotechnology Research

- ◆ Began in June 1990
- ◆ Operates under a five year Administrative Arrangement renewed by the President's Science Advisor and the Commissioner for Science and Research of the European Commission on June 8, 2006



Keys to Success

- ◆ Future orientation
- ◆ Focus on science
- ◆ Cross Disciplinary
- ◆ Broad definition of biotechnology research based on the concept of biotechnology as a set of tools



Keys to Success

- ◆ Research on economic and societal impacts
- ◆ Involvement of early career researchers
- ◆ Open, transparent dialogue





Working Group on Environmental Biology (1995-present)

To train the next generation of leaders in environmental biotechnology in the United States and the European Union to work collaboratively across the Atlantic.



Working Group on Biobased Products and Bioenergy



Applying molecular biology to create or improve biobased products and biofuels



Ad Hoc Workshops

Addressing specific researchable issues to which EC-US collaboration brings added-value



The US-EC Workshop, Challenges in Biotechnological Approaches to Disease Resistance in Plants and Animals

June 2003, Washington, DC



Plant and animal pathogens use similar molecular mechanisms of infectivity



Emerging Research Challenges and Opportunities in Immunology and Vaccinology December 2006, Ames, Iowa



An improved understanding of immunology leads to new approaches in controlling infectious disease



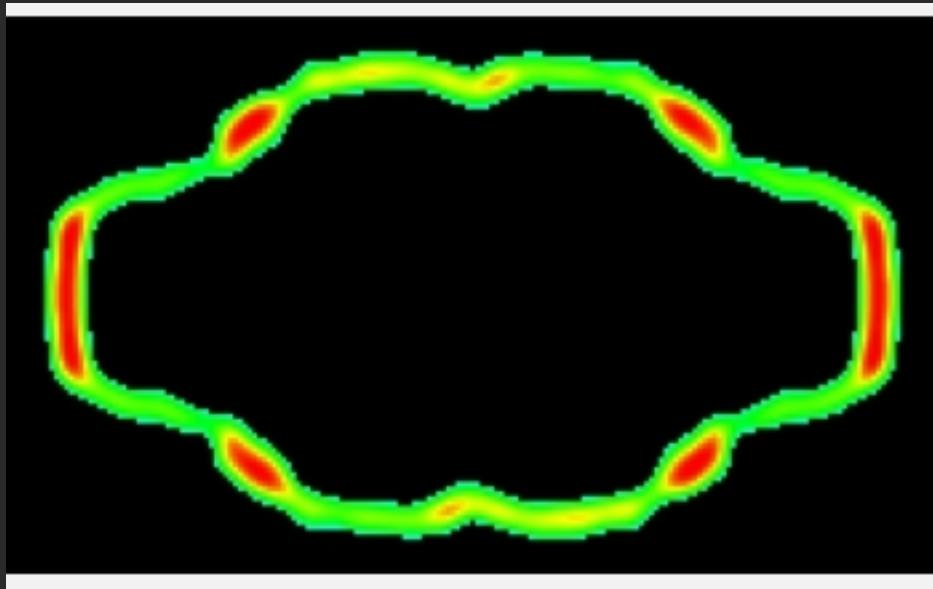
The US-EC Workshops

Thinking Small on a Global Scale
The International Outlook for Nanobiotechnology
September 1997, Arlington, VA

And
Nanobiotechnology Workshop, ISPRA, Italy, June 2008

Web Based Collaboration Building on
Diverse Strength Within Defined
Research Themes Such as:

1. Socio-economic research
2. Biointerfaces --How cells
Explore their environment
3. Nanopatterning –Uniting large and
small structures
4. Biophysics—Exploring the physics of
life at the molecular Level



EC- US Ad Hoc Workshops planned for 2009

- 1. Virtual Tissues 22-24 April 2009, at the research Triangle Park, North Carolina**
US: EPA, DoE, NSF, NIH(NIBIB)
EC: DG Research Dir. F, DG INFSO
- 2. EC-US workshop "Early life programming of obesity"**
satellite session at the congress "Prevention of weight (re)gain
4-6 May 2009, Amsterdam, NL
US: NIH
EC: DG Research Dir. E
- 3. A Global Look at Women's Leadership in Biotechnology Research , 23-24 June 2009, San Francisco**
US: NSF
EC: DG Research Dir. E, DIR L



EC- US Ad Hoc Workshops planned for 2009 and 2010

4. **Databases and Bioinformatics in plant sciences**
PLANT conference 7-10 October in Lisbon, Portugal
US: NSF
EC: DG Research Dir. E

5. **High throughput technologies and their applications/
influence on marine genomics and biotechnology**
Sept/Oct 2009 , San Diego, US
US: NSF
EC: DG Research Dir. E

6. **“Bioinformatics for Livestock Genomics 2009/ 2010**
US: USDA
EC: DG Research Dir. E

