

Mouse functional genomics: Defining future European funding strategies

Munich Airport, 6th July 2006

REPORT

Present: Allan Bradley, Steve Brown, Wolfgang Wurst, Martin Hrabé de Angelis, Johan Auwerx, Jacques Remacle, Christian Desaintes

1) International mouse K.O. mutagenesis effort:

Agreed:

Everybody agreed on the importance of having a world-wide coordinated approach in mouse K.O. mutagenesis. For this purpose the NIH, the European Commission and Genome Canada proposed to create a "steering committee" composed of few European, Canada and US scientists in addition to representatives of the funding agencies. Its responsibility will be to coordinate the different mutagenesis efforts to make it as a single world-wide initiative (on the model of the human genome project). Being the coordinators of the Eucomm project, Wolfgang Wurst and Alan Bradley will take part to this "steering committee" but EU will also propose Martin Hrabé de Angelis, Steve Brown and Johan Auwerx to join committee as representatives of the end users of the products generated in this effort.

All the participants of the 6th July meeting would like this "steering committee" to have a broader vision than the mutagenesis effort. This will be discussed when setting the mission of the steering committee.

Next:

The European Commission will continue to discuss with the NIH and Genome Canada to reach an agreement on the composition and mission of the "steering committee". We hope to announce the launch of the international coordinated effort together with the launch of KOMP. A press release will be made in coordination with NIH. Target date: early September.

2) Brussels Mouse Functional genomics conference:

Agreed:

The Participants of the 6th July meeting agreed to help the European Commission in the preparation of the Spring 2007 Brussels Mouse functional genomics workshop (A. Bradley, S. Brown, W. Wurst, J. Auwerx, M. Hrabé de Angelis agreed to be listed as the scientific steering committee for the preparation of this workshop). This workshop will consist of about 40 scientists worldwide in total and representatives from any interested funding agencies.

The mission of this workshop will be to set priorities for the future of mouse functional genomics after the mutagenesis is completed. It should be of the same format as the Banbury meeting of fall 2003, that set the basis for EUCOMM and KOMP.

Next:

The date of this workshop (2-days) needs to be set as soon as possible (target period March/April 2007). Please could all the participants of the 6th July meeting suggest the most appropriate date for this 2 day-workshop. We are trying to get F.Collins involved in this workshop and this may restrict our choice of dates available.

The participants of the 6th July Munich meeting will be consulted for the preparation of the workshop agenda and for suggesting the names of the most relevant scientists to be invited.

3) EUROBIOFUND

Agreed:

The participants of the 6th July Munich meeting recognized the importance of this initiative and wish to participate to the Helsinki Conference.

EUROBIOFUND is inviting for expression of interest. To ensure visibility of the mouse functional genomics in Europe, a EoI will have to be prepared and submitted to participate to Helsinki.

Next:

Preparation of an EoI. For guidance visit the EUROBIOFUND web site:

http://www.esf.org/esf_genericpage.php?language=0§ion=8&domain=0&genericpage=2580

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4) FP7 + PRIME

Agreed:

Christian presented the main structure and policy on FP7. It was agreed that it is important to produce an updated version of the PRIME document for beginning June/July 2007.

Next:

PRIME is foreseeing an EU meeting of the mouse community in May/June 2007. This meeting will build on the results of the Brussels Spring workshop and serve as a basis for preparing a new version of the PRIME document. This PRIME document will serve as a basis for the preparation of FP7 calls.