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FRANCE TECH INSIGHT

French Innovation News for New England
2009

N°10 - December



Consulate General of France in Boston
Office for Science and Technology



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EDITO

Dear Reader,

Welcome to the last 2009's issue of France Tech Insight. First of all, the entire team of the French Consulate Office for Science and Technology would like to wish you a very happy holiday season.

In the FTI this month :

- The Launch of our New Program, NETVA.

That's it ! The call for participants for NETVA, the New-England Technology Venture Accelerator, will be launched in France in the coming days, with the support of the French National Incubation Association. NETVA aims at building the global leadership of high potential French Technology start-ups through an intensive entrepreneurship and opportunity analysis program in the US. Expressions of interest and mentors are welcome.

- The 2009 FAID Success Story

Due to its subject, its format and the partnership with Merieux Alliance, 2009 FAID was a special edition of this high-level scientific rendez-vous between France and the United States. The success of the meeting is undoubtedly related to the combination of the call for projects' organization and one (or two) prizes of €300,000.

- **The Grand Opening of Cytoo Inc.** : the innovative French biotechnology company Cytoo opened this month its US subsidiary in Framingham, MA.

- **The Genopole, the Leading French Biotechnology science and business park**, is our "Innovation Actor of the month".

Like every month, you will find as well the latest updates in French science, technology and innovation.

I wish you a very pleasant reading and I look forward to hearing from you shortly.

Sincerely,

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THE 2009 FRENCH AMERICAN INNOVATION DAY



Theranostics and Biology: Know-How Challenges, Applications and Breakthroughs **Boston, December 3 & 4**

The subject, the format and the partnership with Merieux Alliance, made of the 2009 FAID a very successful edition for this high-level scientific rendez-vous between France and the United States.

The success of the meeting is undoubtedly related to the combination of a high-level seminar with call for projects rewarded with one (or maybe two) prizes of €300,000. The meeting was the opportunity to present the latests research advancements and projects on theranostics and personalized medicine.

The partner of the 2009 edition, Mérieux Alliance, a bio-industrial group leader in the field of diagnosis delegated Prof. Fabien Calvo, deputy director of INCA (French National Cancer Institute) as chief scientist of the meeting along with Prof. Mauro Ferrari, Department of Nano-medicine (nBME), University of Texas. Enjoying the facilities of the Harvard Medical School Conference Center, the 100 participants were glad to follow very comprehensive presentations during the two days of the event.

The first day was devoted to theranostics in oncology: from the pathological process to therapy. High level French and American scientists presented the latest advancements in the field of theranostics applied to Cancer research. We were as well delighted by the presentation of Mrs. Susan Windham-Bannister, president and CEO of the Massachusetts Life Sciences Center.

The second day consisted in a very dynamic and exciting presentation of 24 scientific projects competing for a €300,000 research grant provided by Mérieux Alliance. The quality of each project hit the audience composed of researchers, companies and investors. The opportunity was given to stakeholders from all states to present their projects (10 minutes, questions included!) to the scientific management of Merieux Alliance but also to the scientific community in both countries. But the suspense continues... we will keep you posted in January 2010 for the announcement of the €300,000 price's winner !

See the pictures of the 2009 FAID on the FLICK'R account of the French Consulate :
<http://www.flickr.com/photos/36756004@N02/sets/72157622963007906/>



Mrs Windham-Bannister (CEO, MLSC), Mr Antoine Mynard (Attaché for Science & Technology) and Mr Christophe Guilhou (Consul General of France in Boston)

Our partner this year, Mérieux Alliance, provided a large support to the event, benefiting from the event's visibility and the opportunity to access to high-end innovation projects. Should your company be interested in sponsoring the 2010 edition of the FAID, please contact the FAID project manager, Lynda Inséqué at deputy-inno.mst@consulfrance-boston.org.

We look forward to seeing you next year !

Our New Program NETVA: "Build the Global Leadership of French Technology Start-Ups"



NETVA, for New-England Technology Venture Accelerator, is a new program designed by our office to expose France's most ambitious technology start-ups to the US entrepreneurial culture and assess their opportunities in the US. The program will consist in 1/ a workshop session in France, 2/ a collaborative work between the selected companies and US Entrepreneurship students and 3/ a 7-days intensive entrepreneurship, business development and mentoring program in Boston, provided with the support of our US partners. The call for participants will be launched in France in the coming days with the support of the French National Business Incubation Association (RETIS). For the NETVA first edition, 5 start-ups will be selected and sponsored by our Office. If you are a seasoned entrepreneur and would like to share your experience with the NETVA laureates, please feel free to get in touch with Yann Le Beux at deputy2-inno.mst@consulfrance-boston.org.

Cytoo Inc: Another French Biotech Lands in New England



Cytoo Cell Architects, a French biotechnology company focused on analysis and cell screening has officially opened a subsidiary in Framingham, Mass. The ribbon cutting ceremony took place Friday 11th, in the presence of the Massachusetts Lieutenant Governor Timothy P. Murray, the Massachusetts Life Sciences Center President and CEO Dr. Susan Windham-Bannister, the Deputy Director and General Counsel to the Massachusetts Department of Business and Technology George Ramirez representing the MOITI and the MassBio Economic Development Director, Peter Abair. The Cytoo Inc. CEO, William Sharp, was delighted by this prestigious grand opening. Founded upon a CEA-CNRS technology, Cytoo commercializes 3 kinds of products (Cytoo chips, Cytoo chamber and soon Cytoo plates for screening) and its market is international (Europe, Asia, U.S). For more information, please [contact us](#) or visit the Cytoo website : www.cytoo.com

The Chateaubriand Fellowship Program - Get a Grant to Conduct your Research in France



The research and academic grants aim to initiate or to reinforce collaborations, partnerships or joint projects by encouraging an exchange at the doctoral level. The Office for Science and Technology (OST) wishes to privilege the application of American PhD candidates (or registered in an American university) running for a PhD jointly supervised by French and American scientists. The OST will provide a stipend (2,000 €/month) and cover the cost of travel. No particular level of French is required; Courses of French can be offered on site. All disciplines in Sciences, Technology and Health are eligible. The application form is available on the [Chateaubriand Website](#). **The deadline is March 31st, 2010.** For more information, you can contact Ms Pham at the OST in Washington : Phuong.Pham@ambafrance-us.org - Tel: 202 944 62 20.

Café des Sciences #26 - Jan 19 : "Interactomes et biologie systémique" by Dr Marc Vidal, Director, Center for Cancer Systems Biology (CCSB) at the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute



For the January edition of the Café des Sciences, we are delighted to welcome Prof. Marc Vidal, professor of Genetics at Harvard Medical School and Director of the Center for Cancer Systems Biology (CCSB) at the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute. He will be presenting his latest work in cancer research along with three young researchers from its lab, Anne-Ruxandra Carvunis, Benoit Charloteaux and Matija Dreze. January 19, 6pm-8pm, Cambridge Innovation Center, 5th Floor, One Broadway in Cambridge. RSVP : cafe@hubtech21.com. PRESENTATION IN FRENCH.

The CNRS Ranked N°1 Research Institution in the World !



According to the 2009 SCImago Institutions Rankings (SIR), the [CNRS](#) (Centre National pour la Recherche Scientifique), the major French governmental research organization, is the most performant research institute in the world. The ranking shows 5 indicators of performance, stressing output, collaboration and impact. For more information, please visit: www.scimagoir.com

INNOVATION ACTOR OF THE MONTH



The Genopole Biopark - Succeed Together in Biotechnology

Genopole is France's leading biotech- and biotherapy-dedicated science and business park. The Genopole project was initiated in 1998 in the town of Evry-Corbeil (in the Essonne county, just south of Paris), under the impetus of the French government, Ile-de-France Regional Council, Essonne County Council and the French Muscular Dystrophy Association (Association Française contre les Myopathies, AFM); the goal was to create France's first ever science and business park dedicated to genomics, genetics and biotech and help the country to catch up with its international rivals in these fields. By modeling itself on world-class North American and European bioclusters, Genopole has pioneered this approach in France. In addition to constant support from its founding members and other partners, Genopole's success is largely based on the novelty of its approach: bringing together public- and private-sector research labs, university teaching facilities and life science start-ups on a single campus in Evry-Corbeil.

The Genopole has a threefold mission:

- 1) develop a high-level research campus in genomics and post-genomics, focused on gene therapy in collaboration with the University Evry Val d'Essonne,
- 2) encourage the start-up and foster the development of biotech companies in the Paris region by providing personalized advice and support, including financial assistance
- 3) create a biopark in Evry-Corbeil in collaboration with the research campus.

Key-figures

- 69 biotech companies
- 20 academic research labs
- 19 shared-access technology platforms and technical facilities
- 87,298 m² of real estate
- €144,11 million of cumulative earnings by 35 companies in Genopole®'s portfolio
- €207,81 million in equity funding raised by Genopole® companies
- 670 patents filed by campus companies
- 28 molecules or biotherapies in development or on the market
- 2 293 direct jobs

For More information, visit the Genopole website (www.genopole.fr) or [contact us](#).

SPECIAL REPORTS

Piezo Institute - A European Research Center on Piezoelectricity

Do you know what piezoelectricity is? Perhaps not, although the word might seem familiar. It means the ability of certain materials to generate an electric charge in response to mechanical stress...

... Read More : <http://www.bulletins-electroniques.com/actualites/61466.htm>

SAENA Technologies Engineering Nanoparticle-based Spectral Barcode

SAENA Technologies exploits a technology stemming from the research conducted by the Spectroscopy and Nanomaterials team at the Lyons Institute of Nanotechnologies (CNRS/Ecole Centrale de Lyon/INSA of Lyons/ Claude Bernard University of Lyons) ...

... Read More : <http://www.bulletins-electroniques.com/actualites/61467.htm>

INSA de Lyon - A Leading Engineering School on the Move!

The five INSA universities located in greater metropolitan areas (Lyons, Rennes, Rouen, Toulouse and Strasbourg) make up the top ranking network of public engineering schools in France. INSA of Lyons, the oldest school that was created in 1957, enrolled 5,400 students in 2008...

... Read More: <http://www.bulletins-electroniques.com/actualites/61193.htm>

From Picosatellites to Formation Flights - The Birth of a Startup called Novanano

Novanano founders Spas Balinov and Stanislaw Ostoja presented FlyMate at the last Bourget Aerospace Show in June. Engineered in partnership with CNES, INSA of Lyons and different Lyons-based companies, the device can eject 10x10x10cm picosatellites weighing approximately 1 kilogram, and deploy them in space...

... Read More: <http://www.bulletins-electroniques.com/actualites/61194.htm>

A One-Stop Window for the Agri-Food Sector

It's name is Qualiment (QUALite nutritionnelle et sensorielle des ALIMENTS, Nutritional and Sensory Quality of Food) and it is tasked to facilitate industry operators' access to laboratories and to optimize the latter's response ...

... Read More: <http://www.bulletins-electroniques.com/actualites/61195.htm>



INNOVATION NEWS

Total and MIT Sign Research Agreement on Batteries for Solar Power Storage

The four million-dollar, five-year agreement for the development of a new stationary batteries for solar power storage, which was signed by Total and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), is in line with the MIT Energy Initiative that the French oil group has been partnered with since November 2008.

... Read More: <http://www.bulletins-electroniques.com/actualites/61469.htm>

Photovoltaics -Total, Ecole Polytechnique and CNRS Create NanoPV

The joint research team called NanoPV that has just been created by Total, Ecole Polytechnique (top graduate engineering school) and CNRS (LPICM, Laboratoire de Physique des Interfaces et des Couches Minces, Laboratory of Interfaces and Thin Film Physics) will be based on the Ecole Polytechnique campus, Saclay plateau near Paris.

... Read More: <http://www.bulletins-electroniques.com/actualites/61196.htm>

GOLAEM Target - Moving Humans for Simulations

Moving humans are always absent from digital simulation. So reports Patrice Le Moing, the General Manager of the Golaem startup, a product of the Bunraky team at the Rennes INRIA Center and the first project to receive support from IT-Translation, formerly INRIA-Transfert.

... Read More: <http://www.bulletins-electroniques.com/actualites/61470.htm>

The Intrinsic Taste of Water and Consumer Preferences

In December, Eric Teillet will be defending his thesis, thus completing three years of research on the intrinsic taste of water for the Eau Bonne A Boire (good drinking water) project, also called Sens'eau sponsored by Lyonnaise des Eaux and accredited by VITAGORA.

... Read More: <http://www.bulletins-electroniques.com/actualites/61471.htm>

Bronchiolitis: The 3D Structure of Key Virus Region Revealed

More than 70% of winter bronchiolitis cases in young children is caused by Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV). Scientists believe that all children will have been infected by the virus before the age of three. A third will develop lower respiratory tract infections, with half requiring hospitalization.

... Read More: <http://www.bulletins-electroniques.com/actualites/61472.htm>

Thermal Cameras with Enhanced Capabilities in the Making

Sofradir, a leader in advanced infrared (IR) detectors for defense, space and civil applications and FLIR Systems Inc., the global leader in thermal imaging, IR cameras and night vision systems, are working together on third-generation dual-band detectors to engineer thermal cameras with enhanced capabilities.

... Read More: <http://www.bulletins-electroniques.com/actualites/61197.htm>

CLUSTERS UPDATE

Development of a Center of Excellence on Green Processes

As this is the goal set by the three Competitive Clusters (PASS, PEIFL and TRIMATEC), they signed a partnership agreement to this effect on November 5, 2009. The Pole Parfums Aromes Senteurs Saveurs (PASS, perfume, aromas, scents, savors) hub is the number one French concentration of the world 's leading companies producing ingredients for aromas and perfumes.

Read More: <http://www.bulletins-electroniques.com/actualites/61468.htm>

CSGA - France's Unique Cluster for Taste and Food

The idea has been around for several years. The scientific community in the Dijon region, specialized in taste and sensory perception, was determined to build a large strong cluster with international visibility, focused on olfaction, taste and food. As their first attempt failed, the different research and higher education establishments involved in the approach decided to re-launch the project that has just been successfully completed.

... Read More: <http://www.bulletins-electroniques.com/actualites/61201.htm>

CHALLENGING JOBS IN FRANCE

Postdoctoral Research Fellow Position at the URGV (Plant Genomics Research)

A two-years postdoctoral position, funded by the Genopole (www.genopole.fr), is available at the URGV (Unité de recherche en génomique végétale: INRA - CNRS - Université Evry Val d'Essonne). The Postdoctoral fellow will join the team "organization and evolution of plant genomes" (www.versailles.inra.fr/urgv) of Boulos Chalhoub and will collaborate with groups of Ivo Gut at the National Center for Genotyping and Joseph Jahier at INRA-Rennes. She/He will focus on analyzing functional and epigenetic changes induced by allopolyploidy in natural and newly synthesized wheat allopolyploids, using mainly new-generation sequencing technologies.

Candidates having PhD in genetics and/or genomics, proven experience in a relevant scientific field and skills (bioinformatic, bioanalysis, Q-PCR, microarray and/or new-generation sequence analysis) are encouraged to apply. Commitment to work to high scientific standards with other scientists in the laboratory is also encouraged. No nationality condition is required but the postdoc should have obtained a French PhD and ideally is doing a postdoc outside France. The Fellowship should help her/him to come back and establish a research activity in France. **The position is expected to start February 2010.**

Applications should include a CV, a statement of interest, and contact information of two referees, and submitted by e-mail to: Boulos Chalhoub (chalhoub@evry.inra.fr).

Post-doc in cell biology/biochemistry (Inserm, Montpellier)

A 4-year postdoctoral position, funded by the FP7 EU program ADIPOA, will be available on January 2010 at the Inserm unit headed by C. Jorgensen and located in Montpellier, France. The candidate will set up animal models for OA and cartilage disease, cellular biology using progenitor cells, mesenchymal cells or adipose-derived stem cells, as well as molecular biology. The successful candidate will have a solid experience in cell biology, biochemistry techniques and animal models. Authorization to conduct in vivo experiments is required. Applications, including a short letter of motivation for carrying out this project, a CV, list of publications and names for two references should be sent by e-mail to: christian.jorgensen@inserm.fr or daniele.noel@inserm.fr. More [information](#).

Post-doc at the Laboratory of Structural Enzymology and Biochemistry, Cytoskeleton and Motility Dynamics group (Gif-sur-Yvette)

In vivo and in vitro studies have shown that lamellipodial and filopodial protrusions, located at the leading edge of a crawling cell, are generated by spatially controlled polymerization of actin filaments at the cell membrane, induced by two different nucleation machineries (WASP-Arp2/3 generates a branched network in the lamellipodium; formins generate long unbranched filaments in filopodia).

For more information: www.lebs.cnrs-gif.fr/carlier/docs/ANR_EH_PostDocAnnouncement.pdf

Call for Applications: Post-doc fellowships and undergraduate summer internships at the Institut Pasteur, Paris

Three-year post-doc fellowships are offered to American post-doctoral scientists wishing to pursue research at the Institut Pasteur in Paris. In addition, 10-week undergraduate summer internships at the Institut Pasteur offer hands-on laboratory experience to students contemplating a scientific career. Open to US citizens. Deadline for post-doc fellowship applications: September 11th, 2009. Deadline for internship applications: December 18, 2009. [Website](#) or [Facebook](#) or [LinkedIn](#) or [Twitter](#)

Total is recruiting researchers in biotechnology

The oil group TOTAL is currently looking for several researchers who will work with partner laboratories, in Europe and in the US, within the scope of joint research projects on the themes "deconstruction of lignocelluloses," "feedstocks" and "algae." [Learn more](#) about these opportunities.

EVENTS IN FRANCE

Plant International Meeting - The Davos of Plants

The Third Plant International Meeting (PMI), now considered as the "Davos of Plants", will be held in Angers from January 12 to 14, 2010. Three hundred and fifty decision-makers and researchers are expected to attend the event that is organized every two years by VEGEPOLYS...

Read More: <http://www.bulletins-electroniques.com/actualites/61474.htm>

Seventh Week of Sound

From January 12 to 24, 2010, the Seventh Week of Sound will be held in forty cities across France. The not-to-be-missed event on sensitizing the public and societal stakeholders to our sound environment...

Read More: <http://www.bulletins-electroniques.com/actualites/61475.htm>

BIOMEDevice Europe 2010 - The First European Event on the New Generation of Combined Medical Products

Next February 1 and 2, BIOMEDevice Europe 2010, the number one European event on the booming market of the new generation of combined products, will be held in Paris. The

development of the products is considered as one of the most promising...

Read More: <http://www.bulletins-electroniques.com/actualites/61476.htm>

International Biomarkers Congress on Rare, Polyfactorial and Neglected Diseases

On December 10, 2009, Genopole and Genethon will be holding the International Biomarkers Congress on Rare, Polyfactorial and Neglected Diseases, in Paris. As biomarkers are the now key tools for the discovery of new drugs and the development of personalized medicine, they involve huge strategic stakes.

Read More: <http://www.bulletins-electroniques.com/actualites/61477.htm>

Acknowledgments

A large part of the scientific content included in the France Tech Insight is produced by our partner in France, the Agency for the Diffusion of Technological Information (ADIT). For more information, please visit its website.



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