Dear DABE member

Back from the Orlando meeting, I would like to update you on the DABE activities.

This year our pre-conference workshop “Plasticity, fate control and therapeutic safety of stem cells” was attended by 78 delegates. Once again the efforts of the speakers and the interest of the attendees created an open and friendly atmosphere that encouraged an honest exchange and a lively discussion.

Most speakers prepared reviews that will be published in a Special Issue of Theriogenology in the coming weeks. In the meanwhile you can find the accepted manuscripts in the Theriogenology web site http://www.theriojournal.com/home

As usual, we also had our short open committee meeting and, in attachment, you can read the minutes kindly prepared by our Secretary Katrin Hinrichs.

DABE is becoming a stable feature of the IETS society and of its annual meeting, fulfilling DABE’s main goals of disseminating information and fostering collaboration.
Recharged by the positive atmosphere in Orlando, we are preparing a series of new initiatives that all of you are warmly invited to join in.

**2012 Workshop in Phoenix**

Next year, in collaboration with a symposium organized by Pascale Chavatte Palmer and Matt Wheeler, we will try to evolve from a half-day to full-day format.

The theme of the workshop will be the “The use of domestic animals as biomedical models” (or “large animal models”, as they are referred to by the mouse people).

If you think that you can contribute to the workshop with a 30 min presentation (25’ + 5’ of discussion) NOW IS THE TIME TO LET ME KNOW. Please send me a proposed title and a brief abstract (5 lines will be enough).

I will collect all the suggestions, try to collate them in a coherent proposal and put it forward to the IETS Board for final approval to organize the workshop as a satellite event of the main meeting.

In order to remain within the time limit, suggestions and candidatures should be sent to me by e-mail ([fulvio.gandolfi@unimi.it](mailto:fulvio.gandolfi@unimi.it)) by 1 MARCH 2010

**The web site**

As you probably know, the IETS web site has undergone a thorough re-make. This includes a section dedicated to DABE that we will try to fill with useful material.

In addition to some introductory documents on the scope and organization of DABE, we plan to begin an ANTIBODY DATABASE, in which all of you are invited to share information on any antibody that you used on farm or domestic animal tissues, indicating if and how it worked, in which species and in which tissue. There will be room also for representative pictures.

Tiziana Brevini prepared a first draft with some preliminary data that will be circulated soon to all of you so that each can add his own material. Ideas and proposals on how to best organize the material are also most welcome.

**The antibody initiative**

It was suggested again, as last year in Cordoba, that one way to make good use of our little but focussed community could be to have some custom antibodies made for us as a group. This will enable us to share the costs of one of the most useful kind of research tools. All labs involved in each single-antibody project will also provide an excellent cross-validation.

So far this apparently good idea has not left the ground, so we are again trying to reach a consensus on a single antibody that would be useful to the largest group of people. This may also become apparent from the antibody database mentioned above.
Finally I would like to remind you those who volunteered to take part to the DABE Executive Committee

**Fulvio Gandolfi** Chairman (fulvio.gandolfi@unimi.it)

**Katrin Hinrichs** Secretary (khirichs@cvm.tamu.edu)

**Matt Wheeler** Web Site Development (mbwheele@uiuc.edu)

**Harlan Howard** Liaison with FDA, other relevant US Agencies (harlan.howard@fda.hhs.gov).

**Charles Long** Industry Liaison (clong@cvm.tamu.edu)

**Damien Paris** Scout for European funds (D.Paris@uu.nl)

Please contact us for any further query or to propose and volunteer for other tasks.

That’s all for now.

I will come back to you again in a while with an update of those two initiatives and with new ones to start.

Happy self-renewal to everybody

Fulvio