



The Antibody Society Newsletter

Volume 1, issue 1.

Spring/Summer 2011

Welcome to the inaugural issue of The Antibody Society (TABs) Newsletter, which is designed to update the membership on current and future activities of the Society. TABs serves to create common ground for the antibody engineering, novel binder, and related therapeutics community. We organize and encourage meetings, pursue antibody-related therapeutic initiatives, and support our next generation of scientists.

This issue includes updates on (1) our website; (2) TABs-affiliated journals; (3) the 2011 Annual Meeting of the Antibody Society, December 4 – 8, 2011 in San Diego; and (4) benefits of membership in the Society. Details of the Annual Meeting will be available on our website by August.

Society website activities

The Society website has continued to undergo numerous improvements in the past year, to make it a more valuable resource for members. This includes periodic improvements in the initiative for “Guidelines on Information About Therapy Experiments”, which include online GIATE computer resources from Prof. Richard Begent at University College London (UCL) and colleagues including Dr. Larry Wang (GenScript), and a valuable monthly summary of the latest advances in making antibody therapeutics into clinical products (Antibody News) written by Dr. Janice Reichert at Tufts University.

TABs is also pleased to announce the comprehensive improvement of our website through the generous efforts of our Webmaster, Dr. Berend Tolner at UCL. During this period, our current website will be fully operable, including the monthly column on Antibody News. Please continue to visit our current website (antibodysociety.org) for timely information about TABs activities, monthly postings on news in the antibody therapeutics area, our comprehensive list of approved antibody therapeutics, links to informatics resources and GIATE, and to renew your membership or keep your address current. We hope to add a Jobs Board to the website, probably starting with the current version of the website.

Society-affiliated journals

To serve its broad membership, the Society is pleased to be affiliated with two PubMed-indexed journals, *Protein Engineering Design and Selection (PEDS)* and *mAbs*.

PEDS (peds.oxfordjournals.org) is the Official Journal of The Antibody Society. It publishes research papers and review articles relevant to the engineering, design and selection of proteins for use in biotechnology and therapy, and for understanding fundamental properties of activity, stability, folding, misfolding and disease. In cooperation with TAbS, *PEDS* will publish a special issue devoted to antibody research in September 2011.

mAbs (landesbioscience.com/journals/mabs) is the Therapeutic Journal of The Antibody Society. Its mission is to provide a forum for communication on all topics relevant to antibody research and development, with a focus on therapeutics. The broad scope ensures that the journal's articles are of interest to scientists, clinical researchers, and physicians, as well as the wider mAb private sector community, e.g., readers interested in investment, regulatory requirements, and strategic planning.

In cooperation with TAbS, *mAbs* published a comprehensive report on the 2010 Annual Meeting of The Antibody Society [organized with the TAbS Board as our Annual Meeting and IBC's 21st Annual Antibody Engineering and 8th Annual Antibody Therapeutics International, in San Diego, CA USA]. The report, which appeared in the March/April 2011 issue of *mAbs*, can be freely downloaded from: <http://www.landesbioscience.com/journals/mabs/article/14939/>

2011 Annual Meeting of The Antibody Society

The 2011 Annual Meeting of the Society (also IBC's 22nd Annual Antibody Engineering and 9th Annual Antibody Therapeutics International Conferences) will be held December 4-8, 2011, at the Hilton San Diego Bayfront Hotel in San Diego, CA USA. Information can be found at our website and at ibclifesciences.com/antibodyeng/overview.xml. Save these dates for this important event. Details and registration will become available in July/August.

Substantial contributions to the meeting are made by TAbS members, who serve on the Scientific Advisory Boards, act as session chairs, and sometimes give presentations. The 2010 conferences featured over 100 presentations and 100 posters, and included a pre-conference workshop on deep-sequencing of antibody genes. The total number of delegates exceeded 800, and set a new attendance record for the conference.

Benefits of supporting The Antibody Society through membership

The standard membership fee for TAbS is \$100. Fees are reduced to \$50 for post-doctoral fellows. Membership is **free** for graduate and undergraduate students. Benefits of membership include a 20% discount to the Annual Meeting of TAbS on Antibody Engineering and Antibody Therapeutics and markedly reduced subscriptions for TAbS-affiliated journals. Information about the Annual Meeting on Antibody Engineering and Antibody Therapeutics can be found at the TAbS website and at ibclifesciences.com/antibodyeng/overview.xml. Taking

advantage of the 20% discount far exceeds your TAbS membership fee, as do reductions in journal subscriptions!

We encourage your continued participation the Society. Please renew your membership through the TAbS website: antibodysociety.org . We are in the early stages of creating The Antibody Society Research and Education Foundation, which will be a significant charitable foundation for the benefit of students and young scientists in our field, and thereby for the field in general. However, we must have strong membership behind the Society, from the Student to Standard Member levels, in order to rally the support needed to make this a reality.

Board of Directors and Board of Distinguished Advisors

The Board of Directors for the Society includes a total of 10 internationally-recognized experts in antibody engineering, therapeutics, and development: Richard H. J. Begent, M.D., FRCP; Andrew Bradbury, M.B., B.S. , Ph.D.; Dennis R. Burton, Ph.D.; James S. Huston, Ph.D.; James D. Marks, M.D., Ph.D.; Andreas Plückthun, Ph.D.; Janice M. Reichert, Ph.D.; Jamie Kathleen Scott, M.D., Ph.D.; Dev Sidhu, Ph.D., and Louis M. Weiner, M.D. Our Board of Distinguished Advisors, comprising over 58 members, also supports TAbS activities and events (http://antibodysociety.org/contacts/board_of_advisors.php).

Corporate Sponsors of The Antibody Society

We are very grateful to the Corporate Sponsors of The Antibody Society, whose contributions are essential to its success. Our newest Corporate Sponsors are Dyax Corp. and Morphosys AG, who join EMD Serono, Biogen Idec, Sanofi-Aventis, DLA Piper, and IBC Life Sciences. We strongly encourage other corporations in the antibody field to join this group to enhance the vitality and growth that will become possible as The Antibody Society starts to keep pace with the expansion of this phenomenal field.

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The Antibody Society

Advancing Frontiers



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