Trends in Biotech Tools – a Growing Market or a New Bubble?

A workshop during Biotech Forum
7th Oct 2004, 10:00 – 12:00

Background

Uppsala BIO-X, a cross-disciplinary research effort focused on "Tools for Life Science", recently presented its first project. The announcement has received, and certainly deserves, attention from the life science society both due to the unusual form for selecting and financing the research project, and not least because of the project itself. Scientific proficiency and merits, combined with a commercial potential have been selection criteria, as well as the track records of the research groups involved.

The overall goal of the selected project, " Tools for High-throughput Analyses of Microbial Communities ", is to establish a new platform for massive collection of biological data, and to allow measurements of abundance of thousands of transcripts and proteins in parallel with increased specificity, quantitative precision and dynamic range compared to current high-throughput analysis technologies. Potential applications can be found in several areas of life science, in academic research, pharmaceutical industry and in diagnostics. Specific attention will be given to analysis of microorganisms that play an important role for human and animal health, the food industry and the environment.

Even if clear application areas and unmet needs can be identified, this is not a guarantee that a new research tool will become a commercial success. In this workshop we would like to address what the market for research tools looks like today and what the trends are for development and commercialisation of biotech research tools. What options are there to get ideas and products commercialised? What are the lessons to learn from earlier success stories?

By presenting a program that focusses on trends in the biotech tools market with references to the current Uppsala BIO-X effort, we hope to stimulate an important discussion. We also wish to draw attention to Uppsala as a region rich in biotechnology, as well as to the exciting Uppsala BIO-initiative.

Target groups: Tool industries, investors, post-docs, incubator managers

Program	Speaker
Introduction, and the Uppsala BIO-X Experience	Björn Ekström Co-ordinator Uppsala BIO-X
Current market trends in biotech and biotech tools	Dr Charles R. Cantor, CSO Sequenom Inc.
Where will proteomics research take us?	Prof. Ulf Landegren, Rudbeck laboratory, Uppsala University
Is there a profit to make on biotech tools – the investor's view	Dr Eugen Steiner Partner, Health Cap
Summing up, and discussion	Björn Ekström

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Registrations: Not later than September 30th at www.uppsalabio.com / Events

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