



Allison Hubel <hubel001@umn.edu>

Induced pluripotent stem cells, what's new in the library, BRC update

2 messages

BioCoR <biocor@me.umn.edu>

Reply-To: biocor@me.umn.edu

To: hubel001@umn.edu

Thu, Nov 10, 2011 at 3:16 PM



November 2011 Newsletter

Dear Allison,

Things have been busy at BioCoR. The planning meeting of the BRC was a great success and high priority projects have been identified.

The sustainability webinar was a success and we anticipate having a one-day sustainability short course starting in late 2012.

BioCoR's LinkedIn page is meant to be a forum to interact about issues related to preservation. Join the discussion.

BioCoR is a national resource focused on advancing the science, technology and practice of biospecimen preservation. We are dedicated to developing biopreservation protocols, improving preservation and storage technologies, establishing standards and guidelines and training individuals and institutions in the science and technology of biopreservation.

More information can be found on the **BioCoR** website: www.biocor.net. Or you may contact us now at biocor@me.umn.edu

Biopreservation Research Consortium (BRC) Update

The planning meeting for the BRC was held on 2Nov2011 in Minneapolis, MN at the U of MN campus. In attendance were Maria Thompson (BioCision), David Lewandowski (Cryobiosystems), Laurie Huget (Cryogenic Society of America), Tahmina Naoui (Innovative Surface Technologies), Mike Hogan (IntengenX), Helen Moore (Office of Biorepositories and Biospecimen Research, NCI), Edward Highsmith (Mayo Clinic), James Einum (Preservation Solutions), Eric Vincent (Promega), Amy Skubitz, Alptekin Aksan, Chris Wendt, and Allison Hubel (all of the University of Minnesota). The meeting was opened by Associate Deans from both the Medical School and the College of Science and Engineering as well as the director of the Institute for Engineering in Medicine where the BRC will be administratively housed.

BRC director, Allison Hubel, described the BRC, member benefits and the project selection process. This type of research consortium is meant to be member-driven so feedback from meeting participants was solicited repeatedly during the meeting. Eight different projects each addressing a need within the cell therapy and biobanking fields were presented by faculty in the BRC (Aksan, Hubel, McKenna, Skubitz and Wendt). The projects ranged from development of an improved protocol for the preservation of mesenchymal stem cells (MSCs) to automated screening of freezing solutions using spectroscopy. After completion of the project presentations, the evaluator (Ed Highsmith, Mayo Clinic) led a member discussion of the BRC without any U of MN representatives present. The consensus was that the BRC fills a critical need in both cell therapy and biobanking. In addition, the participants identified a significant number of projects in the pre-competitive area suitable for the BRC. Three high priority

projects were selected with enthusiasm for other projects as well. The BRC faculty extend their thanks to the hardworking participants in the meeting.

Sponsors of the BRC: ISBiotech and the Cryogenic Society of America. Several other professional societies are in the process of approving sponsorship as well.

Sign up now to be a member of the BRC!

We are signing up members until early 2012 with the first round of projects starting shortly thereafter. We would be happy to send you a membership agreement and a listing of projects of interest. Dr. Hubel is traveling to companies interested in joining the BRC for the next few months. If you would like her to visit your company, please let us know. We also welcome visitors to the U of MN. It will be an opportunity to meet several faculty involved in the BRC and see our laboratory facilities.

Background information on the consortium can be found on the BioCoR website ([consortium website](#)), email us at biocor@me.umn.edu or you can call us at [612.625.6808](tel:612.625.6808).

Linked In discussion topic of the month

Join the discussion of preservation issues on our LinkedIn site!([BioCoR Linked In Page](#))

October Topic: What measures are needed to establish post thaw viability of a cell? Is trypan blue appropriate? Have you been able to validate that?

November Topic: There are hundreds of millions of biospecimens already in storage. What should the biobanking community do to help individual biobanks determine the fate of those specimens? How do we determine the shelf life of a biospecimen?

What is new on the BioCoR website?

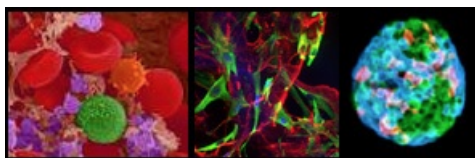
BioCoR and the Biopreservation Research Consortium was featured in a recent article in Genomeweb on-line magazine. A copy of the article can be found in the BioCoR library ([Genomeweb article](#)).

BioCoR faculty published a review article on the preservation of Biofluids in the most recent issue of Biopreservation and Biobanking. On-line access to the article can be found at ([Biofluids review article](#)).

The recent review of preservation of biofluids has gotten some very strong positive responses from the biobanking community. Are there other review article topics that would be helpful? If you have any suggestions, please send them to biocor@me.umn.edu. Topics that have been suggested thus far include:

- A review on formalin-fixed paraffin embedding of tissue. Optimal fixation and storage parameters.
- A review of preservation of cellular biospecimens

BioCoR education program



Preservation of Molecular, Cellular and Tissue Biospecimens

is available on demand through 1Jan2012.

The next offering of the course will be May 21-23, 2012.

On-line registration will be available after 1Jan2012.

New course offering!

Hands-on Training for Tissue Banking

BioCoR faculty are developing a hands-on tissue banking short course. Participants would learn the basics of developing and implementing a tissue biobank. The instruction is meant to be a combination of in-class lecture and hands-on training. If you are interested in participating in this type of training activity, please email us at biocor@me.umn.edu and we will put you on the mailing list for the course.



BioCoR would like to acknowledge the support of the College of Science and Engineering and the Academic Health Center of the University of Minnesota.

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Maryam Akhoondi <Akhoondi@imp.uni-hannover.de>
To: biocor@me.umn.edu

Fri, Nov 11, 2011 at 2:12 AM

Dear

Thank you for your email and agreement. I found your forum and website very interesting. Unfortunately I could not find the link to sign up.

Would you please help me.

My best regards

Maryam Akhoondi, M.Sc.,B.Sc.

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Von: BioCoR [mailto:allison@biocor-umn.ccsend.com] **Im Auftrag von** BioCoR

Gesendet: Thursday, November 10, 2011 10:20 PM

An: akhoondi@imp.uni-hannover.de

Betreff: Induced pluripotent stem cells, what's new in the library, BRC update



November 2011 Newsletter

Dear Maryam,

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