

Scope

During the October-February semester 2014/15 at ZHAW, teams of students (two per team) in the Master's programme in Pharmaceutical Biotechnology formulated, analysed and discussed new business opportunities (NBO) in the field of microbial biotechnology.

Each team was assigned a different NBO topic to develop and defend. This NBO course arose out of the urgent need to teach and practice cross-disciplinary competencies that are required to initiate, analyse and implement a viable business case within a specific field. The knowledge and skills developed and practiced balance theory with implementation, and make students more attractive to future employers in the biotechnology industry and/or encourage them to start their own businesses.

Students will describe the main outcomes of their analyses and defend their NBOs to a panel of experts and practitioners from industry in a workshop taking place on 02./03.02.2015. One day is reserved for student presentations and discussions with industry representatives. A further half day is for expert discussions addressing opportunities for possible improvements to the course concept and structure, with the aim of attracting interest in closer collaboration with Swiss industries.

At the end of this course, students will submit a written report.

Monday, 2 February 2015

Students' presentations (Room GB 217)

09.45 - 10.00	Opening Daniel Baumann
10.00 - 10.30	Key-note address Bruno Oesch

Presentations 10 minutes each will be followed by 20 minutes discussion, chaired by Mike Cook and Karin Kovar.

Novel products

10.30 - 11.00	Disinfectant products from microalgae Dania Diem and Alexander Hämmerli
11.00 - 11.30	Microalgal-enhanced beauty-products Britta Badertscher and Gabriel Aeschlimann
11.30 - 12.00	Microalgae for high-value nutrition Rebekka Lampart and Jasna Muhic
12:00 – 13:00	Lunch buffet and discussion GA 209

Advanced bioprocess control

13.30 - 14.00	An improved process for enzyme production Mirjam Fitze and Martina Plačková
14.00 - 14.30	Advanced data acquisition and processing Nadezda Perepelitsa and Matthias Barmettler
14.30 - 15.30	Coffee break and discussion GA 209

Biotechnology services and supply

15.30 - 16.00	Customised supply of microalgal biomass Nadja Meier and Sarah Vogel
16.00 - 16.30	Strategies for advanced bioprocess control Leopold von Balthazar and Lukas Hugentobler
16.30 – 17.00	Summary of the day and future steps Hans-Peter Meyer and Hans P. Kocher
19.00	Dinner (at the invitation of Tobias Merseburger)

Tuesday, 3 February 2015

Meeting of expert panel (Room GA 209)

09.00 - 10.00	Impressions from students' presentations: what improvements could be made? A discussion chaired by Hans-Peter Meyer & Hans P. Kocher
10.00 - 11.30	Future prospects of the NBO-course A discussion chaired by Karin Kovar & Leona Paulová
11.30 – 13.00	Lunch & discussion
13.00 – 14.00	Discussion: Forthcoming opportunities with Horizon 2020 MC-INT & BREF programmes Niklaus Waldvogel (Euresearch Contact Point SME)

Industry mentors:

Hans P. Kocher,
Maria Lüder,
Hans-Peter Meyer,
Bruno Oesch,
Roland Wohlgemuth,
and other invited guests

Lecturers from ICT Prague:

Karel Melzoch,
Leona Paulová

Lecturers from ZHAW:

Mike Cook,
Karin Kovar,
Tobias Merseburger,
Lukas Neutsch

Support units at ZHAW:

Susanne Dombrowski,
Niklaus Waldvogel