



: editorial

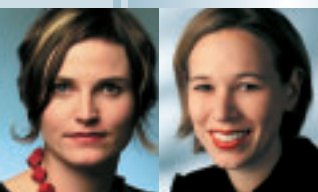
Dear Readers,

Looking back, **2006 was a year of highly encouraging beginnings** for life sciences in the Vienna region. Entrepreneurial activities were much in evidence, with five new Viennese start-ups in 2006. f-star, Telovital, Marinomed, Signalomics and Vela will bring valuable innovations in red biotechnology, medical technology and diagnostics to the life sciences scene. Sandoz spin-off Nabriva Therapeutics Forschungs GmbH is another success story. It has launched its antibiotics development program on the back of a first round financing package of EUR 42 million - one of Europe's largest ever.

There were also three relaunches in LISA Vienna Region. Our **revamped website** (www.lisavr.at) gives a more informative overview of our services, of life sciences, commercial activities, financing and events in the Vienna region.

The Austrian Life Sciences Directory has been updated in partnership with Austria Wirtschaftservice GmbH and Austrian Research Promotion Agency. You can use it to find out more about life science companies and research organisations throughout Austria (www.lifesciencesdirectory.at).

The third relaunch affects the **LISA VR management team**: Edeltraud Stifinger, who has shaped the growth of the Life Science Austria Vienna Region since its inception, has left the team. We would like to take this opportunity to thank her for her dedication and hard work, and wish her every success in her future in industry. By their joint efforts the new executive team will continue to support the sustainable development of the Life Science Location.



Eva Czernohorszky
Michaela Fritz
Executive Board

▶ www.lisavr.at

For more information on the Vienna life science scene read on, or visit us at BIO 2007 in Boston (Booth 1265).

From Yale to Vienna: first scientific director for Max F. Perutz Laboratories



Graham Warren

At the Campus Vienna Biocenter, the University of Vienna and the Medical University Vienna pool their expertise of more than 50 research groups in Molecular Biology in the Max F. Perutz Laboratories (MFPL). In January 2007 Graham Warren started his work as the first Scientific Director of MFPL.

▶ Via Cambridge and Yale to Vienna

Graham Warren graduated from Cambridge University with a degree in biochemistry. After a post-doctoral stay in London, he worked as a group leader at the European Molecular Biology Laboratories (EMBL), Heidelberg, Germany. He then held a Chair of Biochemistry at Dundee University in Scotland, followed by a position as Principal Scientist in London, UK, and a Professorship of Cell Biology at Yale University School of Medicine, USA. In addition Graham Warren is on the editorial boards of many renowned scientific journals.

▶ A vision for Vienna

Warren about his ideas and plans for Vienna: "My most important task as Direc-

tor will be to help hire the next generation of scientists, who will both expand existing strengths at MFPL and create new ones. We will hire ten new junior professors in the next five years, in addition to two senior professors. Another important concern will be to attract the best graduate students from all over the world to do their PhDs here at the MFPL. We will enlarge the existing PhD programme here at Campus Vienna Biocenter to compete with the best research centres in the world."

▶ Max F. Perutz Laboratories (MFPL)

The Max F. Perutz Laboratories (MFPL) represent a new and innovative contribution to strengthening joint research and training at the University of Vienna and the Medical University of Vienna. MFPL and the Institute of Molecular Biotechnology (IMBA), the Gregor Mendel Institute of Molecular Plant Biology (GMI) and the Research Institute of Molecular Pathology (IMP), together with promising biotech companies, form the internationally reputed Campus Vienna Biocenter.

▶ www.mfpl.at

▶ www.univie.ac.at/vbc/PhD





Fibrex Biomedical Team including Rainer Henning, CEO (left, first row)

Fibrex Medical - Prescribing Innovation for Inflammation

Analyzing fundamental mechanisms which govern the complex inflammation cascade, FIBREX Medical has discovered novel peptides with anti-inflammatory activity.

FIBREX Medical is a development stage biopharmaceutical company based in Vienna, Austria. The FIBREX team is led by CEO Rainer Henning, an experienced pharma and biotech manager; the company currently employs nine people. Founded in 2001 by Peter Petzlbauer, Department of Dermatology, of Medical University of Vienna, FIBREX obtained significant venture capital from leading international funds, like Atlas Venture, Global Life Science Ventures,

EMBL Ventures and Mulligan Biocapital in 2005.

The company is developing innovative therapeutics for the prevention and treatment of pathologic inflammatory reactions, called Inflammatory Response Syndrome (IRS). Fibrex's current therapeutic targets are: myocardial infarction, septic and hemorrhagic shock, graft rejection following organ transplantation, Dengue and hemorrhagic fevers.

cutaneous coronary intervention to re-establish blood flow has become the standard of care for patients with acute myocardial infarction. While rapid reperfusion is essential to preserve myocardium, the sudden exposure of the ischemic area to blood leads to an acute inflammatory reaction causing additional damage.

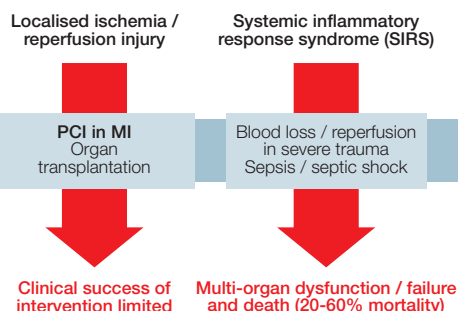
► The Innovative Drug Candidate FX06

The most advanced product of FIBREX Medical is the 28-mer peptide FX06. The lead indication selected for FX06 is the prevention of reperfusion injury following revascularisation treatment after myocardial infarction. In animal studies FX06 significantly reduced tissue damage after experimental myocardial infarction. Preclinical development and phase I clinical studies demonstrating an excellent safety profile, have been successfully completed in March 2006. FX06 is now in a phase IIa proof of concept trial. This multicenter, double blind, randomized, placebo controlled study investigates the cardioprotective efficacy of FX06 combined with reperfusion therapy in patients with first time acute myocardial infarction. "We are excited to achieve this important milestone for Fibrex Medical" states Rainer Henning, President and CEO of Fibrex Medical. "FX06 is a first in class product with the potential to provide clinical benefit to the huge number of patients who survive their heart attack, but experience deteriorating health later in life, because the damage to their heart muscle was greater than it should have been." The phase IIa study will enroll 220 patients in 20 leading centers of interventional cardiology in 9 European countries. Most advanced imaging technologies shall support demonstrating the drug's effect on heart muscle preservation. Outcome measures of efficacy are infarct size and degree of myocardial salvage. *

► Myocardial Infarction

Acute Myocardial Infarction remains to be the number one cause of death in the developed world with approximately 2.1 million new cases per year in the USA, Western Europe and Japan. Per-

► www.fibrexmedical.com



IRS is a complication in a wide range of diseases / interventions

Clinical success of intervention limited

Multi-organ dysfunction / failure and death (20-60% mortality)

modular antibodies



Gottfried Himmler, CEO

Next generation antibodies, made in Vienna - f-star



Vienna-based antibody company f-star - formed in June 2006 - has clinched an early stage financing deal with Atlas Venture for EUR 1.5 million.

Once again, a promising Vienna life science biotech start-up is making people sit up and take notice: formed in 2006 with the seedfinancing of austria wirtschaftsservice, f-star focuses on the development and improvement of antibodies and antibody fragments. This is a market with enormous growth potential: The roughly two dozen monoclonal antibodies currently on the market generate annual sales of about USD 15 billion. The enormous potential of the market for monoclonal antibodies is clearly reflected in a series of multi-million international biotech deals done over recent months: For example, Domantis of the United Kingdom was recently acquired by GlaxoSmithKline for GBP 230 million.

> f-star technology

At home in the world of proteins, f-star's work is based on the research of Florian

Rüker and team at the Biotech cluster in Vienna's Muthgasse. "The concept of modular antibody technologies actually arose as a by-product of a project researching into protein structures in partnership with an American company, New Century Pharmaceuticals," Rüker recalls. "This promising technology was then spun off into a separate company - now f-star - where the development work continues." What makes it special is, that while monoclonal antibodies only have two binding sites, the technology enables further antibody domains to be used as additional docking sites for other molecules. This permits any given antibody format to be endowed with additional functionality. The antibody formats in question include a novel f-star development, the Fcab antibody fragment. This f-star technology has the potential to improve the specificity, effectiveness and pharmacokinetics of antibodies and antibody compounds.

> Strategy for the future

The young company is headed by CEO, Gottfried Himmler and CFO, Eugen Stermetz. Taking the successful financing as a starting point, Himmler outlines the future strategy: "The proof of concept is already there for our antibody fragments. As part of the validation process, the task now is to better demonstrate the advantages of the technology and the commercial applications through in vitro testing. We also need to take the first steps towards building up a proprietary product portfolio." f-star aims to identify two to three product candidates by the end of 2008 and then develop them itself. ★

▶ www.f-star.com

Dance with us

Austria invites you
to learn
the Viennese Waltz

BIO 2007

Austrian pavilion,
booth 1265

Tuesday, May 8, 2007
5:00 - 6:30 P.M.

Meet us at Boston's BIO 2007



Get to know the Vienna Region as a prime location for life sciences at BIO 2007 (Booth 1265). The following companies are represented at the Austrian Pavilion:

- ▶ **Apeiron Biologics'** objective is to translate biological knowledge in the field of pain, ARDS and immunomodulation into innovative biopharmaceutical products.
- ▶ **Austrianova** is specialist in research, development, application and commercialisation of products for the delivery of therapeutic agents using cells and/or vectors.
- ▶ **Eucodis** uses in vivo recombination and somatic hypermutation for optimisation of industrial enzymes, production strains and generation of new biopharmaceuticals.
- ▶ **f-star** develops improved and new therapeutic antibodies and antibody fragments utilising the company's proprietary modular antibody technology platform.
- ▶ **FibreX** aims to become a leader in the development and commercialisation of pharmaceuticals targeting fundamental mechanisms of inflammation and tissue injury.
- ▶ **Avir Hills Biotechnology** uses its know-how in virology to develop and commerciali-

se innovative products that offer prevention and treatment for, e.g., influenza and melanomas.

- ▶ **Onepharm** focuses on chemical, clinical and formulation development of small molecule drugs for the treatment of viral diseases.
- ▶ **Oridis Biomed** develops targets and optimised lead substances for chronic diseases of the liver and liver cancer on the basis of one of the world's largest tissue banks.
- ▶ **Sanochemia AG** is a speciality pharma company focusing on neurodegeneration, pain and clinical diagnostics.

In addition to these companies at the Austrian Pavilion, Vienna Region's **Intercell** is also present at BIO 2007 (Booth1889). Intercell develops vaccines for the prevention and treatment of infectious diseases and is listed on the Vienna Stock Exchange.

The LISA VR team is available to answer your enquiries at Booth 1265 - please e-mail us to arrange an appointment:

▶ ecker@lisavr.at

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