

5th International Aspergillus Meeting (Asperfest)
April 4-5, 2008

Edinburgh, Scotland

Organized by the
Aspergillus Genomes Research Policy Committee

Aspergillus Genomes Research Policy Group (AGRPG)

An *Aspergillus* Genomics workshop was held at the March 2003 Asilomar Fungal Genetics meeting. From discussions in that workshop it was obvious that our community needed to organize to fully exploit genomics resources. A provisional *Aspergillus* Genomes Research Policy Committee (AGRPC) was conscripted and charged with creating a structure for community-wide coordination and organizing an annual meeting. The First *Aspergillus* Meeting was held in Copenhagen, April 21, 2004, as a satellite meeting of the European Congress on Fungal Genetics-7. In addition to scientific presentations, bylaws were approved, community research directions were discussed and the 2004 AGRPG was elected. The name *Aspergillus* Genomes Research Policy Group was adopted for the community. The objectives of the AGRPG are: (1) Provision of an educational and discussion forum for issues pertaining to *Aspergillus* genomics, in this widest sense, for the various *Aspergillus* research communities; (2) Influencing grant making bodies and other institutions on behalf of the various *Aspergillus* research communities; (3) Coordinating research activities internationally, as and when required, to future the science base of the *Aspergillus* genus. For more information on the activities of the AGRPG and other *Aspergillus* news see our homepage at FGSC (<http://www.fgsc.net/Aspergillus/asperghome.html>).

2007 AGRPC

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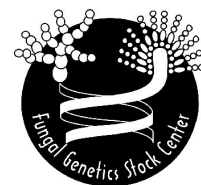
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THANKS TO OUR MEETING SPONSORS



The 5th Aspergillus Meeting

April 3-4, Edinburgh, Scotland

All sessions in the Appleton Tower LT 1

Scientific Program

April 3, Thursday

7:00 Committee members: "Get-together dinner"

April 4, Friday

8:00-9:00 Registration

9:00-9:15 **Welcome, introductions and announcements:**
Michelle Momany/Gerhard Braus

9:15-10:30 **Session I: Aspergillus Resources**
Chair: Scott Baker

Scott Baker (Pacific Northwest National Lab. Richland, USA):
"Aspergillus genomics and microarrays"

Kevin McCluskey (Fungal Genetics Stock Center, USA):
"Aspergillus resources"

10:30-11:00 Coffee Break

11:00- 12:30 **Session II: Genomic approach to industries/Biotechnology**
Chair: Masayuki Machida

Geoff Turner (The University of Sheffield)
"Secondary metabolic diversity in the genus Aspergillus" (25-30 min.)

Carsten Hjort (Novozymes)
"Introduction of Genomics as a powerful screening tool in biotechnology" (25-30 min.)

Mizuki Tanaka, Masafumi Tokuoka, Katsuya Gomi (Tohoku University)
"Codon optimization of heterologous protein expression in Aspergillus oryzae" (15-20 min.)

Masahiro Ogawa et al. (Noda Institute for Scientific Research)
"Construction of a disruption mutant library of the transcription regulatory genes in koji-mold Aspergillus oryzae" (15-20 min.)

12:30-01:30 Lunch

- 1:30-3:15 **Session III: Cell Biology**
Chair: Gerhard Braus
- Steve Osmani (Ohio State, Columbus OH USA):
"Cell cycle regulation in Aspergillus nidulans" (25 min.)
- Claudio Scazzocchio (Université Paris Sud, France):
"Casein kinase I and amino acid transporter topogenesis in Aspergillus nidulans"
 (25 min.)
- Takahiro Shintani (Tohoku University, Sendai, Japan):
"Cellular response to the expression of an aberrant secretory protein in Aspergillus oryzae" (15 min.)
- Ronald de Vries (Leiden University, Leiden, The Netherlands):
"Spatial differentiation of mannitol dehydrogenase and mannitol-1-phosphate dehydrogenase explains the absence of a mannitol cycle in Aspergillus niger" (15 min.)
- Terry Hill (Rhodes College, Memphis TN, USA)
"Two GDP-mannose transporters contribute to cell wall integrity in Aspergillus nidulans"
 (15 min.)
- 3:15-3:45 Coffee Break
- 3:45-4:30 **Community Directions Discussion Moderator: Michelle Momany**
- 4:30-5:30 **Pontecorvo Lecture**
Chair: Gary Payne
- Michael Hynes (Univ. of Melbourne):
"Aspergillus nidulans : the perfect fungus"
- 6:00-7:00 **Posters**
- 7:00-8:00 Free for Dinner (not included in the fees)

April 5, Saturday

- 7:30-9:00 Breakfast (Hotel)
- 9:00-9:15 Elections
- 9:15-10:15 **Session IV: Secondary Metabolism**
Chair: Arthur Ram/Kevin McCluskey
- Jonathan M. Palmer (University of Wisconsin, MA/USA):
"Increased asperthecin production in a mutant of Aspergillus nidulans defective in ascospore production" (20 min.)

Ken Oda (Kanazawa Institute of Technology, Ishikawa/Japan):
"Aspergillus oryzae LaeA Affects Production Of Kojic Acid" (20 min.)

Özgür Bayram (Georg August University, Göttingen/Germany):
"The velvet complex coordinates light, fungal development and secondary metabolism"
(20 min.)

10:15-11:15 **Session V: Selected posters**
 Chair: Arthur Ram/Kevin McCluskey

Celine O’Gorman (University College, Dublin/Ireland):
"Confirmation of identification of a population of Aspergillus fumigatus isolates from Ireland using a polyphasic approach"
(10 min.)

Feng Jie Jin (Noda Institute, Japan):
"A trial of the minimization of the chromosome 7 by large-scale chromosomal deletion in A. oryzae RIB40" (10 min.)

Birte Könnecke (Georg August University, Göttingen/Germany):
"The COP9 signalosome influences cell wall degradation and development of Aspergillus nidulans" (10 min.)

Marcia Kress (Georg August University, Göttingen/Germany):
"Three Different Cullins are Neddylated in Aspergillus nidulans" (10 min)

11:15-11:45 Coffee Break

11:45-13:00 **Session VI: Comparative Aspergillus studies/evolution/systematics**
 Chair: Jennifer Wortman

Herman Pel (DSM Food Specialities):
"Comparative genomics of A. niger strains"

Mikael Rørdam Andersen (Denmark Technical University):
"Comparative transcriptomics of three Aspergillus species"

Mike Cornell (University of Manchester):
"Development of the e-fungi database: problems and possibilities of data integration"

13:00 Announce election results and take any further discussion

13:15 **WRAP UP / End of Asperfest**
 Michelle Momany