



Dear EBBS Member,

*After what seems like a very long winter it looks like we might finally be getting a few warmer days now that we're into summer. No matter what the weather does though we can look forward to some exciting conferences over the upcoming months, starting with ECB2018 in July. EFB Vice President Professor Jeff Cole has a few words on the congress this issue, and don't forget [registration is still open](#).*

*In October our section is holding the 4th Applied Synthetic Biology in Europe conference in Toulouse. Professor Jean Marie François, who is also our Meet the Board interviewee this issue, has more information on page 3. The EUSynBioS symposium will also be attached to this meeting; more info on this next issue!*

*On a side note, Kostas from our communications team has recently taken on an exciting new role. He is now community editor at PLoS Synbio, a blog about synthetic biology. He encourages EBBS members, especially early career researchers, to get in touch with him for contributing to the blog and for help in making the first steps towards getting involved in science communications. We offer our congratulations and wish him luck with this new role, and look forward to reading more from him on his blog which you can view [here](#).*

**EFBBBS Comms Team, April 2018**

## European Congress on Biotechnology: ECB 2018

The first European Congress of Biotechnology in Interlaken, Switzerland, in 1978 marked the inauguration of the European Federation of Biotechnology (EFB). In 2018, we are delighted to welcome you back to Switzerland to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the longest running biotechnology congress in Europe. Between Lake Geneva and surrounding mountains, ECB2018 will be held in the beautiful and vibrant city of Geneva. Outstanding plenary lectures will include one from the EFB Patron and ECB2018 Platinum Sponsor Novozymes in a two-part symposium on Tuesday and Wednesday. These lectures will be complemented by four streams of symposia, highlight events and poster sessions. The strength of the biopharmaceutical industry in Switzerland will be reflected in our first dedicated stream of Medical Biotechnology. The second stream will focus on the increasing involvement of the EFB in Plant and Environmental Biotechnology. Interests of the EFB Bioprocessing and Bioengineering Section will be covered in the Industrial stream. The fourth stream will focus on latest developments in basic biotechnological research from Nanobiotechnology (jointly with our partners in the Asian Federation of Biotechnology) to Applied Biocatalysis, Biomaterials, Systems and Synthetic Biology. Throughout the Congress there will be many attractions for early career scientists, with a Publications Workshop sponsored by Elsevier designed to help achieve publication in international journals, a basic skills event, more than 140 opportunities to present short talks selected from submitted abstracts; and three prizes, the Brian Clark Award and two prizes sponsored by INOFEA for the best short talks and posters presented by early career scientists.

Register [here](#) and submit your abstract [here](#).

Prof. Jeff A. Cole  
Vice-President, Chairman  
Section On Microbial Physiology



### Section Co-chairs:



Dr. Louise Horsfall  
[@lehorsfall](#)



Dr. Tim Overton  
[@Overtonlab](#)

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# Upcoming events



18<sup>TH</sup> EUROPEAN CONGRESS ON BIOTECHNOLOGY  
1-4 JULY, 2018 • GENEVA, SWITZERLAND



[WWW.ECB2018.COM](http://WWW.ECB2018.COM)



## European Congress on Biotechnology

1<sup>st</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> July 2018

Early bird registration rates until 7-5-18

Abstract deadline 30-4-18

# Upcoming events

## 4<sup>TH</sup> APPLIED SYNTHETIC BIOLOGY IN EUROPE

24-26 October 2018 | Toulouse, France

**Synthetic biology** is a young discipline that has emerged from the convergence of biosciences, information technology and engineering. This discipline is slowly but surely revolutionising the Biotech Industry and is increasingly applied in previously unthought-of markets.

The fourth meeting in the **Applied Synthetic Biology in Europe** series will be an excellent opportunity to address the latest progress and advances in this fascinating discipline. Following from the first three meetings in the series, we will explore the wealth of applied synthetic biology research, covering diverse product and application areas and utilising biological systems from bacteria through yeast to plants and mammalian cells. Emphasis will again be on the commonalities and links between different approaches and the application of synthetic biology tools and techniques for industrial implementation. The majority of oral presentations will be selected from submitted abstracts, and will be given by academic and industrial researchers from all levels from PhD students to professors and group leaders, consistent with the multidisciplinary nature of **EFB**. We look forward to a few days of exciting discussion and excellent science. This will be a joint meeting between the **EFB Bioengineering & Bioprocessing Section (EBBS)** and the Microbial Physiology Section. There will be opportunity to join these sections and help organise future meetings and events.

Professor Jean Marie François  
INSA Toulouse (France)

[Early registration](#) and [abstract submission](#) (poster and oral) open until 28-6-18

[Registration](#) is still open for the [PEPPERSchool](#) (14<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> May, Carry-le-Rouet, France.)

Chemical ligation strategies, incorporation of non-canonical amino acids into proteins, selective modification of peptides/proteins, hybrids systems (proteins + catalysts) as well as different display methodologies (phage, cis and ribosome) will be covered. This is a wonderful opportunity to discuss with experts about your own research and get advice since the school will have lots of free time.

Organising Comitee, PEPPERSchool

### [12th International Conference on Protein Stabilization \(ProtStab\)](#)

*co-organised by EFB Applied Biocatalysis Section*  
16 - 18 May 2018  
[Vilnius - Lithuania](#)

[Bioflavour 2018](#)  
[Biotechnology of Flavours, Fragrances and Functional Ingredients](#)  
18 to 21 September 2018  
[Frankfurt am Main – Germany](#)

[Novel Enzymes 2018](#)  
*co - organised by EFB Applied Biocatalysis Section*  
9 - 12 October 2018  
[Darmstadt - Germany](#)



## Introducing EBBS Board Members:

### Professor Jean Marie François

### INSA Toulouse (France)



**Matt Edmundson,**  
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**Can you tell us about your background? Where are you based now?**

I have a background in biochemistry and microbial physiology, and am currently working in Industrial Biotechnology. I am based at both the National Institute of Applied Sciences, University of Toulouse, laboratoire d'Ingenieries de systems biologiques et Procédés and the Toulouse White Biotechnology Center.

**What is your area of expertise?**

Microbial physiology (yeast and filamentous fungi mainly); metabolic and genetic regulation of carbon metabolism; metabolic engineering; functional genomics.

**What is your current research?**

- A- Understand cell wall biogenesis in fungi
- B- Understand and decipher the regulation of yeast glycolysis and fermentation
- C- Refactoring metabolic pathways for production of added-value chemicals from renewable carbon sources

**Why did you join EFB/EBBS?**

I have been a member of EFB for more than 20 years and have been active in the microbial

physiology and Biotech/Bioeng sections.

**Where do you see your contribution as a boardmember for EBBS?**

Well, I aim to promote a converging view between those sections of EFB and the EBBS which are more 'engineering targeted'.

**Where do you see EBBS in the future?**

With respect to the rapid expansion of Synthetic Biology, there really needs to be a focus on and innovation in microbial/ fermentation/ downstream engineering. This is key for a successful story as genetic/ genomic approaches will never reach the industrial level without them.

**Would you share an interesting fact about your persona?**

I'm enthusiastic and think that being interdisciplinary is the key for innovation and success. This is my expectation with a start-up that I am cofounder of (Dendris SAS) and which is developing new in vitro diagnostic tools that arise from interdisciplinary research I did in the past with chemists, physicists and bioengineers.

## Do you want to get involved?

We welcome any and all contributions to the section. If you have an idea for a new meeting in an area of bioengineering or bioprocessing, or if you would like to assist in section activities, please contact the section co-chairs:

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Or if you have a meeting or conference you'd like us to promote or an article you'd like to write for the newsletter please contact

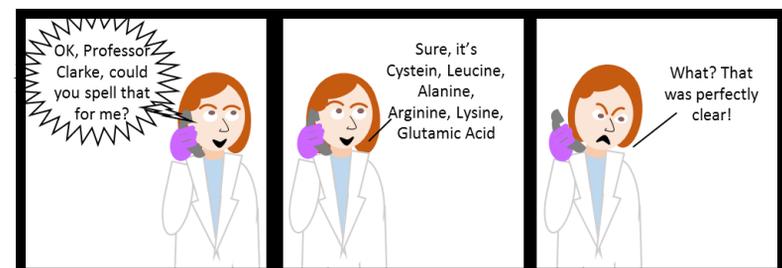
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### The Sound of Science



**New Biotechnology** is the official journal of the **EFB** and is published bimonthly. It covers both the science of **biotechnology** and its surrounding political, business and financial milieu.



Impact Factor: 3.813

### About this Newsletter:

You receive a newsletter as part of your membership with EBBS. If you do not wish to receive this Newsletter, send an email to Louise Horsfall [louise.Horsfall@ed.ac.uk](mailto:louise.Horsfall@ed.ac.uk) to unsubscribe.