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EUROPE4RESEARCHERS/NEWSLETTER

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↘ SUCCESS STORIES

Getting the best out of BiO: EuroBiO 2006

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Imagine a unique gathering on a vast scale - hundreds of internationally renowned speakers from the world of bio-industry and bioscience providing thousands of researchers with industry insight; fantastic networking opportunities and tantalising career options for ambitious professionals. Too good to be true? Apparently not. EuroBiO, which took place in Paris between

October 25 and 27, ticked all of these boxes- and more besides.

Based on the US model of the Biotechnology Industry Organisation (BiO), EuroBiO focuses on health care, agriculture and the environment in Europe. This year's convention combined conferences, a partnering event, an exhibition and a career fair which together offered career-hungry researchers a cornucopia of delights.

A bionormous success

For its tenth anniversary, EuroBiO (formerly the European Biotech Crossroads) received nearly 5 000 visitors from 23 countries, from across Europe, Asia and North and South America. Students, researchers and investors, as well as representatives from private and public sector research organisations, industry bodies, consulting firms, authorities, regulatory bodies and corporations from the biotech, pharmaceutical, diagnostics, agrifood and environmental sectors were all in attendance.

On the hosting side, François Goulard, French Minister of Research and Jean-François Dehecq, Chairman of Sanofi-Aventis welcomed more than 200 distinguished speakers who joined together in symposia, round tables and plenary sessions to help make the occasion a success.

The exhibition comprised a huge number of booths and was visited by thousands of people, including representatives from organisations and institutions covering every field in bioscience and bio-industry. Just as successful was the partnering event, which involved 1 000 matchmaking meetings between professionals and company representatives during the course of one and a half days.

And, for researchers looking to develop their professional lives, the Career Fair provided the chance for them to meet with dozens of human resources experts.

In conclusion, Eric Poincelet, Commissioner General of EuroBiO, remarked that the event had, "...performed beyond most people's expectations and achieved its main objective: to showcase European ambitions in bio-industry & bioscience". He underlined the advances that have already been made in health care and the benefits gained from the use of alternative energies. He went on to underline how these sectors are helping to contribute to economic growth in Europe and offer exciting employment opportunities to numerous researchers.

The next EuroBiO in Paris will take place between 7 and 9 October 2008 and, for all those involved in bioscience and bio-industry, it is certainly an event not to be missed!

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