

Bioinnovation forum
18.1.2012

Zebrafish

An important model organism in medical and biotechnological research

Zebrafish is a fantastic species for modeling of human disease, and offer advantages above model organisms like mouse. Zebrafish has homology to humans, and the fish transparent embryos allowing real time studies of development. Other advantages are the fish small size, short generation time and genetic models can easily be engineered. This small fish is playing an important role in international science and an increasing number of laboratories worldwide are using Zebrafish in their studies.

Høgskolen i Hedmark, Campus Hamar, aud 2 Wednesday 18th January, 13.00 -16.00

13.00 Registration and refreshments

14.00 Opening speech, by **Anne Kjersti Fahlvik**,
Executive Director, Divison for Innovation, The Research Council of Norway

14.15 "Zebrafish – one of the world's most important model organisms"
by **Christian Lawrence**, fish facility manger at Childrens Hospital in Boston

- * Zebrafish – biology and how the fish is used in research facilities
- * A historical overview of the development of Zebrafish as a model organism, illustrated with examples from Childrens Hospital
- * Zebrafish husbandry related research: The development of the "iSpawn", a patented spawning chamber

15.10 "The Norwegian Zebrafish Network - Zebrafish model application in Norway"
by Professor **Peter Aleström**, Norwegian School of Veterinary Science

15.40 "Cryopreservation of Zebrafish embryos - a service to research laboratories"
by **Jørn Ulheim**, managing director of Cryogenetics AS

There will be time for questions and remarks after each lecture.

Registration: post@k-h.no or kel@k-h.no, until 12th January





Anne Kjersti Fahlvik, Executive Director for Innovation, Division for Innovation at The Research Council of Norway will give an introduction to the symposium. She holds a PhD in pharmacology and has international experience in biotechnology and commercialisation and has been founder of a biotech company.



Christian Lawrence is a fish biologist specializing in the management and husbandry of zebrafish. He has worked with zebrafish in research settings for over 12 years among others at Harvard University. Currently he is the Manager of the Aquatic Resources Program at Children's Hospital Boston, which is home to one of the largest and most active zebrafish research programs in the world. Lawrence has written numbers of scientific publications on zebrafish biology and culture. He is also one of the inventors behind the patented spawning chamber "iSpawn".



Professor Peter Aleström works at the Norwegian School of Veterinary Science, Department of Basic Sciences & Aquatic Medicine, and is Head of the Zebrafish group (AZLab). He is also Head of the Norwegian Zebrafish Platform (www.zebrafish.no) which serves as a National Technology Platform (2008-2012) under the Functional Genomics Program (FUGE), Research Council of Norway.



Jørn Ulheim, Managing Director of Cryogenetics AS, a company specializing in cryopreservation of milt and embryos from various fish types. Ulheim has worked for various companies in the Hamar Bio-Tech cluster for the past 15 years commercializing reproduction technologies and breeding products. Based on experience from setting up companies in Norway, Eastern Europe, North- and South America, Ulheim is focusing on setting up arenas for bringing Norwegian Agri-and Aqua biotechnologies to international markets.

Welcome!

