

生物工学研究センターセミナー

くすりのシリコンバレーTOYAMA 講演会

A Researcher/Entrepreneur Life at the Public/Private Interface

研究員そして起業家としての公的、私的な活動とその境界領域

日時：平成31年3月12日（火）

14時00分～16時00分

場所：富山県立大学 生物工学科研究センター K115 共同会議室

来聴歓迎（参加自由）

講師：Pierre MONSAN, Ph.D.

（フランス：国立応用科学院（INSA）名誉教授、TWB ディレクター）



講演要旨：

My academic career started half a century ago at the Department of Biochemical Engineering of the National Institute for Applied Sciences (INSA), University of Toulouse. The scientific field was enzyme immobilization and enzyme reactor design. I always tried to combine basic research with industrial collaborations. This led me to start a Biocatalysis company, BioEurope, in the mid-80's to develop nutritional and cosmetic ingredients. In the mid-90's the company was acquired by Solabia Group. I came back to INSA to start a technology transfer center and a new research team on molecular design and engineering of enzymes, together with Prof. Magali Remaud-Simeon. Our group made significant scientific achievements in the field of carbohydrate active enzymes, particularly glucansucrases. In parallel, I was involved in the creation of a company in the field of waste water treatment, BioTrade, and one in the field of nutritional ingredients, GeniBio. In the 2000's, I was involved in the move to Toulouse of a company focusing on metagenomics, LibraGen, which then developed cosmetic ingredients obtained by enzyme synthesis, which was recently acquired by Givaudan, a world leader in perfumes and flavors.

In the 2010's, I could obtain a €20m national grant to start a public/private consortium in the field of Industrial Biotechnology, Toulouse White Biotechnology (TWB), which is a public Joint Service Unit managed by INRA (National Institute for Agricultural Research) under the triple supervision of INRA, CNRS (National Center for Scientific Research) and INSA. Its mission is to help private companies to address the challenge of climate change. TWB is working hand in hand both with industry and top scientific level academics in view to develop sustainable processes based on the biotransformation of renewable resources. TWB has built a high performance interface to accelerate the transfer of innovative scientific results into efficient products and processes, as well as the offering of state of the art scientific answers to the strategic industrial issues.

Since 2012, TWB has managed 145 R&D projects with private companies for a total amount of €30m. Several projects developed at the industrial and/or industrial pilot scale will be described.

TWB is presently hosting six start-up companies (EnobraQ, Pili, MicroPep, BFC, iMean, Green Spot Technologies) and has contributed to the rising of ca. €100m venture capital funds by such SMEs.