

2014 Martin Sinacore Outstanding Young Investigator Award Winners

Dr. Colin Clarke from Dublin City University is a co-winner of the 2014 Martin Sinacore Outstanding Young Investigator Award sponsored by Biogen Idec and Engineering Conferences International. Colin is one of the leading international bioinformaticians in the cell culture arena. As CHO cell omics datasets become more prolific, there is an increasingly urgent need to analyze and interpret the overwhelming information obtained in these datasets. Colin has been leading the way in this regard with a number of impactful publications that have been instrumental to cell culture engineering analysis. He has developed several novel statistical methods for integrating multiple types of genetic information including protein, mRNA, and relating this information with complex phenotypic traits such as mammalian cell growth. Dr. Clarke has also been highly active in the development of online resource and software tools in order to make these CHO genome datasets accessible to the overall CHO resource community. His valuable contributions in this area has been recognized through a number of invited talks at international conferences, running genomics workshops, and invitations to write book chapters and participate on journal editorial boards. Dr. Clarke will continue to be a key contributor to cell culture engineering as the importance of bioinformatics expands in the future.



Dr. Corinne Hoesli currently at Université Laval and McGill University in August is a co-winner of the 2014 Martin Sinacore Award sponsored by Biogen Idec and Engineering Conferences International. Corinne is developing novel technologies for the optimization and scale up of stem cells for the treatment of diabetes and cardiovascular disease. She has focused primarily on the development of novel biomaterials that will control cell fate decisions in order to enhance the function and quality of the differentiated cell products. In addition, her work has centered on the development of novel devices such as immunoisolation systems that can enhance the survival of transplanted cells. Corinne has received numerous grants and awards including a Best Student Poster Award from Cell Culture Engineering X. Her efforts in the laboratory are addressing key questions in bioprocessing by moving stem cell technology from the laboratory to the larger scales that will be required for clinical applications. Application of her encapsulated insulin producing cells can be used as a future treatment for patients with diabetes. In addition, she has implemented high through-put studies to define optimal culture conditions for growth of these cell types. Dr. Hoesli's work will be increasing important to cell culture engineering as cell therapy treatments for chronic ailments such as diabetes and heart disease become increasingly important in the coming decades.

