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Journal of Biomolecular Screening
Begins 20th Year of Publication with a Special Open Access Issue on
“Novel Therapeutic Approaches for Neglected Infectious Diseases”

CHICAGO – The *Journal of Biomolecular Screening* (JBS), one of two rigorously peer-reviewed MEDLINE-indexed scientific journals published by the Society for Laboratory Automation and Screening (SLAS), marks the beginning of its 20th year of publication by releasing a special issue addressing “Novel Therapeutic Approaches for Neglected Infectious Diseases.” The issue in its entirety is [freely and fully available online](#) (open access) thanks to the impetus and support from the Drugs for Neglected Diseases *initiative* (DNDi).

Organized by JBS guest editors Julio Martin-Plaza of GlaxoSmithKline in Tres Cantos, Spain, and Eric Chatelain of the Drugs for Neglected Disease *initiative* (DNDi) in Geneva, Switzerland, “this issue (Vol. 20, Issue 1, Jan. 2015) presents an intriguing collection of thoughtfully assembled review papers and original research reports,” says JBS editor-in-chief Robert M. Campbell. “As a bonus, DNDi’s support is allowing JBS to make this issue freely available online immediately upon publication. For this, we are grateful, and excited about the valuable impact this open source issue will have on important research everywhere around the globe.”

The Drugs for Neglected Diseases *initiative* (DNDi) is a collaborative, patients’ needs-driven, non-profit drug research and development (R&D) organization that is developing new treatments for neglected diseases. Based in Geneva, Switzerland, DNDi works in partnership with private industry, public institutions, academia and NGOs, and has built the largest ever R&D portfolio for kinetoplastid diseases.

“We want this important research to be widely available to the entire research community, notably in the countries where neglected diseases occur,” says Eric Chatelain, Head of Drug Discovery at DNDi. “It is important to stimulate innovative thinking in this field, and to reduce duplication of research efforts.”

Fifteen scientific manuscripts (eight from Europe, four from the U.S., two from Canada, and one from Brazil) present a sampling of research and perspectives that reflect the complexity and challenges of neglected infectious diseases and the scientific environment surrounding them. Drug discovery for neglected infectious diseases has changed dramatically in the last 10 years. The discipline now applies the most modern technologies to find new chemistry starting points, tackle translational challenges, and look for new diagnostic tools, which have led to new paradigms and collaboration efforts (PDPs, open access, open source drug discovery and more).

- MORE -

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JBS Novel Therapeutic Approaches for Neglected Infectious Diseases

Page 2 of 2

“This important special issue is one more example of SLAS’s commitment to sharing innovative achievements to benefit the worldwide life sciences R&D community,” says SLAS CEO Gregory F. Dummer. “DNDi’s generous open access sponsorship reinforces the spirit and unity of our scientific community and provides us with a memorable milestone to mark the first issue of our 20th year of publication.”

The special issue is available at JBS Online at <http://jbx.sagepub.com/content/20/1.toc>

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***The Society for Laboratory Automation and Screening (SLAS)** is an international community of more than 15,000 individual scientists, engineers, researchers, technologists and others from academic, government and commercial laboratories. The SLAS mission is to be the preeminent global organization providing forums for education and information exchange and to encourage the study of, and improve the practice of laboratory science and technology. For more information, visit www.SLAS.org.*

*SLAS publishes two internationally recognized, MEDLINE-indexed journals, now in their 20th year of publication. **The Journal of Laboratory Automation (JALA)** and **Journal of Biomolecular Screening (JBS)** uniquely serve laboratory science and technology professionals who work primarily in life science R&D. Together, JALA and JBS address the full spectrum of issues that are mission-critical to this important audience, enabling scientific research teams to gain scientific insights, increase productivity, elevate data quality, reduce lab process cycle times and enable experimentation that otherwise would be impossible.*

*Specifically, **JALA** explores ways in which scientists adapt advancements in technology for scientific exploration and experimentation. In direct relation to this, **JBS** reports how scientists use adapted technology to pursue new therapeutics for unmet medical needs, including assay development, identification of chemical probes and target identification and validation in general.*

***Journal of Biomolecular Screening (JBS):** 2013 Impact Factor 2.012. Editor-in-Chief Robert M. Campbell, Ph.D., Eli Lilly and Company, Indianapolis, IN (USA).*

***Journal of Laboratory Automation (JALA):** 2013 Impact Factor 1.500. Editor-in-Chief Edward Kai-Hua Chow, Ph.D., University of Singapore (Singapore).*