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Extra! Extra! The AfCS/NPG Signaling Gateway is launched

AfCS
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This issue of the Alliance for Cellular Signaling (AfCS) Newsletter takes us back to the days of old-fashioned journalism, when special issues of daily newspapers were hawked on the streets to announce important events. The Signaling Gateway is a unique collaboration between the AfCS and the Nature Publishing Group (NPG) that provides a comprehensive and up-to-the minute resource for everyone interested in cellular signaling. Information and data presented here are freely available to all. The Signaling Gateway is designed to be a one-stop resource to keep you informed about all signal transduction developments.



Updated weekly, the *Signaling Update* section provides a one-stop overview of the latest and hottest research in cell signaling. In this section you will find accessible digests of the current signaling literature with links to primary research papers, as well as signal transduction related news, jobs, and conferences.



The *Molecule Pages* will be a relational database of all significant published qualitative and quantitative information for over 3,000 signaling proteins. For each of these proteins, the Molecule Pages already provide a large amount of automated data extracted from public sequence, structure, and annotation repositories. Currently, over 800 "Mini Molecule Pages" provide summaries composed by invited expert authors. In the coming months more information on protein states, interactions, subcellular localization, and function will be forthcoming.



The *Data Center* serves as a warehouse for all AfCS experimental results. One of the major goals of the AfCS is to provide data to the signaling community that is derived from comprehensive experimentation in signal transduction. Raw and analyzed data from the B-cell ligand screen and the Yeast Two-Hybrid screen are now available. Launches of a B cell line (WEHI-231) and cardiac myocyte ligand screens will follow. You are encouraged to make use of these data in your own research and publications. In this section you will also find the AfCS Research Reports and the AfCS procedural, solution, and ligand protocols as PDF downloadable files.



In *About Us* you will find news and information about the AfCS and the Nature Publishing Group. In this section the goals, experimental systems, and experimental strategies for the AfCS project are made available. An organizational overview of the AfCS helps detail the involvement of over 50 investigators from 20 institutions now participating in the

AfCS. Web pages linked to the eight AfCS laboratories give overviews of the approaches and goals of each lab as well as rosters of personnel. At this site we also acknowledge with gratitude Federal and Nonfederal sponsors of the AfCS as well as our collaborators.



To facilitate exploration and navigation of the complex world of signal transduction, *resource tools* are also made available on the web site. The Biology Work Bench allows users to search for protein and nucleic acid sequences and then to apply a wide variety of analysis tools for modeling purposes. Through this portal, one has direct access to 24 research journals, 10 review journals and entrance to the PubMed website. In addition, direct links are currently available to 18 different databases including GeneBank and SwissProt, as well as more specialized databases such as FlyBase and WormBase.

MEETINGS&WORKSHOPS

The *Meetings and Workshops* section currently lists AfCS annual meeting dates through the year 2005. All members of the AfCS are welcome to attend the Annual Meeting, to be held this year in Pasadena, California, May 18-21, 2003. Registration information will be made available in the near future.

WHAT'S NEW The *What's New* link is updated regularly and will take you directly to new data, new technical reports, new Molecule Pages, new AfCS experimental protocols, and news updates.



To find out more about the Signaling Gateway and the Alliance for Cellular Signaling, see the special news feature and *12-page supplement in the 12 December issue of Nature*. The supplement contains a news feature about the Signaling Gateway, an introduction to the Alliance for Cellular Signaling project, and overview articles about the signal transduction network in B lymphocytes and in mouse cardiac myocytes, as well as an article about the AfCS Molecule Pages database. Copies of these five articles can be downloaded as PDF files from the Signaling Gateway web site.

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