

# IMCB Invited Speaker



**Speaker : Mr. Zhu Weimin**  
*Senior Vice President of Antibody Technology, Epitomics, Inc.*

Date : 31 October 2012 (Wednesday)

Time : 11:00AM - 12:00PM

Venue : Level 3, IMCB Seminar Room 3-46, Proteos, Biopolis

Host : Prof. Wanjin Hong

## Seminar :

### **How to Develop the “Best-in-Class” Or “First-in-Class” Antibodies for Research, Diagnostic and Therapeutic Applications?**

There are many techniques to generate antibodies and there are a few technologies to generate monoclonal antibodies. Still, scientific communities and healthcare industry have growing demands for monoclonal antibodies with better sensitivity and specificity. In addition, emerging scientific disciplines such as stem cell biology, glycomics and lipidomics need antibodies to novel targets in which use of conventional mouse hybridoma technology may be challenging. Rabbit's unique immune system provides an excellent source to generate high quality and novel antibodies. Epitomics' RabMAb® technology makes it possible to develop “best-in-class” or “first-in-class” monoclonal antibodies for research, diagnostic and therapeutic applications. In the past 15 years, RabMAbs have been proven to be the premium reagents to fulfill various needs with thousands of research reagents and hundreds of diagnostic products in market. Two antibody drug leads generated by the RabMAb® technology are in clinic trial phase I and IND filing stages respectively. However, developing the best quality or novel antibodies also requires other key elements such as immunogen design, immunization strategy, and screening assays to select the desired antibodies for the particular application(s). Developing the high quality antibody product is a comprehensive process which is involved in multiple technologies and profound sciences. In this seminar, I will review the rabbit B cell immunology, introduce the RabMAb® technology, and present a few cases to demonstrate the power of this technology. I will also discuss the strategies and approaches to develop the best quality antibodies for different applications, and share the vision for the antibody product development in future, especially antibody application in diagnostic field.

## About the Speaker :

Mr. Zhu co-Founded Epitomics in 2001 based on a new generation of monoclonal antibody technology. Epitomics is a California biotech company with 80 employees in San Francisco area and 220 employees in China, and was recently acquired by Abcam (UK) with \$170 million. As the technology founder and Senior VP of antibody technology, Mr Zhu has played a significant role for the company setup, growth and M&A by building technology / operation teams, developing products and business development in research, diagnostic and therapeutic areas. Before founding Epitomics, Mr. Zhu served as a research scientist at Bayer where he contributed to the discovery of several drug candidates. Prior to Bayer, Mr. Zhu was a scientist at UCSF where he pioneered rabbit monoclonal antibody technology, RabMAb® by creating new rabbit fusion partner 240E-W and establishing a high throughput system for rabbit monoclonal antibody development. Mr. Zhu was an assistant professor at Pathology Institute of Zhejiang University and visiting research fellow at the Institute of Pharmacological Sciences of Milan University. He is the author of more than 20 scientific publications, co-inventor of several patents and champion for RabMAb technology. Mr. Zhu received his M.S. in Cell Biology at Xiamen University, China and MBA degree at State University of California.



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