



Welcome to February, Friends of New Harvest!

With New Harvest's re-focused direction on advancing pre-competitive cellular agriculture research, we breezed through January with a renewed clarity. Here are some of the things we worked on this past month:

### Organization

- **We're hiring a Research Director!** In our effort to *best* support the emerging field of cultured meat research, we are hiring a full-time Research Director. We're looking for someone with hands-on cell culture experience who is ready to move out of the lab but still stay very much in touch with the science. [Here's the full job posting.](#) We have a couple of exciting leads but will keep accepting resumes until March 1. Please pass this along to anyone you think would be interested, and feel free to share widely through your networks.
- **We're going to put out our first Annual Report this year!** After four years of full-time New Harvest fun, we decided it was time to put together an Annual Report to document our successes. We hope to have this ready in Q2, in digital and print formats.
- **Commitment to transparency, 2016** We will be sharing our 2016 expenses with the donor community as soon as they are ready. We recently switched accountants and accounting systems so there is a little bit of a learning curve before we can put the numbers together. Be on the look out for this information in our next donor update!

## **Fundraising**

- **Building our monthly donor community.** After a successful end-of-year fundraiser in Dec, and off to a better-than-ever year beginning in January, we are now focusing more specifically on increasing the number of donors who have made monthly commitments. We're currently have 50 active recurring donors, and our goal is to have 100 by the end of 2017. Monthly contributors are incredibly helpful when it comes to a non-profit's cash flow, so we are sending a little "thank-you" you our current monthly contributors this month. Keep an eye out, monthlies! 😊

## **Research**

- **New processes to support our Research Fellows.** Based on feedback from our current research fellows, we have found that one major challenge is their isolation. While the Fellows are working within laboratories with on-site supervisors, their projects that are slightly different than the focus of their respective labs, and therefore the Fellows don't have as much on-topic support as they need. In order to better support our Fellows and create more cohesion amongst them, we have been running weekly meetings along with weekly status updates (since November). It has been working very well, and we're looking at ways to balance support vs. time spent reporting, and how to make this scalable.
- **Collaborative Research at the University of Ottawa.** New Harvest Research Fellow Abi Glencross just arrived in Canada in mid-January to begin a 3-month stint at the University of Ottawa, working at [Dr. Andrew Pelling's lab](#). She will be joined by Fellow Jess Krieger in a couple of weeks. This excursion is an attempt to try something of a research "sprint." We're excited to see how it goes!
- **New Harvest Research Fellow Retreat.** We've decided to hold a retreat in Ottawa for all of our research fellows and the New Harvest team. This will provide the much-needed face time for better understanding how our fellows can be supported, and how New Harvest and the Fellowship Program can advance most effectively.
- **Outsourced iPSC development.** Since moving on from New Harvest Labs, we have been investigating other ways to develop open source starter cultures of cellular agriculture. We're currently preparing a work

order with Dr. Sunita D'Souza, Associate Professor of Cell, Developmental & Regenerative Biology, and Director of the human embryonic stem cell and induced pluripotent stem cell Shared Resource Facility at Mount Sinai School of Medicine in New York.

- **Focus Group work with Hart Research and Environmental Law Institute.** We're preparing a new Project Page for the website on the Focus Group research that we conducted in partnership with the Environmental Law Institute and Hart Research. In the spirit of open source, we're providing our thoughts and conclusions, Hart Research's independent thoughts and conclusions, as well as the raw footage. We're still waiting on a couple of videos, and this should be released in an upcoming newsletter. This research was funded by the Lounsbery Foundation.
- **Vegetable Scaffold Research by Dr. Andrew Pelling is half-funded!** Our pipeline proposal from Dr. Andrew Pelling at the University of Ottawa has been 50% committed. We are still looking for \$91,500 to fund this exciting three-year project. We have already conducted two independent scientific reviews of the proposal, with responses by Dr. Pelling. We are already speaking with interested parties to fund the second half but if you are also interested in supporting this research, please let me know.

### **Communications**

- **New Harvest 2017 Conference Planning.** We've \*almost\* settled on a venue for the New Harvest conference this year, which is going to take place in New York City sometime in the fall. We will send out a Save The Date as soon as we can. Get excited for two days (yes, *two* days this time!) of cell ag.
- **New Harvest visited Merck Animal Health at their office in New Jersey earlier this month.** The company is one of the largest suppliers of medicines, antibiotics, and vaccines for companion and farmed animals. They regularly work with mass production of mammalian cell cultures. The team was eager to consider which cellular agriculture technology gaps Merck would have the expertise and interest to fill. It was interesting to see them consider cell ag as both a disruptive technology for their business but also an opportunity given their expertise. They are excited to continue the conversation.

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- **New Harvest has been invited to deliver a keynote at the World Government Summit in Dubai, Feb 12.** "The World Government Summit is a global platform dedicated to shaping the future of government worldwide. Each year, the Summit sets the agenda for the next generation of governments with a focus on how they can harness innovation and technology to solve universal challenges facing humanity." Read more about this exciting event [here](#).

Looks like 2017 is off to a great start! I hope you're as excited about the research and events on the horizon as we are. Of course, \*none\* of this important work is possible without your ongoing support. If you ever think "wow, New Harvest gets a lot done!" do realize that it's because of you.

So glad to have you on this cell ag journey with us,

Your friend,

Isha Datar  
Executive Director, New Harvest