Hi friend,

Three years ago, we began funding the design of a modular bioreactor to grow cultured meat at the University of British Columbia in Canada. Bioreactors—the controlled chambers which provide the right conditions for cells to multiply into muscle fibers—are one of the four building blocks of cultured meat, but there is no industry standard and researchers struggle to DIY them in their individual labs. We were excited to support a project dedicated specifically to designing a bioreactor that everyone in the field could use and adapt for their own needs.

The seed grant for the project was awarded to a group of undergraduate engineers—Han Zhang, Yi-Fan Chen, and Kyle Manke—who knew a lot about circuits but were lacking in tissue engineering expertise. So they got help from Jess Krieger, a former New Harvest Research Fellow at Kent State University in Ohio (and now co-founder of Artemys!), whose entire research revolved around vascular tissue engineering for cultured pork.

At the end of the seed grant, we were so impressed with the group’s initial build that we wanted to keep going. Kate, our research director, connected with world experts in hardware at the IRNAS Institute for Development of Advanced Applied Systems in Slovenia who were excited to take the project to the next level.

For the last year, the IRNAS team has been iterating on the plans and schematic from the initial build to create phase 1 of the prototype. I’m pleased to announce that the New Harvest bioreactor is traveling once again, this time to the University of Maribor, for phase 2 of the project.

Tissue engineers will be testing the bioreactor to see how cells grow and survive, and the proximity of the university to IRNAS (both are in the same city) will allow for rapid back-and-forth modification.

Read the full update on the bioreactor here.

It’s a strange time to be hiring, but we are looking to leverage our game-changing partnership with Avina Stiftung to unlock the next phase of growth for New Harvest.

We are seeking to bring on a talented Chief Operating Officer to develop the organizational capacity to scale New Harvest’s signature programs and impact.

We are seeking a Designer/Developer to work with Michela, our Art Production Associate, on redesigning the New Harvest website!

Want to join the team? Check out the COO job description here and website redesign project scope here. Please share widely with your network, and if you know someone who would be a great addition to the New Harvest team—or if you had a great experience working with someone on a website of your own—send them our way!

Take care!

OPPORTUNITIES IN CELLULAR AGRICULTURE

- NH Research Fellow Ricardo Gouveia is guest editing a special issue of the International Journal of Molecular Sciences focused on cellular agriculture. He is looking for reviews and original research articles. Submissions are due November 30, 2020.

- Dr. Petra Kluger at Reutlingen University in Germany is seeking an academic research assistant for her project about scalable processes for producing cultured meat.

- Bond Pets in Boulder, Colorado is hiring a brand manager. A rare non-technical job!

For a comprehensive list of jobs, check out CellAgri!

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