

studies in protein expression kinetics and pharmacodynamics," said Neil Cook, Chief Scientific Officer, PerkinElmer Life and Analytical Sciences.

"PerkinElmer will use the intellectual property acquired from Agilix to develop a number of new technologies that will bring quantitative proteomics to a wider range of customers in drug discovery," said Robert F Friel, President, PerkinElmer Life and Analytical Sciences.

GenoLogics and Proteome Software announce collaboration agreement

GenoLogics Life Sciences Software Inc. and Proteome Software have announced that they are to collaborate on the development of an integrated solution for proteomics research. The aim is to integrate GenoLogic's Proteus-LIMS™ laboratory and data management solution, and Proteome Software's Scaffold software, thereby enabling advanced data visualization and mining of protein searches.

"The collaboration brings together the best of breed in scientific data management and visualization for protein search and analysis, and will benefit customers of both companies," noted James DeGreef, Vice President Product Management for GenoLogics. "Researchers can take advantage of using multiple protein search engines in their clinical proteomics and biomarker research to gain more insight into the data and advance their research to the next level."

Mark Pitman, Sales and Marketing Director for Proteome Software, said, "The synergy between GenoLogics and Proteome Software is such a natural one. We're both committed to bringing proteomics researchers the cutting edge tools needed for the next generation of protein identification and analysis. We see great benefit for both companies' customers coming out of this collaboration."

'Unraveling Collagen' structure to be installed in Orange Memorial Park Sculpture Garden

On May 10th this year, a stainless steel sculpture of collagen is to be installed in the City of South San Francisco's Orange Memorial Park Sculpture Garden. The creator of the piece, Julian Voss-Andreae, is a German-born artist with a background in quantum physics. This passion for science has inspired a series of sculptures that convey his deep sense of wonder and awe of life's building blocks.

'Unraveling Collagen', as the name suggests, was inspired by the structure of collagen (FIGURE 3). Collagen is one of the most abundant proteins in the human body and provides structural support to the body, especially in bones, teeth, tendons, cartilage and ligaments. It was this flexible but tough quality that initially inspired Voss-Andreae.

Voss-Andreae uses scientific data that encode the shape of proteins as the starting point for his sculptures. Voss-Andreae chose to deviate from the precise molecular structure by opening the intertwining helices halfway up the structure, and molding the helices to create more fluid motion, similar to trees. "Suddenly the sculpture came to life and at the same time it turned into a metaphor for aging and growth," noted Voss-Andreae.

Collagen is well known for its role in aging; it initially maintains the youthful elasticity of the skin, but as it degrades with age, the skin develops wrinkles. Besides this literal representation of aging as a physical process, the sculpture is also a metaphor of the wisdom and spiritual awakening that can come with old age.

The sculpture, which stands over 3.40 m, is one of a series of protein-based sculptures by Voss-Andreae. Other proteins in his collection include hemoglobin (Heart of Steel, 2005), green fluorescent protein (2004) and virus capsid protein (2003). Details of Voss-Andreae's work can be found at www.julianvossandreae.com.

'Unraveling Collagen' will be on display at the Orange Memorial Park Sculpture Garden until spring 2008.



Figure 3. Unraveling Collagen. This collagen-based structure by Julian Voss-Andreae is to be installed in the City of South San Francisco's Orange Memorial Park Sculpture Garden.