The seminar was organized by Biomaterials Research Centre in cooperation with GöteborgBIO.

Success at "The Future of Biomaterials"

About 150 people were present at the annual meeting “The Future of Biomaterials", arranged by Biomaterials Research Centre at the University of Gothenburg, in cooperation with GöteborgBIO, on Thursday November 19th.

A lot of interesting subjects in relation to bone replacement were presented and the past, present and future for calcium phosphate based bioceramics were discussed. Various novel technology strategies were also on the agenda, and different aspects of the use of carbohydrates in biomedical research as well as processing of carbohydrate-based devices (e.g. scaffolds) for the purposes of tissue engineering were presented.

Assoc. Prof. Julie Gold, Biological Physics, Dept. of Applied Physics at Chalmers brought up one of the most futuristic presentations at the seminar; "In vitro meat: Why and How" - Shall we use technology for in vitro meat production in the future?

Meat production in the future faces several challenges. One challenge is to be able to meet the increasing demand for meat, in particular in rapidly developing
"third world" countries. Another is to make meat production environmentally sustainable. Meat production contributes considerably to overall greenhouse gases, and the raising of the animal accounts for almost all of this contribution. There is also a trend, in Sweden, as well as internationally, to eat more meat and cattles in the world have increased by a factor of four during the 1900 century. Growing our own meet could also be a way of controlling the content of vitamins and other substances.

Today, tissue engineering of human skeletal muscle for regenerative medicine purposes continues to advance at a steady pace. Tissue engineering and cell culturing techniques have brought about new possibilities for meat production. There are today some laboratories around the world developing techniques to grow animal cells and skeletal muscle in bioreactors in order to produce edible meat products. Therefore, there is hope that in the not-too-distant future, we will know how to grow muscle tissue of sufficient size and quantities to be a viable food source.

Text: GöteborgBio