

Press release

MATWIN celebrates 10 years at the heart of cancer innovation & its 5th Partnering Convention MEET2WIN

May 20-22 2019 - Bordeaux

The support platform for cancer innovation MATWIN, a subsidiary of Unicancer, organized its 10th Board meeting in Bordeaux from 20th to 22nd May and the 5th edition of its MEET2WIN partnering convention dedicated to open innovation in oncology. Zoom on a new success!

10th MATWIN Board : 9 projects interviewed, 2 projects rewarded



On May 20th & 21st, the prestigious MATWIN International Board, a unique committee in Europe, composed of key academic opinion leaders from leading European cancer research centers and international R&D decision makers from the 15 industrial partners of MATWIN, was meeting in Bordeaux for the 10th consecutive year.

Among the nine projects interviewed this year, two projects were awarded by the MATWIN Board and one of them received a financial support.

The MATWIN board has unanimously recognized the originality and potential of the CDK4PPI * project co-developed by May Morris (biologist at the National School of Chemistry of Montpellier, IBMM-UMR5247, CNRS Montpellier University) and Frédéric Bihel (chemist at the Laboratory of Therapeutic Innovation, CNRS / University of Strasbourg), and has **exceptionally decided to award it a prize of 60k€ to support its development**. A revaluation will be made by the MATWIN board within 12 months in interaction with SATT Conectus, which manages the project's valorisation, to ensure that the recommendations made have been taken into account.

Best project

Academic category

May Morris & Frédéric Bihel
Univ Montpellier & Univ Strasbourg



CDK4PPI* project :

CDK4 kinase is a key cell cycle regulator and attractive pharmacological target for development of anticancer therapeutics. While recently marketed anti-CDK4 drugs present limitations in terms of efficacy and selectivity, due to their conventional, ATP-competitive mechanism of action, we have identified a promising family of compounds that target CDK4 in a different fashion. These molecules block proliferation of several cancer cell lines very efficiently (melanoma, lung and breast cancers, etc) by tampering with an unexpected function of CDK4, opening the way to novel alternatives for anticancer therapies.

Best project

Start-up category

Simon Wain-Hobson
Invectys (Paris)



CAR-Go project :

Invectys develops CAR-T cells and two monoclonal antibodies for HLA-G a remarkably tumor specific antigen. HLA-G is *the* immune checkpoint of pregnancy and shuts down all arms of the immune system. This gene, which is deactivated after pregnancy, is upregulated in around 50% of all tumors whatever their origin and their inhibition, and has proved to be far more specific with far less side effects than the benchmark tumor antigen PD-L1 currently used in cancer immunotherapy.

MATWIN (2009-2019) :

- *15 international industrial partners
- + 200 projects applicants
- 60 projects presented to the Board
- 30 projects already transferred
- 20 start-up created
- + 1.000 participants to MEET2WIN
- + 3.300 B2B meetings generated

MEET2WIN 2019 : 5th edition, already more than 1.000 participants

Organized around targeted interventions (conferences, round tables, workshops), projects presentations and offering more than 1,000 face-to-face meeting slots, this 5th edition of [MEET2WIN](#) brought together simultaneously with the MATWIN Board meeting nearly 300 national and international players from oncology innovation chain (large groups, biotechs, startups, researchers, investors, etc.) wishing to expand their network and boost collaboration opportunities in innovation against cancer. A new success for MATWIN, setting up this MEET2WIN partnering meeting in a sustainable way in the innovation ecosystem.



± 300

Participants

+180

Companies

15%

EU Participants

22

Projects pitches

+1.000

B2B meetings

5th MEET2WIN : 22 projects showcased, some awarded

In addition to various sessions, the 2019 edition offered a showcase for 22 innovative projects presented either in public session **QUICK PITCH** in front of the entire audience, or in closed session **OUI (Oncology Upward Investment)** giving the opportunity for 10 startups looking for fundraising to pitch in front of a **panel of twelve of the biggest French and European investors** likely to support the growth of their company.

Advent
France Biotechnology

AGLAIA
ONCOLOGY FUNDS

Angels
santé

AURIGA
INVESTMENT

bpi
france

Fondation
Fournier-Majoie
pour l'Innovation

GO
CAPITAL

IBI
NEXT

LSP
LABORATORY SUPPORT
PARTNERS

MNES

Seventure

SOFINNOVA
PARTNERS FOR LIFE

Two projects awarded by the OUI investors

- **STIM Therapeutics** : start-up project proposing an innovative biotherapeutic solution for the treatment of certain cancers and autoimmune diseases addressing certain calcium transport disorders related to these pathologies;
- **NeoMedLight** : start-up based in Villeurbanne proposing an innovative medical device using certain light radiations to treat mucositis & dermatitis induced by radiotherapy and chemotherapy .

In May 2017, the STIM Therapeutics project was presented to the MATWIN Board as an academic team led by Olivier Mignen and Yves Renaudineau (University Bretagne Occidentale / CHRU Brest / INSERM). The project was awarded the prize for "best academic project" encouraging the development of its maturation delegated to [SATT Ouest Valorisation](#), which has thus completed its maturation program with the MATWIN experts' recommendations. Two years later, it is therefore through the creation of a company that the same project is distinguished by the jury of investors gathered by MATWIN.

Three best pitches of the public session QUICK PITCH

- **1st PRIZE** : Antoinette Perry, researcher at the [University of Dublin](#), developing the EpiCapture project, which focuses on performing a prognostic urinary test for the early detection or active surveillance of prostate cancer;
- **2nd PRIZE** : the start-up [McSAF](#) based in Tours, proposes an innovative technology for the improvement of therapeutic properties of Antibody Drug Conjugates (ADC) having already demonstrated their efficacy (HER2+ breast cancer) as well as for new drug candidates;
- **3rd PRIZE** : researchers Bruno Sainz ([Autonomous University of Madrid](#)) and Jose L. Mascareñas ([Santiago de Compostela University](#)) have synthesized a highly selective reactive compound, which targets and eliminates tumor stem cells with high efficacy and low toxicity demonstrated in models of pancreatic cancer.

About MATWIN

[MATWIN](#), a Unicancer subsidiary, is an original national open-innovation initiative aiming at developing translational research in oncology and facilitating the transfer of innovations to patients. MATWIN's main objective is to support innovative projects from academic laboratories or startups to promote early partnerships. The programme relies on a **historic partnership with 15 major international laboratories** (Amgen, AstraZeneca, BMS, Boehringer Ingelheim, Celgene, Genomic Health, Gilead, GSK, Janssen, Nanostring Technologies, Novartis, Pierre Fabre, Pfizer, Roche, Sanofi) and the global ecosystem concerned with developing innovation in the fight against cancer.

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