

We are pleased to announce that 7 papers have been chosen for the 2012 Excellent Paper Award of the Society for Biotechnology, Japan.

Those papers have been selected from all articles published in the volumes of 111 and 112 of the Journal of Bioscience and Bioengineering in 2011 or in the volume 89 of *Seibutsu-kogaku Kaishi*, based on its outstanding quality in both presentation and scientific contribution and for its impact on the field of biotechnology.

- **"Practical non-targeted gas chromatography/mass spectrometry-based metabolomics platform for metabolic phenotype analysis"**
...Hiroshi Tsugawa, Takeshi Bamba, Masakazu Shinohara, Shin Nishiumi, Masaru Yoshida, and Eiichiro Fukusaki
(JBB Volume 112, Issue 3, September 2011, Pages 292-298)
- **"Sake yeast strains have difficulty in entering a quiescent state after cell growth cessation"**
...Henryk Urbanczyk, Chiemi Noguchi, Hong Wu, Daisuke Watanabe, Takeshi Akao, Hiroshi Takagi, and Hitoshi Shimoi
(Volume 112, Issue 1, July 2011, Pages 44-48)
- **"Synergistic effects of detergents and organic solvents on protein refolding: Control of aggregation and folding rates"**
...Etsushi Yamamoto, Satoshi Yamaguchi, and Teruyuki Nagamune
(JBB Volume 111, Issue 1, January 2011, Pages 10-15)
- **"Isolation and characterization of novel lipases from a metagenomic library of the microbial community in the pitcher fluid of the carnivorous plant *Nepenthes hybrida*"**
...Tomohiro Morohoshi, Manabu Oikawa, Shoko Sato, Noriko Kikuchi, Norihiro Kato, and Tsukasa Ikeda
(Volume 112, Issue 4, October 2011, Pages 315-320)
- **"Directed evolution of an aminoalcohol dehydrogenase for efficient production of double chiral aminoalcohols"**
...Nobuyuki Urano, Satoko Fukui, Shoko Kumashiro, Takeru Ishige, Shinji Kita, Keiji Sakamoto, Michihiko Kataoka, Sakayu Shimizu
(JBB Volume 111, Issue 3, March 2011, Pages 266-271)
- **"Rice sodium-insensitive potassium transporter, OsHAK5, confers increased salt tolerance in tobacco BY2 cells"**
...Tomoaki Horie, Mitsuo Sugawara, Tomoyuki Okada, Koichiro Taira, Pulla Kaothien-Nakayama, Maki Katsuhara, Atsuhiko Shinmyo, and Hideki Nakayama
(JBB Volume 111, Issue 3, March 2011, Pages 346-356)
- **"Electrospun conducting polymer nanofibers and electrical stimulation of nerve stem cells"**
...Molamma P. Prabhakaran, Laleh Ghasemi-Mobarakeh, Guorui Jin, Seeram Ramakrishna
(JBB Volume 112, Issue 5, November 2011, Pages 501-507)

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