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MESSAGE FROM THE ESTHER Database  
Published quarterly by the ESTHER Team

In 2013, the ESTHER database reached several milestones and released many new resources, among which

- a new table of the families:  
<http://bioweb.ensam.inra.fr/ESTHER/general?what=overallTable>
- a tree based on comparison of HMM profiles of the different families:  
<http://bioweb.ensam.inra.fr/ESTHER/ReadTree.pl>

#### STATISTICS

In 2013, 151 new crystal structures of 41 alpha/beta hydrolase proteins were released by the RCSB PDB; for 25 of these proteins there were the first structures to be solved.  
During the first 3 months of 2014, 27 new structures of 15 alpha/beta hydrolase proteins were released

#### MEETINGS

A new page on past and scheduled meetings related to the cholinesterases and other cholinergic topics has been built (<http://bioweb.ensam.inra.fr/ESTHER/meeting.pl>); since some information is still missing, please contact us if you can provide details.  
The 15th International Symposium on Cholinergic Mechanisms (XVthISCM) is tentatively scheduled for October 2nd-6th, 2016, in Marseille France. Please have a look at the preliminary web site at <http://iscm.sciencesconf.org/> and send a note to <mailto:iscm@afmb.univ-mrs.fr> to express your anticipated interest for this event.

#### ESTHER Community Focus:

On February 27, 2014, Palmer Taylor was officially remitted the French "Légion d'Honneur" in San Diego (<http://www.utsandiego.com/news/2014/Feb/27/Taylor-Changeux-legion-honor/>; <http://www.consulfrance-losangeles.org/spip.php?article2343>).

On April 2, 2014, Palmer Taylor informed us that Barry Wilson of UC Davis (<http://bioweb.ensam.inra.fr/ESTHER/author?name=Wilson%20BW&class=Author>) had passed away on March 27; he wrote " Barry was a major contributor to the cholinesterase field and attended many of our international meetings. He had multiple interests with the cholinesterases and related esterases extending from carbamate protection of organophosphate exposures and human blood cholinesterase variations to neurotoxic esterases. Being in an avian science department, he worked extensively with bird cholinesterases. His larger endeavors toward environmental protection were at the forefront. Indeed, Barry's questioning the dogma and sage advice will be remembered."

On behalf of the ESTHER Team