FASEB news

July 28, 2009

Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology
Office of Public Affairs • 9650 Rockville Pike, Bethesda, Md. 20814-3998 • http://opa.faseb.org/

Contact: Carrie D. Wolinetz, PhD
(301) 634-7650
cwolinetz@faseb.org

FASEB BREAKTHROUGHS IN BIOSCIENCE DESCRIBES ADVANCES IN BONE GRAFTING AND BIOENGINEERING

Bethesda, MD – The Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology (FASEB) is pleased to announce the release of the publication, "Bone Builders: The Science of Grafts, Biomaterials, and Bone Engineering," the latest edition in the *Breakthroughs in Bioscience* series. This most recent article describes the innovative research that led to bone grafting, the use of bone biomaterials, and bone engineering.

Bone is the most commonly transplanted tissue after blood transfusions, and every year more than 800,000 people in the U.S. receive bone biomaterials, including bone grafts and bone substitutes. From late seventeenth century skull grafts to modern tissue engineering, scientists have taken their cues from fundamental physiology and even sea coral to develop replacements for bone. Serendipitous research discoveries and breakthroughs involving multiple scientific disciplines have led to remarkable advancement in bone grafting and bone biomaterials, as well as forming the foundation for cutting-edge bone engineering. Readers will learn about the science of bone grafting and basic bone biology, the discovery of natural materials that played a key role in the search for bone graft substitutes, and the future of bone engineering as a result of breakthroughs in biomedical research. This article is designed to complement an earlier article in the series, "Bone Builders: The Discoveries Behind Preventing and Treating Osteoporosis."

The *Breakthroughs in Bioscience* series is a collection of illustrated articles, published by FASEB, that explain recent developments in basic biomedical research and how they are important to society. To obtain a free copy of these publications, visit the *Breakthroughs in Bioscience* Web site (http://opa.faseb.org/pages/Publications/breakthroughs.htm) or contact FASEB's Office of Public Affairs at (301) 634-7650.

Bone Builders: The Science of Grafts, Biomaterials, and Bone Engineering:
http://opa.faseb.org/pdf/2009/July-December/Biomaterials.pdf

FASEB is composed of 22 societies with more than 90,000 members, making it the largest coalition of biomedical research associations in the United States. FASEB enhances the ability of biomedical and life scientists to improve—through their research—the health, well-being and productivity of all people. Our mission is to advance health and welfare by promoting progress and education in biological and biomedical sciences through service to our member societies and collaborative advocacy.