This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Assays & screens			
Cell-based assays for identifying compounds that target the ubiquitin-proteasome system	Cell-based protein degradation assays could guide the discovery of new therapeutics that target the ubiquitin-proteasome system. A set of three dual-reporter HeLa cell lines were generated to identify compounds that affected protein degradation in the ubiquitin-proteasome system. The assay was validated against a panel of seven compounds with known ubiquitin-proteasome inhibitory activity. In a panel of 160 protein kinase inhibitors, the assay also identified one compound that had ubiquitin-proteasome inhibitory activity with an IC_{50} value of 1.7 μ M. Data from proof-of-principle studies evaluating the use of the assay in screening additional drug libraries are awaiting publication.	Patent application filed; available for licensing from the California Institute of Technology Office of Technology Transfer	Chou, T.-F. & Deshaies, R.J. <i>J. Biol. Chem.</i> ; published online Feb. 22, 2011; doi:10.1074/jbc.M110.215319 Contact: Raymond J. Deshaies, California Institute of Technology, Pasadena, Calif. e-mail: deshaies@caltech.edu
	SciBX 4(10); doi:10.1038/scibx.2011.291 Published online March 10, 2011		