

CRISPR patent dispute erupts on Twitter

The GLP aggregated and excerpted this blog/article to reflect the diversity of news, opinion and analysis.

The war for control of the century's biggest biotech innovation has moved from the patent office to the Internet.

Spectators in the bicoastal battle over CRISPR, a revolutionary DNA-editing technology that promises to change how we treat disease, vented their grievances on Twitter, just as a [high-stakes patent case](#) for control of the technology is revving up.

The tweetstorm erupted when the leader of an institution vying for control of the technology published a lengthy historical account of CRISPR in a top scientific journal.

Screen Shot 2016-01-22 at 9.51.35 AM

Screen Shot 2016-01-22 at 9.51.13 AM

Screen Shot 2016-01-22 at 9.51.23 AM

To critics, the big problem is that “[Heroes of CRISPR](#)” is a history told by a person with a dog in the fight over who created it. The author, Eric Lander, is head of the Broad Institute, a Harvard- and MIT-affiliated research institution that is now in an all-out patent battle against the University of California, Berkeley, with hundreds of millions of dollars on the line.

To put this in perspective for non-scientists, Lander is a powerful voice in the field — a former leader of the human genome project, a co-chair of the committee that advises President Obama on science and technology matters, and a charismatic communicator who has turned his institution from a start-up to a massive research heavyweight over a decade.

Read full, original post: [A social media war just erupted over the biotech innovation of the century](#)

See more tweets here: Eric Lander CRISPR “history” and (lack of) disclosures of conflicts of interest