

# Jeanne Dunham

*Interview conducted by*

*Mark Jones, PhD*

*In 1997*

SAN DIEGO TECHNOLOGY ARCHIVE



The Library  
UC SAN DIEGO

## **Jeanne Dunham**

Ms. Jeanne Dunham served as Chief Executive Officer and President of Bioserv Corporation. Ms. Dunham served as Vice President of Operations at Cytotech and Director of Materials Management at Hybritech Inc. She served as Member of Advisory Board at Verne Mendel Medical Corporation. She held operations positions at Behring Diagnostics and American Hoechst Corporation. Ms. Dunham obtained her Bachelors in Science in Chemistry and Masters in Science in Operations Management from the University of North Carolina. She passed away.

Source: Bloomberg Businessweek



***THE SAN DIEGO TECHNOLOGY ARCHIVE***

**INTERVIEWEE:**     **Jeanne Dunham**

**INTERVIEWER:**    **Mark Jones, PhD**

**INTERVIEW:**       **Part 1 of 2**

**DATE:**             **June 13, 1997**

**LOCATION:**          **San Diego, California**

1     **JONES:** How did you make your way to Hybritech?

2     **DUNHAM:** Actually, I did have my degree in chemistry at that time, and actually I  
3     had left Calbiochem, which was right across the street at the time. And I had been  
4     there for five years at Calbiochem, well, Calbiochem -- Behring, between New Jersey  
5     and here, five years, and there was a promotion of one of the people in the  
6     organization that was my equal, and I wanted that promotion. I didn't get it, so I got  
7     angry. I had spoke to Bob Wang, who was also working at Calbiochem at the time. I  
8     said to Bob, 'I'm not happy. I'm leaving.' And he said to me, 'Don't leave. I'll get you  
9     an application for Hybritech.' I said, 'Hybritech? Never heard of them.' And he said,  
10    'Oh, no, no, no. That's a good company.' So he got me over an application, I filled it  
11    out, and interviewed with Howard and got hired right away. So I started there in  
12    January of '80. I left one and walked across the street to the other. And that was fun.  
13    So, I started out in the trailers, my office was in the trailers, and I was the first  
14    production person. And I did all of the manufacturing, all of the QC, all the materials  
15    for the first test kits that they put out, working with the research people hand in  
16    hand. They were making it and they were helping me, teaching me how to make it,  
17    and then we were boxing it up and shipping it out.

18    **JONES:** And you were doing this over there, Torrey Pines?

19    **DUNHAM:** We were doing it at La Jolla Cancer.

20    **JONES:** And did you also work on the research antibodies?

21 **DUNHAM:** Yes, the ones that were freeze dried or in liquid nitrogen in these little V-  
22 bottomed vials. In the very beginning, that's the first thing that we did. I filled those  
23 and capped them and labeled them, and helped ship those, and eventually we went  
24 ahead and worked on the IgE kit. That was the first test kit that got approved, well  
25 not approved, but marketed by Hybritech, to hopefully bring in some cash while we  
26 were working on other things. And so we put together the whole test kit. We made  
27 everything that went into it. On weekends, we would have labeling parties, or filling  
28 parties, all of us would get together and fill everything, and get it ready to be shipped.

29 **JONES:** So really, at that point, everybody in the company was working on this?

30 **DUNHAM:** Yes, everybody. Even Howard would come breezing by once in a while  
31 and do something to help out. It was a small group at the time. There weren't a lot of  
32 people. I was #43, so at the time, when all this was going on, there were sixty or fewer  
33 people. There had to be less than sixty, because people did leave at times. And it was  
34 good. Everybody was friends, there weren't any problems within the company at all,  
35 even with that large a group, and you know, we would have weight watchers things,  
36 where we all were on a diet and we would all weigh in, and Howard would be the  
37 instigator of it, and made sure he weighed everybody in, and made sure they didn't lie  
38 about their weight. So, we had a lot of good times, a lot of going out and socializing  
39 and going to Ted's house for parties, that type of thing.

40 **JONES:** Now, Calbiochem and Behring, these were your first jobs right out of college?

41 **DUNHAM:** Yes and no. I did things a little differently in that after high school, I got  
42 married and had children, and then didn't go back to school until I was about twenty-  
43 eight. Then I went back to school and got my degree and was working at the same  
44 time. I actually graduated with an associate's degree, and started working in Behring  
45 Diagnostics in New Jersey, and while I was still working, I was going to Rutgers to get  
46 my degree in chemistry, so it was work all day, go to classes at night, and I actually  
47 was transferred to San Diego before I completed the degree. I still had six credits to  
48 take, and I had to take them here at UCSD, and then transfer them back to Rutgers,  
49 so I ended up with my degree in 1980, and immediately started going to San Diego  
50 State for my master's degree in operations management, and received that in '84.

51 **JONES:** When you decided that you wanted to leave Calbiochem and go somewhere  
52 else, you interviewed with Howard, and were really the first person they hired for

53 production, what was your impression of the company then? They were in the  
54 trailers, a small place?

55 **DUNHAM:** Well, I like challenges. It was definitely a challenge. I thought, 'How can  
56 they operate like this?' Everyone was research oriented, I mean everyone, and the  
57 reason they hired me was that I had just come from New Jersey and set up four new  
58 laboratories at Calbiochem from scratch, hired all of the people, set up all of the  
59 procedures, got all of the equipment operating, and made product while that was  
60 going on. So, they knew that I could do things, make things happen quickly, and to  
61 get that all done. So, I think that's the main reason that Howard hired me.

62 **JONES:** When you were doing this at Calbiochem, was this learning on the job?

63 **DUNHAM:** Oh, it was learning on the job. There's no way to train on how to do that.  
64 Since then, I've done four other build-outs, which is lots of fun. I enjoy doing that.  
65 We're actually going to start another one next month. I definitely had to learn as I  
66 went. It doesn't matter where you work, Calbiochem, Hybritech, or here. What  
67 happens is, they're always different. The culture's a little different, the people are  
68 different, the way they do things is a little different, so even with that experience at  
69 Calbiochem, the Hybritech thing was a whole new area to get into, dealing with the  
70 research people, with Gary David, predominantly Gary and Bob Wang.

71 **JONES:** And how would you characterize the culture there, at this brand new start-  
72 up? I don't know, I assume Calbiochem is a little bit farther along?

73 **DUNHAM:** Oh, much further along. Calbiochem had been started at least fifteen  
74 years before that, and they were the old entrenched group, and they were just seeing  
75 a lot of change now because Behring had just bought them, so they were in turmoil.  
76 They had the old group and the new group, and they were trying to mesh, and it just  
77 wasn't working, and they had their own set way of doing things. Hybritech was a lot  
78 different. Everybody was younger. Everybody was innovative and very few people had  
79 any industry experience, so we could go ahead and put things together the way we  
80 wanted to from the very beginning. It was a lot nicer.

81 **JONES:** When you came in, did you get a piece of the company like everybody else?

82 **DUNHAM:** Yes.

83 **JONES:** Did that mean anything to you at the time?

84 **DUNHAM:** That was part of it, but it was the first time I had ever gotten, obviously,  
85 working for an old German company, you don't get stock in the company, but at  
86 Hybritech, that was a new concept for me. At first it didn't mean all that much. To  
87 me, the salary was more important at that point in time, because I had two young  
88 children, but a year or two later, as time went on, it became important, because that  
89 was what you were working for because you were constantly working to have more  
90 stock awarded to you. And it definitely does motivate you more than just a salary.

91 **JONES:** Do you think that that contributed to more of a team-oriented atmosphere?

92 **DUNHAM:** Oh, I think so. I think everybody saw the future and what they wanted,  
93 and Hybritech was the first monoclonal antibody company, and they wanted that  
94 distinction. You know, Ted and Howard both had great plans for the company, so  
95 everybody bought into it, and they all worked harder, I think.

96 **JONES:** So how long were you working over there at the trailers?

97 **DUNHAM:** Oh, Mark, I don't know how many years that was. After that, we went  
98 over to Mira Mesa, to Carroll Canyon Road, so I moved over there. It was '82, late '81,  
99 '82. I don't remember the years that it happened. You probably know better than I do.  
100 Yeah, I wasn't in the trailers all that long, maybe it was '81.

101 **JONES:** And then they leased that facility for putting the kits together?

102 **DUNHAM:** Yes, putting the kits together. 7120 Carroll Canyon Road. Yeah, then I had  
103 a corner office there, and then, by that point in time, they had hired Jerry Martin as  
104 the QC manager, and I became the production manager. So, I had gone from  
105 supervisor to manager.

106 **JONES:** Can you describe the process then for monoclonal production over there?  
107 What did you have to do to the facility? You had to put these kits together, what did  
108 you have to do?

109 **DUNHAM:** The first thing we did, obviously, was build it out, so we had the  
110 laboratories. But we didn't do the monoclonal antibodies over there. Monoclonal  
111 antibodies were still done up on the hill, the actual antibodies, because that's where  
112 the vivarium was. What we had on Carroll Canyon was just the laboratory where we  
113 actually coded the beads with the monoclonal, and then we also produced all of the  
114 reagents that went into the test kits, the substrates, the conjugates, and the buffers,

115 the controls. So, we had production, wet lab formulations area, we had a QC lab, we  
116 had a large open packaging area, we had the shipping and the receiving, and the  
117 warehouse area, so it was truly just a manufacturing facility. There wasn't anything  
118 else going on there.

119 **JONES:** And basically you were in charge of putting that together. Who did you  
120 report to directly?

121 **DUNHAM:** At that point in time, Howard wasn't, I think I only reported to Howard  
122 for about a year and a half, and then Ron Taylor came on board, and I reported to  
123 Ron Taylor, until I left.

124 **JONES:** And what was it like working for him?

125 **DUNHAM:** It was interesting to work with somebody who had worked at a large  
126 company and definitely had a different set of goals and a different orientation than  
127 what Hybritech had at that point in time, so it was the beginning of the new regime,  
128 the new marketing group, etc., that had been working at large companies that they  
129 could lure in now. So, the culture changed slightly. It became more business-like, you  
130 know, we had MBAs from Harvard running around in training during the summer,  
131 and Ted was obviously building the company with an upper level that could present  
132 well, that stood up well for investment bankers, etc., and get more money, that was  
133 the reason.

134 **JONES:** And in terms of going into work every day, did that change?

135 **DUNHAM:** Nothing really changed there, I mean it was still a challenge of more kits,  
136 more products coming up the pipeline, how we were going to do the interface  
137 between product development and manufacturing to make sure that it went  
138 smoothly and we didn't lose anything, running to meetings about new test kits  
139 coming up, and then of course, there was that whole Abbott thing that went on, with  
140 Abbott being angry because we were hiring Abbott people. So that was another little  
141 side story that was going on. So, it changed, but the people that had been there for a  
142 long period of time were still their own little group, and weren't affected too much by  
143 that overall change in the company.

144 **JONES:** At this time, this is all very new, new for Hybritech, but also making  
145 monoclonal kits is new for the FDA. Nobody had ever done it before, so working with  
146 the FDA, how did that go?

147 **DUNHAM:** Actually, it went really well. At that point in time, submissions dealt with  
148 the monoclonal antibody issue and the FDA, the regulatory people. When it came  
149 down to the FDA actually coming into the area that I was responsible for and doing  
150 the inspections, it didn't hinge a whole bunch on the monoclonal antibody. It hinged  
151 more on the GMP regulations that you have to follow, 'Let's see how you're following  
152 them.' And the inspections went really well, actually. We didn't have any 483s at all  
153 until probably about two and a half, three years into the operation. So, it worked out  
154 really nicely.

155 **JONES:** Did you recall if they were having any problems at the other place, at the  
156 vivarium?

157 **DUNHAM:** Oh, we always had problems with the vivarium. There are always...the  
158 ways to scale up the monoclonal antibodies, I mean, you're making a small amount,  
159 and all of a sudden you're successful, what happens then? I mean, we were actually  
160 utilizing about a thousand mice a week at one point in time. There were a lot of mice  
161 going in and out of there. There were problems with the supply of the mice. At one  
162 time, we had four different vendors for mice, and tried to keep the mice segregated,  
163 to make sure that none of them got ill and passed diseases back and forth, auditing  
164 those vendors. Actually, I had the opportunity to audit Charles Rivers, in the Boston  
165 area, and I don't know what year, probably '84, '83, and that was a real mouse factory.  
166 I mean, that's what they were in business to do, make mice, and it's really a different  
167 environment, it's a real factory. And they were scaling up to make sure that we had  
168 enough mice, and eventually they became the only company that would commit the  
169 dollars to their own facility so that we could have a lot of mice. I don't know what  
170 they're doing these days, but I assume that there still using quite a few mice, although  
171 they've gone to the hollow fiber and other ways. Yeah, the mice were interesting. But  
172 I was a big believer that you really shouldn't ask people to do something unless you've  
173 done it yourself, so you know what it's really like, so you know what's going on the  
174 floor, and in the vivarium, so I actually went down and had one of the guys teach me  
175 how to execute the mouse, and that was really interesting, I didn't particularly care to  
176 do that, but other people sat down there day after day, mouse after mouse after  
177 mouse, injecting and harvesting the mice wasn't so bad, it was just the actual killing



178 of the mice that I didn't particularly care for. Have you talked to or heard about Jeff  
179 Janus?

180 **JONES:** No.

181 **DUNHAM:** You should talk to Jeff Janus.

182 **JONES:** Is he in San Diego?

183 **DUNHAM:** I don't think he's in San Diego any longer.

184 **JONES:** How do you spell his last name?

185 **DUNHAM:** J-A-N-U-S. The most recent place he's worked that I've known of is  
186 Clonetics, and they were bought by BioWhitaker, and BioWhitaker is in Maryland,  
187 and that's where he is, I think. He just moved there like a year ago. But Jeff was there,  
188 there were a lot of funny stories in the vivarium. He could give you a lot of stories  
189 about the vivarium. I hired him directly out of UCSD, and he had to work in the  
190 vivarium, and he got really good at it, but he didn't like the idea of -- there's a way to  
191 hold the mouse and take the ascites out, so what he did was, and then sometimes  
192 after that, you have to kill them, so what he made was an actual mouse guillotine,  
193 where he had this Plexiglas piece that was on an angle like this, and the little mouse  
194 was just spread-eagled on there, and you held down the little legs with little clamps,  
195 and then....So, it got...I mean, don't tell your animal activists friends about this thing,  
196 but it was humane. I mean, he was trying to come up with a humane way of  
197 sacrificing these mice, and not having them suffer. So, he could tell you some good  
198 stories. And he's also the person, I don't know if anyone else told you, who injected  
199 himself by mistake. You're holding the mice, and you know, they're so small, their  
200 little forearms are above these two fingers, and then you holding their feet down with  
201 these two fingers, so that their bellies are exposed, and then you're injecting them  
202 with monoclonals, and at one point in time, one moved, and he injected himself, and  
203 he was reporting to me at the time. At that time, the vivarium was reporting to me,  
204 and I heard through the grapevine that Jeff had injected himself, and I thought, 'Oh,  
205 God. Why did he do that?' So, I was really upset, I mean I was really concerned  
206 because these are obviously cancer cells that he's injecting into himself, but nothing  
207 ever happened. He got thin, we were worried about that, but he had started running,  
208 and so that's why he was thin, and we didn't think anything more about it until about  
209 a year later when we were all donating, we were always donating body fluids for all

210 these tests that had to happen, you know, and we had these jars in the restroom, so  
211 that we could donate urine, and the HCG is used of course in pregnancy testing, but  
212 also used in male prostate cancer testing, and we were trying to develop that test, so  
213 they were collecting a lot of urine, and they were doing it for females and males. And  
214 the males, of course, should be negative, and the females could be positive, but the  
215 male jug turned out positive, and they couldn't figure out why, so they did individual  
216 taking of samples and Jeff was positive. So they were panicked that Jeff had some kind  
217 of cancer from this injection. But what it turned out to be was, what had happened  
218 was that he had injected mouse cells into his body, so the mouse cells interact with  
219 your immune system and you produce anti-mouse antibodies, and he was reacting to  
220 the test, and nothing else. It was just the way the test was run that he was reacting to,  
221 because it was a mouse-based test. So, it was hilarious, it was really funny. He took  
222 the brunt of a lot of jokes. If you can't find him, I can probably get his number for  
223 you.

224 **JONES:** OK, did you have enough money to do what you needed to do, to scale up  
225 production?

226 **DUNHAM:** Yes. Money wasn't really an issue, I mean, obviously, we couldn't go out  
227 and buy the most expensive things, although eventually, we did get to that point. We  
228 bought really expensive equipment. When we were getting into the drug arena, they  
229 bought a lot of expensive equipment, but initially setting up, no. Getting the facility  
230 built out and working with the architect and buying any of that manufacturing  
231 equipment, we didn't have a lot of issues with the money part of it. I mean, the  
232 biggest issues after Ron Taylor came on board was to increase productivity, getting,  
233 you know, more work out of everybody, having them more focused, buying  
234 equipment to speed up production because by then, the HCG kits, the IgE kits, all  
235 those were selling really well. I don't remember the issue with the money, I was in  
236 charge of the inventory, because after I was production manager, and actually it's just  
237 like here, after a while, you get so large that you just can't handle all of it, so you have  
238 to split out into two different areas of responsibility, so I had a choice then of  
239 production or materials, and at that point, I was going for my MBA, and I wanted to  
240 do my thesis on MRP systems, so I went ahead and became director of materials  
241 management. So, I was in charge of this multi-million dollar inventory and the only  
242 grief I got about inventory levels, because I always tried to keep them down low, was  
243 in the antibodies themselves. The auditors couldn't understand why we had so many  
244 thousands and maybe even hundreds of thousands of dollars in inventory in

245 antibodies, not understanding that the antibody is so specific, and you make it once  
246 and you may never be able to make it quite the same way again, so we always tried to  
247 keep large inventories of that on hand, and they always gave me grief about that.

248 **JONES:** So, when the therapeutics projects were buying equipment, it wasn't for  
249 production, but for materials stuff, right?

250 **DUNHAM:** When therapeutics were buying equipment, it was more for the pilot  
251 plant. It was a pilot plant operation.

252 **JONES:** Well, what kind of stuff did that involve? They never actually had any  
253 products.

254 **DUNHAM:** Yes, that's true. Actually, we have some of the equipment here, that we  
255 bought in the fire sale that they had recently. They bought ovens, because even to do  
256 your clinical trials, your [?] has to be put into vials, it had been washed a certain way,  
257 and then de- pyrogenated, and sterilized a certain way, so you need all the equipment  
258 to do that. They needed hoods, they needed clean rooms. They bought a very, very  
259 large freeze drier from France. Phil Levenson was director of engineering, and he  
260 negotiated that. That one was what I considered a fiasco. I mean it's a huge  
261 lyophilizer built in France, and you know how easy it is to get parts from France, and  
262 it never really worked properly. The whole time I was there, it never really worked  
263 properly. So, yeah, there were some fiascoes. So, the pilot plant was production type  
264 equipment, but on a smaller scale. But specialized equipment.

265 **JONES:** So, you had to produce stuff for the clinical trials, but that was still a pretty  
266 big operation?

267 **DUNHAM:** It's a big commitment. Keep in mind, we built out the room just when I  
268 left, so I really didn't see the room in operation. Gary Christianson was operating that  
269 area. So, I don't know exactly what they were doing in there all the time, but the  
270 plans were that they were just going to do the clinical trials, but it's still a big  
271 commitment.

272 **JONES:** Did you put this in the same place, over on Carroll Canyon Road.

273 **DUNHAM:** Yeah, it was part of the manufacturing area there, and in fact, by that  
274 time, then, they were getting these other buildings, too, the other buildings on  
275 Carroll Canyon, the big black...

276 **JONES:** The one they're in now?

277 **DUNHAM:** Yeah. In that area there.

278 **JONES:** And what was going in there?

279 **DUNHAM:** Manufacturing. They were scaling up, because 7120 was only, not very  
280 much, maybe 10,000 square feet? That's all it was. It wasn't a lot. This is twenty, and  
281 already we've grown out of this.

282 **JONES:** But for the first four or five years, that was adequate?

283 **DUNHAM:** Oh yeah. Well, it wasn't four or five, more like two or three.

284 **JONES:** When you were scaling up for this, did you talk to other companies, did you  
285 get on the phone?

286 **DUNHAM:** I personally didn't, no. We utilized vendors a lot. But no, I didn't. Keep in  
287 my mind -- I was in the trenches. I really didn't get out of the trenches, ever, there,  
288 even though I was director of materials, I still reported to Ron Taylor, and Ron was  
289 the one that went to all these meetings, and did all that interaction, so, I didn't do it.

290 **JONES:** Working with R&D, did it usually go smoothly?

291 **DUNHAM:** Never, no, Production and R&D people are so different. They have  
292 different mind-sets, they act, they work differently. Actually, the biggest conflict we  
293 had was when we were still together in the same building -- we had to get out of the  
294 building. That's one of the main reasons we moved from the hill. Production people  
295 have to come in at 7:30, they have to leave at 4:00, and they have to take lunch  
296 together, because you have a line running, you know, you can't do it any other way.  
297 The R&D people would mosey in at 9:00, 10:00, 11:00 in the morning, and maybe not  
298 go home until midnight, but the production people didn't see that, so there was  
299 always that conflict between, you know, R&D, or the pampered people of the world,  
300 they can come and go when they feel like it, and I'm tied to the clock. So, we had to  
301 separate the two groups. They don't get along. It's like oil and water. In any company,  
302 it's always like that. It's fun though.

303 **JONES:** Until 1984, your happy doing this work, satisfied with the way your career is  
304 progressing?

305 **DUNHAM:** Oh yeah, I mean it was always a challenge. It was always lots of fun, and  
306 you're meeting so many different people, etc., yeah, always new projects. I mean, I  
307 was still working from about, sometimes I would get in at 6:30, but I was always there  
308 by 7:00, and I'd usually leave about 6:00 or 7:00 at night, five days a week, and then  
309 coming in on Saturdays. Actually, it was the period of time in '83, when I started  
310 backpacking, just to get away on the weekends, because if I was in town, I would  
311 work, and that's still the case today -- if I'm in town, I work. So I try to get away as  
312 much as I can. I think we were all workaholics.

313 **JONES:** And what about the people under you? Did you demand a lot of everybody  
314 who was there, did you try to infuse that kind of attitude or commitment?

315 **DUNHAM:** Well, you try as much as you can. Actually, we hired a lot of people  
316 directly out of UCSD, a lot of grads, and those grads are now spread out through San  
317 Diego, but when we were there and we were doing the manufacturing, they were  
318 really good at it. They learned a lot, they definitely came up through the ranks. I don't  
319 know if you've talked to Randy Lane, do you know where he is?

320 **JONES:** No.

321 **DUNHAM:** I can tell you where he is. Also have you talked to Jill at Hybritech?

322 **JONES:** No, actually the only person I've talked to in production, manufacturing is  
323 Ron Taylor.

324 **DUNHAM:** Jill works in R&D, and she worked in cell biology, and she keeps in touch  
325 with everybody. She knows where everybody is, and we just had a ladies reunion  
326 about six months ago. There were a lot of new people there that I didn't know, but  
327 the old group was there. She would have a lot of contacts. But Randy Lane is at  
328 Accumetrics, which is here in town, and he's a director at Accumetrics, and Jim Neal  
329 is another person that we hired directly out of UCSD in production, and he's now at, I  
330 don't know what the name of the company is now. It was called Alexon. Dave  
331 McCarty was the President, and they were just bought by Erie Scientific in the  
332 Minneapolis area, and he's still in charge of manufacturing at Alexon. So, everyone  
333 that we hired stayed in manufacturing or the QC area, and now they're going up, and  
334 they're at these companies at a higher level, at high levels.

335 **JONES:** So, being here in San Diego, you didn't have any trouble finding qualified  
336 people?

337 **DUNHAM:** Oh, taking someone directly out of UCSD is not a qualified person. They  
338 had a basic understanding of chemistry, but they weren't teaching that in a way that  
339 you could then go out into the world and use it. I mean, everybody who came into  
340 the facility, you had to train, every single one of them. They maybe knew the basics --  
341 this a ph meter, yes, yes --none of them had GMP experience, not one of them. So, we  
342 had a lot of training classes.

343 **JONES:** Was it true that you were hiring a lot of people away from Abbott?

344 **DUNHAM:** It was true. I didn't personally, but the company did. Hybritech kept  
345 hiring people, directly recruiting them out of Abbott, and after I guess, I've forgotten  
346 his name, but the person that was the straw that broke the camel's back was a real  
347 dud. He was a real dud. I can't remember his name. Ron might remember his name, I  
348 don't know, but he was a guy, and it was a shame, because then Abbott sued us and  
349 here we had, the straw that broke the camel's back was this guy that no one wanted  
350 anyway. He was so...he was bad news, and they got rid of him fairly quickly. So then,  
351 they went into court, and that was about when I left, so I don't know what other  
352 things were going on there.

353 **JONES:** What were the circumstances surrounding your leaving Hybritech? Why did  
354 you decide to go?

355 **DUNHAM:** I didn't decide to go. Ron Taylor decided that I was going. Yeah. You  
356 know, now, how many years is this, thirteen years? In retrospect, he was right,  
357 because I got myself in the same situation here with somebody else I had to let go  
358 because you get to a certain point and you don't have any other experience to draw  
359 upon, you don't have any big company experience, or you haven't grown to a certain  
360 point, or you've only grown to a certain point, and the company is growing up here,  
361 so Ron, of course, recognized that, so he pulled in his buddy from Allergan, I don't  
362 remember his name, but anyway, brought him in as materials person and basically  
363 told me I should look for another job. And it wasn't hard to do because with that kind  
364 of experience then any kind of start-up company...and actually, at that point in time,  
365 I decided that I had worked for a very, very large company, Behring, I had worked for  
366 a small company, Hybritech, which was growing into a large company, which one did  
367 I really like. Well, I liked the small company. That's what I liked. Paul Rosinack, who

was the marketing VP at Hybritech and Cynthia Stewart who was the CFO, the vice-president of finance, had left Hybritech like two months before I did, and went to, they didn't start, but went to this company called Cytotech, which I don't think is on the list, either. But it's not like they founded the company, they went there to work. It had just been founded by a researcher from UCSD, no, both of them were from Scripps, and it was going to be based on HIV technology in...complement technology. So, they were there and we went back and forth, and I thought, 'I don't know if I want to do this,' and they said, 'Yes, yes. It's going to be another Hybritech and we're going to get lots of stock in the beginning, and it will grow and it will be worth a lot.' So, I said, 'OK, fine.' So, I went there, and I was there for five years, and then they were purchased by Quidel. But I did exactly the same thing all over again. We had research people who were transferring the test kits over to me, we were scaling them up, building out the manufacturing facility. We did all that all over again. So, it was lots of fun doing that.

**JONES:** So, even though it was different in a lot of ways, do you think your Hybritech experience was really important? Did you do it better the second time?

**DUNHAM:** Oh, you learn a lot, that's for sure. You learn a heck of a lot. Yeah, I probably did it smarter the second time. You know, I knew exactly where to go to get things, and I knew what things should cost, and I knew what I had to do, but the Hybritech experience was interesting. The experience itself wasn't as important as the people. The people were much more important and the contacts that you had, because to tell you the truth, Bioserv wouldn't be as successful as it is, in fact, there probably wouldn't be a Bioserv if I didn't have all those contacts. A lot of our customers are ex-Hybritech people who have gone on to other companies and who need services. So, that worked out really nicely. And even the teaching position at UCSD, you know, it just helps a lot to have that network, where you know people who know people, so that's the important part of it. And the same thing with Behring, even though Behring had a small exposure here in San Diego. Across the United States, there are Behring people I know everywhere, so that helps a lot. So, the experience itself wasn't that great, it was the people that made it great. Actually do you want a list of people? Did Gary David tell you about Joanne Martinis?

**JONES:** Yes. Do you stay in touch with her?

**DUNHAM:** Yeah, she's teaching.



401 **JONES:** Teaching school?

402 **DUNHAM:** Yes, after she left Hybritech, she retired, and she went to Mira Costa and  
403 got her teaching certificate in the sciences, and this particular school system needed  
404 somebody who could become the entire science department. Well, Joanne is really  
405 great in presenting herself. She has great knowledge and memory retention, and they  
406 just don't know how they lucked out. I'm sure they do now, but they just lucked out  
407 by getting her as head of the department. She's really good. She's been using a lot of  
408 her contacts down here to get used equipment and things donated to the school.



**INTERVIEWEE:**     **Jeanne Dunham**  
**INTERVIEWER:**    **Mark Jones, PhD**  
**INTERVIEW:**       **Part 2 of 2**  
**DATE:**             **September 10, 1997**  
**LOCATION:**         **San Diego, California**

409     **DUNHAM:** Cytotech was actually being run already by the ex-vice-president of  
410     marketing, Paul Rosinack, and by Cynthia Stewart, who was the ex-controller of  
411     Hybritech. They talked to me and tried to convince me that I needed to come down.  
412     They were about ready to go into production, and that I should come down and set  
413     up the production like I did at Hybritech and help them build out a building. So, we  
414     went back and forth for about two weeks, and finally I decided, 'Sure, I can do that.'  
415     And, you know, with the hope in the back of your mind that it's going to be like  
416     Hybritech, that it's going to do really well, because they had two different  
417     technologies that were going forward. They had a complement technology and they  
418     had an HIV assay that they wanted to market. A diagnostic. So, I went down there  
419     and set up the facility again, built out the facility, hired the people, hired QC  
420     managers and production managers, and a materials manager, and brought on the  
421     people, and manufactured the product for a long time. Actually, I was there for over  
422     four years before they were purchased by Quidel. After they were purchased by  
423     Quidel, everyone was laid off the day that happened, everyone. Then, they called  
424     back myself and one other person that works here now, and the two of us basically  
425     made product for six months as consultants to the company. And during that six  
426     month period, then, I incorporated Bioserv and started to plan on how I was going to  
427     go ahead and get this off the ground. And that's where the Hybritech stock came in  
428     handy because I had quite a bit of stock, and I was able to sell about half of it and  
429     have enough capital to start the company. And I haven't put any money back into  
430     the company since then. We've been running off of profits for the last nine years. So,  
431     while I was consulting, I was doing all the phone calls, calling people and seeing if  
432     you a facility and a place set up, and ready to go. And I did, and started out with, oh,  
433     probably about twelve linear feet of bench space and a place on Santa Fe down by  
434     PB. So, I did that, and that lasted for about six months, and then grew out of that,  
435     and then moved into a place in Sorrento Valley that was also, the tenants prior to me  
436     being there, that's where Corvas started, David Kabakoff's company started, and  
437     then Isis was in there, and there was another one that's up in the Carlsbad area that

was in there also after I was. So, that's like a little incubator area, about 1000 sq. ft. of lab space. And then moved into a larger site, and just, over the last nine years, we've just been moving into larger spaces. And keeping in touch with the Hybritech people, which has really been...Hybritech not only funded this company indirectly, but it also helped sustain the company because, I would say, of our local customers, about 50% are ex-Hybritech people that I have known in the past, so it still continues to sustain the company, which is nice.

**JONES:** Who are some of these people?

**DUNHAM:** Well, we have actually worked for Randy Lane at two different companies. We worked for him when he was at Cytronix and we're working for him now that he's at Accumetrics. We worked for Jerry Martin at Gensia, worked with Mark Shannon at Quantometrix, he started his own company. Don Coffey, Don Coffey was taking LMD, working there while Electon purchased them. We were working with them. I'm trying to think of other people in the area. More will come to me, but there's just so many. We worked with Amylin, so we worked with Ted Greene's company, and Molly Stone was there, that's who we worked with there. So there's a variety.

**JONES:** So, you sort of fill a niche -- at a certain stage of a company's development, they need manufacturing, they don't have their own? What is the role of Bioserv?

**DUNHAM:** Well, definitely, it has a niche area. There's no doubt about that. The company is small, relatively small, even though we now have twenty thousand square feet now, that's really small. Most large manufacturing companies have anywhere, you know, sixty to two hundred thousand square feet. But one of the things that we have to advertise is that we're flexible. We can do a variety of jobs. What we started doing was exactly what we had done at Hybritech and Cytotech, which was basically diagnostic test kits, and we can do diagnostic kits from beginning to end. Customers just come here and they say, 'We have this idea. This is what we want to do. This is as far as we've developed it.' Then, we'll go ahead and do the pilot run and then from then on, we manufacture the kit for them and just give them back the finished product, which is among the types of things that we do for the [?] company. So we are filling that little niche. Some of our customers are virtual. They just have themselves. They have no company, no facility, just a phone. We do work for them, all the way up to the large companies that have small products that

they want to introduce and they don't know if they're going to be successful or not, so we go ahead and manufacture the beginning batches for them, until they see whether they are going to be successful in the marketplace.

**JONES:** So you specialize in diagnostics, but do other kinds of stuff as well?

**DUNHAM:** We're doing very little in diagnostics compared to everything else right now. We're doing hard devices, so we have dental implants, ocular implants that we're working with, and both -- the dental implant is basically a screw, is what it looks like, and they come in from a machine shop, so it's all dirty and greasy. It has to be cleaned. There's an extensive ultrasonic cleaning process that it goes through, then it has to be packaged and assembled. There are a lot of nuts and bolts in a dental implant. They get assembled and then they get packaged and sent out for gamma radiation, so they're sterile. Then they come back, and they get put into the final packaging, and ready to be sent to the distributor. Ocular implants come from a manufacturer up in Orange County, and all we'll be doing there is sterile packaging, and having that sent to the distributor also. And then we do some tumor devices. These are hard devices that are going to be implanted in or affixed to a tumor in some way, and either medicine will be secreted or current will passed through it, something will happen to reduce the tumor, hopefully. So, we have those that we process. We have food products, we manufacture some nutritional type food products.

**JONES:** For medical markets?

**DUNHAM:** No, for the general consumer. We have ocular type, ophthalmic solutions, not contact lens solutions, but other solutions that we make. Then we have a pharmaceutical side of the house where we have injectable drugs that we're making. Anything that's liquid or needs to be filled sterilely, that's what we're doing. So, we have quite a few pharmaceutical customers that we're working for.

**JONES:** This is a wide array. When you have a new product, do bring in people with certain kinds of expertise?

**DUNHAM:** In most cases, the company knows a little about it and they help train us in certain areas, but we do have a mechanical engineer, we have an electrical engineer, we have biologists and chemists. So, just with those four types of people, with their background and training, we're usually able to do any of the jobs that

503 come up. There haven't been any jobs yet that we haven't been able to tackle. We try  
504 to break it down to basics, so that, so they become simple steps and they can follow  
505 them. So, it hasn't been a problem yet. The more sophisticated products, and I can't  
506 even think of one right now that we haven't been able to do, but there are, we're  
507 some endoscopic cable assembly right now. This is one of the more complex things  
508 that we're doing. It's a ten foot cable that has like twenty five different small parts  
509 that have to be put onto it, it has a light fiber that goes through it that has to be  
510 polished and cleaned, and it's very precise, very small, and very complex, and we're  
511 handling that without any problems. We don't do anything electronic. We don't do  
512 any welding, things like that. We stay out of that area. We try to stay more in the  
513 wet chemistry area.

514 **JONES:** Do you expect your relationships to be of a certain duration? You know, if  
515 the product is successful, they will have to scale up larger, and outgrow the services  
516 you can provide?

517 **DUNHAM:** In the beginning, this was our concept. This is contract manufacturing,  
518 it's a niche market, we're going to take these virtual companies or small companies  
519 and help them grow, and when they get to a certain point, they're going to take their  
520 product in house. It just makes economic sense for them to do that. Well, that hasn't  
521 been true. Over the last nine years, we've had one customer who grew to a point  
522 where they took the product and moved it in house, and they were in Massachusetts.  
523 So, we had complexities with shipping and everything, but they were customers of  
524 ours for four years before they grew to such a size that they needed to move it in  
525 house. They moved the production products in house, but continued to use our  
526 services for all of the R&D products that were coming up, so that worked out really  
527 nicely. And we no longer manufacture for them, but for a total of seven years, we did  
528 all of their manufacturing, which was great. The majority of our customers -- I just  
529 grossly break them up into two categories. The category of -- either it fails, the  
530 product fails in the marketplace, or it doesn't grow and we just continue to make  
531 small batches for them periodically, maybe one every two months or once every  
532 three months, and they're not going to grow. The product is not great. And then  
533 there is the customer that has the product that's great, and it grows, and we've been  
534 growing with them. That's how we've got from 1,000 square feet to 20,000 square  
535 feet. Right now, we've been in here sixteen months, seventeen months, and we're  
536 already looking for warehouse space. We have to move the warehouse off-site so that  
537 we can build out laboratories. We've gotten to that point.

538 **JONES:** The future looks rosy here in San Diego with all of the stuff that's going on?

539 **DUNHAM:** The majority of our customers are not San Diego customers. With  
540 transportation and everything today, that's not necessary. Let's see, our newest  
541 customers, one is from Minneapolis, one is from the Bay Area, one is from New  
542 Jersey, so those are our three newest customers.

543 **JONES:** That's kind of surprising to me.

544 **DUNHAM:** The very first customer that we ever had for Bioserv was from  
545 Minneapolis. So, it's hard to tell.

546 **JONES:** Are there a lot of people around the country doing this kind of thing?

547 **DUNHAM:** Not this size. You know, it seems as though every contract manufacturer  
548 has a little niche that they take. We have two other contract manufacturers in town.  
549 We just lost a job that we bid on to Pacific Device, and the reason was, it was a  
550 sterile packaging job. Well, they can do sterile packaging much more efficiently than  
551 we can because that's what they're built to do. They don't do any wet chemistry. So  
552 we actually transfer customers back and forth, recommend that they go back and  
553 forth. They sent us the customers that need to have wet chemistries done. The other  
554 contractor in town is smaller than we are, they specialize in parental filling, that's all  
555 they do, and ophthalmics. But across the country, very few of them are small like we  
556 are. It takes a lot of energy and work to deal with a small customer. It would be  
557 really nice to have a customer where you learn their process and then you just make  
558 it every single day, day after day after day. And that would be like a luxury for us. We  
559 have a few. We have three that we do that for. But the other ones, they move in and  
560 out, and if you lose what we call project coordinators, you lose the continuity of the  
561 job. It means basically learning it all over again. And we also bring on new customers  
562 a lot. So, those people, they can't go to large contractor across the country and have  
563 a large lot of 1,000 made. They can't do that. Like right now, a job that we're working  
564 on is a pharmaceutical job, and it's a capsule, a little capsule like a vitamin capsule.  
565 It's for a clinical trial study. They need to have, it boggles my mind to think about it,  
566 but they need 30,000 capsules. Nobody will make them 30,000 capsules. No one. It's  
567 not enough. Capsules typically come in boxes, a minimum of 100,000, so what we've  
568 done is bought 100,000 capsules, blank capsules, and now we are going to hand stuff  
569 30,000 capsules, which is going to be not much fun. The people that are going to  
570 work on it aren't real happy about it, but the customer is, because it's a clinical trial,

571 so they're going to need five different lots with five different amounts of placebo in  
572 them. So, it's real important that it's controlled very well. And they come here  
573 because they know it will happen, and they can be here watching us, helping us,  
574 whatever. You couldn't do that anyplace else.

575 **JONES:** When you started putting this together, did you raise any other money?

576 **DUNHAM:** No, it was all mine, and we haven't added anyone else's money to the  
577 company. There have been times when we thought about it. In the beginning, we  
578 had offers from friends and relatives to add money to the company, and we chose  
579 not to because we didn't know if it was going to be successful or not. I just had this  
580 feeling that I don't want to borrow money and then for the rest of my life, work to  
581 pay people back. I didn't want to do that. So, I said, 'No, I'll start slow. I'll start real  
582 small and real slow and build it that way.'

583 **JONES:** At the beginning, everybody was laid off at Cytotech...

584 **DUNHAM:** I started back again as a consultant to do the manufacturing of the  
585 product. They wanted to continue making product because we had commitments,  
586 customers that were using the product and wanted to buy it every week or month, or  
587 whatever. So, for six months, I did that while Quidel was finalizing the deal and  
588 taking over the inventory and moving things over.

589 **JONES:** So, you were doing this at facilities that already existed?

590 **DUNHAM:** Yes.

591 **JONES:** So, it was during that period that you thought...

592 **DUNHAM:** Well, yeah. We were laid off, I had been thinking about it because, of  
593 course, we knew that was going to happen, but we were laid off on the 15th of  
594 December and Bioserv was incorporated on the 19th. I made good use of my layoff  
595 time. I went down and incorporated.

596 **JONES:** And what about the transition, from being a consultant to having your own  
597 facility?

598 **DUNHAM:** Well, actually, it wasn't as traumatic as it might sound because at  
599 Cytotech, one of the advantages, and the same thing at Hybritech, usually people

600 don't have to tell me what to do. You just see something and you know what's got to  
601 be done, and you do it. So, I've been a self-starter, self-motivated, all of that, from  
602 the beginning. So, it was no different to do it for your own company. You knew what  
603 had to be done and you just did it. I don't always like what I'm doing. I have to wear  
604 the marketing hat. I don't always like the marketing hat, but I tend to do it well, so I  
605 get to do it.

606 **JONES:** Well, having to go out and find customers...

607 **DUNHAM:** That didn't bother me. Actually, what bothered me the most was hiring  
608 the first employee.

609 **JONES:** Why did that bother you?

610 **DUNHAM:** Because now, all of a sudden, I'm responsible for somebody. You know,  
611 I'm responsible for their paycheck, I'm responsible for them depending on me for a  
612 paycheck. That was difficult. And actually, what we did was, I used temporaries for  
613 the first two years, just so I wouldn't have to be in that situation. But then it got to  
614 the point where the temporaries didn't stay around long because they wanted full-  
615 time jobs. So, we had one temp, Elizabeth, that I thought was really good, and I just  
616 hired her. And that was the first employee. Then after that, it was easier. I adjust to  
617 things very quickly, so I adjusted to that. Now we have thirty. We just made three  
618 new hires, just this month. So one more, is starting next Monday.

619 **JONES:** At what point did you decide that this could work? Did you do any kind of  
620 market research?

621 **DUNHAM:** I'm not a marketing person. I'm definitely an operations person. This  
622 really, this is going to sound weird, but this is not what I really wanted to do. What I  
623 really wanted to do was go hiking and backpacking all the time. But you can't do  
624 that. You can't make money doing that. And yes, I probably didn't have to do  
625 anything. I mean, I could have stayed home. It really didn't matter.

626 **JONES:** You made that much money from Hybritech?

627 **DUNHAM:** Oh yeah, plus I was basically very frugal. I saved a lot of money, and I  
628 could have not done anything, or gone to an eight-to-five job and had a good time  
629 on the weekends or after work, you know. But I didn't do that. I'm too self-  
630 motivated, I'm a Type A, maybe Triple A, kind of person. I have to keep doing



631 something and being productive. And I did it. And I didn't do the market survey, and  
632 in retrospect, I go, 'Gosh, I really should have done a market survey.' But we have  
633 customers, and, in fact, I'm on the Board of Advisors for a local company that, he's  
634 spending a year just getting his advisory board together, and getting his Board of  
635 Directors together, and finding out where he's going to get his money, and if the  
636 product is going to make it in the marketplace. I'm not that kind of person. I'm a  
637 doer. I'm not a person who analyzes a lot and thinks about things a lot. You know, I  
638 have this gut reaction to something -- it's going to work. Well, the gut reaction to  
639 this was, there were people that were coming to Cytotech to have contract work  
640 done. Beckman came to Cytotech to have contract work done. So, I thought, you  
641 know, this might be something that could stand alone, and we could get customers.  
642 And in fact, I thought about Beckman, you know, being our first customer, which  
643 didn't happen. Just about a month before Cytotech actually closed its doors, they  
644 cancelled the project, Beckman took the project in-house. So, I thought maybe that  
645 will work. And it was the only thing I knew how to do, ever since I was working,  
646 since '75, that's the first thing I did, was operations. I didn't know anything else. I  
647 couldn't go out and develop or invent a product and take it to market. I don't have  
648 the ability to do that. I sort of went with my strong point, operations, organization.

649 **JONES:** Can you tell me much about the situation surrounding Paul Rosinak and  
650 Cynthia Stewart leaving Hybritech and going to Cytotech? Do you know where Paul  
651 Rosinak is?

652 **DUNHAM:** He's in town actually. Paul, when he left Cytotech, he went to work for  
653 an Italian company in the Midwest, someplace in the Midwest. And that was a  
654 company, whose name I don't remember, but that was a company that Cytotech had  
655 negotiations with, too. They were distributing for us in Italy, and they, at one point,  
656 thought that they were going to buy Cytotech. That didn't happen, it fell through,  
657 but obviously they were impressed with Paul, and they hired him to run their facility  
658 that they had bought in the Midwest someplace, St. Louis, Cincinnati, someplace  
659 around there. Paul went there, and then he left there. They closed that facility. It  
660 didn't work, closed it completely. They had this huge inventory sale. It was like the  
661 talk of the industry. But anyway, for there, he decided, like a lot of people have, I'm  
662 not going to be in this industry anymore. You know, this is a crazy industry, I'm  
663 going to get out of it. And then, the rumor was, I didn't talk to him about it, so I  
664 don't know for sure, but he bought car washes in that city and managed car washes  
665 with his money. And he didn't like that, either. He wasn't happy doing that, and at



the same time, his wife was ill, so he needed that freedom to be at home. His wife recovered, everything was fine, and he took a position in Pennsylvania with a company called International Canine Genetics, and they were working with improving the reproduction of animals, dogs and cats and horses and things. And he worked there for a long time. He worked there for maybe four years, five years, something like that, and then they were purchased. And they were purchased by Synbiotics up in Rancho Bernardo. So, they brought him back to San Diego, and now he's President of a certain division of Synbiotics. So, he's back in town, and in fact, one of my friends saw his wife down on jury duty last week. I don't know exactly where they're living. I haven't talked to him since he's been back in town, but I would talk to him periodically while he was at International Canine Genetics because that was another customer of ours, due to him. Because he went there, and then he said, 'Oh, I know somebody who can make those things for us,' and he called us up. So, that worked out nicely. You know, most people came after me. He was hired, Howard hired him probably about two years after I was there, and I didn't have a lot to do with. I worked mostly with Cole Owen, who worked for Paul. Have you talked with Cole?

**JONES:** Yes.

**DUNHAM:** So, Cole and I would work closely together, and Paul was sort of there. And I don't know the circumstances of his leaving at all. I'm assuming that he went because he had the opportunity at Cytotech, but I don't know that, and that's when Cam Garner came on board, when Paul left. And Cynthia was the controller, VP of finance, and I don't think she was there when I got there. No, she definitely wasn't. She came on later, and I'm not sure what year. But Cynthia got out of the industry.

**JONES:** Is she in San Diego?

**DUNHAM:** No, she's in Kentucky. She and her husband are both controllers, they always have been, they have the same background, and he was controller at Viagene for a long time, and she was controller at Cytotech. And then she went and was controller at Ligand for three or four years. And then, they don't have any children, so they amassed enough money that they have now retired in Kentucky where they raise Great Danes.

**JONES:** Was he at Hybritech very early? Was he there before you?

698 **DUNHAM:** It's more interesting than you think, because Cynthia is about five feet  
699 tall and weighs about ninety pounds. She has Great Danes that are bigger and weigh  
700 more than she does.

701 **JONES:** When you think of Kentucky, you think of raising thoroughbreds.

702 **DUNHAM:** I know, but she has Great Danes. So, she's having fun doing that, and  
703 one of the other women who was at Cytotech, Stella, who works now for Chromagen  
704 -- see how you get to know somebody at every company. Stella works at Chromagen  
705 and she actually goes back to visit with them for a week every two years, so I get  
706 filled in on all the things that are happening. I haven't talked with Cynthia probably  
707 for about five years.

708 **JONES:** Well, is there anything else I should know about Bioserv?

709 **DUNHAM:** No, other than that maybe you want to do some marketing for us? I  
710 think it would be nice if Bioserv was the contract manufacturer for most of the  
711 companies in town run by the ex-Hybritech people. I know that can't happen, I  
712 mean that's not something that's going to happen, but no, other than the fact that  
713 Bioserv wouldn't be here if it wasn't for Hybritech. And that Bioserv is sort of one of  
714 the poor relations, we don't get on any of the lists. But you see, I'm not like that. I  
715 mean, I'm not out there. Our parenteral products, we've been doing this for four  
716 years now, and we have yet to advertise it. If we were to advertise it, we would go  
717 crazy with business, and we can't do that. One of the things I try not to do, and it's  
718 probably an over-reaction on my part, is that I don't want to use my connections to  
719 do well. I don't know if that sounds weird or not, but I don't. I don't want to be  
720 affiliated with anything to do with Hybritech if that's going to make the company do  
721 better. I would rather that we did it on our own. The people who need to know,  
722 know that we're ex-Hybritech. It doesn't really matter.

723 **JONES:** You would rather establish new connections than utilize old ones?

724 **DUNHAM:** Yeah, and keep in mind, too, that the companies that are on the list  
725 from the Hybritech cascade there, basically, are companies that have products.  
726 That's the big difference. I mean, Bioserv doesn't have a product, it has a service. So,  
727 it's unique and different, and it doesn't get lumped in with the other ones. We don't  
728 have any venture capital money in here. We don't have any other investors in here.

729 It's not going to be a big hit if it's successful. It is always going to be a very quiet, very  
730 low-key kind of business. Contract manufacturing is not a big hit.

731 **JONES:** But you know, the people who put together those charts are interested in  
732 San Diego.

733 **DUNHAM:** Thanks, and you know what's really interesting is that I do all that  
734 teaching at UCSD, too, and they still haven't made the connection. But anyway,  
735 Hybritech was fun. I wouldn't have traded it for anything. I can't honestly say that I  
736 got my training there. I probably learned more from there what not to do than what  
737 to do. I really think that my training and the drive to do things correctly, to do them  
738 right, and to do them high-quality, came from Behring Diagnostics, rather than  
739 Hybritech. Not that Hybritech didn't do things right, but they were more driven by  
740 money concerns than they were, and market price and all of that, than Behring  
741 Diagnostics ever was. Behring was into high-quality, and that was never  
742 compromised. So, I had the two backgrounds, and then just merged them together.

743 **JONES:** Listen, do you know the name of the guy at Biostruct?

744 **DUNHAM:** Yeah, Bruce Birch. He was the guy who built the Hybritech labs.

745 **JONES:** Do you have his number?

746 **DUNHAM:** No, I don't, but I'm sure that Biostruct is in the phone book.

747 **JONES:** Actually, our brochure was done by Guy.

748 **DUNHAM:** There are all of these connections, yeah, it's a variety of things, like Lee,  
749 now Lee worked there for fourteen years, but she was just laid off last. And I talked  
750 to her and we went to lunch occasionally, maybe once a year and talked to each  
751 other, but she left there, and now she's here, so we try to take advantage of the  
752 bright people that left. That's Fred Carmody, he's ex-Gensia. And Bruce's wife is ex-  
753 Hybritech. She was a lab technician.

754 **JONES:** One other I wanted to ask. When you were scaling up at Hybritech, do you  
755 remember any specific problems getting hybridomas to behave properly when you  
756 scaled them up, you know, getting things that worked in small batches, but not at a  
757 larger scale.

758 **DUNHAM:** No, because, remember, when I was working there, we were using the  
759 mice. How do you scale up mice? You just get more mice, and that's when we built  
760 out that big, huge vivarium. So, it was just more mice. The only problems that we  
761 ever had was the nude mice, you know, having them manufacture antibodies. Well,  
762 you know what a nude mouse is, so I don't have to explain that, right? So, you know  
763 that they're more liable to pick up infections and die and things like that, so they  
764 had to be segregated and isolated in some way, and they just didn't grow the  
765 antibodies well. The biggest concern we had was not the hybridomas themselves  
766 because each little body was its own little incubator. Maybe when they went to the  
767 cartridges, you know, the hollow-fiber, they maybe had problems, I don't know, but  
768 the biggest problem was getting the mice. Because, you know, one of the key things  
769 in manufacturing is materials management, and you always should have two or three  
770 vendors. You know, how many vendors are there of mice? Then there was this guy,  
771 whose name I can't remember, who started his own mouse facility here in San Diego,  
772 and we were buying mice from him, we were buying mice from, I can't remember  
773 any of these names, was it Jackson? And also Charles River, and Charles River was  
774 able to grow to the size that they are now because they were able to offer us all of  
775 these mice, and that was our biggest problem, getting mice shipped in every single  
776 week, huge boxes of mice, making sure they're not dead, you know, they're  
777 cannibals, so if there is one in there, if they don't have enough water or they don't  
778 have enough food in transit, and then you'll open up the box and there will be only  
779 one or two mice left, and tails. They eat everything except the head and the tail. All  
780 gone. So, that was our biggest problem, but producing the antibodies, I don't  
781 remember it being a problem. There were other things that were problems, I mean,  
782 in addition to procuring the mice, there was a problem of coding the antibody onto  
783 the beads, that whole acid process became so complex and it was difficult and  
784 dangerous to do.

785 **JONES:** Why was it dangerous?

786 **DUNHAM:** It's an acid-type etching process, so you would have huge vats of acid.  
787 We actually went ahead and designed this room that would contain the acid that  
788 had a floor and then it had a big drop area, like a big canal, where these big tanks  
789 were stored that were full of acid, and a basket of beads would come down and  
790 automatically, via robot, and drop into the acid and come back out. It was  
791 dangerous.

792 **JONES:** Do you have any idea where I could read about these processes?

793 **DUNHAM:** Gosh, that was all proprietary. I don't think anyone ever wrote anything  
794 up about that. I mean, we devised it as we went forward. It's one thing to do it in a  
795 beaker, but then to try to do it in huge quantities, it was difficult. Do you stir the  
796 beads, do you not stir the beads? Do you just dump them? Actually, that was another  
797 area of concern -- procurement of the beads. They had to be of a certain type of  
798 material and a certain surface roughness so that you could bind something to them.

799 **JONES:** You tried a lot of different kinds?

800 **DUNHAM:** Oh yeah, there were a lot of different ones, and it was, I wasn't involved  
801 in the bead itself, in the procurement of the bead, but there was a guy in the  
802 Midwest, one of these shady character type guys, who they bought them from, who I  
803 don't think was very reliable. They were constantly searching for another source of  
804 beads. There was only that one source. I don't know what they finally ended up  
805 doing. They don't do it that way anymore, I'm sure. I'm positive they don't do it the  
806 old way. Actually the person to talk to would be Gary Jones. Have you heard that  
807 name?

808 **JONES:** I think I have.

809 **DUNHAM:** Gary was there before I was, I don't know what number he was. And  
810 when I got there, he was in R&D and taking care of the vivarium, which was in the  
811 basement of the cancer place up there, and it had only, you know, maybe fifty mice,  
812 that was it. He was doing that, and then when we started operations, they suggested  
813 that perhaps I bring somebody from R&D into operations because they knew their  
814 way around the facility and the people and they recommended Gary, who was not  
815 really your typical operations person, so I suffered through that for several years, but  
816 Gary graduated into doing all of the bead etching, so he is very familiar with the  
817 process and all of the problems that they encountered and what went on. From  
818 there, Gary went, I don't know where he is right now, but from there Gary went to,  
819 not PBI, but Quidel, he went to Quidel from there. He left Quidel. He wasn't  
820 working, the last I had heard, and then a couple of months of ago, I heard that he  
821 was working somewhere in town, but I don't remember which one. His last name  
822 was Jones and he lived in Mira Mesa. He might be in the phone book. Lee may know  
823 where he is. At the time he was married, and he got divorced and he married one of  
824 the women at Hybritech, Lisa. And I saw Lisa less than year ago and they're doing

825 well, and they still live in Mira Mesa, and I've forgotten where Lisa is working. She  
826 was working at Hybritech. I think she got laid off at the same time we did. Another  
827 person is Jim Neal. Yeah, he works at Alexon [?]. I happen to have his number, I talk  
828 to him regularly, I can give you that. I'll have to get my customer list, they're a  
829 customer, also. See, it just keeps getting bigger and bigger. They're in the Bay Area,  
830 but they're a customer. But he and Randy Lane, have you talked to Randy Lane yet?

831 **JONES:** No, I haven't.

832 **DUNHAM:** Jim Neal, and Gary Jones, and Randy Lane were the first three people  
833 that I had in the production are when we scaled up. So, they were the hands-on  
834 people doing the daily activities. They were fresh out of school. Randy is at  
835 Accumetrics right now. Prior to that he was at Cytronix, and prior to that he was at  
836 Pacific Device, which was part of the Hybritech family, that's how he got to be at  
837 Pacific Device.

838 **JONES:** Do you happen to know if Joanne Martinis is webbed up?

839 **DUNHAM:** Yes, I think she is.

**END INTERVIEW**

**Recommended Citation:**

Dunham, Jeanne. Interview conducted by Mark Jones, 1997.  
The San Diego Technology Archive (SDTA), UC San Diego Library, La Jolla, CA.



**The San Diego Technology Archive (SDTA)**, an initiative of the UC San Diego Library, documents the history, formation, and evolution of the companies that formed the San Diego region's high-tech cluster, beginning in 1965. The SDTA captures the vision, strategic thinking, and recollections of key technology and business founders, entrepreneurs, academics, venture capitalists, early employees, and service providers, many of whom figured prominently in the development of San Diego's dynamic technology cluster. As these individuals articulate and comment on their contributions, innovations, and entrepreneurial trajectories, a rich living history emerges about the extraordinarily synergistic academic and commercial collaborations that distinguish the San Diego technology community.