

PRO RETINA FOUNDATION



**12th PRO RETINA
RESEARCH-COLLOQUIUM
POTSDAM**

Retinal Degeneration

**A Look at Cutting-Edge
Translational Research**

An Interdisciplinary Dialogue



April 07/08, 2017

SEMINARIS SEEHOTEL POTSDAM

INVITATION

Dear friends and distinguished colleagues,

on behalf of PRO RETINA Germany and the PRO RETINA-Foundation, we are delighted to welcome you to the **12th International Research Colloquium on Retinal Degeneration** to be held in beautiful Potsdam, Templiner See, from April 7 to 8, 2017. Over two days, we will continue our traditional series of meetings by addressing the most recent advances in the field of understanding and treating retinal disease. Specifically, we will focus on novel insight into disease mechanisms, unconventional ways to modify disease processes, and on learning more about a novel powerful method to precisely edit genetic defects in an effort to therapeutically target the human genome in a site-specific manner. These topics will be presented by national and international renowned experts in the field and will provide a basis for lively scientific discussions.

The meeting will start with a keynote lecture by Prof. Dr. Michael Brand from the DFG-Center for Regenerative Therapies Dresden (CRTD). He will draw attention to an intriguing capacity for cellular regeneration in the adult zebrafish, eventually providing a key to fundamental new approaches in treating human retinal disease. Concluding the first day of science will be an evening session featuring two most outstanding scientists who both have a major share in the overwhelming success of retinal research and its translation to the patient within the last decades. Prof. Dr. Eberhard Zrenner from the Institute of Ophthalmic Research at the University of Tübingen and Prof. Dr. Wolfgang Baehr, Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Science, University of Utah, will reflect on their own pioneering careers while pointing out ways and possibilities in ophthalmic research for both young basic scientists and clinical scientists.

PRO RETINA Germany, founded in 1977, is a patient organization with a longstanding commitment "to encourage ophthalmic research, to battle disease and to ensure a self-determined life of persons with retinal degeneration". In continuation of its many activities in supporting these goals over the years, the PRO RETINA-Foundation provides full financial support of the 2017 meeting and, in addition, will award three poster prizes to young investigators selected from a selected platform of brief poster presentations.

With these activities and exquisite platforms for communication, please enjoy the 2017 PRO RETINA Potsdam Symposium and join us in eye-opening presentations and lively interactions.

The organizing committee: Franz Badura, Prof. Dr. Klaus Rütger, Prof. Dr. Olaf Strauß and Prof. Dr. Bernhard Weber

PRELIMINARY PROGRAM

Friday, April 7, 2017

- 13:00–13:05** Welcome remarks
Franz Badura, PRO RETINA FOUNDATION/
RESEARCH DIVISION
- 13:05–14:30** **Session 1** 
Selected poster presentations
Eight abstracts to be selected
- 14:30–15:00** Keynote lecture
Michael Brand, Dresden
*Learning from the zebrafish: Regeneration of
the retina is possible – but how does it work?*
- 15:00–15:45** Coffee break
- 15:45–17:25** **Session 2** 
Modifying disease processes
- 15:45–16:10** **Stephen H. Tsang, New York**
*Personalized therapeutic strategies for
patients with retinitis pigmentosa*
- 16:10–16:35** **Sandro Banfi, Naples**
The role of microRNAs in the human retina
- 16:35–17:00** **Bernhard G. Herrmann, Berlin**
*Long non-coding RNA in development and
disease*
- 17:00–17:25** **Francois Paquet-Durant, Tübingen**
*Targeting cGMP-signaling in inherited
retinal degeneration*
- 17:30** Dinner
- 19:00–20:00** **Session 3** 
Of men and mice in science
- 19:00–19:30** **Eberhard Zrenner, Tübingen**
*Hereditary retinal disorders: A pioneering
field in biological research*
- 19:30–20:00** **Wolfgang Baehr, Salt Lake City**
The rd mouse – a long story
- 20:00–open** Swingin' poster session

Saturday, April 8, 2017

09:00–10:40 **Session 4** **An update on disease mechanisms**

09:00–09:25 **Peter Zipfel, Jena**
12 years after: The search for complement inhibitors in AMD

09:25–09:50 **Florian Sennlaub, Paris**
Complement Factor H controls macrophage life-span

09:50–10:15 **Tim Krohne, Bonn**
The NLRP3 inflammasome – new therapeutic target in macular degeneration

10:15–10:40 **Najate Ait-Ali, Paris**
Mode of action of RdCVF and its origin

10:40–11:15 Coffee break

11:15–12:55 **Session 5** **Innovative approaches to translation**

11:15–11:40 **Dr. Sebastian Bultmann, München**
Visualization of specific DNA sequences in living mouse embryonic stem cells with a programmable fluorescent CRISPR/Cas system

11:40–12:05 **Elly Tanaka, Wien**
Regeneration of complex multi-tissue structures

12:05–12:30 **Kathleen C. Keough, San Francisco**
CRISPR/Cas9 genome surgery to eliminate dominant negative disease

12:30–12:55 **Morgan Maeder, Cambridge Massachusetts**
Envisioning a gene editing approach to treat inherited blindness

12:55–13:00 **Concluding remarks**

13:00 Lunch and end of meeting

REGISTRATION

Contact our website:

www.potsdam-meeting.de

The registration deadline is **April 03, 2017**.

Cancellation is free of charge until **February 24, 2017**.

Thereafter registration fees cannot be reimbursed.

FEES

Fees include accommodation and catering.

Student/graduate/delegate: € 90,-

Post-doc: € 120,-

Faculty: € 140,-

Please pay by credit card or by remittance to the following bank-account:

INTERFACE GMBH & CO. KG

Sparkasse Mainfranken

BLZ: 790 500 00, Kto.-Nr. 443 482 58

Ref. "Research-Colloquium 2017"

IBAN: DE75 7905 0000 0044 3482 58

SWIFT-BIC: BYLADEM1SWU

ACCOMMODATION & VENUE

The meeting will take place at the conference room of

Seminaris SeeHotel Potsdam ****

An der Pirschheide 40

14471 Potsdam/Germany

Tel.: +49(0)331/9090-0 · Fax: +49(0)331/9090-900

Mail: potsdam@seminaris.de

Web: www.seminaris.de

It will start at 01:00 p.m. sharp.

A contingent of rooms is reserved for max. 120 participants.

If you are planning to stay elsewhere please let us know.

CONFERENCE LANGUAGE

The conference language is English.

POSTER SESSION

A very important feature of our meeting is the poster session. Abstract submission deadline: **March 13, 2017**.

Please find more details on our website:

www.potsdam-meeting.de

HOW TO GET TO THE SEMINARIS SEEHOTEL POTSDAM:

The Seminaris SeeHotel is in the western part of Potsdam, close to the forest of Pirschheide, next to the Templiner See.

Arrival by car:

North: Coming from A 24 (Hamburg/Rostock) continue on to A 10 (Berliner Ring) and then take the exit "Potsdam Nord".

West: Coming from A 2 (Hannover) continue on to A 10 and then take the exit "Groß Kreuz".

South and East: Coming from A 9/A 13/A 12 (Leipzig, Dresden, Frankfurt/Oder) continue on to A 10 and then take the exit "Michendorf".

Within the city borders of Potsdam you will be guided by the hotelguide-system. Coming from the national road B1 there is a private access road directly to the hotel.

Arrival by train:

Mainstation Potsdam, about 5 km (national trains, e.g. ICE-, IC-, EC-station) or station "Potsdam Pirschheide", distance 800 m (regional trains, e.g. RE-, N-, S-, and tramway station).

Arrival by plane:

The airports Tegel and Schönefeld are in reach of the hotel (approximately 50 km). From the airport take motorway A 10 "Berliner Ring", exit "Groß Kreuz" South and East (see above "Arrival by car").

Organization of the meeting:

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