



University
of Basel

Department of
Biomedical Engineering

DBE Newsletter

November 2019

Events



Novartis Lecture – “A Vision for the Blind”, November 13, 2019

Novartis invites to a joint lecture of Prof. Botond Roska & Prof. Hendrik Scholl, Directors of the Institute of Molecular and Clinical Ophthalmology Basel (IOB). The lecture will cover how the eye functions, diseases causing blindness and therapy development for central vision loss and complete blindness. The lecture will take place at November 13, 6 p.m. at the Gehry Auditorium, Novartis campus in Basel. Please register [here](#).



Café international
Fall semester 2019

Café international – November 21, 2019, 18:30-20:00 h, Verso Bar, Basel

The Language Center and the International Office of the University of Basel invite all international Master and PhD students, postdoctoral fellows, lecturers, visiting researchers and employees from the University of Basel to the 2nd Café international event of the fall semester: “The international classroom a different perspective”. Please register [here](#) until November 17, 2019.



Power Talk Life Sciences Cluster – November 25, 2019

At the “Power Talk”, personalities from the entire value chain of the world's leading Life Sciences Cluster Basel will discuss current challenges and trends. Participants will also gain exciting insights into other life sciences regions.



BRCCH Research Day – January 30, 2020

Save the date for the inaugural [BRCCH](#) Research Day on January 30, 2020 in Basel, with presentations of the first projects funded by the Centre and three inspiring keynote speakers: [Faith Osier](#), [Samuel Sia](#) and [Alexander Finlayson](#).



CAMS-Knee OpenSim workshop – February 4 – 7, 2020

Interested in musculoskeletal model validation and measuring internal forces within the human body during activities of daily living? Join the [#camsknee #opensim2020](#) workshop on 4 – 7 February 2020 in Zurich and do not miss the chance of taking part in a live collection of in vivo knee joint contact forces and tendon loading datasets. The early bird registration is 15 November 2019. Best abstract submissions will be invited to a podium presentation and considered for awards! Check out: <https://opensim2020.ethz.ch/> & [@CamsKnee](#) for more information.

DBE Research Day 2020

The 6th DBE Research Day – September 8, 2019

The 6th DBE Research Day will take place at September 8, 2019. Please save the date and register [here](#).

Research Funding



SPiRiT

The [SPiRiT programme](#) supports knowledge exchange between Swiss researchers and researchers in selected countries that are receiving development assistance. Research projects with clearly defined goals are supported, submitted by excellent research consortia from two to four countries. Pre-proposals can be submitted all year round, full proposals only by invitation after approval of the pre-proposal.

BRIDGE Proof of Concept

The [thirteenth call for BRIDGE Proof of Concept projects](#) is open until 9 December 2019. Young researchers who want to apply their research results and realize an innovative product or service can submit their project proposal.



The Branco Weiss Fellowship – A unique opportunity for postdocs

The Branco Weiss Fellowship-Society in Science program hosted by ETH Zurich is open to postdocs with outstanding qualifications who are pursuing unusual projects on the frontier between society and science. Fellows receive five years funding and are free to choose their host institution worldwide. The application deadline is January 15, 2020. Please find more information [here](#) or contact brancoweissfellowship@ethz.ch.



CHIST-ERA 2019 – Explainable Machine Learning-based Artificial Intelligence

The European network CHIST-ERA supports research collaborations in information and communication sciences and technologies. This year CHIST-ERA promotes the project theme “Explainable Machine Learning-based Artificial Intelligence”. Machine learning algorithms transfer input data into abstract representations that are highly effective but difficult to understand for humans, and are considered as ‘black boxes’. Hence, in most cases, neither the algorithms nor the researchers are able to explain how and why a certain prediction has been made. The objective of research on the named topic is to make machine learning algorithms explainable, thereby reducing vulnerability and adding transparency by giving users detailed information why systems have arrived at a particular decision. Interested? You can get more information from the [SNFS](#).



Agora: SNF funding for dialogue with the public

The [Agora scheme](#) aims to foster dialogue between scientists and society. It encourages researchers to communicate their current research to an audience of lay people. Agora Projects with a budget of up to CHF 200,000 need to be submitted by September 1, 2020. Projects with a budget of up to CHF 50,000 can be submitted all year round.

The Agora project that attracted a lot of attention this year was the exhibition “Bewegte Einblicke”, which was visited by more than 3000 interested people. Please find more information about it and the SNF Agora funding at the [Uni news](#).

Good to know



Simplified rules for employing project staff

More flexible rules make it easier for research institutions and project leaders to employ personnel in SNSF-funded projects. Furthermore, doctoral students get easier access to career grants, e.g. Gender Equality Grants towards childcare. The rules take effect in October 2019.

Please find more information [here](#).

Congratulations



Promotion of Prof. Arnaud Scherberich

We congratulate Prof. Dr. Arnaud Scherberich to his promotion to titular professor at the Medical Faculty of the University of Basel. His research at the USB involves vascularized bone tissue engineering and imaging. More recently, his group started using magnetic nanoparticles for bone regeneration and vascular imaging. Please find more information on his research team [here](#).



Award of the Medical Faculty for Anna Khimchenkos doctoral thesis

Congratulations to Dr. Anna Khimchenko! Her doctoral thesis "Micro- and nanoanatomy of human brain tissues" has been awarded as one of the best theses at the Medical Faculty of the University of Basel in the year 2017/2018. She has performed her doctorate in the Biomaterials Science Center. You get her thesis as an [edoc of the University of Basel](#).

About us



Welcome to Dr. Tina Jaeger

Tina Jaeger started this month in the DBE administration team as a coordinator of the operational concept for the planned move to the GRID. She received her PhD in science from the University of Konstanz, Germany. Subsequently, she worked as postdoc at the Biozentrum, as well as the D-BSE in Basel. In her research, she focused on the question of how bacterial signaling molecules can regulate cellular processes contributing to bacterial biofilm formation. She currently also works as a lab manager at the DBM Basel in the Liver Immunology group of Magdalena Filipowicz Sinnreich.

The Department of Biomedical Engineering bridges the gap between natural science and medicine in order to improve procedures and technologies for medical treatment. It is a joint venture of the University of Basel, the University Hospital Basel and the University Children's Hospital Basel.

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