



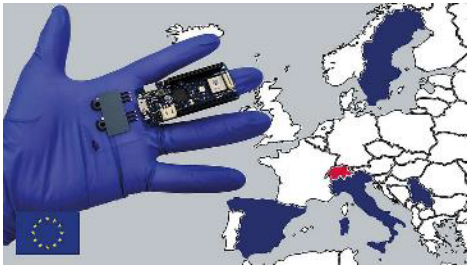
University  
of Basel

Department of  
Biomedical Engineering

# DBE Newsletter

February 2024

## Congratulations



### on the HORIZON Grant to Dr. Basoli, the Consortium Partners and Swiss MAM

Dr. Valentina Basoli and the consortium partners, including Prof. Fabiana Arduini (Italy), Prof. Javier Ramon (Spain), Prof. Goran Stojavovic (Serbia), and Prof. Kersti Hermansson (Sweden), along with startup company Sens4Med (Italy), secured the HORIZON European (EIC) Pathfinder Open Grant project. The project aims to develop a revolutionary category of Organ-on-a-Chip (OoC) technologies, leveraging paper, cell growth, mathematical modeling, and biosensors. Read more at [DBE News](#).



### to Dr. Claudia Weidensteiner on her FSRMM Grant

Dr. Weidensteiner together with the co-applicants Dr. Deligianni and Dr. Santini have won a grant of the [Swiss Foundation for Research on Muscle Diseases](#) (FSRMM) for her project "Open and reproducible pipeline for the acquisition and analysis of muscle MRI data in Facioscapulohumeral Muscular Dystrophy (FSHD)". MRI is an important modality for diagnosing and monitoring FSHD. Several targeted drugs for FSHD are entering the clinical trial phase. Tools for acquiring and processing reproducible quantitative MRI data are needed to ensure clinical trial readiness of these methods in a multi-center setting. The project goal is to develop a pipeline of such tools in an open and public format which will be distributed freely to centers involved in research of muscular dystrophies.



### to Philippe Valmaggia on the Beginner Grant of SAMS

Philippe Valmaggia from the CIAN group has been awarded a [Young Talents in Clinical Research Grant](#) from the Swiss Academy of Medical Sciences (SAMS). His project, "Dynamic optical coherence tomography of the human retina in vivo", which will be carried out in collaboration with the Eye Clinic of the University Hospital, was granted an amount of CHF 75'000.

## About us – Highlighted



### Robots Cuts Red Ribbon: The New DBE Officially Inaugurated

On January 30, the DBE's new premises were inaugurated with a bang: Thomi Jourdan, head of the department of economy and health of Canton Basel Landschaft, Prof. Andrea Schenker-Wicki, rector of the University of Basel, and Prof. Philippe Cattin, head of the Department of Biomedical Engineering pressed the button. Doing so, they set a laser robot in motion which cut the red ribbon, thus [officially inaugurating the new premises of the DBE](#). The ceremonial act, with speeches by Jourdan, Prof. Schenker-Wicki, and Prof. Cattin, was witnessed by more than 100 representatives from politics, the hospitals of Basel Landschaft and Basel, foundations, industry, and the university.



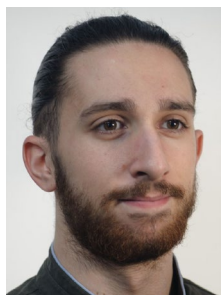
### Dr. Canbaz in Optics & Photonics News and IEEE Spectrum

In the interview for the Optics & Photonics News, Dr. Ferda Canbaz talks about how it all started for her, how she keeps evolving and what her 10 years' younger self would say about her current situation. The IEEE Spectrum article focuses on the combination of the tissue detecting laser, the cutting laser and the optical coherence tomography system for laser osteotomy as developed in Ferda's lab. Find both articles at [DBE News](#).

## About us – We welcome



**Michael Wehrli**, who started his PhD in the research group "Center for Medical Image Analysis & Navigation" led by Prof. Philippe Cattin. Holding a master's degree in Mechanical Engineering from ETH Zurich with a strong focus on Biomedical Engineering, Michael did an internship at Zimmer Biomet in the R&D department and gained 1.5 years of professional experience in various industries in data analytics & AI practice at a larger European consulting firm. Now fully focused on research again, he delves into the field of surgery and AR-based intraoperative navigation focused on the knee.



**Rubén Martín Rodríguez**, who started his PhD as a collaboration between the BIROMED-Lab led by Prof. Georg Rauter and the Swiss MAM led by Prof. Florian M. Thieringer. With a background in Industrial Electronics and Automation Engineering, he later obtained his MSc in Robotics at TU Delft, the Netherlands. His master's thesis comprised the development of a tactile haptic interface for the hand rehabilitation of stroke patients. During his PhD, he will work on the MIRACLE project, developing a robotic platform for minimally invasive 3D bioprinting.

## Events



### Clinical Research Day 2024, February 8, 11:15-17:15, ZLF Basel

The Department of Clinical Research invites you to its [Clinical Research Day](#) on February 8, 2024. Among other topics, the scientific program will focus on the Department's young researchers, who will present their latest research work in short talks and posters.



### Dealing with Research Data Management, April 22-23, 2024, University Library Basel

During the [workshop](#), participants will get an overview of regulatory frameworks by funders and best practices which are good to know when dealing with research data.



### Swiss Reproducibility Conference 2024, June 10-11, 2024, Zürich

The first [Swiss Reproducibility Conference](#) will take place from June 10-11, 2024 in Zürich. The Swiss National Science Foundation and the Swiss Reproducibility Network invite you to submit abstracts for the Swiss Reproducibility Conference, as well as nominations for the Swiss Reproducibility Award 2024. Submission deadline is February 27. Furthermore, the local Basel Node of Swiss RN (Dr. Deligianni, Dr. Santini, Dr. Weidensteiner, Dr. Akinci D'Antonoli & Noëmi Capdevila) is organizing two workshops on literature publishing and study planning during the first Swiss Reproducibility Conference in June 2024.

## Calls & Research Funding Deadlines



### Robert Bing Prize 2024 - call for applications extended

The [Robert Bing Prize](#) recognizes outstanding achievements in the detection and treatment of neurological diseases. The SAMS call for applications is aimed at young doctors up to the age of 45 who conduct research in the field of neuroscience. Extended submission deadline: February 15, 2024.

### Stern-Gattiker-Prize 2024

The [Stern-Gattiker Prize](#) is awarded every two years to a female doctor who is a role model for young female academics - a tribute to women in academic medicine and motivation for women who pursue an academic career. Submission deadline: March 21, 2024.



### Calls of the University of Basel for 2024

[FreeNovation 2024](#): Can your project idea change biomedical research? This year, applications will be accepted in the following areas: "From genetic associations to disease mechanisms", "new molecular insights in gender medicine", "to the roots: Mathematics to address biology". Submission deadline: March 16, 2024.



### TA-SWISS - Health Data

[TA-Swiss](#) is launching an interdisciplinary study with the aim of evaluating the opportunities and risks of using health data for early detection, prevention and research. Submission deadline: Project Draft, March 28, 2024; Complete Application, June 7, 2024.



### Call for Swiss Reproducibility Conference and Swiss Reproducibility Award 2024

The SNSF and the Swiss Reproducibility Network have launched a [call for abstracts for the Swiss Reproducibility Conference and for Swiss Reproducibility Award 2024](#) nominations. The Swiss Reproducibility Award aims to recognize scientific work by young researchers and research teams that sets the highest standards in terms of transparency and reproducibility. Submission deadline: February 27, 2024

### BRIDGE Discovery

Innosuisse and the SNSF are launching the eighth call for proposals for the funding scheme [BRIDGE Discovery](#). Submission deadline: February 28, 2024

### JSPS Postdoctoral Fellowships 2024

The program [JSPS Postdoctoral Fellowships](#) enables researchers in Switzerland to stay in Japan for 12 to 24 months. Submission deadline: February 29, 2024

### JPND JTC call 2024: EU Joint Program – Neurodegenerative Disease Research

The [EU Joint Program – Neurodegenerative Disease Research \(JPND\)](#) is launching a transnational call on mechanisms and measurement of disease progression in the early phase of neurodegenerative diseases. Submission deadline: March 5, 2024.

### ERA-NET NEURON JTC call 2024

The NEURON Network has launched a joint [transnational call for projects on "Bidirectional Brain-Body Interactions"](#). Submission deadline: March 8, 2024.

Find further calls at [SNF](#) like "[Gender Medicine and Health \(NRP 83\)](#)", "[Call for proposals on health and wellbeing](#)", [Doc.CH \(last call\)](#)

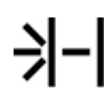
At the Department of Biomedical Engineering, we translate basic science and engineering into medical knowledge and healthcare innovations. We provide high quality education and capacity building for academics, clinicians, and industrial partners. The DBE is a joint venture of the University of Basel, the University Hospital Basel and the University Children's Hospital Basel.

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