

Department of Biomedical Engineering

DBE Newsletter September 2025

Congratulations



Awards for best PhD paper and best posters during DBE Research Day

Dr. Philippe Valmaggia received PhD Paper Award for his outstanding <u>paper</u> Heart-retina time analysis using electrocardiogram-coupled time-resolved dynamic optical coherence tomography. Poster prizes were awarded to Andrea Leuthard (gold), Alicia Durrer (silver), and Ruben Martin-Rodriguez (bronze). <u>Read more in the news.</u>



2nd place for Lorenzo Pettinari and Michael Wehrli

During the Medical Augmented Reality Summer School (MARSS) 2025 in Zurich, PhD students Lorenzo and Michael, together with their supervisor Markus Hamberger, won 2nd place in the hackathon. Their project focused on developing an Augmented Reality laparoscopic skill trainer, designed to offer surgical trainees an engaging and effective way to practice essential skills in a safe environment. Read more.

About us – Highlights



Record-breaking participation at the 11th DBE Research Day

We held our 11th Research Day on 5 Sep 2025, welcoming an impressive 250 participants. This record attendance reflected the strong engagement of DBE members, collaborators, alumni, and visitors, and underscored the growing importance of this annual event. Read more and watch the highlights video.



Translational Medicine Breath Research featured on Chinese television

As part of its China Edge series, Chinese broadcaster CCTV (China Central Television) interviewed Prof. Pablo Sinues and his PhD student Zhihong Yin. This contribution was initiated by the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs (FDFA) to give a modern and realistic depiction of Switzerland. Read more and watch the video.



Kicking off an exciting semester at DBE

DBE kicks off an exciting fall: The Graduate School Medical and Health Sciences (GSMHS) welcomes its first doctoral students, while over 50 new master's students join our program. We are delighted to have welcomed the first four **DBE PhD students** to join this new program and look forward to welcoming many more in the near future. This semester also marks another important milestone for our **master's program**, with more than 50 new students enrolled. This brings the total number of master's students to over 100 for the second consecutive year. Read more.

About us – We welcome



Simon Böhi has joined the Analytics and Informatics for Child Health (AICH) group as a PhD student under the supervision of Prof. Ece Özkan Elsen. His research focuses on developing machine learning models to support diagnosis and improve care in pediatrics, with a particular interest in multimodal approaches and model generalisability.



Laszlo Toth is a board-certified orthopaedic and traumatologic surgeon and attending in the knee team at Kantonsspital Baselland. Laszlo recently began his PhD under supervision of Prof. Andrej Nowakowski, head of Biomechanics and Implant Design, with co-supervision by Prof. Florian Thieringer. His research focuses on translating in-house 3D-printed patient-specific metal implants for complex lower extremity cases into the operating room.

Events



Save the date: DBE Research Day | 26.08.2026 | Basel

Save the date for the next DBE Research Day, taking place on 26 Aug 2026.



Science Slam Basel | 03.10.2025 | Kulturhuus Häbse, Basel

Researchers from various fields will compete to explain a scientific topic in just eight minutes, using any creative approach—from presentations and props to songs and live experiments. The audience will vote for their favorite slams, and there will also be an exciting supporting program. The event will be in English, with slams in both German and English. Get your tickets here.



UKBB Research Day | 31.10.2025 | Biozentrum, Basel

Save the date and join the UKBB Research Day (University's Children Hospital Basel) in Oct 2025. The detailed program will follow and abstract submission deadline is 7 Sep 2025.



CADENCE lab opening | 12.11.2025 | Allschwil

Join us for the official opening of the CADENCE lab. More information and registration.

Calls & Awards & Research Funding



Ypsomed Innovation Award | Application deadline: 12.10.2025

The **Ypsomed Innovation Award** aims to motivate innovative and entrepreneurial teams or individuals to include market needs in their scientific work and to translate their developments into products or services on the market. The work presented should therefore contain innovative and economically feasible processes, methods, products or services.

Ambizione | Submission deadline: 04.11.2025

Ambizione grants are aimed at early-career researchers who wish to conduct, manage and lead an independent project at a Swiss higher education institution.

Project funding | Submission deadline: 1.10.2025

The project funding scheme enables qualified researchers to independently carry out projects on topics and research objectives of their own choosing.

SNSF Starting Grants | Submission deadline: 05.05.2026

The Starting Grants represent the SNSF's highest level of career funding. The call enables researchers to carry out their own independent project and lead a research team in Switzerland.

See **SNSF** website for further calls.



Swiss National

Science Foundation

Bridge Proof of Concept | Submission deadline: 1.12.2025

The "BRIDGE Proof of Concept" funding scheme fosters the further development of scientific results to evaluate their market and/or societal potential. It supports researchers on their way to entrepreneurship or their efforts to implement and apply their research results with an economic and/or societal partner.

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.







