

# DBE Newsletter

January 2018

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## Success



Members of the Biomaterials Science Center (Tino Töpper, Bekim Osmani and Bert Müller) established a cooperation with the Wayne State University and the Advanced Platform Technology Center at the Louis Stokes Cleveland VA Medical Center. Together they are one of five winners of the Innovation and Digital Health Accelerator (IDHA) at Boston Children's Hospital and the Boston Pediatric Device Consortium (BPDC) [Boston Pediatric Device Strategic Partner Challenge](#). The team received a \$50,000 award to advance a "Smart Artificial Urinary Sphincter". The device aims to prevent urethra erosion and urinary incontinence.

Congratulations and best success for your project!



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft  
Confédération suisse  
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Confederaziun svizra

Kommission für Technologie und Innovation KTI

Together with academic and industrial partners, researchers of the Smart Implants group (headed by Hans-Florian Zeilhofer) of the MIRACLE project have attracted a grant of the Commission for Technology and Innovation (KTI).

One of today's major topics in dental industry is ceramic implants. The goal of the funded project is to develop a manufacturing solution using Ceramic Injection Molding process to: (1) reduce the manufacturing cost down to the price of titanium implants, (2) structure the implant surface for osseointegration directly by surface replication from the mold, (3) manufacture a pilot implant in collaboration with the Swiss start-up Di Meliora and (4) propose a viable cost effective high volume production process for the pilot product.

Congratulations and best success for your project!

## Staff

The new coordinator for DBE's master program and doctoral program will start on the 1st February 2018. Dr. Gabriela Oser Duss has a



background in cell biology (ETHZ, Imperial College, Uni Lausanne, Department of Biomedicine Basel) and worked at pharmaceutical companies the last years. We are looking forward to welcoming her at the department!

Many thanks to Dr. Simone Hieber for her longstanding effort for the master and the doctoral program and also thanks for her important help until end of March. Thank you very much also to Dr. Tino Töpfer who has been coordinator of the doctoral program until December.

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## Announcement



# NOVARTIS

## FreeNovation 2018

Novartis launched the FreeNovation program to encourage unconventional thinking in the field of health technology, by enabling grant holders to pursue out-of-the-box ideas.

The Novartis Research Foundation will provide a total of up to 2.7 million francs for a maximum of 15 projects in the field of Artificial Intelligence in [the 2018 Call for Proposals](#). The deadline for submission of the proposals is the 14th April 2018.

Dr. Vanessa Leung at the DBE won a FreeNovation grant in 2016.

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## Events

### DBE Research Day 2018

This year's Research Day takes place on the 5th September 2018. Please save the date!



The Basel Seminar Series on Vision Research presents two lectures :

- Towards a cure of mitochondrial optic neuropathies: LHON and DOA, how two genomes (mtDNA vs nDNA) may kill the same retinal ganglion cells (Valerio Carelli, MD, PhD, Department of Biomedical and NeuroMotor Sciences, University of Bologna)
- In vitro modelling of mitochondrial optic neuropathies to unravel pathomechanisms and test therapeutic approaches (Valeria Tiranti, PhD, IRCCS Foundation Neurological Institute Carlo Besta)

Please find more information [here](#).



The next CONNECT@SIP event takes place on the 7th February 2018, 4:30 p.m., at Gewerbestrasse 14, 5th Floor.

You are invited to learn more about other companies in the Park whilst enjoying free snacks and drinks in an informal atmosphere. The Park Basel Area Team looks forward to welcoming you (no registration necessary).

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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