



GSCN-Newsletter

Dear GSCN members, friends and colleagues,

April 2016

Spring is almost there. And with it the energy to step into GSCN-Action: Why not suggest a candidate for a GSCN-Award? Why not use the early bird registration for the conference in Hannover?

We start a novelty with this newsletter: From now on, it will include a list of top-news from the past month in the field of stem cells science. Enjoy.

1) Candidates for GSCN Scientific Awards – extended deadline until 15 April 2016!

2) Early Bird Registration for the GSCN Conference 2016

3) Non-PI meeting at the GSCN Conference 2016

4) News from the field in March 2016

More information:

1) Looking for you! Candidates for GSCN Scientific Awards: Extended deadline until 15 April

The GSCN will select in 2016 outstanding researchers and publications in three award categories. We extended the deadline and ask for your collaboration to suggest candidates that fit the categories. Please enter your candidates at the links **until 15 April 2016**:

Young Investigator (German-based) (The candidate should be within 8 year after the doctorate degree and in her/his first faculty/independent position (non-tenured); GSCN membership is not required)

LINK: www.esurveycreator.com/s/GSCN_2016-Young-Investigator-Award

Female Scientist (German-based) (no limitations on the level; GSCN membership is not required)

LINK: www.umfrageonline.com/s/GSCN_2016-Female-Scientist-Award

Publication of the Year (July 2015 - June 2016)

The third award "Publication of the Year" will be selected in July 2016 based on the publications from July 2015 - June 2016 (the first author will be presenting). If you like to have a publication considered for the "Publication of the Year" Award, please send the pdf to the GSCN office (gscn.office@mdc-berlin.de). You can also include a brief statement why the paper is an important contribution to the field of stem cell research.

All awardees will give a presentation in the presidential session at the GSCN conference on 13 Sept., 2016 in Hannover. Each award also includes an amount of 1,500 €. The awards committee will evaluate candidates.

2) Early Bird Registration for the 4th Annual GSCN Conference

The early bird catches the worm: The registration for the next annual Conference on 12 to 14 Sept. in Hannover is online and open. Best deal is definitely the early bird with a reduced registration fee. Check out the conference site www.gscn.org/Conferences/2016/HOME.aspx. The conference takes place at the Hannover Medical School (MHH) and there is a promising program with following international keynote speakers:

Peter Coffey (London) | Alexander Meisner (Cambridge, USA) | Sean Morrison (Dallas) | Hiroshi Nagashima (Tokyo) | Peter Zanstra (Toronto)

3) Non-PI meeting at the GSCN Conference 2016

The idea of this non-PI meeting following the GSCN conference (Thursday, 15 Sept. 2016) is to discuss difficulties and pitfalls in your research and get input for solutions. A keynote lecture on "building successful collaborations", „efficient problem solving“, „ins and outs of successful grant writing“ and „work experience abroad“ will be given by Vanessa Sauer (Münster).

If you are interested to participate, you can indicate it when you register for the [GSCN conference](#). The number of participants is limited to 20 researchers.

4) News from the field in March 2016

A factor for survival

Munich, 04 March 2016

Neurons cannot be replaced after brain injuries. However, a group of researchers in Munich lead by Magdalena Götz can now transprogram glia cells to neurons, the new method is real simple and more effective than previous attempts. ([press text in German](#))

UniStem Day 2016 in Germany

Berlin, 11 March 2016

The GSCN together with German research institutes and universities initiated an European activity day for stem cell research in Germany - the UniStem Day 2016. On 11 March 2016 more than 1000 students from schools gathered at eight different locations in Germany: Berlin, Bochum, Bonn, Dresden, Hannover, Heidelberg, Jena and Münster. All locations reported about a successful and exciting day for the students with scientific presentations, discussion, movies, games, lab visits and much more.

([information in German](#))

Next step towards the prevention of blindness: CRTD researchers obtain an U.S.-patent for a method to highly efficiently produce human retinal pigment epithelium cells (RPE)

Dresden, 15 March 2016

A research team around Prof. Elly Tanaka at the CRTD succeeded in the development of a method to produce highly efficiently functional retinal pigment epithelium cells (RPE) that are crucially influencing the sense of sight. The produced cells can be used for cell replacement therapies for hitherto incurable eye diseases as well as pharmacological screens. ([press text](#))

New type of stem cells with "half a genome" that accelerate discovery

Jerusalem/New York, 16 March 2016

Scientists from The Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Columbia University Medical Center (CUMC) and The New York Stem Cell Foundation Research Institute (NYSCF) have succeeded in generating a new type of embryonic stem cell that carries a single copy of the human genome, instead of the two copies typically found in normal stem cells. The scientists reported their findings in the journal

Nature. ([press text](#))

EU-project towards the cure of type-1 diabetes

Frankfurt, 31 March 2016

The number of children with type-1 diabetes increases by 4% per year in Europe and the USA. A European research group led by the Goethe University around Francesco Pampaloni and Ernst Stelzer has been formed to replace the life-long therapy with Insulin for the patients affected. The researchers aim to develop 3D organoids with Insulin producing cells in vitro and establish a method to produce high numbers of these structures in collaboration with the pharmaceutical industry. The European Union is funding the project for the next four year with more than five million Euro. Afterwards clinical studies are planned for the transplantation of these organoids. ([press text in German](#))

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