

Impressions from the GSCN Annual Meeting in Jena 2017



GSCN-Newsletter

Dear GSCN members, friends and colleagues,

October 2017

We want to announce promising and exciting news for the next months. In addition, we are happy to report that the GSCN Conference in Jena 2017 was a great success. Read more:

- 1) GSCN-PEI Workshop on the regulation of MSCs in Berlin on 6 November 2017 – register now!
- 2) GSCN supports young women scientists with children - in collaboration with the Christiane Nüsslein-Volhard-Foundation. Apply now for a funding in 2018. Application deadline is 30 Nov 2017!
- 3) EBISC workshop: Scalability of iPSC Technology for Future Drug Discovery and Therapy
- 4) The 5th Annual GSCN Conference in Jena
- 5) Stem cell pictures wanted
- 6) News from the field

1) GSCN-PEI Workshop about regulation of MSCs in Berlin on 6 November 2017 – register now!

The GSCN and Paul Ehrlich Institute are offering a workshop on **“Regulatory issues relating to the development and clinical application of mesenchymal stem cells (MSCs)”**.

Date: 6 November 2017

Time: 09:30 - 17:00 h

Location: Axon 1, Max Delbrück Communications Center (MDC.C), Berlin-Buch

URL: <http://www.gscn.org/en/EVENTS/GSCNevents.aspx>

The workshop provides an overview of regulatory aspects related to the development and translation of mesenchymal stem/stroma cells towards clinical trials. It aims to support the researchers organized in the German Stem Cell Network (GSCN) in the translation of these innovative products towards the first clinical trials as well as to provide a forum for exchange of information between researchers and clinicians of the GSCN, PEI and the competent authorities of the federal states (Bundesländer). Registration is free of charge. Please register for the PEI workshop by [e-mail to the GSCN office until 31 October 2017](#).

The PEI workshop takes place in combination with the event **“Aspekte der Qualitätssicherung bei der Herstellung von ATMPs”** (DE) at the MDC, Berlin on **7 November 2017** (Registration fee: 185,- €).

Read more about the program and speakers for both workshops [here](#).

2) GSCN supports young woman stem cell scientist with children - in collaboration with the Christiane Nüsslein-Volhard-Foundation. Apply now for a funding in 2018 till 30 November 2017!

Women are, measured by their scientific potential, underrepresented in leading scientific or research positions. The GSCN starts a collaboration with the [Christiane Nüsslein-Volhard-Foundation](#) to target specifically the problem that makes life so difficult for many female scientists, namely balancing family obligations with the duties of an independent researcher. A monthly financial grant to pay for assistance in household chores and for additional childcare is aimed to relieve these young female scientists from household tasks. The time thus freed allows them to continue working at a high standard, despite the double burden. We hope to contribute towards increasing the proportion of highly qualified women participating in high-level research in Germany.

The grant is specifically for graduate students and postdoctoral fellows in the field of stem cell research!

The [application deadline](#) for 2018 is 30 November. Please apply now and distribute the possibility for support in your networks.

Please check [here for specific information](#).

3) EBiSC workshop: Scalability of iPSC Technology for Future Drug Discovery and Therapy

This workshop aims to disseminate learning from the establishment of the European Bank for induced pluripotent stem cells (EBiSC) and address perspectives on stem cell applications over the next five years. We are expecting an audience composed of industry representatives considering stem cell investment, stem cell researchers from academia and SMEs as well as representatives of government policy group, charities and trade organisations supporting stem cell research. Please check out the information [here](#).

4) The Annual GSCN Conference in Jena

The 5th [Annual GSCN Conference](#) welcomed 400 participants and 26 companies to the Friedrich Schiller University (FSU) in Jena from 11 - 13 September 2017. Jena was the German capital of stem cell research for three days – around 400 scientists from Germany and other countries met in the university to exchange new results. One overall topic was ageing and stem cells. Highlights were the international key notes with Elaine Fuchs (New York), Heinrich Jasper (Novato) and Maike Sander (San Diego). Another outstanding highlight was the Presidential Symposium with keynote speaker Jürgen Knoblich (Vienna) and the presentations of the GSCN-awardees Elly Tanaka (Vienna), Francesco Neri (Jena) and Gray Camp (Dresden). The conference offered space for a large industry exhibition with 26 booths, two intensive poster sessions and two social events: a lot of possibilities to network, foster relationships, discuss with collaborators and find out about new technologies. A non-PI meeting of 15 eager young scientists followed the official meeting on Thursday 14 Sept. 2017. A well-attended public event on Wednesday evening presented the advances of stem cell research to an interested lay audience in the Volksbad Jena.

5) Stem cell pictures wanted

Do you have interesting and appealing research pictures that you would like to present to a greater audience? The GSCN is starting the production of its annual magazine and we are asking for high-resolution pictures to frame the articles. Please send suggestions and pictures that you want to show in the printed and online version of the upcoming GSCN annual magazine to [Stefanie Mahler](#). If you have any questions, please contact her – and if you want to check how the pictures are used, see the [GSCN Annual Magazine 2016/17](#).

6) News from the field September / October 2017

A reversible haploid mouse embryonic stem cell biobank resource for functional genomics tem
Nature, 27.9.2017

The Penninger lab at the IMBA in collaboration with researchers at the Max Delbrück Center and the Paul Ehrlich Institute developed a biobank of revertible, mutant embryonic stem cells, published in the current issue of Nature. This cell bank – called Haplobank - contains over 100,000 mutated, conditional mouse embryonic stem cell lines, targeting about 70% of the protein-coding genome.
([press text](#))

Regrowing arms (DE)

Ernst Schering Stiftung 5.9.2017, Tagesspiegel, 26.9.2017

The Ernst Schering Foundation honors the biochemist Elly Tanaka for her outstanding research in the field of regeneration biology with the Ernst Schering Prize 2017.

([press text Schering Foundation](#), [Tagesspiegel](#))

Cancer is the price that mammals pay (DE)

Tagesspiegel, 21.9.2017

Tumor cells use a development program that normally produces placenta tissue, discovered Alexander Meissner from the MPI for molecular genetics.

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Research for the medicine of tomorrow - Award for algorithms for the prediction of cell development (DE)

Helmholtz, 18.9.2017

Four scientists from different disciplines want to find out how individual blood cells develop. Because with this knowledge many diseases could be better understood and treated in the future. For their extraordinary basic research, they now received the Erwin Schrödinger Prize 2017.

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Why is your company called Eupheria, gentlemen? (DE)

Laborjournal, 17.9.2017

The two founders of the Dresden RNA interference (RNAi) start-up Eupheria Biotech GmbH in an interview: the system biologist Frank Buchholz as well as the business manager Thomas Hadlak.

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