

# GSCN Annual Report



## Boards

### Executive Board

In accordance with Section 8(1) of the statute and rules of the German Stem Cell Network (GSCN) e.V., the Executive Board (presidium) consists of the Acting President (chairperson), the Senior President (first deputy chairperson), the Designated President (second deputy chairperson), the Treasurer, and the Assessor. In the reporting period (Sept. 2015 to Sept. 2016), the Executive Board is made up of the following members:

#### Acting President (Chair)

**Prof. Ulrich Martin** (Hannover Medical School)  
E-mail: [martin.ulrich@mh-hannover.de](mailto:martin.ulrich@mh-hannover.de)

#### Senior President (1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chair)

**Prof. Thomas Braun**  
(Max Planck Institute for Heart and Lung Research, Bad Nauheim)  
E-mail: [office.braun@mpi-bn.mpg.de](mailto:office.braun@mpi-bn.mpg.de)

#### Designated President (2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair)

**Prof. Karl Lenhard Rudolph**  
(Leibniz Institute on Aging – Fritz Lipmann Institute [FLI], Jena)  
E-mail: [klrudolph@fli-leibniz.de](mailto:klrudolph@fli-leibniz.de)

#### Treasurer

**Dr. Michael Cross** (Leipzig University)  
E-mail: [michael.cross@medizin.uni-leipzig.de](mailto:michael.cross@medizin.uni-leipzig.de)

#### Assessor

**Prof. Frank Emmrich** (Fraunhofer IZI and Leipzig University)  
E-mail: [frank.emmrich@medizin.uni-leipzig.de](mailto:frank.emmrich@medizin.uni-leipzig.de)



Executive Board members: (from left): Karl Lenhard Rudolph, Thomas Braun, Ulrich Martin, Frank Emmrich, Michael Cross, Andreas Trumpp

### The Executive Board in 2015

The GSCN would like to thank the members of the 2015 Executive Board (Nov. 2014 to Sept. 2015). Andreas Trumpp, Active President in 2014, left the Executive Board as scheduled and has now been elected as a member of the Extended Board.



*GSCN Executive and Extended Boards and Management*

### Extended Board

In accordance with Section 9(1) of the statute and rules of the German Stem Cell Network (GSCN) e.V., the Extended Board consists of up to 15 members. In the reporting period, the Extended Board is made up of the following members:

**Prof. Oliver Brüstle** (University of Bonn)  
E-mail: [r.neuro@uni-bonn.de](mailto:r.neuro@uni-bonn.de)

**Dr. Tobias Cantz PD** (Hannover Medical School)  
E-mail: [Cantz.Tobias@mh-hannover.de](mailto:Cantz.Tobias@mh-hannover.de)

**Dr. Micha Drukker** (Helmholtz Zentrum München)  
E-mail: [micha.drukker@helmholtz-muenchen.de](mailto:micha.drukker@helmholtz-muenchen.de)

**Prof. Hartmut Geiger** (Ulm University)  
E-mail: [hartmut.geiger@uni-ulm.de](mailto:hartmut.geiger@uni-ulm.de)

**Prof. Magdalena Götz** (LMU Munich)  
E-mail: [magdalena.goetz@helmholtz-muenchen.de](mailto:magdalena.goetz@helmholtz-muenchen.de)

**Ira Herrmann** (Stem Cell Network North Rhine Westphalia; Life & Brain since 1 Jan. 2016)  
E-mail: [herrmann@stemcells.nrw.de](mailto:herrmann@stemcells.nrw.de)

**Prof. Ana Martin-Villalba**  
(German Cancer Research Center Heidelberg)  
E-mail: [a.martin-villalba@dkfz.de](mailto:a.martin-villalba@dkfz.de)

**Prof. Albrecht Müller** (University of Würzburg)  
E-mail: [albrecht.mueller@mail.uni-wuerzburg.de](mailto:albrecht.mueller@mail.uni-wuerzburg.de)

**Prof. Michael Rieger**  
(Goethe University Frankfurt)  
E-mail: [m.rieger@em.uni-frankfurt.de](mailto:m.rieger@em.uni-frankfurt.de)

**Prof. Ingo Roeder** (TU Dresden)  
E-mail: [ingo.roeder@tu-dresden.de](mailto:ingo.roeder@tu-dresden.de)

**Prof. Hans R. Schöler**  
(Max Planck Institute for Molecular Biomedicine)  
E-mail: [office@mpi-muenster.mpg.de](mailto:office@mpi-muenster.mpg.de)

**Prof. Wolfgang Wagner** (RWTH Aachen)  
E-mail: [wwagner@ukaachen.de](mailto:wwagner@ukaachen.de)

**Prof. Andreas Trumpp**  
(German Cancer Research Center Heidelberg)  
E-mail: [a.trumpp@Dkfz-Heidelberg.de](mailto:a.trumpp@Dkfz-Heidelberg.de)

**Prof. Mathias Treier** (Max Delbrück Center for Molecular Medicine Berlin)  
E-mail: [mathias.treier@mdc-berlin.de](mailto:mathias.treier@mdc-berlin.de)

**Prof. Claudia Waskow** (TU Dresden)  
E-mail: [claudia.waskow@tu-dresden.de](mailto:claudia.waskow@tu-dresden.de)

## Working group initiators

### Scientific working groups

<b>Pluripotency and Reprograming</b>	Dr. Micha Drukker Prof. Hans Schöler Prof. Mathias Treier
<b>Somatic Stem Cells and Development</b>	Prof. Thomas Braun Prof. Elly Tanaka
<b>Basic, Translational and Applied Hematopoiesis</b>	Prof. Claudia Waskow Prof. Timm Schroeder (ETH Zürich) E-mail: <a href="mailto:tim.schroeder@bsse.ethz.ch">tim.schroeder@bsse.ethz.ch</a>
<b>Stem Cells in Diseases (Cancer Stem Cells)</b>	Prof. Thomas Brabletz (University Medical Center Freiburg) E-mail: <a href="mailto:thomas.brabletz@uniklinik-freiburg.de">thomas.brabletz@uniklinik-freiburg.de</a> Prof. Andreas Trumpp
<b>Stem Cells in Regenerative Therapies</b>	Dr. Michael Cross Prof. Ulrich Martin
<b>Stem Cells in Disease Modeling and Drug Development</b>	Prof. Oliver Brüstle Prof. Karl-Ludwig Laugwitz (University Hospital Klinikum rechts der Isar, Munich) E-mail: <a href="mailto:klaugwitz@med1.med.tum.de">klaugwitz@med1.med.tum.de</a>
<b>Computational Stem Cell Biology</b>	Prof. Georg Füllen (Institute for Biostatistics and Informatics in Medicine and Ageing Research, Rostock) E-mail: <a href="mailto:fuellen@uni-rostock.de">fuellen@uni-rostock.de</a> Prof. Ingo Röder (TU Dresden) E-mail: <a href="mailto:ingo.roeder@tu-dresden.de">ingo.roeder@tu-dresden.de</a>

### Strategic working groups

<b>Funding Programs and Policies</b>	Prof. Ulrich Martin Prof. Albrecht Müller Acting GSCN President (ex-officio)
<b>Promotion of Young Researchers</b>	Prof. Hartmut Geiger (Ulm University) E-mail: <a href="mailto:hartmut.geiger@uni-ulm.de">hartmut.geiger@uni-ulm.de</a> Prof. Jürgen Hescheler (University Hospital Cologne) E-mail: <a href="mailto:j.hescheler@uni-koeln.de">j.hescheler@uni-koeln.de</a> Dr. Insa Schröder (GSI Helmholtz Centre for Heavy Ion Research) E-mail: <a href="mailto:i.schroeder@gsi.de">i.schroeder@gsi.de</a>
<b>Public Engagement and Outreach Activities</b>	Dr. Tobias Cantz PD Ira Herrmann
<b>Patient Information (Stem Cell Therapies)</b>	Dr. Gisela Badura-Lotter (Ulm University) E-mail: <a href="mailto:gisela.badura@uni-ulm.de">gisela.badura@uni-ulm.de</a> Ira Herrmann
<b>Clinical Trials and Regulatory Affairs</b>	Dr. Zoltán Ivics (Paul-Ehrlich-Institut, Langen) E-mail: <a href="mailto:Zoltan.Ivics@pei.de">Zoltan.Ivics@pei.de</a> Dr. Andreas Kurtz (BCRT Berlin), E-mail: <a href="mailto:andreas.kurtz@charite.de">andreas.kurtz@charite.de</a> Prof. Torsten Tonn (Institute for Transfusion Medicine, Dresden) E-mail: <a href="mailto:t.tonn@blutspende.de">t.tonn@blutspende.de</a> Prof. Hans-Dieter Volk (BCRT Berlin) E-mail: <a href="mailto:hans-dieter.volk@charite.de">hans-dieter.volk@charite.de</a>
<b>Stem Cell Technologies</b>	Dr. Andreas Bosio (Miltenyi GmbH, Bergisch Gladbach) E-mail: <a href="mailto:andreas.bosio@miltenyibiotec.de">andreas.bosio@miltenyibiotec.de</a> Prof. Frank Emmrich

## Facts and figures

### Meetings

#### Executive Board meetings

The Executive Board of the GSCN regularly holds meetings and telephone conferences. These meetings are coordinated and organized by the Central Office. The following Executive Board meetings took place in 2015:

- Video conference (19 May 2015)
- Video conference (15 July 2015)
- Meeting (9 Sept. 2015) in Frankfurt am Main

#### Extended Board meeting

- 9 Sept. 2015 in Frankfurt am Main

#### General Assembly

- 10 Sept. 2015 in Frankfurt am Main

### Overview of members in 2015

<b>Total no. of members</b>		<b>334</b>
Natural persons	Full members	189
	Junior members	116
Legal persons	Research institutes	17
	Companies with more than 20 full-time staff	4
	Companies with fewer than 20 full-time staff	7
	Partner societies	1
<b>Membership cancelations in 2015</b>		<b>32</b>
<b>Members of the working groups</b>		
Scientific working groups	Pluripotency and reprogramming	184
	Somatic stem cells and development	145
	Basic, translational and applied hematopoiesis	64
	Stem cells in diseases (cancer stem cells)	136
	Stem cells in regenerative therapies	137
	Stem cells in disease modeling and drug development	185
	Computational stem cell biology	24
Strategic working groups	Funding programs and policies	124
	Career development	111
	Clinical trials and regulatory affairs	96
	Public engagement and outreach activities	60
	Patient information (stem cell therapies)	17
	Stem cell technologies	178

Last updated 31.1.2016



### Institute members

- Berlin-Brandenburg Center for Regenerative Therapies (BCRT)
- Center for Regenerative Therapies Dresden (CRTD)
- German Cancer Research Center (DKFZ), Heidelberg
- Fraunhofer Research Institution for Marine Biotechnology (Fraunhofer EMB), Lübeck
- Fraunhofer Institute for Molecular Biology and Applied Ecology (IME), Aachen
- Fraunhofer Institute for Production Technology (IPT), Aachen (from 2016)
- Fraunhofer Institute for Cell Therapy and Immunology (Fraunhofer IZI), Leipzig
- Institute of Reconstructive Neurobiology, University of Bonn
- Institute for Stem Cell Research and Regenerative Medicine, Düsseldorf
- Leibniz Institute on Aging – Fritz Lipmann Institute (FLI), Jena
- Leibniz Institute for Zoo and Wildlife Research in the Forschungsverbund Berlin
- Max Delbrück Center for Molecular Medicine (MDC), Berlin-Buch
- Max Planck Institute for Heart and Lung Research (MPI-HLR), Bad Nauheim
- Max Planck Institute for Molecular Genetics (MPIMG), Berlin
- REBIRTH Cluster of Excellence, Hannover Medical School
- Collaborative Research Center SFB 873, Centre for Organismal Studies, Heidelberg University Hospital
- Tissue Engineering and Regenerative Medicine (TERM), University Hospital of Würzburg
- Universitätsklinikum Erlangen, Department of Molecular Neurology, Bavarian Research Network ForIPS – Induced Pluripotent Stem Cells (from 2016)

### Company members

- AMS Biotechnology (Europe) Ltd.
- Biological Industries
- Eppendorf AG
- Essen BioScience Ltd.
- Hexcell Berlin GmbH
- HI-STEM gGmbH
- Thermo Fisher Scientific
- Macopharma Int. GmbH (from 2016)
- PELOBiotech GmbH
- PeproTech GmbH
- Takara Bio Europe S.A.S.

### Partner societies

- German Society for Transfusion Medicine and Immune Hematology (DGTI) e.V.

### GSCN General Assembly

Eighty-eight members attended the third General Assembly of the GSCN, held on 10 Sept. 2015 during the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Conference in Frankfurt am Main. The minutes of the assembly and the presentation that formed part of it can be downloaded from the members' area of the website. The Executive Board and the Extended Board were re-elected in the online elections of August 2015 (see above) after the auditors officially discharged the previous board members.



General Assembly 2015

## Activities in 2015

2015 was a busy year for the GSCN, with numerous events, new formats, and interesting workshops and conferences. On the one hand, the GSCN is a members' association with a focus on networking; on the other, it promotes communication with the public and policymakers. Below is a summary of the activities undertaken by the GSCN in both of these areas.

### The network

The GSCN Annual Conference is the largest assembly of stem cell researchers. At the **3<sup>rd</sup> International Annual Conference of the GSCN** in Frankfurt am Main, 400 scientists came together to exchange ideas, develop partnerships, initiate new projects, and bring each other up to date on the latest research. Networking is about making contacts, developing collaborative projects, establishing friendly relationships, and linking new research to new faces and institutions. These networks are of ongoing importance to current and future projects. The GSCN has also created contact platforms on the international level. For example, it developed a new format called the **WunderBar Evening** for the **ISSCR Annual Meeting** in Stockholm on 23 – 26 June 2015. Around 100 members and friends attended the event held on the roof terrace of the Clarion Hotel Sign at the close of the conference day. The evening proved to be a success despite the cool Scandinavian temperatures, with great midsummer views over Stockholm, a fun and relaxed atmosphere, delicious finger food and drinks, and stimulating conversation.

The **GSCN Meet-Up Hub** took place the following afternoon in the **ISSCR exhibition hall**. As well as GSCN members, the event also attracted many international colleagues for an inspiring one-hour meet-up in the middle of the conference. "I'm very satisfied with both events; we achieved our goal of creating spaces for people to network in a pleasant and animating environment," said Daniel Besser, Managing Director of the GSCN. **Twenty-one junior scientists** who had been granted **Travel Awards** by the GSCN working groups attended the meet-up – and their response was particularly enthusiastic. "For me, it was great to attend the GSCN Meet-Up Hub. I met several scientists who were working in Germany. We discussed future directions of the field of pluripotency and reprogramming as well as potential collaborative works," said award winner Kee-Pyo Kim of the Max Planck Institute for Molecular Biomedicine in Münster.

Scientists at all stages of their careers are involved in the GSCN network. This year, the GSCN organized the first round of the **GSCN Awards** to raise awareness of the work carried out by specific groups in these various stages and to recognize outstanding achievements. For each of the awards, there is a submission process that includes stating the reasons for nomination, convening a selection committee, and



*Participants of the Non-PI-Meeting in Bonn*

plenty of work on the part of the jury. The following scientists received awards for their outstanding and impressive research work:

- The GSCN Young Investigator Award was granted to **Dr. Julia Ladewig** of the Institute of Reconstructive Neurobiology at University Hospital Bonn.
- The GSCN Female Scientist Award was presented to **Prof. Magdalena Götz** of the Institute of Stem Cell Research at Helmholtz Zentrum München. Götz is also chairs the Department of Physiological Genomics at LMU Munich.
- The GSCN Publication of the Year Award went to **Jichang Wang** and **Dr. Zsuzsanna Izsvák** from the Mobile DNA research group at the Max Delbrück Center for Molecular Medicine (MDC) in Berlin-Buch for their article "Primate-specific endogenous retrovirus-driven transcription defines naïve-like stem cells", which was published in the academic journal *Nature* (Wang, J. et al., 2014, *Nature*, doi:10.1038/nature13804).

The GSCN Awards ceremony took place at the Presidential Symposium held at the GSCN Conference in Frankfurt and featured talks by the three award-winners, who all felt deeply honored to have received the awards (see Conference report). For the GSCN, the awards ceremony represents a commitment to promoting science policy.

In 2015, the GSCN again granted **Travel Awards** to enable talented junior scientists to take part in various conferences and summer/winter schools. Thanks to the Travel Awards, Onur Basak (Hubrecht





Institute, Utrecht, Netherlands), Debojyoti Chakraborty (BIOTEC, University Hospital Carl Gustav Carus, Dresden), Christina Galonska (Broad Institute of MIT and Harvard, Cambridge, USA), Sarah Konze (Hannover Medical School), and Miha Modic (Helmholtz Zentrum München) were able to attend the GSCN Annual Conference in Frankfurt. All Travel Awards were funded by GSCN company member Eppendorf AG. The GSCN continued to **promote young talent** and provide financial, subject-related and logistical support through the first **non-PI meeting** in Bonn (20 April 2015), where 18 young scientists came

together for an exchange of ideas in a series of lectures and discussions. "All the participants were enthusiastic about the atmosphere of the meeting and the possibility of sharing their experiences with one another. They encourage the GSCN to continue the concept of non-PI meetings in the future," said participants Adele Marthaler and Henning Kempf. The non-PI meeting took place in the run-up to the 8<sup>th</sup> International Meeting of Stem Cell Network North Rhine-Westphalia in Bonn (21 – 22 April 2015). After the meeting, the GSCN was the main sponsor of the **6<sup>th</sup> Bioinformatics and Stem Cells Satellite Workshop** (22 – 23 April 2015), a one-day event organized by Georg Füllen, initiator of the Computational Stem cell Biology working group. The strategic working group on **Career Development** explored a completely new field by organizing a workshop on "**Scientists in Management**" in Darmstadt (17 – 18 Nov. 2015). It is especially useful for scientists to master soft skills like strategic and management competencies at an early stage in their careers. "The response to the workshop was extremely positive," said Insa Schröder, initiator of the working group on Career Development. In addition, the GSCN presented information materials at the **World Conference on Regenerative Medicine** in Leipzig (21 – 23 Oct. 2015; see News) and various other meetings and conferences, such as the **IGLD Meeting** at the Max Delbrück Communications Center in Berlin (12 – 14 March 2015) and the 4<sup>th</sup> International Conference on **Strategies in Tissue Engineering (SITE)** in Würzburg (10 – 12 June 2015). The GSCN played a key role in establishing a network of German stem cell core units in a bid to stimulate discussion and improve communication between scientists. The goal of the new network is, first and foremost, to create and standardize joint quality protocols and methods to safeguard the pluripotent state of hiPSCs.

## Communication

Cultivating contacts, collaborating, and communicating in a network are important ways of passing on information. The GSCN makes use of various communication channels. At the conference the annually updated **mobile app GSCN Navigator** enables participants to shape their visit to the conference to suit their personal interests. The GSCN also provides information and news in German and English on its website [www.gscn.org](http://www.gscn.org). In 2015 the website attracted more than 24,700 visits from 15,000 users (2014: 18,000 visits from 9,500 users). Visits have thus increased by 28% and the number of users by 37%. The news column on the website's home page highlights the latest developments in the field – a service that is appreciated by many users. The **GSCN Newsletter** goes out by e-mail and the **Annual Magazine**, which focuses on different topics each year, is sent out to members in the mail. In 2015 the magazine concentrated on stem cell technologies, considering Germany from the perspective of the various core institutions involved. The 2015 annual magazine was very well received and a record 1,000 copies were distributed.

At the first GSCN annual conference in Berlin in 2013, members expressed a wish for an internal, web-based communication platform: in 2015 this was created in the form of the **GSCN Humhub**. This social Intranet has not yet become established as a fully-fledged **professional and social stem cell network** – but of course this is



the goal. Each of the scientific and strategic working groups has its own forum; members are assigned to their own working groups but can also participate in other groups. This is intended to provide a very simple, forum-like means of communication that enables members to discuss issues online, exchange information, to post details of conferences, workshops, talks and publications, and to debate these. As a bonus, **promotional codes for conferences, grants** or other member benefits will appear first on Humhub. 2015 was the launch year – the GSCN Humhub network should really get underway in 2016.

Internationally, the GSCN worked closely with **EuroStemCell** in 2015. At a wide-ranging European **workshop in Brussels** (18 – 19 Feb. 2015), the EuroStemCell team set out new objectives, and topic groups were formed to drive forward this European information portal and promote the working groups behind the new funding application to the European Commission. In 2015 most of the work



Poster exhibition in the Urania, Berlin

took place behind the scenes, but in 2016 and 2017 this major European partner will launch many new projects in a new guise – this will include a relaunch of the website, which the GSCN is helping to design. The relationship between the GSCN and EuroStem-Cell is fruitful for both organizations – for example, the GSCN used the Edinburgh meeting factsheets on various diseases ([www.eurostemcell.org](http://www.eurostemcell.org)) to produce a **colorful poster display** that is proving popular at events.

These communicators' meetings also promote networking on international stem cell research. The international collaboration was continued at the meeting in **Edinburgh** on 12 – 13 Nov. 2015. Its subject was "Train the Trainers," and it provided many examples of how information on stem cell research can be communicated in a way that inspires interest in people of all ages and educational backgrounds. Nationally, the GSCN organized a similar meeting with its **Communication on Stem Cell Research** group. Held in Berlin on 27 – 28 April 2015, the meeting combined a workshop on public affairs with networking and the development of new projects. Like last year's meeting in Hannover (which we reported on), the event generated many good ideas and helped to develop useful contacts between the science communicators of the various research institutions. One specific outcome was the defining of the group of institutes that will organize **UniStem Day** on 11 March 2016 as a **European day of action on stem cell research**. A thousand school students are expected to take part in a day of concentrated activities covering all aspects of stem cell research – including talks, films, games and guided tours.

School students were the target audience of GSCN events at the MINT400 forum at the Max Delbrück Center (MDC) in Berlin (12 - 13 Feb. 2015 and 4 - 5 Feb 2016), at the Science Day at the Robert-Havemann-Gymnasium in Berlin-Karow (19 Nov. 2015) and at the debate on stem cells and ethics at Haus Kreisau youth education center (29 Jan. 2015). The MDC in Berlin puts on regular informational careers

events for young scientists wanting to learn more about new professional fields. At the knowledge management careers fair on 20 Nov. 2015 Daniel Besser explained the duties of the managing director of a scientific network and discussed his work with the young scientists who attended.

The GSCN organized games and talks for interested members of the public at the **Long Night of the Sciences** in Berlin on 13 June 2015. Following on from the Frankfurt conference, the GSCN held a panel discussion on the Westend campus at which facilitator Stefanie Seltmann (DKFZ) and panel members Thomas Braun (MPI for Heart and Lung Research), Hubert Serve (oncologist, hematologist, University Hospital Frankfurt), and Andreas Zeiher (cardiologist, University Hospital Frankfurt) debated the latest laboratory and hospital research, taking as their subject the use of stem cells in the treatment of heart attacks and leukemia. The **latest GSCN films about Andreas Zeiher and Hubert Serve** were also shown. Like the **GSCN films about Magdalena Götz, Andreas Trumpp and Anthony Ho** from 2014, these have now been



MINT-Students spend a „stem cell day“ with Daniel Besser





*GSCN panel discussion in Frankfurt: Thomas Braun, Hubertus Serve, Stefanie Seltmann and Andreas Zeiher debate about possible applications of stem cell therapies.*

translated into English and are proving to be very popular items on the EuroStemCell website. They have the highest click rates on the European website. The films can be found on the GSCN website at: [www.gscn.org/en/RESOURCES/GSCNMovies.aspx](http://www.gscn.org/en/RESOURCES/GSCNMovies.aspx).

The year's events drew to a close on 2 Dec. 2015 with the **GSCN panel discussion** on "Modern cell therapies – Using stem cells to treat heart and blood disorders" at the **Urania in Berlin**, where the audience enjoyed screenings and a panel discussion with Claudia Waskow (hematologist, TU Dresden), Daniel Besser (Managing Director, GSCN), and Carsten Tschöpe (cardiologist, Charité and Berlin-Brandenburg School for Regenerative Therapies).

At the **World Health Summit** in Berlin on 11 – 13 Oct. 2015 the GSCN again put the subject of stem cells on the agenda by organizing its own session. A panel of high-profile international speakers discussed the future applications and potentials of stem cells, thus bringing the research field to the attention of an audience of medical experts and policymakers from all over the world.

The GSCN is also active in social media with a growing number of followers. The GSCN Central Office regularly receives enquiries from teachers, students, patients and journalists, which are answered with the help of scientists. The GSCN conference, in particular, prompts nationwide coverage in print and online media.

## Finances

The GSCN is a non-profit organization funded by **membership subscriptions and grants from the BMBF**. Under Section 4 of its statute, the level of subscriptions is set by rules adopted at the General Assembly. Subscriptions are detailed on the GSCN's membership form.

The business year is the calendar year. Subscriptions are due at the start of the business year. The Executive Board is responsible for producing the annual accounts and submitting them to the General Assembly. Details of the **association's finances** are provided at the General Assemblies.



