

## Dear GSCN members, friends and colleagues,

**April 2019** 

We have splendid news about the network: We are happy to announce that we have established a prolongation of the GSCN. Let's celebrate it with a great conference in Berlin from 23 till 25 September. Read more below – we wish you a fresh start into a sunny spring!

- 1) GSCN Conference 2019. Registration is now open!
- 2) GSCN goes BIH future of the network secured
- 3) GSCN Annual Magazine on its way
- 4) Wanted: Suggestions for GSCN awardees
- 5) Changes in the GSCN central office
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# 1) GSCN Conference 2019 in Berlin - Registration is now open

We would like to invite you to the <u>7th Annual Conference</u> of the German Stem Cell Network (GSCN). The conference will be held on 23 - 25 September 2019 at the Max Delbrück Centrum MDC in Berlin. The **deadline for early registration and abstract submission** to be considered for oral presentation is 21 June. The deadline for all other abstracts is 26 August.

Please find here the online registration and abstract submission.

**Hotels** of different categories can be found <u>here</u>. In cooperation with Deutsche Bahn (DB) we offer the inexpensive <u>event ticket</u> for your journey by train.

Additional scientific events accompanying the GSCN conference can be booked in the registration process, like a

- Non-PI meeting (22 September),
- Symposium on ethical, legal and social aspects of stem cell research (23/24 September).
  These events are free of charge for conference participants. Please find further information on the events <u>here</u>.

**GSCN travel awards:** There is a limited number of travel awards to the GSCN conference 2019 available. The awardees will receive free registration and a travel stipend of 400  $\in$ . To apply please register for the conference and submit your application (submitted abstract and short statement) to the <u>GSCN office</u> until **21 June 2019**.

## 2) GSCN goes BIH - future of the network secured

The GSCN has been in existence for six years funded by the Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF). For 2019, the BMBF is willing to continue financing the network for one year. From 2020 onward, the GSCN will form a close partnership with the Berlin Institute of Health (BIH) and receive financial support of the BIH. These are great news because our vision for the GSCN is formed on a reliable basis. The GSCN continues to exist as a Germany-wide network in the form of an association and is looking forward to additional members.

We hope that you will not miss this opportunity to become part of the German stem cell community and to present and discuss your scientific achievements! Please also inform your colleagues about the GSCN conference 2019. The program committee and the GSCN boards are looking forward to seeing you in Berlin.

## 3) GSCN Annual Magazine on its way

The GSCN Annual Magazine is coming soon – every GSCN member will receive a printed copy and a PDF version in German and English will be available online. The 2018/19 issue is titled "Stem Cells: Research - Translation – Therapy" and we are looking forward to comments from your side. Please write to <u>Stefanie.Mahler@mdc-berlin.de</u> with ideas for stories for 2019/2020, comments about the current magazine, suggestions for new chapters, pictures, features etc. – we are open to compliments and criticism. The more you share, the better we get!

## 4) Wanted: Suggestions for GSCN awardees

Like in previous years the GSCN will celebrate three GSCN awards in the field of stem cell research and we would like to ask you for suggestions for two of these awards. The deadline for the proposals is Friday, 21 June 2019.

1. Young Investigator Award (based in Germany). The candidate should be within 8 year after the doctorate degree (i.e. 2011) and in her/his first faculty/independent position (non-tenured). GSCN membership is not required. <u>Please place your suggestions here.</u>

2. Female Scientist Award (based in Germany) (no limitations on the level). GSCN membership is not required. <u>Please place your suggestions here</u>.

The awardee will give a presentation in the presidential session at the GSCN conference, 23 - 25 September 2019 in Berlin. They will be selected by the 2019 GSCN conference program committee and the executive board.

## 5) Changes in the GSCN central office

Ulrike Papra, project manager and conference organizer of GSCN for many years, has moved to new challenges at the beginning of March 2019 and left the GSCN office. We would like to take this opportunity to express our sincere thanks for the good cooperation and development of the GSCN. Dear Ulrike, thank you very much and all the best to you!

#### 6) News from the field 2019

Fully equipped, automated laboratory advances for clinical stem cell (GSCN)

## 12.02.2019

The EU funded Horizon 2020 research project "Autostem", led by the National University of Ireland Galway (NUIG), has been working on a fully automated production line for stem cells. At their final meeting at the Fraunhofer Institute for Production Technology IPT in Aachen, Germany, the ten international project partners from four European countries presented a whole new production platform demonstrator which was built in the three-year project for the generation of therapeutic cells at the litre scale. (press text)

## Auch das Riechvermögen lässt im Alter (GSCN)

# 07.01.2019

Je älter wir werden, desto mehr verlassen uns unsere Sinne. Gerade Hörvermögen und die Sehkraft lassen nach. Forscher des Helmholtz Zentrums München haben nun entdeckt, dass auch der Geruchssinn nachlässt, je älter wir werden – zumindest lassen Mäuse-Experimente diesen Schluss zu. Ursache sind Stammzellen, die im Alter weniger Riechzellen bilden. (<u>press text</u>)

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