



## GSCN-Newsletter

Dear GSCN members, friends and colleagues,

July 2016

Summertime – and we hope your livin' is easy. Fall is coming with lots of interesting conferences. We hope to see you in September in Hannover to the GSCN Conference!

- 1) **Coming soon: 20 July as deadline for Abstract Poster Submission for GSCN Conference 2016**
- 2) **Important: PEI-GSCN Workshop on regulatory issues relating to the development and clinical application of pluripotent stem cells**
- 3) **Non-PI-Meeting: First Student Symposium on Computational Genomics and 2<sup>nd</sup> Challenges in Computational Biology: Gene Expression Data Analysis in Mainz**
- 4) **Wanted: Nominees for GSCN Publication Award 2016**
- 5) **Wunderbar: GSCN at the ISSCR**
- 6) **Novel: Interactive tool about stem cells by the Kompetenznetzwerk Stammzellforschung NRW**
- 7) **Interesting: News from the field of GSCN members in June 2016**

More information:

### 1) **Poster Submission for GSCN Conference**

The deadline for the submission of the poster for the GSCN conference is coming closer: 20 July! Just as a reminder - there will be two poster awards for each poster session!

Link: [www.gscn.org/Conferences/2016/HOME.aspx](http://www.gscn.org/Conferences/2016/HOME.aspx)

### 2) **Important: PEI-GSCN Workshop on regulatory issues relating to the development and clinical application of pluripotent stem cells in November**

The GSCN organizes with the Paul-Ehrlich-Institute (PEI) a workshop on regulatory issues relating to the development and clinical application of pluripotent stem cells on 10 Nov. 2016 from 10:00 – 17:30 h at the Paul-Ehrlich-Institute, Langen.

This workshop provides an overview of regulatory aspects related to the development and translation of pluripotent stem cells, including iPS cells and human embryonic stem cell derived progenitors towards clinical trials.

It is the aim of the workshop to support the researchers organized in the GSCN in the translation of these innovative products towards the first clinical trials, and to provide a forum for exchange of information between researchers and clinicians of the network, PEI and the competent authorities of the Länder/Landesbehörden.

The workshop is free of charge. Register by e-mail to the GSCN Central Office – [gscn.office@mdc-berlin.de](mailto:gscn.office@mdc-berlin.de) Space is limited and registrations will be accepted in the order they are received (first-come-basis).

### 3) Non-PI-Meeting: First Student Symposium on Computational Genomics and 2<sup>nd</sup> Challenges in Computational Biology: Gene Expression Data Analysis in Mainz

The first **Student Symposium on Computational Genomics** will take place on 30 Nov. 2016 right before the **2<sup>nd</sup> Challenges in Computational Biology: Gene Expression Data Analysis** on 1 – 2 Dec. 2016, both at the Institute of Molecular Biology (IMB) in Mainz, Germany. The aim of the student symposium, which is supported by the GSCN as Non-PI-meeting, is to provide early career researchers the opportunity to present and discuss their work, challenges, and ideas within a scientific forum of peers and leading experts in the field of computational biology. **The main topics include systems biology of gene regulation, epigenomics, stem cell biology and differentiation, higher order chromatin structure, integration of multilevel datasets and prediction algorithms.**

Find out more here: **2<sup>nd</sup> Challenges in Computational Biology: Gene Expression Data Analysis:**

<https://www.imb.de/seminars-meetings/meetings/2nd-challenges-in-computational-biology/>

<http://rsg-germany.iscb.org/symposium/>

### 4) Wanted: Nominees for GSCN Publication Award 2016

The GSCN will select an outstanding publication (July 2015 – June 2016) for the GSCN Publication of the Year Award 2016:

The "Publication of the Year" will be selected in July 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](mailto: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.

The awardee 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.

### 5) GSCN at the ISSCR – GSCN WunderBar and Meet-up Hub

By Daniel Besser:

The presence of the GSCN at the ISSCR annual meetings is a good tradition for several years. In 2013, the GSCN organized the first Meet-up Hub for GSCN members, friends and guests in Boston and 2015 we started the first GSCN WunderBar event in Stockholm. This year in San Francisco, we enjoyed the company of fellow scientists at the GSCN Meet-up Hub on Thursday (23 June) afternoon. More than 60 scientists mingled, discussed the presentations, recent developments and newest data as well as the activities of the GSCN. On Friday evening, the GSCN invited its members to the second GSCN WunderBar in the Thirsty Bear Brewing Company. 80 participants enjoyed the excellent food and drinks, games (Kicker and Pool Billiard) and many intense discussions. The event proved to be an absolute success and a fixture for GSCN members at ISSCR conferences. Many reported that they absolutely enjoyed the evening and the networking possibilities. To be continued...

### 6) New Film-Tool about stem cells by the Kompetenznetzwerk Stammzellforschung NRW: Das Stammzellen-Labor (in German)

Brand-new: The interactive public outreach-tool Stem Cell Lab has been launched on 30 June 2016. At the lab, experts are on hand to explain in German the various clinical fields of application for stem cell

research. The first three experts are Professor Jürgen Hescheler (field of application: heart disease), Professor Dietrich Beelen (leukaemia and immune disorders), and Dr. Dennis Schade (pharmaceutical research). Further experts will be following soon. The online portal is aimed at all those interested in finding out about the diverse areas of indication, and discovering the potential, but also the limits, of stem cell research.

Link: <http://www.stammzellen.nrw.de/ueber-stammzellen/stammzell-labor.html>

## **7) News from the field in July 2016**

### **Pigs as organ producers for humans**

Berlin, 28 June 2016

10 000 persons are waiting for an organ in Germany, not even a tenth of them will ever get one. That could change soon – when the growing of human organs in animals would become a standard.

([press text](#) in German)

### **How iPS cells changed the world**

Nature, 15 June 2016

Induced pluripotent stem cells were supposed to herald a medical revolution. But ten years after their discovery, they are transforming biological research instead. ([press text](#))

### **Replacement organs from the 3 D-Printer: “It’s like playing Lego”**

Berlin, 8 June 2016

The tissue engineer Anthony Atala has ambitious plans: He wants to use 3D Plotter to produce organs and tissues. He is thinking about a laboratory in Berlin. ([press text](#) in German)

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