

PRO RETINA FOUNDATION



**9<sup>th</sup> PRO RETINA  
RESEARCH-COLLOQUIUM  
POTSDAM**

# Retinal Degeneration

**A Step Back is a Step Forward**

An Interdisciplinary Dialogue



**April 4<sup>th</sup> / 5<sup>th</sup>, 2014**

**Seminaris SeeHotel Potsdam**

supported by

**BMBF-Project „HOPE-01GM1108A“**

SPONSORED BY THE



**Federal Ministry  
of Education  
and Research**

# INVITATION

PRO RETINA Germany is pleased to announce the **9<sup>th</sup> International Research Colloquium on Retinal Degeneration** to be held in Potsdam at the Templiner See, April 04–05, 2014. The meeting will highlight the current progress on treatment options for the monogenic but also complex retinal diseases. In three main sessions, leading national and international experts will focus on nanoparticles as efficient tools to deliver genes to the retina, on the complement system as a target for novel therapeutic approaches and on advances in current experimental therapies addressing state-of-the-art technologies. The motto of the meeting “A step back is a step forward” should remind us that often a resilient approach to treating retinal disease may not necessarily be the most obvious and plausible one but instead may require deepened knowledge and the ability to translate unorthodox innovation into practice. To this effect, the 9<sup>th</sup> PRO RETINA Potsdam meeting wants to accentuate areas of clinical research where treatment options may profit from a fresh look at innovative approaches and unanticipated targets.

In continuation of the successful program format of the PRO RETINA Potsdam meeting series, scientific presentations will be given by senior experts from a clinical and basic science background as well as from junior scientists in the midst of their early career development in retinal research. This is to foster synergies between disciplines and encourage new thoughts in translational research efforts.

As in earlier years, the traditional poster session in the evening hours of the first meeting day will be given a broad platform and is hoped to inspire a vivid communication between junior and senior scientists. Also in the longstanding tradition of the meeting, PRO RETINA Germany will sponsor three PRO RETINA Poster awards for which eight young scientists will compete in the last session of the meeting.

PRO RETINA cordially invites all of you, clinicians, clinical and basic scientists and particularly those interested in translational research to join us at the Seminaris Seehotel in 2014. We are looking forward to a great meeting.

*The organizing committee:*

*Franz Badura, Prof. Dr. Klaus Rütger, Prof. Dr. Olaf Strauß and Prof. Dr. Bernhard Weber*



**9<sup>th</sup> PRO RETINA  
RESEARCH-COLLOQUIUM  
POTSDAM**

PRELIMINARY PROGRAMME  
**RETINAL DEGENERATION**

A Step Back is a Step Forward

**Friday, April 4<sup>th</sup> 2014**

**13:00–13:05 Welcome remarks**

Franz Badura, PRO RETINA Foundation/  
Research Division

**13:05–13:50 Keynote-Lecture**

Thomas Rosenberg, Glostrup, Denmark  
*The “Sleeping Beauty” (Dornröschen) is still  
dreaming of her prince – Clinical trials in  
retinal dystrophies*

**13:50–15:30 Session 1**



13:50–14:15

Diana Pauly, Regensburg  
*Antibody therapies in AMD as a treatment  
option – an overview*

14:15–14:40

Glen Jeffery, London  
*Complement and AMD: Are there lessons  
from animal models?*

14:40–15:05

Steffen Schmitz-Valckenberg, Bonn  
*Role for the complement system as a  
therapeutic target in atrophic age-related  
macular degeneration*

15:05–15:30

Bärbel Rohrer, Charleston  
*Complement-activation and age-related  
macular degeneration: Generation of novel  
treatments and diagnostics*

**15:30–16:30 Coffee break with scientific chitchat**

**16:30–18:10 Session 2** 

16:30–16:55 Muna Naash, Oklahoma City  
*Nanoparticles as highly efficient ocular delivery systems*

16:55–17:20 Daniel Chung, Philadelphia  
*Update on RPE65 gene therapy clinical trials – Can we halt retinal degeneration?*

17:20–17:45 Robert McLaren, Oxford  
*Choroideremia gene therapy trial shows proof of concept with relevance to all retinal degenerations*

17:45–18:10 Armin Göpferich, Regensburg  
*Targeted nanoparticles*

**18:10 Dinner**

**19:30–open Swingin’ poster session**

**Saturday, April 5<sup>th</sup> 2014**

**08:45–10:25 Session 3** 

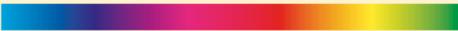
08:45–09:10 Michael Bach, Freiburg  
*Perception with visual prosthetics*

09:10–09:35 Moritz Helmstaedter, München  
*Reconstructing the retina: Connectomics of the inner plexiform layer*

09:35–10:00 Jens Dübél, Paris  
*Restoring vision by using microbial opsins*

10:00–10:25 Mark Greenlee, Regensburg  
*Vision without a fovea: Results of training eccentric fixation in AMD patients*

**10:25–11:15 Coffee break**

**11:15–12:55 Session 4** 

Eight selected poster presentations, followed by presenting the 2014 PRO RETINA poster price award

**12:55–13:00 Concluding remarks**

**13:00 Lunch and end of meeting**

## REGISTRATION

Contact our website:

[www.potsdam-meeting.de](http://www.potsdam-meeting.de)

The registration deadline is March, Friday 28<sup>th</sup>, 2014.

Cancellation is free of charge until March 14<sup>th</sup>, 2014.

Thereafter registration fees cannot be reimbursed.

## FEES

Fees include accommodation and catering.

Student/graduate/delegate: € 70,-

Post-doc: € 100,-

Faculty: € 120,-

Please pay by credit card or by remittance to the following bank-account:

**INTERFACE GMBH & CO. KG**

**Sparkasse Mainfranken**

**BLZ: 790 500 00, Kto.-Nr. 443 482 58**

**Ref. "Research-Colloquium 2014"**

**IBAN: DE75 7905 0000 0044 3482 58**

**SWIFT-BIC: BYLADEM1SWU**

## ACCOMMODATION & VENUE

The meeting will take place at the conference room of

**Seminaris SeeHotel Potsdam \*\*\*\***

*An der Pirschheide 40*

*14471 Potsdam/Germany*

*Tel: +49(0)331/9090-0 · Fax: +49(0)331/9090-999*

*Mail: [sales-potsdam@seminaris.de](mailto:sales-potsdam@seminaris.de)*

*Web: [www.seminaris.de](http://www.seminaris.de)*

It will start 01:00 p.m. sharp.

A contingent of rooms is reserved for max. 150 participants.

If you are planning to stay elsewhere please let us know.

## CONFERENCE LANGUAGE

The conference language is English.

## POSTER SESSION

A very important feature of our meeting is the poster session. Submission deadline: March, Monday 10<sup>th</sup>, 2014.

Please find more details on our website:

[www.potsdam-meeting.de](http://www.potsdam-meeting.de)

# HOW TO GET TO THE SEMINARIS SEEHOTEL POTSDAM:

The Seminaris SeeHotel is in the western part of Potsdam, close to the forest of Pirschheide, next to the Templiner See.

## Arrival by car:

**North:** Coming from A 24 (Hamburg/Rostock) continue on to A 10 (Berliner Ring) and then take the exit "Potsdam Nord".

**West:** Coming from A 2 (Hannover) continue on to A 10 and then take the exit "Groß Kreuz".

**South and East:** Coming from A 9/A 13/A 12 (Leipzig, Dresden, Frankfurt/Oder) continue on to A 10 and then take the exit "Michendorf".

Within the city borders of Potsdam you will be guided by the hotelguide-system. Coming from the national road B1 there is a private access road directly to the hotel.

## Arrival by train:

Mainstation Potsdam, about 5 km (national trains, e.g. ICE-, IC-, EC-station) or station "Potsdam Pirschheide", distance 800 m (regional trains, e.g. RE-, N-, S-, and tramway station).

## Arrival by plane:

The airports Tegel and Schönefeld are in reach of the hotel (approximately 50 km). From the airport take motorway A 10 "Berliner Ring", exit "Groß Kreuz" South and East (see above "Arrival by car").

### Organization of the meeting:

#### **Interface GmbH & Co. KG**

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