



# newsletter

## PostDoc Network

ISSUE  
FEBRUARY 2017

*Dear Postdocs and Colleagues,*

*Happy New Year! We hope you enjoyed the holidays and are back at work for a successful 2017. In this issue of the PDN Newsletter we want to update you on internal changes in the PDN Core Committee. You can read about the PostDoc Retreat which took place in October 2016; Career Day: Clinical Research 2016; recent Welcome and Get-together events organized by Barbara Costa and the career paths of two DKFZ Postdoc alumni – Ines Fernandez Ulibarri and Christopher Schmidt. Did you know that the DKFZ recently hired someone to build up and manage the DKFZ Postdoc Program? You can read our interview with the DKFZ Postdoc Manager on page 7-8. You also have the opportunity to learn about the Advanced Training courses offered for the DKFZ Postdocs and recent achievements of our Postdocs.*

*We would like to sincerely thank Kristin Rattay and Ann-Christin Gaupel for their contributions and services to the PDN. We wish them the very best as they leave DKFZ to move on with their careers. Kristin had been a PDN committee member since September 2014 and from March 2015 until November 2016 was the speaker of PDN. She was succeeded by Ann-Christin Gaupel, who helped to organize the PostDoc Retreats and the annual PostDoc survey. From February 2017 on Doris Schneller will take over the responsibilities as the PDN speaker. You can read more about them on page 2.*

*Furthermore, we would like to welcome Magalie Gérald and Thaís Moraes as our new committee members. Magalie is part of the Research Lounge Organizing team. Thaís together with Sree, Doris and Ulrike will be involved in publishing the quarterly Newsletter.*

*Until the next issue,*

*Sreejith Rajasekharan, Doris Schneller, Thaís Moraes and Ulrike Träger*

### **In this issue:**

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## PDN elects new Speaker

As you know, postdocs often have short term contracts and therefore do not stay in one place for too long. The PDN Core Committee therefore welcomes new members and bids farewell to old ones on a very regular basis. Since our last newsletter, the PDN had two speaker elections. Our former speaker **Kristin Rattay** stepped down from her duties at the PDN in November 2016. Kristin worked in the Division of Developmental Immunology (Prof. Dr. Bruno Kyewski). Starting November 2016 till January 2017, **Ann-Christin Gaupel** succeeded Kristin as the speaker of PDN. Ann-Christin worked in the Division of Molecular Genetics (Prof. Dr. Peter Lichter).

Besides their duties as the PDN speaker, they were actively involved in the organization of the PostDoc Retreats and the annual Postdoc Survey. We would like to express our gratitude to their dedication to the PDN and wish them all the best in their future endeavors. They will be truly missed.

We would like to welcome the new speaker **Doris Schneller**. Doris is a molecular biologist, working as a PostDoc in the Division of Signal Transduction and Growth Control (Prof. Dr. Peter Angel; A100) since August 2014. Her research in the field of hepatocellular carcinoma focuses on understanding the signaling pathways und downstream genetic programs of stromal cells that facilitate their crosstalk with cancerous hepatocytes. She joined the PDN committee in March 2016, became a member of the Newsletter team and helped in organizing the PostDoc Retreat. She has been elected for the PDN speaker starting from February 2017.



*Doris Schneller*

**Sreejith Rajasekharan** continues to be the Deputy Speaker of the PDN and is very much looking forward to working with her and to represent the DKFZ PostDocs together. Doris' comment after the election: "I hope I can continue the successful work of Kristin and Ann-Christin in the best interests of PDN. I look forward to working together with you to achieve our goals."



*Ann-Christin Gaupel*

I joined the Postdoc Network almost two years ago, just after I started at the DKFZ, and have been the PDN speaker for 3 months. As a graduate student, I had been active in the graduate student organization and found that being a part of a community like the PDN is very rewarding. It is a great opportunity to meet people, find friends, expand your network and work towards a common goal, to build a community and to help Postdocs make the most of their time at the DKFZ. In addition, I enjoyed organizing events such as the PDN retreat and DKFZ career days. As I have only been Speaker for such a short period of time, I unfortunately only got a brief glance at the Speaker's responsibilities, including representative tasks like promoting the PDN during the DKFZ postdoctoral fellowship program and coordinative tasks. The experiences I have made at

the DKFZ, including the PDN, the Career Days etc., have helped me to formulate my next career move and make that next step. It has been a great experience and I thank all my fellow PDN committee members for the great time.

## DKFZ PostDoc Retreat 2016 – bringing together expertise and friends

By Ulrike Träger



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In October 2016, the **5<sup>th</sup> annual DKFZ PostDoc retreat** organized by the PostDoc Network took place at the Herz-Jesu-Kloster in Neustadt. During the two day event, we learned more about the research PostDocs from the DKFZ, NCT and DKTK do in talks and poster sessions. We also exchanged views on work and life balance and got together over beer and wine during science disco. The combination of scientific and social program allowed to not only talk about the presentations and projects but also to chat about PostDocs' life in Heidelberg in general.

Two invited speakers shared their ideas and tips for career development. Anne Forde shed light onto the many job possibilities outside of science, while Philipp Gramlich used his interactive workshop to talk about self-marketing. Highlighting the importance of science communication and starting the social program of with a bang, Lorenz Adlung performed a science slam for the beer drinking crowd.

The Expertise Exchange Board, mimicking a dating website, aimed to match PostDocs with complementing knowledge. PostDocs were encouraged to either write a question/technique they need for their project, or certain techniques they are an expert in, on the board. The aim was to foster new collaboration among PostDocs of different research topics.

We would like to thank all participants for their active support and making the PostDoc Retreat 2016 a great success! We hope to see many of you again this year on our **PostDoc Retreat 2017 which will be held at the Herz-Jesu Monastery, Neustadt on the 16<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> of October**. Check out our homepage for latest updates concerning the upcoming Retreat: <http://www.dkfz.de/en/postdoc-network/retreat.html>.

### **PostDoc Retreat 2017**

*When?* 16<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> of October

*Where?* Hers-Jesu Monastery, Neustadt

*Who?* Postdocs from DKFZ, NCT and DKTK

*What?* Scientific Exchange, Get-together, Networking, Invited Speakers

## Career Day: Clinical Research 2016

By Gözde Bekki

The Career Day focusing on Clinical Research took place on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of September, 2016. The aim of the event was to provide information about different career opportunities in Clinical Research and to provide a discussion platform to help PhD students and PostDocs to plan their future. For that purpose 14 fascinating speakers, mostly DKFZ alumni, from distinct fields in Clinical Research joined the event and shared their personal experiences, individual career paths and particular views of career directions with more than 150 participants.

One day before the Career Day, Dr. Eisenmenger from NCT gave an informative workshop about Clinical Trial Management. The Career Day was divided into three main sessions, which provided a wide range of information from early translational research and its transition to clinical trials, execution and monitoring of clinical trials, regulation and maintenance of drug safety to medical affairs. Moreover, the panel discussion, round tables and open discussion rounds stimulated a highly interactive atmosphere for further discussions about career development in Clinical Research.



According to the positive feedbacks from speakers and participants, the Career Day on Clinical Research was a very successful and informative event. On behalf of the organizing team, I would like to thank all the speakers for their talks, valuable advices for job applications and fruitful discussions with the participants. Finally, thanks to everyone who contributed to the success of the Clinical Research Career Day!

### Career Days at DKFZ 2017

**Communication** - 19<sup>th</sup> May, 2017

**Academia** - 20<sup>th</sup> October, 2017

**Research and Development** - 8<sup>th</sup> December, 2017

## Welcome and Get-together

By Barbara Costa

Dear PostDocs and friends,

As in every PDN newsletter I am happy to summarize the past get-together events for you.

In October we went to the Firebowl in Heidelberg. It is always fun to play bowling together.



© PDN, Barbara Costa

In November we stayed at the DKFZ. In the kitchen area of the 5<sup>th</sup> floor, we had an international dinner with delicious dishes prepared by all the participants. We ate Russian salad and discovered why it is a typical dish in Russia. We tried Portuguese Bacalhau, an amazing dish prepared with stockfish. We also found out that in Portugal they have a dessert called “camel drool”! These are only few examples of the good food we had and of the interesting facts we learnt about food in different countries.

In December it is by now a tradition to visit the Christmas market in Heidelberg and to drink Glühwein together.

For the New Year the Post Doc get-together will continue to take place once a month and I am always open for new ideas. We will start the 2017 events series with an active and dynamic get-together. Friday 27<sup>th</sup> January, be ready to have fun at the rhythm of the music ice skating at the Eishalle in Wiesloch.

I am looking forward to see many of you and I hope that especially the Post Docs that just arrived in town will take the chance to attend our get-together events. It is a nice way to make new friends and meet possible collaborators.

The invitations for the get-together are now send out through the new mailing list [pdn-friends@dkf.de](mailto:pdn-friends@dkf.de) that includes not only present PostDocs from DKFZ, TP3, TP4, ZMBH, and NCT but also alumni and PostDocs from other institutes in Heidelberg. If you are not in the mailing list and you wish to be part of it send an email to [b.costa@dkfz.de](mailto:b.costa@dkfz.de)

Looking forward to see you in one of our next get-together,

Barbara



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## Career Paths of DKFZ Postdoc Alumni

### Inés Fernandez Ulibarri - Clinical Trial Assistant at Quintiles



*Inés Fernandez  
Ulibarri*

**Research background:** During her postdoc at the DKFZ, Inés focused on the development of adenovirus for treatment of cancer using cancer cells isolated from patients and animal models. Previously, during her doctorate, she investigated the role of lipids in the regulation of cell trafficking, particularly between the golgi apparatus and the endoplasmic reticulum.

**What is your current position and what do you like about it?** “I am working as a Clinical Trial Assistant. I like to work closely together project managers, monitors, and regulatory affairs managers because I am getting a large overview and knowledge about the management of trials.

Besides, I enjoy learning about the scientific and medical aspects of the studies. It is a good position to get started in this field.”

**What skills have been useful in obtaining your new job as Market Access Manager?** Basic knowledge of clinical research, time management, organizational skills, and ability to work in team.

**What is your tip for DKFZ Postdocs that are interested in a similar job?** Increase your professional network as much as possible, for example, postdocs can join the PDN or join professional networks. Getting to know professionals or contacting former colleagues who work in clinical research will provide opportunities to get first hand-information about open positions. Attend seminars or courses related to this field (e.g. DKFZ or Universität Heidelberg offers such courses). This will show your interest when looking for a job. If possible, get experience in the performance of clinical trials within your group or department. You will get familiar with different aspects of the studies (e.g. guidelines, documentation, approvals etc...).

### Christopher Schmidt - Biopharma Portfolio Management at Merck KgAA



*Christopher  
Schmidt*

**Research background:** Diploma in Biology (Uni Heidelberg and UCD Dublin), PhD & short Postdoc at DKFZ in Cancer Epigenetics - Division of Epigenomics and Cancer Risk Factors (Prof. Dr. Plass). PhD Thesis: "A novel cell-based diagnostic tool to assess epigenetic reactivation of an endogenously silenced tumor suppressor gene"

**What is your current position and what do you like about it?** “I currently work at the Merck Headquarters in Darmstadt, specifically for the Biopharmaceutical branch as Associate Director Global Portfolio Management and Strategy Development. In Portfolio Management, we financially

and non-financially assess all pipeline assets in development and guide decision making on which assets are most promising to move forward. What I like about the position is that it is a very nice blend of scientific and business expertise and offers a great overview of the company "big picture" and strategic direction of pipeline assets in development.”

**What skills have been useful in obtaining your new job as Market Access Manager?** “I have started working at Merck in the Global Graduate Program at Inhouse Consulting, which offers a unique entry position specifically also for scientists with some additional business qualifications. Out of this program, I have transitioned into Portfolio Management, where scientific expertise as well as analytical skills are required.”

**What is your tip for DKFZ Postdocs that are interested in a similar job?** “One should not underestimate the value of a scientific background as an entry point into pharmaceutical industry. However, I can only recommend trying to get an additional business qualification. This does NOT have to be a full degree, every certificate/course to show the general interest in the topic is already a good starter to distinguish from the majority of applicants. Also, although kind of obvious, an internship is a good anchor for a later full-time job.”

## DKFZ Postdoc Program - Interview with Philipp Gebhardt

### What is your role at the DKFZ?

My name is Philipp Gebhardt and I have recently joined the DKFZ to build up the institute’s Postdoc Program and to coordinate its further development. The Postdoc Program will serve the very active community of Postdocs at DKFZ and associated institutions by providing targeted training opportunities, foster personal career development of postdoctoral fellows and structure the selection and on-boarding processes for young scientists that will join the institute in the future. The unique commitment of DKFZ to foster postgraduate education at a high level in basic and translational cancer research is remarkable and it particularly shows through the implementation of its Postdoc Program.



Philipp Gebhardt

### What was your previous position?

I have been working at the European Molecular Biology Laboratory (EMBL) for the last 13 years. In my role as Head of the European Learning Laboratory for the Life Sciences (ELLS) at EMBL I was coordinating a variety of European training and outreach programs that focused on bridging the gap between the cutting-edge research performed at the institute and other parts of society. By offering continuing professional development courses for knowledge multipliers, organising educational and outreach events and developing new teaching resources my team and I fostered the uptake of new research results into other domains that are not *per se* always in direct contact with the scientific community. On the other hand I closely collaborated with research faculty and scientists at all career stages to provide a science communication platform for them. Especially the involvement of Postdocs and PhD students into our courses and outreach activities has been very close to my heart and I am very glad I will be able to integrate some of these elements into my work at DKFZ.

### What is your opinion of DKFZ PDN?

Already in the very beginning of my time at DKFZ I had the great pleasure to get in touch with the Postdoc Network. I received a warm welcome by the speakers of the PDN and had the chance to introduce myself during the last meeting of the PDN Committee. For me personally it is great to see that a Postdoc network has already formed and is actively investing time and energy into building a community for young researchers at the institute. I think it is truly representative of the distinctive scientific spirit at DKFZ and it is nice to see that the network also reaches out and exchanges ideas with Postdocs at other institutions in Heidelberg. A great initiative which you should definitely keep going!

## What are your plans for the DKFZ Postdocs and collaborations with the PDN?

It is of course still early days to fully describe how the DKFZ Postdoc Program will look like in the future. However, the DKFZ management and I have ambitious plans to make this an outstanding and exemplary program, offering comprehensive support and services for young scientists at this very important stage of their career. Currently I am in the process of exploring and synthesising what is already there. As far as I can see, in terms of career development and training we are in the privileged situation that we can build on existing programs that are successfully run by DKFZ Career Service and Advanced Training respectively. In close collaboration with these teams I will contribute my expertise and knowledge to further develop a coherent training portfolio for the Postdoc community. I would like to enrich the current formats by offering regular opportunities for collaborative online and face-to-face teaching and learning experiences. Another very important task will be to secure funding for postdoctoral fellowships and positions. I am in close contact with the organisers of the current Postdoctoral Fellowship Program and we are exploring ways of how to integrate our efforts best. Most importantly, I would like to hear directly from the institute's Postdocs and their PIs about what works already well and where there are needs and opportunities to further improve Postdoc matters. I would therefore like to encourage everybody to let me know how the DKFZ Postdoc Program can support you, the Postdocs, best – from the time you join the institute until you move on to your next career step. In order to prepare an online DKFZ Postdoc Program survey, which will help us to assess the current status and allow me to draw conclusions for the further development of postdoc-centered activities, I want to invite you to contribute your own questions and topics which you would like to see covered (please feel free to email them to me).

## Can DKFZ Postdocs come to you, let's say for discussing projects and ideas? Or if they seek confidential advice on their personal situation as a Postdoc? If yes, how can they reach you?

I am very much looking forward to meeting many of you in person during the coming weeks and months – be it in the Hotspot (which seems to be a very central and popular place at DKFZ;) or elsewhere. My office door will always be open if you want to come and see me. Please, feel free to drop me a line if you want to discuss projects and ideas or if you seek confidential advice on your personal postdoc matters. At the moment, I am located in office H831 in the DKFZ main building and you can contact me by email at [p.gebhardt@dkfz.de](mailto:p.gebhardt@dkfz.de) or phone (x1668). I am ready to evolve and realize many of the great ideas for educational and career development activities in the framework of the Postdoc Program and am looking forward to fruitful collaborations with the PDN and all Postdocs at the institute



We are looking for PostDocs interested in joining the **Research Lounge Organization Team**. This opportunity will help you to improve your organization and management skills.

Send us an email to [pdn-committee@dkfz.de](mailto:pdn-committee@dkfz.de).



## Advanced Training for Postdocs

**Post Doc Advanced Training Offers especially for Post Doc from January – April 2017; all on campus, here in Heidelberg.**

During their time at DKFZ, postdocs contribute to exciting and high impact research programs. In addition, postdocs are strongly encouraged to improve their professional skills and to devise a personal career development plan, broadening their options for future career choices. The DKFZ Postdoc Qualification Program offers structured information, through career days (Academia, R&D, Clinical research, Project management, Publishing), career development planning, and appraisal interviews (feedback). Moreover, the Advanced Training and the Career Service provide training opportunities in scientific techniques and transferable skills in the form of courses, informational seminars, and workshops. Leadership in science, grant writing, good scientific practice, technology transfer, and teaching are some examples of what is offered within the program. All postdocs at DKFZ are welcome to join, including the fellows of the DKFZ International Postdoctoral Fellowship Program. By the end of the time as a Postdoc at DKFZ, a qualified certificate will be issued on request by the Advanced Training.

### Advanced Training for Postdocs

**ReMat** – 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> March, 2017 - Trainers: Monica Schofield/Dr. Susan Kentner

**Leadership in Science** – 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> March, 2017 – Trainers: Dr. Daniel Mertens/Prof. Alexander Schiler

**Good scientific practice** – 29<sup>th</sup> March, 2017 – Trainer: Prof. Stefan Eichmüller

**Grant writing** – 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> April, 2017 – Trainers: Dr. Julia D. Staykova/Dr. Susan Kentner

**Writing scientific English** – 5<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> April, 2017 – Trainer: Leonie Ringrose

**Executing leadership 1: Bilateral leadership** – 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> April, 2017 – Trainer: Gabriele Gebhardt

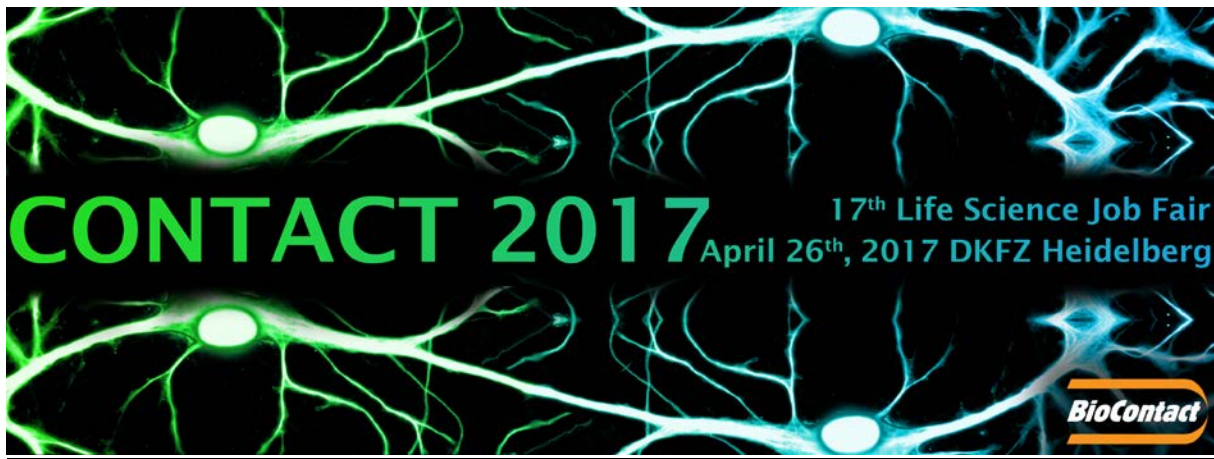
**Project management in Action** – 5<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> April, 2017 – Trainer: Dr. Tilo Senger/Dr. Daniel Gau

**For further information and support please contact the Advanced Training or the Career Service.**

## Vacancies at PDN

We are always happy to welcome new Postdocs to PDN. If you would like to actively participate and be a part of the core committee, we are looking for members interested in joining the ***Design and Homepage Team, Newsletter Team, Retreat and Career Seminars Organizing Committees***. If you would like to develop your networking, communication, management, and creative skills, these positions are just right for you.

Send us an email to [pdn-committee@dkfz.de](mailto:pdn-committee@dkfz.de).



## CONTACT2017

BioContact e.V. cordially invites you to our annual job fair the „**CONTACT2017**“. As the most successful life science job fair in the Rhein-Neckar Region, we welcome young scientists, physicians, and laboratory technicians from interdisciplinary backgrounds to come and meet company representatives from the fields of life science, biotechnology and pharmaceuticals.

The **CONTACT2017** provides the unique opportunity to get information about diverse companies, their recruiting policies and job opportunities, all in a relaxed atmosphere. Moreover, a wide range of talks as well as numerous workshops (such as a qualified CV check) will be offered - all for free.

So, take the chance to find out what an industrial career can offer you!

### Save the date

## CONTACT2017

*What?* Life Science Job Fair

*When?* 26<sup>th</sup> April 2017, 10-17.30

*Where?* At the **communication center** of the German Cancer Research Center (**DKFZ**) in **Heidelberg**

## Achievements by Postdocs

We are happy to announce new publications of postdocs as well as awards, fellowships, and stipends given to them.

### *New publications*

#### **Dr. Kristian Rink (E020)**

Rink K, Benkhedah N, Berger MC, Gnahn C, Behl NGR, Lommen JM, Stahl V, Bachert P, Ladd ME, Nagel AM. (2017) Iterative reconstruction of radially-sampled 31P bSSFP data using prior information from 1H MRI. Magn Reson Imaging 37 147-158. doi:10.1016/j.mri.2016.11.013.

**Dr. rer. nat. Damian Stichel (G380)**

M. Albrecht, D. Stichel, B. Müller, R. Merkle, C. Sticht, N. Gretz, U. Klingmüller, K. Breuhahn, F. Matthäus. TTCA: An R package for the identification of differentially expressed genes in time course microarray data. Accepted for publication in BMC Bioinformatics, 23.11.2016.

D. Stichel, A. Middleton, B. Müller, S. Depner, U. Klingmüller, K. Breuhahn, F. Matthäus. An individual-based model for collective cancer cell migration explains speed dynamics and phenotype variability in response to growth factors. Accepted for publication in Nature Partner Journals Systems Biology and Applications, 25.11.2016.

**Dr. Cläre von Neubeck (DKTK/L315)**

Linge A, Lohaus F, Löck S, Nowak A, Gudziol V, Valentini C, von Neubeck C, Jütz M, Tinhofer I, Budach V, Sak A, Stuschke M, Balermipas P, Rödel C, Grosu AL, Abdollahi A, Debus J, Ganswindt U, Belka C, Pigorsch S, Combs SE, Mönnich D, Zips D, Buchholz F, Aust DE, Baretton GB, Thames HD, Dubrovskaja A, Alsner J, Overgaard J, Krause M, Baumann M. (2016) HPV status, cancer stem cell marker expression, hypoxia gene signatures and tumour volume identify good prognosis subgroups in patients with HNSCC after primary radiochemotherapy: A multicentre retrospective study of the German Cancer Consortium Radiation Oncology Group (DKTK-ROG). *Radiother Oncol.* Nov 29. pii: S0167-8140(16)34383-3. doi:10.1016/j.radonc.2016.11.008. PMID: 27913065

**Dr. Mikolaj Slabicki (NCT)**

Slabicki M, Lee KS, Jethwa A, Sellner L, Sacco F, Walther T, Hülle J, Dietrich S, Wu B, Lipka DB, Oakes CC, Mamidi S, Pырzyńska B, Winiarska M, Oleś M, Seifert M, Plass C, Kirschfink M, Boettcher M, Gołab J, Huber W, Fröhling S, Zenz T. Dissection of CD20 regulation in lymphoma using RNAi. *Leukemia.* 2016 Dec;30(12):2409-2412. doi: 10.1038/leu.2016.230. Epub 2016 Aug 18.

**Dr. Sheng Zhao (A290)**

Damian Wollny, Sheng Zhao, Ana Martin-Villalba, et al. Single cell analysis uncovers progenitor-like acinar cells in the adult pancreas. *Development Cell*, 2016.

Damian Wollny, Sheng Zhao, Ana Martin-Villalba RNA-seq library preparation from single pancreatic acinar cells. *Biorxiv*, 2016. (doi: <https://doi.org/10.1101/085696>)

Liang Gao, Ana Martin-Villalba, et al. Endothelial cell-derived CD95 ligand serves as a chemokine in induction of neutrophil slow rolling and adhesion. *eLIFE*, 2016.

**Dr. rer. nat. Maria Saager (E040)**

Saager M, Glowa C, Peschke P, Brons S, Grün R, Scholz M, Huber PE, Debus J, Karger CP. The relative biological effectiveness of carbon ion irradiations of the rat spinal cord increases linearly with LET up to 99 keV/μm. *Acta Oncol.* 2016 Dec;55(12):1512-1515.

**Dr. Khalid Abnaof (B050)**

Rainer Surges, Anita Kretschmann; Khalid Abnaof; Marijke van Rikxoort; Kirsten Ridder; Holger Fröhlich; Benedicte Danis; Rafal Kaminski; Patrik Foerch; Christian Elger; Frank Weinsberg; Alexander Pfeifer, Changes in serum miRNAs following

generalized convulsive seizures in human mesial temporal lobe epilepsy, *Biochemical and Biophysical Research Communications*, 481(1-2): 13 - 18, 2016.

#### *New awards and grants*

#### **Dr. Androniki Raftogianni (V078)**

Androniki Raftogianni was awarded the international travel grant from “Inscopix” to attend the SfN (Society for Neuroscience) meeting in San Diego, California, in November 12th-16th, 2016. In this conference, her poster entitled “Evoked oxytocin release in the medial prefrontal cortex facilitates social interaction in female rats” was selected as a “Neuroscience 2016 *Hot Topic*”.

#### **Dr. Mikolaj Slabicki (NCT)**

Mikołaj Słabicki was awarded Marie Skłodowska – Curie global scholarship to identify druggable nodes of transcription factor HOXA9. For initial two years Mikołaj will be conducting his research at Harvard Medical School, Brigham and Women’s Hospital, Broad Institute in USA under supervision of prof. Benjamin Ebert. For the final year of the project, Mikołaj will come back to Heidelberg to Prof. Dr. med. Stefan Fröhling laboratory.

#### **Dr. rer. nat. Maria Saager (E040)**

Maria won the 18.Christoph Schmelzer Preis. The prize was handed over on 24.11.2016.

#### **Dr. Nina Cabezas-Wallscheid (A010)**



Nina Cabezas-Wallscheid is currently doing her postdoctoral training in the laboratory of Andreas Trumpp in the Division of Stem Cells and Cancer here at the DKFZ. Her research focuses on the investigation of the molecular features, heterogeneity and functional properties of hematopoietic stem cells and their immediate progeny.

Nina will soon start as group leader at the Max Planck Institute of Immunobiology and Epigenetics (MPI-IE) in Freiburg (Germany). The MPI-IE is one of the 80 Max Planck Institutes, belonging to the Max Planck Gesellschaft. The MPI-IE in Freiburg is an interdisciplinary institution that conducts research of excellence in the areas of Immunobiology and Epigenetics. The MPI-IE hosts more than 300 employees within 14 research groups, supported by state-of-the-art scientific facilities. For the training of young scientists, the institute offers an outstanding PhD program, the International Max Planck Research School for Molecular and Cellular Biology (<http://www.ie-freiburg.mpg.de/722139/IMPRS-PhD-Program>).

Nina is currently recruiting Postdocs, PhD students and a Technician to join her lab between May and September 2017. The focus of the Cabezas-Wallscheid's laboratory is the understanding of mechanisms regulating hematopoietic and leukemic stem cell quiescence. The group will make use of novel mouse models and imaging tools together with state-of-the-art single-cell OMICS analyses to address these questions. She is accepting applications from talented and enthusiastic candidates who are interested in a dynamic, well-supported, international lab at a top research institution. Interested applicants should submit an electronic copy of their CV, the names and contact information of two to three referees, and a cover letter describing their research experience and interests to: [n.cabezas@dkfz.de](mailto:n.cabezas@dkfz.de).

For further information, please check the Cabezas-Wallscheid group on the MPI-IE website (<http://www.ie-freiburg.mpg.de>; available from February 2017).

*In the next newsletter we will again promote achievements by DKFZ & DKTK Postdocs. Name us your publications, awards, and grants!*

Send your information to: [u.traeger@dkfz.de](mailto:u.traeger@dkfz.de) or [t.moraes@dkfz.de](mailto:t.moraes@dkfz.de)

## PDN: From Postdocs for Postdocs

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Research for a Life without Cancer