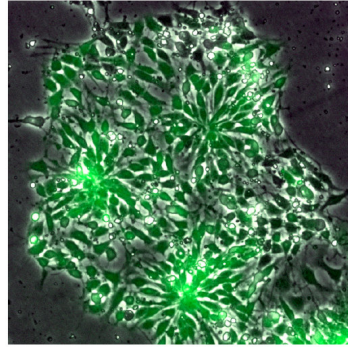


## Bochum Stem Cell Group



member of the

Kompetenznetzwerk  
Stammzellforschung NRW



### Newsletter Nr.3, July 2010

Please find herewith the third issue of the Newsletter of the Bochum Stem Cell Group. This Newsletter will appear at least once per semester and inform you about important developments and dates around the Stem Cell Network NRW.

Later in June this year, the **8<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting** of the **International Society for Stem Cell Research (ISSCR)** has taken place in **San Francisco** (from June 16-19, 2010). As expected, the technique of induced pluripotency that has been introduced by S. Yamanaka was in the focus of many presentations, beginning with a plenary lecture by S. Yamanaka himself. The generation of iPS-cells has meanwhile turned into one of the hottest fields in current life sciences and already has an important impact on many areas of research. As an alternative to induced pluripotency, several laboratories reported on the use of combinations of factors to induce the transdifferentiation of fibroblasts. For example, Kevin Eggan reported on the use of combined factors to obtain motoneurons from human fibroblasts. This approach could be applied to understand in more detail the pathology of Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS), a disease that affects motoneurons and can currently not be cured.

**The Stem Cell Network NRW has advertised the 2<sup>nd</sup> NRW**

**Stem Cell School that will be held at Bonn 06.12.-10.12.10** and provides an introduction to novel ES-cell techniques. Graduate students in the 3<sup>rd</sup> year of their project and young post-docs may apply using the relevant website indicated as follows:

<http://www.stammzellen.nrw.de/termin-kalender/events.html>

**The Stem Cell Network NRW has also decided about the applications that were submitted in response to the call 2010.** Dr. J. Sternecker (MPI Münster), Dr. K. Pfannkuche (Universität Köln), Dr. B. Greber (MPI Münster) and Dr. Schneider-Krammann (RWTH Aachen) are the recipients of the young investigator awards. The grants for support of collaborative projects between distinct member sites were approved for Prof. Wagner and Dr. Janzen (Aachen-Bonn), Dr. Neuss-Stein and Dr. Saric (Aachen-Köln), Dr. Koch and PD Dr. Giebel (Bonn-Essen) and PD Dr. von Holst and Prof. Ergün (Bochum-Essen). We congratulate the recipients and wish much success for their research.

Please mark in your calendars the next stem cell event at the Ruhr-University Bochum. **The 2<sup>nd</sup> Bochum Stem Cell Forum will take place on Thursday, 23<sup>rd</sup> of September** in the Veranstaltungszentrum of the Ruhr-University. This year, Prof. O. Brüstle (Bonn) and Prof. P. Horn (Essen) will deliver keynote lectures on topics of stem cell research and application in the fields of neuroscience and haematology. Further experts in these fields will illustrate basic research and applications in these areas. The meeting is planned in a way to address also issues of stem cell application in medicine, including transplantation of hemopoietic progenitors and potential applications in therapies. Graduates and young scientists will obtain opportunities to present their posters. The registration to this meeting is free of charge and should occur via the website of the Bochum Stem Cell Group, namely:

<https://dbs-win.ruhr-uni-bochum.de/bochum-stem-cell-group/register.php>

Please contact Dipl. Biol. Michael Karus for any question relating to this message.

p

Speaker in the Stem Cell Network NRW: Prof. Dr. Andreas Faissner

Contact: Dipl. Biol. Michael Karus  
Ruhr-University Bochum  
Department of Cell Morphology  
& Molecular Neurobiology

Tel: +49-234-3224312 ([michael.karus@rub.de](mailto:michael.karus@rub.de))