



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

# Retinal Degeneration

New aspects  
in personalized  
and molecular  
medicine

An interdisciplinary dialogue

**March 31 – April 1, 2023**  
SEMINARIS SEEHOTEL POTSDAM

## REGISTRATION

Contact our website:  
[www.potsdam-meeting.de](http://www.potsdam-meeting.de)  
The registration deadline is **March 28, 2023**.

## FEES

Fees include accommodation and catering.

Student/graduate/delegate: € 100,-

Post-doc: € 140,-

Faculty: € 160,-

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

**face to face event GmbH**

**Ref.:** your invoice number & Research Colloquium 2023

**IBAN:** DE25 3007 0010 0541 5542 00

**SWIFT-BIC:** DEUTDEDDXXX

## 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)331/9090-400*

*Fax: +49(0)331/9090-900*

*Mail: [info.pot61@seminaris.com](mailto:info.pot61@seminaris.com)*

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

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

A contingent of rooms is reserved for max. 120 participants.  
If you are planning to stay elsewhere please let us know.

## POSTER SESSION

A very important feature of our meeting is the poster session.

Abstract submission deadline: **February 27, 2023**.

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 train:

Mainstation Potsdam, about 5 km (national trains, e. g. ICE-, IC-, EC-station) or station "Potsdam Pirschheide", distance 1000 m (regional trains, e. g. RE-, RB-, bus and tramway station).

### Arrival by plane:

The airport Berlin Brandenburg is in reach of the hotel (approximately 60 km).

## CONFERENCE LANGUAGE

The conference language is English.

### Organization of the meeting:

#### face to face event GmbH

Katharina Bedenk

Hohenzollernring 72

50672 Köln

Tel.: +49(0)151/70099887

[k.bedenk@facetoface-event.de](mailto:k.bedenk@facetoface-event.de)

#### PRO RETINA Foundation

Franz Badura

Fürstenhofstraße 9

92224 Amberg

Tel.: +49(0)9621/602551

Fax: +49(0)9621/602552

[Franz.Badura@t-online.de](mailto:Franz.Badura@t-online.de)

# INVITATION

Dear friends and colleagues,

on behalf of PRO RETINA Germany, the organizing team is pleased to welcome you to the **17<sup>th</sup> International Research Colloquium on Retinal Degeneration** in Potsdam, Germany, held on March 31–April 1, 2023.

The meeting concept follows the traditional four-session format, starting with eight presentations by junior scientists selected from the submitted poster abstracts. The talks, together with the evening poster presentations, will form the basis for the prestigious awards in the categories of “Poster Design,” “Clinical Implementation,” and “Basic Research.”

The main topic of the meeting this time is “Retinal Degeneration – New Aspects in Personalized and Molecular Medicine”. Accordingly, we were able to engage speakers on topics such as novel approaches to modeling, investigation and diagnosis of retinal diseases as well as the efficient evaluation of therapy outcomes.

Bart Leroy, Professor of Ophthalmology, Ophthalmic Genetics & Visual Electrophysiology, Head of the Department of Ophthalmology, University of Ghent, will give the keynote lecture and discuss the always difficult and important question of why (too) many clinical trials in ophthalmology fail.

In the three plenary sessions, eleven experts with leading contributions in different areas of ophthalmic research will present new approaches in genomics and bioinformatics to identify disease genes for inherited retinal diseases as well as age-related macular degeneration, models to validate them, and gene therapy approaches. In addition, one session will be devoted to how artificial intelligence can advance ophthalmology.

We will conclude the first day with the evening lecture, which is always particularly exciting and entertaining. This year, Prof. Bernhard Weber, Head of the Department of Human Genetics and Clinical Human Genetics, will report on the latest developments in genetic testing and show how to make the most of these huge amounts of valuable data.

The popular “Swingin’ Poster Session” will again offer all participants the unique opportunity to exchange scientific ideas and enjoy the relaxed and constructive atmosphere.

Founded in 1977, the patient organization PRO RETINA Germany has long been committed to “promoting ophthalmic research, fighting disease and enabling a self-determined life for people with retinal degenerations.” As part of its many activities to support these goals, PRO RETINA Germany has also sponsored the Potsdam Conference Series since its inception in 2005.

*The organizing committee:*



*Franz Badura, Prof. Dr. Peter Charbel-Issa, Prof. Dr. Antje Grosche, and Prof. Dr. Thomas Langmann*

# PRELIMINARY PROGRAM

**Friday, March 31, 2023**

- 13:00–13:05** Welcome remarks  
**Franz Badura (Amberg, Germany)**
- 13:05–14:30** **SESSION 1**   
**Selected poster presentations**  
Eight abstracts to be selected
- 14:30–15:10** Keynote lecture  
**Bart Leroy (Ghent, Belgium)**  
*Why do clinical trials fail in ophthalmology?*
- 15:10–16:00 Coffee break with scientific chit-chat
- 16:00–17:30** **SESSION 2**   
**IRD & RP**
- 16:00–16:30** **Knut Stieger (Giessen, Germany)**  
*Developing tools for genome editing based therapies in IRD*
- 16:30–17:00** **Christina Zeitz (Paris, France)**  
*Approaches to discover novel gene defects in progressive inherited retinal disorders*
- 17:00–17:30** **Carlo Rivolta (Basel, Switzerland)**  
*Genomics and bioinformatics to identify retinal disease genes*
- 17:30 Dinner
- 19:00–19:30** **EVENING LECTURE**   
**Bernhard Weber (Regensburg, Germany)**  
*Know the score – Genetic testing in times of change*
- 19:30–open Swingin’ poster session

**Saturday, April 01, 2023**

- 09:00–10:40** **SESSION 3**   
**Artificial Intelligence in ophthalmology**
- 09:00–09:25** **Ursula Schmidt-Erfurth (Vienna, Austria)**  
*AI-based Fluid Monitoring in the real-world*
- 09:25–09:50** **Karsten Kortuem (Munich, Germany)**  
*How an AI empowered retina clinic will change patient care*
- 09:50–10:15** **Andreas Maunz (Roche – Basel, Switzerland)**  
*What makes AI interesting for clinical research and development?*
- 10:15–10:40** **Katharina Stingl (Tübingen, Germany)**  
*Chorioretinal atrophies after Luxturna gene therapy*
- 10:40–11:15 Coffee break
- 11:15–12:55** **SESSION 4**   
**Hot topics in AMD research and clinical translation**
- 11:15–11:40** **Przemyslaw (Mike) Sapiaha, (Montreal, Canada)**  
*Neutrophil extracellular traps target – senescent vasculature for tissue remodeling in retinopathy*
- 11:40–12:05** **Andrew Lotery (Southampton, UK)**  
*The potential to treat AMD with Complement Factor I*
- 12:05–12:30** **Natalia Pashkovskaia (Tübingen, Germany)**  
*Assembloid and microfluidic approaches for in vitro modeling of human retinal diseases*
- 12:30–12:55** **Olaf Strauss (Berlin, Germany)**  
*Complement and AMD: Finally a new role of the terminal complement complex?*
- 12:55–13:00** **Concluding remarks**
- 13:00 Farewell Lunch and end of meeting