



18th PRO RETINA
Research-Colloquium
Potsdam

Pro Retina – Stiftung
 zur Verhütung von Blindheit

Retinal Degeneration

Advancing Retinal Research

Genetics, Disease Modeling,
 and Therapy

April 12 – 13, 2024

SEMINARIS SEEHOTEL POTSDAM

PROGRAM

Friday, April 12, 2024

- 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**
 Kapil Bharti (Bethesda, USA)
 Developing stem cell-based therapies
 for degenerative diseases of the eye
- 15:10 – 16:00** **Coffee break with scientific chit-chat**
- 16:00 – 17:40** **SESSION 2**
Know your gene
- 16:00 – 16:25** **Gavin Arno (London, UK)**
 The clinical utility of nanopore sequencing
 for inherited eye disease diagnosis
- 16:25 – 16:50** **Maximilian Gerhard (Munich, Germany)**
 Gene therapy in clinical practice
- 16:50 – 17:15** **Klaus Rütther (Berlin, Germany)**
 Genetic diagnostics in retinal dystrophies –
 benefit for the patients
- 17:15 – 17:40** **Avril Daly (Dublin, Ireland)**
Retina International
 Know your gene – the patient perspective
- 17:40** **Dinner**
- 19:00 – 19:30** **EVENING LECTURE**
Christine Curcio (Birmingham, USA)
 Leveraging photoreceptor topography
 for a progression sequence of AMD
- 19:30 – open** **Swingin' poster session**

Saturday, April 13, 2024

- 09:00 – 10:40** **SESSION 3**
**Updates on RPE in retinal
 degeneration**
- 09:00 – 09:25** **Achim Göpferich (Regensburg, Germany)**
 Nanoparticles for intraocular drug
 delivery
- 09:25 – 09:50** **Christelle Monville (Corbeil-Essonnes,
 France)**
 Phase i/ii open-label study of implanta-
 tion into one eye of hESC-derived RPE in
 patients with retinitis pigmentosa due to
 monogenic mutation: first safety results
- 09:50 – 10:15** **Peter Charbel-Issa (Oxford, UK)**
 Novel tools to image the RPE in patients
- 10:15 – 10:40** **Anu Kauppinen (Kuopio, Finland)**
 Antimycin A-induced mitochondrial dys-
 function regulates inflammasome signaling
 in human retinal pigment epithelial cells
- 10:40 – 11:15** **Coffee break**
- 11:15 – 12:55** **SESSION 4**
**Retinal organoids in development,
 disease and therapy**
- 11:15 – 11:40** **Volker Busskamp (Bonn, Germany)**
 Generating vascularized human retinal
 organoids
- 11:40 – 12:05** **Magdalena Renner (Basel, Switzerland)**
 High throughput retinal organoids for
 therapy development
- 12:05 – 12:30** **Majlinda Lako (Newcastle, UK)**
 Retinal organoids: a window into develop-
 ment, disease and drug discovery
- 12:30 – 12:55** **Verena Hübschmann (Klosterneuburg,
 Austria)**
 The impact of human microglia in retinal
 organoid development
- 12:55 – 13:00** **Concluding remarks**
- 13:00** **Farewell Lunch and end of meeting**

INVITATION

Dear friends and colleagues,

on behalf of the Pro Retina – Foundation for Prevention of Blindness, the organizing team is pleased to welcome you to the 18th International Research Colloquium on Retinal Degeneration in Potsdam, Germany, held on April 12-13, 2024.

The theme of this year's meeting is "Advancing Retinal Research: Genetics, Disease Modeling, and Therapy". Distinguished national and international speakers will share their knowledge on genetic testing and gene therapy, AMD progression and diagnosis, RPE dysfunction and replacement as well as retinal organoid technology.

The meeting starts with eight presentations by junior scientists selected from the submitted poster abstracts. These talks, along with the evening poster presentations, will form the basis for the prestigious awards in the categories of "Basic Research", "Clinical Translation," and "Poster Design".

This year's keynote lecture will be given by Kapil Bharti, scientific director of the intramural research program at the National Eye Institute (NEI). Herein, he will provide insights into recent developments in stem cell-based therapies for the treatment of retinal degenerative diseases. In a second special lecture, Christine Curcio, White-McKee Endowed Professor in Ophthalmology at the University of Alabama at Birmingham, will speak about pathophysiological concepts and disease progression of AMD. As always, the evening lecture will be followed by the popular "Swingin' Poster Session" which is a unique opportunity to exchange scientific ideas and concepts in a relaxed and constructive atmosphere which characterizes the PRO RETINA Research Colloquium.

In three plenary sessions, experts will present and discuss their leading contributions in different areas of ophthalmic research centered around inherited retinal disease. One session provides insights into new developments in genetics and real-world perspectives on genetic testing and gene therapy, followed by a spotlight session on the RPE and its implications in retinal dystrophies. The conference will close with presentations on recent advances in the exciting field of human retinal organoid research.

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 in support of these goals, PRO RETINA Foundation has also sponsored the Potsdam Conference Series since its inception in 2005.

The organizing committee:

Marius Ader, Franz Badura, Peter Charbel-Issa, Antje Grosche, and Thomas Langmann

REGISTRATION

Contact our website:

www.pro-retina-stiftung.de

The registration deadline is April 10, 2024.



ACCOMMODATION & VENUE

The meeting will take place at the conference room of **Seminaris SeeHotel Potsdam ******

An der Pirschheide 40
14471 Potsdam/Germany

Tel.: + 49 3 31 90 90-400

Fax: + 49 3 31 90 90-900

Mail: info.pot61@seminaris.com

Web: 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. When registering for an abstract submission you will automatically get an email with further detailed information. You can find details also on our website: www.pro-retina-stiftung.de

Abstract submission deadline: March 05, 2024.

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).

FEES

Fees include accommodation and catering.

We offer an SuperEarlyBird discount of 20,- € for registration before December 31, 2023. Please add the discount code by booking.

Late registration after February 29, 2024 is charged with an additional fee of 20,- €.

	SuperEarlyBird	Regular	Late registration
Student/graduate/delegate	€ 80,-	€ 100,-	€ 120,-
Post-doc	€ 120,-	€ 140,-	€ 160,-
Faculty	€ 140,-	€ 160,-	€ 180,-

Please pay by credit card, paypal or by remittance to the follwong bank account:

Katharina Bedenk – BEvention

Ref.: [Your invoice number] & Research Colloquium 2024

IBAN: DE19 1203 0000 1053 4254 17

SWIFT-BIC: BYLADEM 1001

CONFERENCE LANGUAGE

The conference language is English.

Organization of the meeting:

Agentur BEvention

Katharina Bedenk

Am Steinbüttel 6

97509 Lindach

Tel.: +49 151 700 99 887

info@bevention.de

www.bevention.de

Pro Retina – Foundation

Franz Badura

Tel.: +49 171 6 57 33 77

f.badura@pro-retina-stiftung.de

This meeting is supported by

