

# Zurich Neuroscience Strategy Workshop

Thursday, 19 April 2018, 9:00 – 17:30  
Tagungszentrum Schloss Au, 8804 Au/ZH



## Goals

This workshop aims at finding strategies to pool our resources in new ways to strengthen neuroscience research and training in Zurich in the coming years. The goals are to identify strong projects and collaborations for upcoming funding possibilities, to find ways to give the community more weight for realizing a neuroscience campus, and to increase our visibility for attracting excellent students and researchers to Zurich. At the retreat, we will inform about ongoing initiatives and grant applications as well as funding opportunities. In two pitch-blocks, exciting current projects and new ideas will be presented in a brief format as trigger for subsequent in-depth discussions.

Specific questions to be addressed include:

- Which are the focus research areas and prime directions of community interest that we should promote?
- How can we improve scientific interaction between and among basic, applied and clinical research groups?
- Is new infrastructure needed (biobanks, technologies, services etc.) and where does existing infrastructure need to be improved?

Our goal is to formulate and agree upon concrete strategic plans regarding these issues for the short- and mid-term future activities of the ZNZ.

## Agenda

- 9:00 Welcome/Coffee (*Entrance Hall*)
- 9:30-10:30 **Introduction, information and general discussion** (*Trotte1/2*)  
Chair: Fritjof Helmchen
- Mission of the ZNZ
  - Short information on current status (20'):
    - ZNZ groups (clinic, basic, engineering...)
    - existing platforms
    - ongoing applications (NCCR, KFSP, ...)
    - existing partnerships
    - ongoing clinical trials
    - Neurocampus, ...
  - Goals of retreat and discussion of future activities (40'):
    - Joining forces in basic neurosciences at Irchel
    - new concept of an MSc Integrative Neuroscience (Shiva Tyagarajan)
    - ideas for potential new joint research focus areas
- 10:30-11:00 Coffee Break (*Entrance Hall*)
- 11:00-11:48 **Pitch block, part 1** (*Trotte1/2*)  
16 short presentations by group leaders, see program on page 3.
- 11:48-12:30 **Discussion in groups, part 1** (*various rooms*)  
Brainstorming on research directions & potential new collaborations, see the rooms on page 3
- 12:30-13:00 **Presentation of results and discussion** (*Trotte1/2*)  
Five min. by each group. Chair: Sebastian Jessberger
- 13:00-14:30 Lunch buffet (*Entrance Hall*)
- 14:30-15:15 **Pitch block, part 2** (*Trotte1/2*)  
15 short presentations by group leaders, see program on page 4.
- 15:15-16:00 **Discussion in groups, part 2** (*various rooms*)  
Brainstorming on research directions & potential new collaborations  
See the rooms on page 4
- 16:00-16:30 Coffee Break (*Entrance Hall*)
- 16:30-17:00 **Presentation of results and discussion** (*Trotte1/2*)  
Five min. by each group. Chair: Jean-Marc Fritschy
- 17:00-17:30 **First conclusions for strategic plans and discussion** (*Trotte1/2*)  
Chair: Fritjof Helmchen
- 17:30 End, Apéro and Feierabendbier (*Entrance Hall*)

11:00-11:48 **Pitch block, part 1** (*Trotte1/2*)

16 participants introduce themselves

3 min, maximum of 3 slides: research question, approach, potential collaborations

<i>Speaker</i>	<i>Institute/Clinic</i>	<i>Topic</i>
Christian Ruff	Social and Neural Systems	<b>Brain State Dynamics Reward/Motivation/Decision</b>
Valerio Zerbi	Neural Control Lab, D-HEST	
Johannes Sarnthein	Neurosurgery	
Edna Grünblatt	Child&Adolescent Psychiatry	<b>iPSCs: Mechanisms and Potential</b>
Gerhard Schratt	Neuroscience, D-HEST	
Christian Tackenberg	IREM	
Ruxandra Bachman	Medical Genetics	
Valerio Mante	Neuroinformatics	<b>Molecules, Cells and Circuits in Psychiatry</b>
Giorgio Bergamini	Department of Psychiatry	
Isabelle Mansuy	Brain Research	
Susanne Wegener	Neurology	<b>Neuro-Glia-Vascular Function</b>
Annika Keller	Neurosurgery	
Mirko Santello	Pharmacology	
Olivier Urwyler	Molecular Life Sciences	<b>Neuro- and Synaptogenesis</b>
Michael Weller	Neurology	
Sebastian Jessberger	Brain Research	

11:48-12:30 **Discussion in groups, part 1** (*various rooms*)

Brainstorming on research directions & potential new collaborations

<b>Brain State Dynamics &amp; Reward/Motivation/Decision:</b>	<i>Trotte 1/2 (first floor)</i>
<b>iPSCs: Mechanisms and Potential:</b>	<i>Seeparkzimmer (first floor)</i>
<b>Molecules, Cells and Circuits in Psychiatry:</b>	<i>Dachzimmer (second floor)</i>
<b>Neuro-Glia-Vascular Function:</b>	<i>Salon Ausee (first floor)</i>
<b>Neuro- and Synaptogenesis:</b>	<i>Bibliothek (ground floor)</i>

14:30-15:15 **Pitch block, part 2** (Trotte 1/2)

15 participants introduce themselves

3 min, maximum of 3 slides: research question, approach, potential collaborations

Speaker	Institute/Clinic	Topic
Paul Unschuld	IREM	<b>Degeneration</b>
Magda Polymenidou	Molecular Life Sciences	
Wolfgang Berger	Medical Molecular Genetics	
Csaba Földy	Brain Research	<b>Synaptic Circuit (Dys)Function</b>
Martin Müller	Molecular Life Sciences	
Tommaso Fedele	Neurosurgery	
Steven Brown	Pharmacology	<b>Intelligent Minds / Learning</b>
Nicolas Langer	Department of Psychology	
Yulia Sandamirskaya	Neuroinformatics	
Klaas Prüssmann	Biomedical Engineering	<b>Neuroimaging</b>
Andras Jakab	Center for MR-Research	
Asli Ayaz	Brain Research	
Benjamin Grewe	Neuroinformatics	<b>Data Management Challenges</b>
Emanuela Keller	Neurosurgery	
Markus Christen	Biomedical Ethics	

15:15-16:00 **Discussion in groups, part 2** (various rooms)

Brainstorming on research directions & potential new collaborations

**Degeneration:**

**Synaptic Circuit (Dys)Function:**

**Intelligent Minds / Learning:**

**Neuroimaging:**

**Data Management Challenges:**

*Trotte 1/2 (first floor)*

*Seeparkzimmer (first floor)*

*Bibliothek (ground floor)*

*Dachzimmer (second floor)*

*Salon Ausee (first floor)*

16 April 2018