

### Nr. 09/July 2023

Dear friends of the DRFZ,

Below you can read about various activities involving the DRFZ from the last six months and find out about upcoming activities and events.

We hope you enjoy reading this summer edition of the newsflash!

# Long Night of Science - an event for the public

We are delighted to report that more than 1800 curious Berliners visited our institute for the Long Night of the Science on 17.06.2023 - more than ever before! For the first time, all three institutes in our building were involved in the organisation: The DRFZ, the Max Planck Institute for Infection Biology and the Max Planck Research Unit for the Science of Pathogens, who jointly put together an exciting and entertaining programme. Even though it was very crowded, our colleagues took time for lots of interested questions and conversations until late into the night.



The Immanuel Krankenhaus Berlin and the Charité - Universitätsmedizin Berlin as well as the patient organisations of the Rheuma - Liga Berlin e.V. and the Deutsche Vereinigung Morbus Bechterew tirelessly provided information to interested people and those affected the whole night long.



#### Research at the DRFZ

Immune cells play an important role in research into autoimmune diseases. At the Long Night of Science, visitors could look at their own blood cells under the microscope. A particular



#### Science Slam

Five scientists from all three institutes inspired the audience with their research during the science slam. As a special guest, the reigning German Science Slam Champion, Lisa Budzinski from the



#### A peek into the labs

Insights into the technologies and research methods at the DRFZ could be obtained during the hourly guided tours through the labs. This symbolically took the path that blood cells and tissue samples from crowd puller was the blood grouping experiment, which had a long queue in front of the stand all night. DRFZ, introduced the guests to the secrets of "Horoskot".

patients normally take through our institute: from processing to analysis.

View photos from the night

### **Gerhard Krönke**

New Director for Rheumatology and Clinical Immunology at the Charité und Liaison Group Leader at the DRFZ

Since 1 April, Prof. Dr. med. Gerhard Krönke has been the Director of the Rheumatology and Clinical Immunology Clinic at the Charité Universitätsmedizin Berlin as well as heading the Clinical Rheumatology Liaison Group at the DRFZ. Thus, together with <u>Eicke Latz, the new</u> <u>Scientific Director of the DRFZ</u>, he continues the close connection between the clinics and the lab.



Prof. Dr. med. Gerhard Krönke

Press release by the Charité (in German

# Save the date



### Avrion Mitchison Prize Apply until 15.8.2023

This annual prize is named after the founding director of the DRFZ and is awarded to early career researchers whose work has made a significant contribution to the understanding and treatment of chronic inflammatory diseases, especially rheumatic diseases.

Apply now



### Annual German Rheumatology Congress in Leipzig

The 51st Congress of the German Society for Rheumatology (DGRh) will take place this year in Leipzig from 30 August - 2 September. The programme offers a mixture of clinical, research and epidemiological content. Many scientists from the DRFZ are involved.

To congress

website



### German Society for Cytometry in Berlin

This year with the motto: Dimensions of Cytometry. The cytometry community will meet from 19-21 September at the DRFZ and Charité Berlin. Dr Henrik Mei from DRFZ, is president of the society and is looking forward to welcoming everyone to the 33rd annual meeting. Registration is open.

Registration



### World Arthritis Day on 12 October 2023

Together with the Rheuma-Liga Berlin and the Rheumatology Clinic of the Charité - Universitätsmedizin, the DRFZ invites you to the institute for the annual World Arthritis Day. **Save the date!** 

# **New Networks**



### National Research Data Infrastructure for Immunology

Since March 2023, Prof. Hyun-Dong Chang has been involved in setting up an infrastructure for research data management in the field of immunology for the next five years.

Read more



### Marie Skłodowska-Curie Doctoral Students Network: SIGNATURE

The DRFZ is one of 12 partners of the European network SIGNATURE (Single cell in inflammatory autoimmune diseases) for the training of PhD students.

To network



### Medical registers newly networked

On 30.3.2023, PD Dr. med. Anne Regierer was elected as the spokesperson of the Working Group Register of the Technology and Methods Platform (TMF) for Networked Medical Research at its constituent meeting.

Find out more

# **Research ticker**

1.5-2.1 million adults and 14,000 children with rheumatic diseases in Germany ++++ Sex-specific bias in the diagnosis and treatment of inflammatory rheumatic diseases +++++ Cutting-edge technology sheds light on lung pathology in severe cases of COVID-19 +++++ The alarmin IL-33 promotes Tcf-1+ CD8+ T cells in chronic viral infections +++++ TGF-β as a biomarker for severe COVID-19 disease

# **Prizes and honours**

EUROPEAN ALLIANCE

OF ASSOCIATIONS FOR RHEUMATOLOGY

eular

### Honours at EULAR 2023 in Milan

EULAR Meritorious Service Award 2023 for Angela Zink

EULAR PARE Award for Dieter Wiek, Member of the Scientific Advisory Board of the DRFZ

EULAR-Honorary Membership for Thomas Dörner



The staff of the DRFZ cycled a total of 5,130 km in three weeks by pedalling every day. Here's to a non-alcoholic bike drink!

To News

### **Personnel news**



### Lisa Budzinksi is German Science Slam Champion

At the Science Slam final in December, Lisa Budzinski won over the Hamburg audience with her witty and enthusiastic presentation of her research work.

To News



Dr. Yvette Meißner at the 5th Young Researchers Academy -Health Services Research

Yvette Meisner is one of 19 candidates participating in the mentoring programme of the DFG-funded Young Investigators Academy.

### To News



Lisa Budzinski receives Exceptional Student Award from ISAC

The PhD student was awarded for her outstanding achievements in the field of cytometry by the International Society for Advancement of Cytometry.

### To News



### Prof. Dr. Max Löhning took over the chairmanship of the Foundation Council of the Ernst Schering Foundation in April 2023. The Foundation promotes life sciences, contemporary art and scientific and cultural education.

To News



### PD Dr. Tobias Alexander

Receives the venia legendi (teaching credential) after his inaugural lecture on "Plasma cells in the focus of new therapeutic approaches in autoimmune diseases".

To Person



### Prof. Dr. Tilmann Kallinich

receives an extraordinary professorship from the Medical Faculty of the Charité -Universitätsmedizin at the Medical Clinic for Paediatrics with specialisation in Pneumology, Immunology and Intensive Care Medicine.

To Person

# **Research needs funding**



### Donate now

 ${\bf Fotos:} \ {\tt Jacqueline \ Hirscher \ or \ privat}$ 

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