

Programme

Swiss TPH Winter Symposium 2010

Human African Trypanosomiasis (sleeping sickness) – Towards new chemotherapeutic tools

December 9 / 10, 2010, WWZ Auditorium, Basel, Switzerland

Day 1: December 9, 2010

- 14:00** **Opening and Welcome**, *Reto Brun and Christian Burri, Swiss TPH, Basel, Switzerland*
- 14:20** **Where to find and how to diagnose sleeping sickness**
Speaker: François Chappuis, Geneva University Hospitals (HUG), Switzerland
- 15:05** **Biochemical peculiarities of trypanosomes and their exploitation in drug discovery**
Speaker: Mike Barrett, University of Glasgow, United Kingdom
- 15:50** **Coffee break**
- 16:20** **HAT Drugs: history, status quo, future: A bumpy road**
Speaker: Christian Burri, Swiss TPH, Basel, Switzerland
- 17:05** **Drug discovery in academia – lessons learned**
Speaker: Alan Fairlamb, University of Dundee, United Kingdom
- 18:00** **End of Day 1**

Day 2: December 10, 2010

- 09:00** **Opening and Welcome**, *Reto Brun and Christian Burri, Swiss TPH, Basel, Switzerland*
- 09:00** **From in vitro cultivation to drug screening**
Speaker: Reto Brun, Swiss TPH, Basel, Switzerland
- 09:45** **Drug Discovery Network of TDR as an example of a PPP for trypanosomatid diseases**
Speaker: Solomon Nwaka, WHO-TDR, Geneva, Switzerland
- 10:30** **Coffee break**
- 11:00** **Mining African biodiversity to provide advances in drug discovery & development via low cost medicinal chemistry**
Speaker: Kelly Chibale, University of Cape Town, South Africa
- 11:45** **Preclinical cascade, what is needed to reach clinical phase**
Speaker: Robert Don, Drugs for Neglected Diseases initiative (DNDi), Geneva, Switzerland
- 12:30** **Lunch**
- 14:00** **The challenge to conduct clinical trials in HAT**
Speaker: Gabriele Pohl, Swiss TPH, Basel, Switzerland
- 14:45** **The story of the oxaboroles**
Speaker: Robert Jacobs, SCYNEXIS Inc, Durham NC, United States of America.
- 15:30** **Wrap-up**
Speaker: Marcel Tanner, Swiss TPH, Basel, Switzerland
- 15:45** **Coffee break**
- 16:15** **Geigy Award Ceremony and talk by the prize winner**
- 17:15** **Apéro**
- 18:15** **End of Symposium**

Event Secretariat and Registration:

Contact: Swiss TPH, Socinstrasse 57, 4002 Basel, Switzerland
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Registration: <http://www.swisstph.ch/events.html>

Symposium Venue

Wirtschaftswissenschaftliche Fakultät (WWZ)

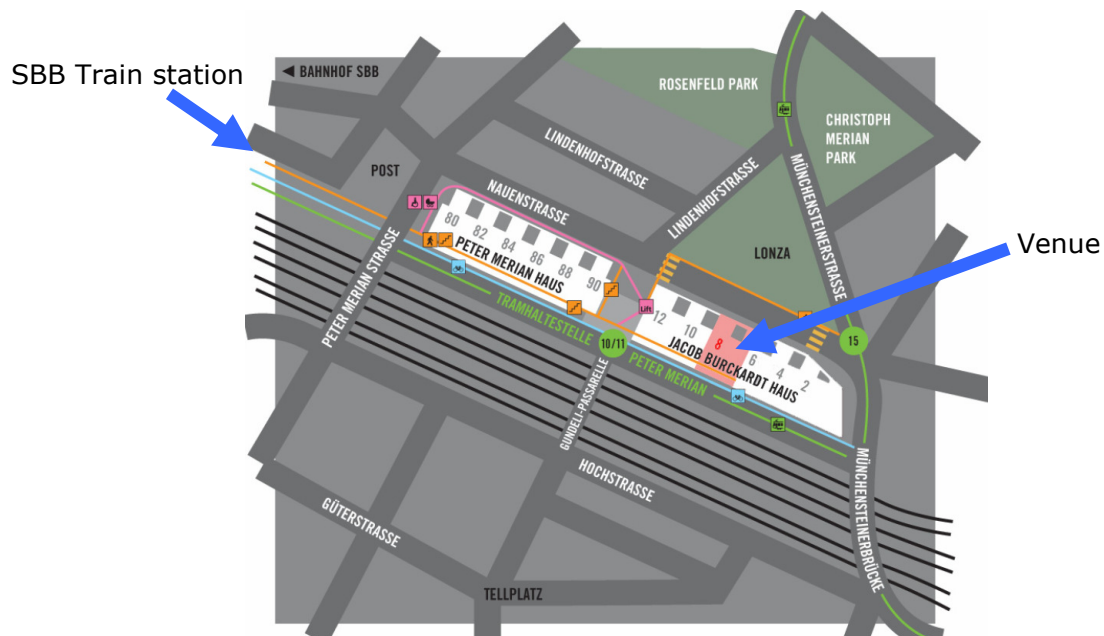
WWZ Basel
 Peter Merian-Weg 6, Basel
 Tel: +41 (0)61 267 33 73
<http://wwz.unibas.ch/en/home/>

Via Bahnhof SBB (Basel's central train station): Leave the station by the main exit / front entrance (direction "city") and turn right for the post-office covered passageway ("Postpassage"), continue ahead to the Peter Merian-buildings (green) and further on to the Jacob Burckhardt Building, Nr. 6 (silver) (approx. 7 minutes) or take the tram Nr. 10 from the station (direction Dornach) or the tram Nr. 11 (direction Aesch) for one station to the stop, 'Peter Merian'.

By car: Since no parking places are available for guests in the Jacob Burckhardt building, please use the nearby parking facilities: 1) the post office building, 2) the parking facilities of the SBB train station or 3) the Hilton hotel.

By foot: Walk the length of the post-office covered passageway ("Postpassage") and continue past the Merian buildings (green) to the Jacob Burckhardt building Nr. 6. (silver)

Alternatively, leaving from Tellplatz (the far side of the station), follow Bruderholzstrasse over the railway lines to "Gundeli-Passerelle" and then continue on to the Jacob Burckhardt building Nr. 6.



Speakers

Swiss TPH Autumn Symposium 2010

Human African Trypanosomiasis (sleeping sickness) – Towards new chemotherapeutic tools December 9 / 10, 2010, WWZ Auditorium, Basel, Switzerland

(Speakers listed in order of presentations)

François Chappuis, Geneva University Hospitals (HUG), Switzerland

François Chappuis is a 46 year old Swiss physician specialized in internal and tropical medicine. He completed a master in clinical tropical medicine at Mahidol University, Bangkok and a PhD in medical sciences at the University of Antwerp. He currently works as an associate professor at the travel and tropical disease unit of the Geneva University Hospitals and as a medical adviser for leishmaniasis and African trypanosomiasis at Médecins sans Frontières. His clinical research activities focus on African and American trypanosomiasis, leishmaniasis and snake bites.



Mike Barrett, University of Glasgow, United Kingdom

Christian Burri, Swiss TPH, Basel, Switzerland

Christian Burri is the Head of the Department of Medicines Research, Swiss TPH which consists of two units (Pharmaceutical Medicine Unit and Regulatory Affairs Unit), a staff section (Quality Management & Services) and a cluster of academic investigator-driven and capacity building projects. He is a senior lecturer for pharmacy & clinical pharmacology at the Dept. of Pharmaceutical Sciences, University of Basel. His background is in pharmacy, he holds a PhD in medical parasitology, did post-doctoral training in molecular pharmacology and a Diploma in Pharmaceutical Medicine.



Reto Brun, Swiss TPH, Basel, Switzerland

Reto Brun has a PhD in biology and is professor of medical parasitology at the University of Basel. He joined the Swiss Tropical Institute in 1976, becoming Head of Protozoology and later Head of Parasite Chemotherapy. His research interests are drug discovery for parasitic protozoa and research on African trypanosomiasis. He collaborates since 1980 with partners in East Africa in the area of sleeping sickness research and control. In the field of drug discovery he collaborates with the TDR Programme, with Medicines for Malaria Venture, the Drugs for Neglected Diseases initiative and the Consortium for Parasitic Drug Development.



Solomon Nwaka, WHO-TDR, Geneva, Switzerland

Kelly Chibale, University of Cape Town, South Africa

Kelly Chibale is currently a Professor of Organic Chemistry at the University of Cape Town (UCT) in South Africa. He is a Full Member of the Institute of Infectious Disease & Molecular Medicine. In 2008 he was awarded a Tier 1 South Africa Research Chair in Drug Discovery under the South African Research Chairs Initiative. In 2009 he became the founding Director of the MRC/UCT Drug Discovery and Development Research Unit. In the same year (2009) he was elected a Life Fellow of UCT and a Fellow of the Royal Society of South Africa. In 2010 he became the founding Director of the UCT Drug Discovery and Development Centre. His research has been in the field of drug discovery and has been underpinned by (Hit to Lead and Lead Optimization) medicinal chemistry.



Robert Don, Drugs for Neglected Diseases *initiative* (DNDi), Geneva, Switzerland

Gabriele Pohlig, Swiss TPH, Basel, Switzerland

Gabriele Pohlig is Project Leader and QA Manager in the Department of Medicines Research at the Swiss Tropical & Public Health Institute (Swiss TPH) in Basel, Switzerland. She is responsible for the organization and conduct of clinical trials in resource limited countries focussing on neglected diseases. She also works as consultant for clinical trial management and quality assurance and has conducted and organized respective trainings. In 2009 she received the ISO 9001 accreditation as auditor.

Gabriele is a biologist and obtained her Ph.D. at the University of Freiburg, Germany. After three postdoctoral years at the University of Oregon, USA, she joined Ciba Geigy, later Novartis AG, in Basel as senior scientist in 1989. In 1999 she became Head Manager of Clinical Research and Product Development at Medinova Ltd., Zürich, and received the EUCOR/ECPM diploma in pharmaceutical medicine in 2001. Since 2001 she is working with the Swiss Tropical & Public Health Institute (Swiss TPH)



Robert Jacobs, SCYNEXIS Inc, Durham NC, United States of America

Bob Jacobs is Director of Chemistry at SCYNEXIS Inc. in Research Triangle Park, NC, with responsibility for Neglected Disease research projects including the human African trypanosomiasis effort sponsored by the Drugs for Neglected Diseases initiative (DNDi). Bob joined SCYNEXIS in 2005, initially as Director of Animal Health Chemistry. Immediately prior to joining SCYNEXIS, Bob was Associate Director of Medicinal Chemistry at AstraZeneca Pharmaceuticals, where he managed Lead Optimization Chemistry activities for projects targeting depression, schizophrenia and Alzheimer's disease targets.

In his 17 years at AstraZeneca and predecessor companies, Bob held various positions including Team Manager in Process Development at the Macclesfield, UK facility and Principal Scientist in the CNS and pulmonary chemistry groups in Wilmington. He is the author of more than 20 publications and inventor on over 50 patent applications. Dr. Jacobs received his Ph.D. in Organic Chemistry from Cornell University with Prof. Jerrold Meinwald, where he completed the total synthesis of cyclopentanoid natural products from the defensive secretion of *Necrodes surinamensis*. Bob was a postdoctoral associate with Prof. Scott Denmark at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, where he studied



intramolecular nitroso- and nitro-olefin cycloaddition reactions and organogermanium Lewis acid chemistry.
