Please reserve the date: June 9th-10th 2015, EPFL, Lausanne
Biomaterials: Past and Present
A celebration of the 20th anniversary of the SSB+RM

Dear SSB+RM members, sponsors and friends,

we are pleased to present to you the topics of this Newsletter:

1. Review of the SSB+RM annual meeting 2014 in Basel
2. Save the date SSB+RM annual meeting 2015, EPFL, Lausanne: a celebration of Biomaterials in Switzerland
3. New rules for student travel grants
4. Update on the tissue engineering task force activity

The Newsletters can also be found in the SSB+RM website: http://ssbrm.ch/

Please forward this Newsletter to colleagues and friends who might be interested in SSB+RM.

1. Review of the SSB+RM annual meeting 2014 in Basel
The annual conference of the Swiss Society for Biomaterials and Regenerative Medicine (SSB+RM) was organized in Basel on May 7–8, 2014. Medartis AG hosted the event for around 80 attendees with clinical, industrial and academic background; many of them being students at Swiss universities or abroad.

A scientific program with oral and poster presentations from the submitted abstracts was compiled: 22 oral and 18 poster presentations in sessions covering this year’s focus “Ion and Molecule release”, regenerative medicine as well as general topics.

As in 2013, the conference was scheduled for one and a half day. The afternoon of the first day was dedicated to young scientists with oral presentations from students and two invited speakers. Dr. Adrian Spiegel, Head of Research at Medartis AG, gave an introductory speech on materials science from the implant industry point of view. Dr. Morten Foss from iNANO at
Aarhus University in Denmark presented the successful technology transfer from his university to a start-up company in the field of biomaterials science.

Several supporting measures were organized for the young scientists, which included mentoring and feedback from voluntary experienced scientists as well as a dedicated session with rapid-fire presentations of the student’s posters.

On the second day, clinician PD Dr. Kathrin Scherer Hofmeier from the Allergy Unit of the University Hospital Basel opened the session on Ion and Molecule Release. She presented data from numerous patients with symptomatic metal implants and prevalence of metal sensitization. After the session on Ion and Molecule Release and the rapid-fire presentations of posters from students, the General Assembly took place. The poster session was integrated into the following lunch break.

Finally, the Regenerative Medicine session with an invited talk of Prof. Dr. Ivan Martin, Head of the Tissue Engineering team at the University Hospital Basel, covered the recently established focus of SSB+RM, before the topics of general interest completed the conference.

The abstracts of the presented oral and poster contributions have been published as a dedicated supplement in the ECM journal, the official journal of SSB+RM. Download: [http://www.ecmjourn.org/journal/supplements/vol028supp06/ssb2014.htm](http://www.ecmjourn.org/journal/supplements/vol028supp06/ssb2014.htm)

Two SSB+RM Annual Meeting Student Prizes were awarded for the best podium presentation and the best poster presentation, respectively.
For information: [http://ssbrm.ch/awards/awardees](http://ssbrm.ch/awards/awardees)

2. The 21st edition of the annual conferences of the Swiss Society for Biomaterials and Regenerative Medicine will take place in Lausanne on June 9th and 10th, 2015. Because of the twentieth anniversary of the society the theme will be “Biomaterials – Past and Present”. The conference will include keynote lectures and sessions on biomaterials, biofabrication and tissue engineering with presentations from academia, industry and clinics.
A Young Scientists forum, exhibitions, posters and direct contacts between participants will be organized to share past experience, present challenges and future ideas.

Please find the flyer for the 2015 meeting attached.... and save the date.

3. New rules for the student travel awards have been put into place:
   To apply for one of the four annual travel awards, 500 CHF each:
   - The applicant has to be a registered (Master, PhD or MD) student at a Swiss institution
   - The applicant has to have an accepted abstract for an international conference as the first and presenting author
   - Oral presentations will be preferred, but importance will also be accorded to the conference reputation
   - There are two application deadlines per year: June 31 and December 1
   - Applications can be submitted before acceptance of the abstract, but the official notification of acceptance has to be received before the deadline
   - Awards will be announced within one month after the deadline. If the
conference takes place before the deadline, a decision can be made earlier.
- The awards will be paid at the latest by January 31 and July 31

Applications to SSB+RM should contain a proof of the student status, the accepted abstract with the notification of acceptance and a short (maximum half a page) cover letter explaining your background and the relevance of this conference for you.
Send your application to the SSB+RM student's representative, Laetitia Galea:
laetitia.galea@rms-foundation.ch

4. Update on the tissue engineering task force activity
The SSB+RM task force on tissue engineering has met and discussed a number of times since 2013.
Outlook on new SSB+RM activities:
**Lab + Networking Events** are being organised for 2015. These events, 3 to 4 per year, will consist of visits to research labs around Switzerland working on Biomaterials and Regenerative Medicine. They are planned to encompass tours of the facilities, possible practicals or/and discussion around techniques/processes as well as one or two lectures on topics in which the lab has a recognised expertise.
They will be open to PhDs and Postdocs in priority and limited in number based on the capacity of the hosting laboratory.
The SSB+RM task force members as well as the SSB+RM young scientists have organised the first **Lab + Networking Event for February 27th, 2015 at AO Research Institute in Davos**. For information please refer to the attached flyer and stay tuned on the SSB+RM webpage.

We wish you and your families a happy and successful New Year and hope to see many of you in Lausanne in June.

With kind regards,
Your SSB+RM Executive Committee

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Please do not reply to this mail-
if you would like to contact us please use the link on the webpage:

http://ssbrm.ch/ssb/contact

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Scope of the conference

Founded in 1995, the Swiss Society for Biomaterials expanded the activities and became the Swiss Society for Biomaterials and Regenerative Medicine (SSB+RM). During 20 years, major innovations in biomaterials, design, processing and performance have improved our quality of life. Today, tissue engineering is exploring new opportunities. Interactions between research, industry and clinics have continuously been promoted to reach sustainable applications.

In 2015, a two-days conference dedicated to ‘Biomaterials: past and present’ will be combined with the Annual Meeting and the celebration of the 20th anniversary of the SSB+RM. The conference will include keynote lectures and sessions on biomaterials, biofabrication and tissue engineering with presentations from academy, industry and clinicians. A Young Scientists forum, exhibitions, posters and direct contacts between participants will be organized to share past experience, present challenges and future ideas.

Information

Dates: June 9th and 10th
Place: EPFL, Lausanne
Information: [www.ssbrm.ch](http://www.ssbrm.ch) and organizing committee
Themes

The three sessions: Biomaterials, Biofabrication, Tissue Engineering are devoted to all aspects of biomaterials science including design, preparation, characterisation, quality control and applications. Emphasis is equally placed on basic research, engineering and medical implications. The conference is open to everybody interested in the scientific, technological and medical aspects of biomaterials and primarily targets graduate students, scientists, medical doctors, dentists and engineers dealing with metal, ceramic, polymer, composites or with tissue engineering development for regenerative medicine.

Call for abstracts

Both oral and poster presentations are welcome. Those wishing to present are asked to submit an abstract (1 page) by March 31st, 2015, using the abstract template to be downloaded from the conference website www.ssbrm/SSBRM2015. Abstracts must be submitted electronically as a MS Word file via http://ssbrm.ch/SSBRM2015/organization/abstract submit. The abstracts of all oral and poster presentations will be published in the eCM Journal. The decision on acceptance will be sent to the applicant by April 15th, 2015. Submissions of abstracts for last minute poster presentation are possible until April 30th, 2015.

Conference Fee and registration

The fee of 250 CHF includes the attendance to all the sessions, posters and exhibition, the proceedings booklet, the lunches and coffee breaks during the 2 days, one year SSBRM membership and the 20th anniversary dinner on June 9th. The fee for a student selected for an oral presentation or a poster will be of 150 CHF.

Standard online registration and payment of 250 CHF must be performed before April 30th via SSBRM homepage http://ssbrm.ch. On-site registration will be of 400 CHF.

Organizing committees

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Swiss Society for Biomaterials + Regenerative Medicine
Société Suisse des Biomatiéraux + Médecine Régénérative
Schweizerische Gesellschaft für Biomaterialien + Regenerative Medizin
Società Svizzera di Biomateriali + Medicine Rigenerative
SSB + RM

LAB & NETWORKING EVENT

27th of February

AO RESEARCH INSTITUTE
Davos

- Explore SSB + RM facilities
- Tours behind the scenes
- Meet your swiss colleagues
- Social event

info: http://www.ysbm.ch/