



Belgian Society for Cell and Developmental Biology  
Société Belge de Biologie Cellulaire et du Développement  
Belgische Vereniging voor Cel- en Ontwikkelingsbiologie

## NEWSLETTER 2017

### General announcement from the BSCDB Board

Via this newsletter, the BSCDB Board wishes to thank our present and new members for their continuous support and participation in BSCDB activities in 2016. By the beginning of each new year, you therefore receive this short activity overview for the past year and an outlook to exciting events in 2017, including the **BSCDB spring meeting**, the **BSCDB autumn meeting** and the **BSCDB Travel Grant Awards**. Additionally, in 2017, we will continue giving the stage to young scientists, including PhD-students, for presenting their results in selected oral presentations or poster sessions, and to compete for our **BSCDB poster prizes**.

### 2016 Activity Report

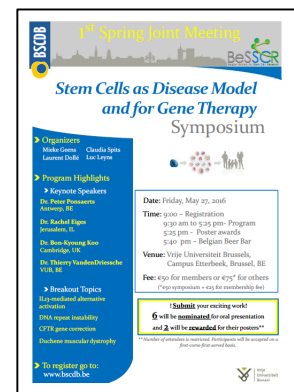
#### In 2016, the following BSCDB meetings were successfully organized:

The **2016 BSCDB Spring meeting** on “**Stem Cells as Disease Model and for Gene Therapy**”, which was co-organized with the Belgian Society for Stem Cell Research (BeSSCR) as a 1<sup>st</sup> Joint Meeting on May 27, 2016, in Brussels.

Two poster prizes of €250 were awarded to:

**Mateo Boretto** (KUL) for his poster presentation entitled: “ORGANOID-ing mouse endometrium.”

**Joke Robijns** (UA) for her poster presentation entitled: “Detection and reduction of nuclear rupture in genome edited model cells.”



The **2016 BSCDB autumn meeting** on “**Cell Adhesion and Communication**” organized on October 13-14, 2016, in Ghent. Part of this meeting was devoted to honour prof. Frans Van Roy on the occasion of his retirement, as well to honour dr. Sophie Laguesse as the 2016 awardee of the BSCDB PhD Excellence Award.

Four poster prizes of €250 were awarded to:

**Stefano Sala** (UGENT) for his poster presentation entitled: “The tumour suppressor Testin: determination of domain specific interactions and dimer formation in vitro and in cells.”

**Astrid Deryckere** (KUL) for her poster presentation entitled: “Smad-interacting-protein 1 (Sip1, Zeb2) controls cell fate decisions in the post-natal neurogenic niche.”



**Odile Bartholomé** (ULG) for her poster presentation entitled: “Study of the SV2A protein role in Epilepsy.”

**Steven Goossens** (UGENT) for his poster presentation entitled: “The EMT transcription factor Zeb2 regulates adult murine hematopoietic differentiation through altered cytokine signalling.”



**Left:**

prof. Frans Van Roy  
receiving the BSCDB  
Achievement Award in  
Cell and Developmental  
Biology

**Right:**

dr. Sophie Laguesse,  
awardee of the 2016 PhD  
Excellence Award



**In 2016, the following BSCDB travel grant applications were awarded:**

**Joanna Bouchat** (UNAMUR): €336 for attending the “FENS Forum” (Copenhagen, Denmark, July 2-7, 2016), with the following abstract: “Oligodendrocytopathy and astrocytopathy precede myelin loss and blood- brain barrier disruption in a mouse model of osmotic demyelination syndrome.”

**Silke Smolders** (UHASSELT): €500 for attending the “CSHL workshop on schizophrenia and related disorders” (Cold Spring Harbor, USA, June 8-15, 2016), with the following abstract: “Does maternal immune activation lead to neuropsychiatric disorders through altered brain development?”

**Giuseppina Grieco** (UCL): €500 for attending the “12th International Congress of Cell Biology” (Prague, Czech Republic, July 21-25, 2016), with the following abstract “Disruption of endocytosis by PI3K-III/Vps34 ablation in kidney proximal tubules preserves epithelial polarity specification but causes lethal membrane trafficking imbalance.”

**Niels Vandamme** (UGENT): €500 for attending the “SMR Melanoma Congress” (Boston, USA, November 6-9, 2016), with the following abstract: “Subpopulations of melanoma cells with distinct biological properties exhibit varying levels of ZEB proteins.”

**Daniela Sommer** (UHASSELT): €400 for attending the “Protease World in Health and Disease Congress” (Kiel, Germany, September 14-17, 2016), with the following abstract: Macrophage-specific ADAM17 deficiency to control inflammation and regenerative processes after spinal cord injury.”

**BSCDB Website**

Also in 2017 we will continue to develop and update the BSCDB website. All information about our meetings, interesting other meetings, job announcements, as well as forms to apply for Travel awards, etc... can be found at [www.bscdb.be](http://www.bscdb.be)

## **2017 BSCDB Travel Awards - Application deadlines**

**Pre-doctoral researchers** and **junior post-doctoral researchers** (max 2 years after obtaining the PhD degree) can apply for travel grants of at maximum **400 €** (within Europe) or **500 €** (outside Europe) for the purpose of attending an international meeting in the broad field of cell and developmental biology. In 2017, the BSCDB will award 4-6 of these travel grants.

The following application deadlines will apply:

- **31/05/2017** for conferences between 01/06/2017 and 31/08/2017.
- **31/08/2017** for conferences between 01/09/2017 and 31/12/2017.

In the section Grants, Awards & Membership on our new website, you find updated application forms.

## **BSCDB events in 2017**

The **BSCDB Spring meeting 2017** will be co-organized with the European Graduate School of Neuroscience (EURON) on the topic of “*Microglia in Development and Disease*”, which will be held at the University of Hasselt on May 4-5, 2017.

Abstract submission (March 30<sup>th</sup>, 2017) and registration (April 20<sup>th</sup>, 2017) via the BSCDB website ([www.bscdb.be](http://www.bscdb.be)), with link to the University of Hasselt website.

Also, we would already like to inform you about the **BSCDB Autumn meeting 2017**, which will bring together internationally recognized speakers on the topic of “*Cell differentiation in normal and pathological condition*” and will take place at the UCL (Woluwe campus, Brussels) on September 14-15, 2017. More detailed information will follow soon.

## **BSCDB Membership renewal 2017**

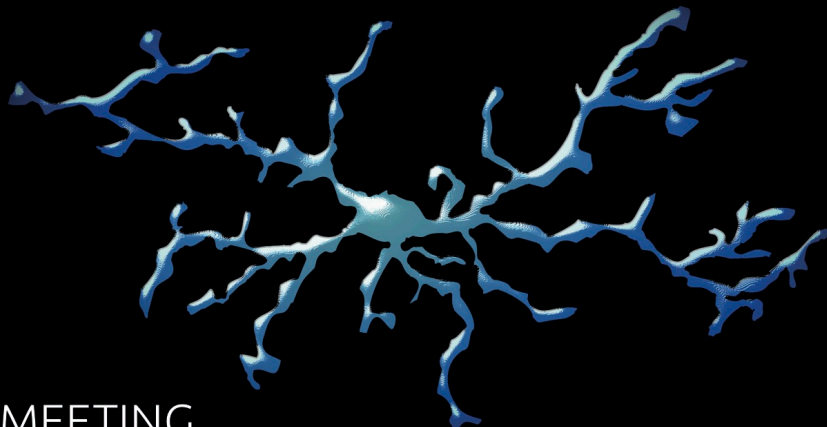
May we kindly remind you to become or to remain a **BSCDB MEMBER in 2017** – if you have not yet done so?

You can join us as a **new member or renew your membership** by

- send an e-mail with your full coordinates to [peter.ponsaerts@uantwerpen.be](mailto:peter.ponsaerts@uantwerpen.be) (BSCDB secretary) **and** to [christophe.pierreux@uclouvain.be](mailto:christophe.pierreux@uclouvain.be) (BSCDB treasurer)
- **and** transfer within two weeks your annual membership fee of 25 € to the BSCDB bank account **BE81 3630 4266 8724** (new number since December 2016) and include - obviously - your name and preferably also (in the message) your affiliation.

Note that membership in 2017 is obligatory for participation in BSCDB meetings and for applying for travel grants.

# MICROGLIA IN DEVELOPMENT AND DISEASE



SPRING MEETING

The Belgian Society for Cell and Developmental Biology

**Date: May 4-5, 2017**

**MAY 4TH:**

**EURON PHD WORKSHOP**

**MAY 5TH:**

**SYMPOSIUM**

**Confirmed speakers:**

*Prof. Dr. Knut Biber, Germany  
Prof. Dr. Amanda Sierra, Spain  
Prof. Dr. Peter Ponsaerts, Belgium  
Prof. Dr. Christophe Lefebvre, France  
Prof. Dr. Jochen Walter, Germany  
Dr. Valérie Wittamer, Belgium*

**Venue:**

*May 4th: Hasselt University, Diepenbeek Campus  
May 5th: Hasselt University, Hasselt Campus*

**Local organizers:**

*Prof. Dr. Bert Brône and Dr. Tim Vanmierlo*

**Contact:**

*microglia2017@uhasselt.be*



[www.bscdb.be](http://www.bscdb.be)

**UHASSELT**

KNOWLEDGE IN ACTION



EUROPEAN GRADUATE SCHOOL  
OF NEUROSCIENCE



Vlaamse  
overheid



**Lonza**

**ependorf**



## **BSCDB Board and Executive Functions for 2016-2017**

The present composition of the BSCDB board is as follows:

Bellefroid Eric (ULB)  
Brone Bert (UHasselt)  
Close Pierre (ULiège)  
Costagliola Sabine (ULB)  
Hermant Damien (UNamur)  
Huylebroeck Danny (KU Leuven), ***President***  
Jacquemin Patrick (UCL), ***co-Treasurer***  
Knoops Bernard (UCL)  
Leyns Luc (VUB)  
Nguyen Laurent (ULiège)  
Pierreux Christophe (UCL), ***Treasurer***  
Ponsaerts Peter (UA), ***Secretary***  
Nicaise Charles (UNamur)  
Timmermans Jean-Pierre (UA)  
van Hengel Jolanda (UGent), ***Vice-President***  
Vleminckx Kris (Ugent)  
Zwijssen An (KU Leuven)