

The annual CABMM Spring Seminar constantly gains in popularity. On May 11th 2017, clinicians and scientists from various fields presented their work, reflecting the importance of translational research and thus, also the fundamental idea behind the CABMM. Again, the Federation of Swiss Cantonal Veterinary Officers (VSKT) recognized the event as continuing education for animal experimentation.

The chairwomen of the Steering Committee, Prof. Brigitte von Rechenberg opened the meeting. Subsequently, managing director of the CABMM, Dr. Silke Kalchofner-Mark, guided through the afternoon program.

First, she welcomed Prof. Viola Vogel from the Laboratory of Applied Mechanobiology of the ETHZ, who demonstrated the interrelationship between protein structure and function of fibronectin, a protein of the extracellular matrix. The second speaker, PD Dr. Yvonne Achermann from the Department of Infectious Diseases and Hospital Epidemiology of the USZ, reported on the rather unknown bacterium *P. acnes*, that gained interest in research because of its potential role in periprosthetic joint infections. Subsequently, Dr. Sufian Ahmad from the Department of Orthopaedic Surgery and Traumatology of the Inselspital Bern talked about ruptures of the anterior cruciate ligament and their current treatment options. Experiments in an ovine model in collaboration with the Musculoskeletal Research Unit showed, that a new technique called "dynamic intraligamentary stabilization (DIS)" supports the bodies own self-healing capacities. The following coffee break offered more time for scientific discussion.



Brigitte von Rechenberg



Silke Kalchofner-Mark



Viola Vogel



Yvonne Achermann



Sufian Ahmad



Katarzyna Nytko-Karouzakis

In the second session, Prof. Brigitte von Rechenberg, head of the Musculoskeletal Research Unit of the UZH, summarized her research of many years related to the calcified cartilage zone with focus on animal welfare. Furthermore, she challenged the audience with an interactive cartilage quiz. Finally, Dr. Katarzyna Nytko-Karouzakis presented as representative of Prof. Carla Rohrer-Bley the work of the Division of Radiation Oncology at the Animal Hospital in Zurich. Because of very similar treatment strategies used in canine and human cancer patients, scientific findings obtained in dogs can be well transferred to the human situation.

After the concluding remarks of Brigitte von Rechenberg, all participants were invited to enjoy drinks and appetizers in a pleasant atmosphere, providing a good opportunity to exchange scientific ideas and to find new collaborative partners within the CABMM network.



**We cordially thank everyone for participating in our 7th CABMM Spring Seminars!
We are looking forward to our next event– namely the 7th CABMM Symposium in November!**