The third spring seminar of our center took place on May 23rd, 2013 at the animal hospital in Zurich, with presentations from all of our application fields as well as from new CABMM members.

The chairwoman of the CABMM Steering Committee, Prof. Brigitte von Rechenberg, opened the meeting and PD. Dr. Peter J. Richards subsequently introduced the first speaker of the session, Dr. Sven Hirsch from the ETH Zurich. He presented an overview of various virtual representations of the vasculature and mentioned the enormous influence of such models, e.g. precise positioning of vascular implants in patients. Afterwards, Prof. Dr. Annette Liesegang discussed the options available for analyzing different marker proteins and evaluating their influence on bone disease. Dr. Jivko Stoyanov from the Swiss Paraplegic Research in Nottwil gave the next presentation. He talked about the fitness of stem cells and presented a score system in order to determine the differentiation potential of these cells.

After a short coffee break, the second session of the meeting opened with a talk about the treatment of hand osteoarthritis using a new prosthesis device (CapFlex PIP). PD Dr. Laurent Audigé from the Schulthess clinic in Zurich presented the results of a pilot study and mentioned the positive results concerning pain relief and functionality. Subsequently, PD Dr. Nicole Borel from the University of Zurich gave a lecture on the antibacterial potential of water-filtered infrared A irradiation (wIRA) on chlamydial infected cells. She highlighted the efficacy and good tolerability associated with this non-chemical intervention. During the last presentation of our seminar, PD Dr. Jörg Goldhahn from Novartis Institutes for Biomedical Research in Basel talked about the definition of the term Translational Medicine. He mentioned the importance of transferring results from basic research into medical routine and tried to figure out which questions should be addressed.

In her concluding remarks, Prof. Dr. Brigitte von Rechenberg referred the audience to the importance of collaborations within the different research fields.

At the end of the meeting, all participants had the opportunity to meet during an Apéro. This allowed not only for scientific discussions to be conducted in a relaxed atmosphere, but also represented an ideal platform for new collaborations to be initiated.

We would like to thank all participants for their contribution making our third Spring Seminar a very successful event! We already look forward to welcoming all of you again at our next meeting!