LOOKING BACK ON SY-STEM 2019
THE SECOND EDITION OF SY-STEM -
SHAPING THE NEXT GENERATION OF
STEM CELL RESEARCHERS

THANK YOU FOR YOUR PARTICIPATION!

The second edition of SY-Stem, the Symposium for the next generation of Stem Cell researchers, took place at the Vienna BioCenter and is hosted by its institutes IMP and IMBA from March 21st to 23rd. In total 245 researchers from 25 nations attended the symposium, with 158 external registrations.
"As a company based at the Vienna BioCenter we are particularly delighted to support local meetings like Sy-Stem, that attract young aspiring scientists from all over the world. It really is a win-win situation to support the thriving stem cell community while gaining visibility and exchanging with scientists," says Hamid Heidari, who is Operational Marketing Manager for Central & Eastern Europe at Eppendorf.

SY-Stem’s aim is to shape the next generation of stem cell researchers. The symposium addresses young, aspiring researchers in the field of stem cells who have the unique opportunity to share and discuss their latest findings and mingle with the vibrant stem cell community at the Vienna BioCenter, and beyond.

For the welcome keynote, Jonas Frisén from the Karolinska Institute talked about “new cells in old brains”, sharing insights about the role of stem cells in cell turnover in healthy and pathological situations. The different sessions covered a diverse area of stem cell related research fields ranging from topics like adult stem cells, germ lines & totipotency, organoids, pluripotency, differentiation & reprogramming, to regeneration and ageing.

Also, some of IMBA’s stem cell research was highlighted at SY-Stem: Bon-Kyoung Koo, group leader at IMBA since 2018, gave insights into “Defining the identity and dynamics of adult gastric isthmus stem cells”, group leader Ulrich Elling explained “The Genetics of Cell Identity Change”, and IMBA Alumna Madeline Lancaster, who pioneered the development of cerebral organoid technology together with Jürgen Knoblich in 2013, shared “Advances in brain organoid technologies and their application to human biology”. To close the symposium, Janet Rossant from the Sick Kids Research Institute highlighted the mechanisms of cell fate decisions in the early mouse embryo and their application to the maintenance and differentiation of embryo-derived stem cells, combining methods like single cell RNA-seq data with experimental analysis of cell plasticity.
At SY-Stem, besides exciting science, exchange is essential. To facilitate ‘real conversations’ about the latest trends and methods in stem cell research, during coffee breaks, poster sessions, dinners and a social event on Friday were just some of the occasions to exchange ideas and results and create new connections.

SY-Stem 2019 was generously supported by the main sponsors Eppendorf, and Szabo Scandic, as well as the silver sponsors Biomedica, Miltenyi Biotech, Takara, World Courier, Stemcell Technologies, vwr, Biozol, and Tools at Work.

“Szabo-Scandic has been a longstanding supplier for the Vienna BioCenter and we are happy to have the opportunity to be present with a stand here at SY-Stem. This gives us the opportunity to get in personal contact with our clients and strengthen our working relationships,” says Guenter Schleinzer, Sales Manager Szabo-Scandic.
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