



Swiss Society of Experimental Pharmacology

Société Suisse de Pharmacologie Expérimentale
Schweizerische Gesellschaft für Experimentelle Pharmakologie

PD Dr. Georgia Konstantinidou,
Institute of Pharmacology
University of Bern

SSEP ANNUAL REPORT 2024

Memberships: On December 2024 the SSEP had 64 members including one honorary member (Prof. Hanns Paul Möhler).

Board:

President: PD. Dr. Georgia Konstantinidou, University of Bern

Past-President: Prof. Dr. Stephan Kellenberger, University Lausanne

Secretary: Prof. Dr. Patrycja Nowak-Sliwinska, University of Geneva

Treasurer: Prof. Dr. Leonardo Scapozza, University Geneva

Council member: PD Dr. Gabriele Weitz-Schmidt, AlloCyte Pharmaceuticals AG, Basel

Council member: Prof. Dr. Carole Bourquin, University Geneva

Council member: Prof. Dr. Csaba Szabo, University Fribourg

Council member: PD Dr. Dietmar Benke, University of Zürich

Changes in the SSEP council and administration

After 4 years of presidency, Stephan Kellenberger has stepped down as a president of the SSEP at the general assembly of April 2024. Georgia Konstantinidou, who has served for 4 years as general secretary, has become the new SSEP president. Prof. Dr. Patrycja Nowak-Sliwinska, University of Geneva, is the new SSEP general secretary and new SSEP council member. PD Dr. Dietmar Benke from University of Zurich will step down as a board member of the SSEP at the general assembly of April 2025. We thank Dietmar cordially for his engagement in our society during all these years. We wish him all the best in his future activities. At the same time, we will welcome a new board member from the University of Zurich, Prof. Dr Tommaso Patriarchi.

Board meetings: Two SSEP board meetings took place in 2024, both; one in person during the LS annual meeting on February 15, and one by videoconference on November 6. The general assembly of the SSEP was held in person during the SSPT Spring meeting on April 18.

SSEP Website and communication: The address of the SSEP website is <https://experimental-pharmacology.ch>.

The SSEP would like to update the **News and Highlights section** on the SSEP website with selected original publications from SSEP members. **SSEP members are encouraged to submit recent publications with a brief statement on impact and relevance to other society members (see information on website).**

Members regularly received society news via e-mail.



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LinkedIn: As a second internet platform, the SSEP hosts an interest group on LinkedIn. Registered members can access information on scientific meetings relevant to experimental pharmacology. Join us!

Scientific and educational activities: In 2024, members of the SSEP were engaged in the organization of the following scientific events:

- SSPT Symposium " Pharmacotherapy for inflammatory diseases", 8 February in Bern. Organization: SSPT task force with Prof. Carole Bourquin and Prof. Stephan von Gunten.
- At the LS2 Annual Meeting 2024 that was carried out in Lausanne on February 12-13, Georgia Konstantinidou and Carole Bourquin organized the SSEP symposium "Artificial intelligence (AI) tools for drug discovery".
- The SSPT spring meeting with the topic "Artificial Intelligence in Pharmacology and Toxicology" was held in person in Bern on April 18. Several members of the SSEP board participated in the organization of this meeting.
- 22d International Summer School on Translational Medicine, Drug Discovery and Inspiration in Bönigen, August 21-23, organized by Georgia Konstantinidou and Thomas Kaufmann.

Prizes: The SSEP awarded a prize of CHF 500 at the LS2 meeting for the best poster related to pharmacology. The winner was Giselle Hevia Hernandez of the University of Bern with the poster " Recombinant IgG1 Fc hexamer and neutrophils: kill or not to kill".

At the SSPT 2024 Spring Meeting in Bern, two prizes sponsored by the Novartis Institutes for BioMedical Research were awarded. The winner of the best oral presentation award was George M. Ramzy, University of Geneva, with the presentation "Platform combining mathematical modelling and patient-derived organoids for personalized treatment for colorectal carcinoma patients". The winner of the best poster award was Roxana Manaila, University of Bern, with the poster "The role of sphingosine-1-phosphate (S1P) and its degrading enzyme sphingosine phosphate lyase (SPL) on kidney filtration barrier integrity".

International contacts: The SSEP keeps close contact to international societies and associations including IUPHAR and EPHAR. The SSEP is also connected via the SSPT to international organizations. Caroline Samer, SSPT member, is member of the IUPHAR executive committee. In 2022, Prof. Stephan von Gunten, SSEP council member, was elected as a EPHAR Executive Committee member for the period 2022-2026.

European Certified Pharmacologist (EuCP): The SSPT organizes the attribution of the EuCP title to pharmacologists working in Switzerland and appoints the members of the evaluation committee of the Swiss Certified Pharmacologist Register (SCPR). The SCPR evaluation committee, to which several SSEP council members belong, evaluates applications for the



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EuCP title. The program for registering for the EuCP title was launched in Switzerland in spring 2022. By the end of 2024, 9 pharmacologists had obtained the EuCP title.

Travel grants: In 2024, the SSPT financed four doctoral travel grants (Ashok Kumar Gupta, India; Simone Falco, Bern; Mina Hanna, Lausanne; Marta Ratajczak, Z rich) and one postdoctoral grant (Maria Petrosino, Fribourg).

I would like to thank my colleagues of the SSEP board as well as the SSEP members for stimulating discussions and for the support throughout the reporting period.

PD. Dr. Georgia Konstantinidou
President SSEP

Bern, April 15, 2025