

## Newsletter IMBS 2013

### International Program in Medical and Biological Sciences - IMBS “Milstein-Koehler Program”

#### Congratulations to Everyone, Students, Professors, Teams in Buenos Aires and Freiburg

The IMBS, a joint program of the the Faculties of Medicine, and Pharmacy & Biochemistry of the University of Buenos Aires (UBA, Argentina) and the Albert-Ludwigs University (ALU, Freiburg, Germany) has completed another successful year. We are looking back at 5 years of this stimulating and enriching program, with 55 graduated IMBS Students (95 % success rate). Two thirds of these M.Sc. graduates continue their research career with a PhD Program in either country as well as at other Leading Institutions in other countries, while all others succeeded in obtaining attractive positions in Academia or Industry.

Since 2008 the International Master Program in Medical Biological Sciences -The Milstein-Koehler-Program – has enabled young scientists with a bright mind from many different countries to make their own contribution for a better world.



#### More Congratulations

**Professor Dr. Christoph Borner received an Honorary PhD Degree** from the Faculty of Biochemistry and Pharmacy for his scientific achievements and his continuous support for the IMBS Program.

Our congratulations also go to all **students who successfully completed their Master Program** and also those **students, successfully completing the ALU Research Training Program (RTP)**, receiving the ALU Diploma of Advanced Studies in 2013.

## **Evolution of the IMBS Program**

The program now consists of the **University of Buenos Aires Research Training Program (UBA RTP)** with 8 Modules in 7 months, followed by the **Albert-Ludwigs University Research Training Program (ALU RTP)** with 8 Modules in 5 Months. These Training Programs, the UBA RTP “State of the Art of Biomedical Sciences” and the ALU RTP “Recent Advances in Biomedical Sciences” is followed by the Master Research Program, Thesis and Exam “Discovery in Biomedical Sciences”.

The language of instruction is English. As further enrichment for our students, the soft skill program (intercultural training, language courses) will be further expanded in 2014 with topics like presentation techniques, scientific writing, clinical aspects, ethical, social, legal, economic topics and others.

The IMBS "Summer School", now the ALU RTP, has been developed into a Diploma of Advanced Studies Program of the Albert-Ludwigs-University / Freiburg Academy of Continuing Education (FRAUW; [http://www.zuv.uni-freiburg.de/organisation/frauw/index\\_frauw.html?set\\_language=en](http://www.zuv.uni-freiburg.de/organisation/frauw/index_frauw.html?set_language=en)) in 2012, which allowed the presentation of these Diplomas for the second time in 2013 to 9 Students of the IMBS Class 2012-2014 and 7 of the 2013-2015 Class that started in Freiburg.

The 7 IMBS students of the IMBS ALU 2013-2015 Class that started in Freiburg are now joining their Latin American student colleagues to start the UBA RTP in December 2013 in Buenos Aires.

In addition, in 2013 the integrated Program for a Certificate (10 CP) or a Diploma (30 CP) of Advanced Studies in Biomedical Sciences of the ALU RTP was continued with 4 international students who also passed their Diploma Exam in November 2014.

For further information please visit the IMBS Homepage, which will be updated in January 2014 ([www.biomedmaster.org](http://www.biomedmaster.org)).

## **Recent events**

### **UBA IMBS Symposium 6**

November 8, 2013

The IMBS convened in Buenos Aires for their 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Symposium. On November 8, the delegation from Freiburg, headed by their Program Directors Professor Dr. Roland Mertelsmann, Prof. Dr. Christoph Borner and 5 colleagues participated in the 6<sup>th</sup> Milstein-Koehler Symposium covering a broad spectrum

of cutting edge research projects together with their colleagues from Buenos Aires, headed by the UBA Program Directors, Professor Dr. Alberto Boveris, the new Dean of the Faculty of Pharmacy and Biochemistry Professor Dr. Cristina Arranz, Professor Dr. Ricardo Gelpi, Professor Dr. Daniel Turyn and Professor Dr. Marta Mollerach.

The scientists from Freiburg and Buenos Aires presented their latest research and discussed areas of mutual interest and cooperation.

### **Reception at the Home of Dr. Klaus Schmidt, Ministro Consjero, German Embassy**

Nobel Laureate Dra. Barre-Sinoussi, UBA Faculty Members, the ALU Delegation and representatives of the French Embassy and Argentine Officials were invited to a wonderful evening at the home of Dr. Klaus Schmidt.

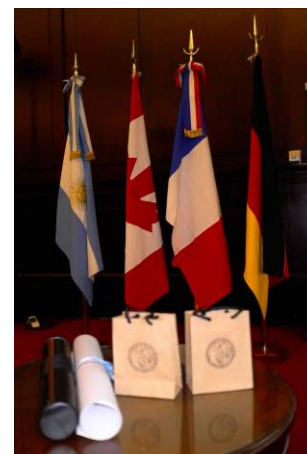
Thank you very much for your hospitality!



### **IMBS Nobel Laureate Lecture**

November 11, 2013

The IMBS Nobel Laureate Lecture by Dra. Françoise Barre-Sinoussi in the Main Lecture Hall of the UBA Medical Faculty, was again a wonderful event, attended by hundreds of students and faculty members.



## **UBA IMBS Master Thesis Symposium**

November 12 and 13, 2013

The 13 students of the IMBS Class 2011 – 2013 gave outstanding presentations and all passed the master exam! Congratulations to a job well done with our best wishes for a wonderful future of “Bright Minds for a better World”!

A student review of the past 2 years in the IMBS Program with a great movie concluded this memorable event.



## **ALU Diploma Symposium in Freiburg**

November 25, 2013

The Diploma Exam of the IMBS Class 2012-2014 and the IMBS Class ALU 2013-2015 in the “Haus zur Lieben Hand”, University of Freiburg, was a demanding day and a very stimulating experience with 19 excellent presentations by our students. All students passed with very good results and received the ALU-FAST Diploma of Advanced Studies in Biomedical Sciences.



## **Outlook for 2014**

### **Leadership**

In 2014, the leadership of the Program will be continued by the next generation of dedicated faculty members. In Freiburg, **Professor Dr. Dr. h.c. Christoph Borner** will be the new director of the program, Professor Mertelsmann will continue to support the program as Co-Director together with the other Faculty members and the team. The UBA officials will change office in March of 2014, you will find the relevant information on our homepage.

### **Schedule**

The **Class 2012–2014** will pursue their Master Research in various laboratories with their Master Exam scheduled for Dec 2-3, 2014 in Buenos Aires. The theses are due in Buenos Aires 2 months prior to that date. For students of the **Class ALU 2013-2015**, who started the ALU RTP program in July 2013 in Freiburg, and who will have their work completed and thesis ready by October 2014, a **fast track option** has been introduced with the exam already in December 2014 – if project and thesis are approved by the UBA and ALU IMBS and the Project Directors.

The ALU 2013-2015 class has joined the **UBA 2013-2015 Class** in Buenos Aires to study for the IMBS UBA Research training Program (UBA RTP) from December 2013 until June 2014. An UBA **Diploma of Advanced Studies for the UBA RTP** with 30 ECTS Points and an exam in June 2014 is in preparation.

The **ALU RTP for 2014 (again with 30 ECTS Points)** will take place from July until November of 2014. The diploma exam is scheduled for the second half of November 2014.

The next UBA RTP of **the IMBS Master Program 2014-2016** will begin in October of 2014 in Buenos Aires.

Our cooperation with the **Hochschule Furtwangen (HFU)** will continue and will be expanded in 2014, with again a module of the ALU RTP in 2014 in Furtwangen. The possibilities of obtaining also a Master Degree from the HFU and opening the ALU and UBA RTP Modules to Furtwangen Students are currently being developed.

Those students, who wish to continue with a **PhD program** after the Master Program, will continue to receive in depth support for their projects, their selection of laboratories, and for obtaining adequate funding.



For students with a medical degree, another option would be to obtain a **Dr. med.** from the Freiburg Faculty of Medicine.

For other students, an **optional enrollment in all or parts of the ALU and UBA RTP programs** will be possible (capacity limited!).

Details of the new developments will be available on our homepage in January 2014.

The IMBS Faculties and Teams from both countries and the International Students (student quote: "The best thing I have done in my life") are grateful for the broad support of the IMBS program by both Universities, the Faculties, the German Embassy in Buenos Aires, the DAAD, the International Academy of Biomedical Sciences, the Biothera Foundation, the ARGER Foundation and many other supporters. The IMBS with its documented success rate will continue as an Argentine-German **Program of Excellency** for outstanding international students: "Bright minds for a better world".

Thank you and a very merry Christmas & Happy New Year!



Prof. em. Dr. Drs. h.c. Roland Mertelsmann,

Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. Christoph Borner,

the Freiburg IMBS Team,

and all our Colleagues in Buenos Aires.

[www.biomedmaster.org](http://www.biomedmaster.org)