

CAMPUS BIOTECH NEWSLETTER

November 2020

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R&D NEWS

WYSS CENTER PARTNERS WITH COAT-X TO ADVANCE ULTRA-THIN COATING FOR USE IN ACTIVE MEDICAL IMPLANTS

WYSS CENTER

The flexible coating technology could pave the way for miniaturized devices in the human body

Active implants, such as cardiac pacemakers, cochlear implants and neural monitoring or stimulation devices, contain sensitive electronics that must be protected from the warm, wet, and salty environment of the human body. As a result, conventional hermetic housings are composed of titanium, glass, or ceramic, and are made thick and rigid to ensure that devices in the body are leakproof and can survive for years. The Wyss Center for Bio and Neuroengineering and the Swiss technology company Coat-X today announced a collaboration to bring to market a new ultra-thin, biocompatible coating for use in active medical implants. At only ten microns thick, the flexible coating conforms to the shape of the electronics, encasing them directly in a leakproof, biocompatible envelope. Find out more on [our website](#).

R&D NEWS

MENTAL ACCOUNTING IS IMPACTING SUSTAINABLE BEHAVIOR



UNIGE

UNIGE psychologists are analysing the way our minds plan the use of resources so that interventions can be developed to reduce excessive energy consumption and carbon emissions.

Mental accounting is a concept that describes the mental processes we employ to organise our resource use. Human beings tend to create separate mental budget compartments where specific acts of consumption and payments are linked. This mechanism can be counter-productive when it comes to energy consumption and can have a negative impact on attempts to reduce carbon emissions. Psychologists from the University of Geneva (UNIGE), working in collaboration with the University of Applied Sciences and Arts in Western Switzerland (HES-SO Valais), have published a perspective in the highly influential journal Nature Energy.

Find out more on [our website](#).

R&D NEWS

EMPATHY EXACERBATES DISCUSSIONS ABOUT IMMIGRATION



UNIGE

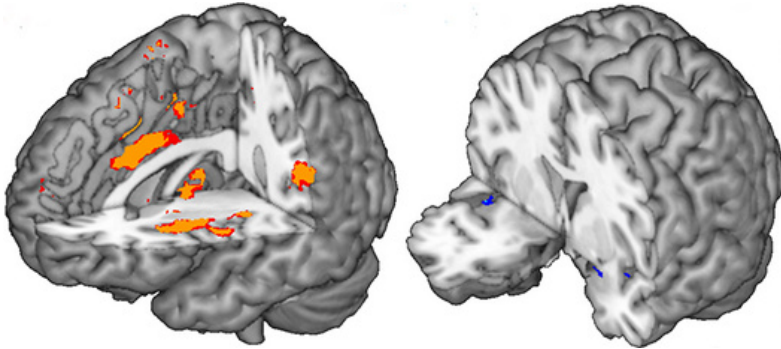
If both camps take a more empathetic approach when there's an argument, it generally makes it easier to listen to what the other side is saying and alleviate tension. This isn't the case, however, when the conflict is about immigration.

Discussions about immigration are heated, even antagonistic. But what happens when supporters and opponents undertake to show more empathy and engage in perspective taking, two types of behaviour that can ease tension? A study carried out at the University of Geneva (UNIGE) —published in the journal *Humanities and Social Sciences Communications*— reveals that people who support immigration are ready and willing to adopt an empathetic approach and a wider perspective. By contrast, when opponents of immigration are asked to engage in perspective taking, they feel more competition with their “adversary.”

Find out more on [our website](#).

R&D NEWS

MALICE LEAVES A NASTY SMELL



UNIGE

Bad attitudes lead to moral judgments rooted in our basic survival mechanisms. And scientists from UNIGE have demonstrated that they are linked to foul smells.

Unhealthy behaviours trigger moral judgments that are similar to the basic emotions that contribute to our ability to survive. Two different hypotheses are to be found in the current scientific literature as to the identity of these emotions. Some researchers single out disgust, while others opt for pain. After developing a new approach to brain imaging, a research team from the University of Geneva ([CISA](#) & [BBL](#)) has come down on the side of disgust. The study, which can be found in *Science Advances*, shows that unhealthy behaviours trigger brain responses that are similar to those prompted by bad smells. The research also identifies for the first time a biomarker in the brain for disgust.

Find out more on [our website](#).

R&D NEWS

THERE IS NO SUCH THING AS HAPPY HAPPINESS



UNIGE

Against the current of ambient hedonism, work carried out as part of the "Feel bad, live well!" project aims to rehabilitate so-called negative emotions such as fear, anger or guilt, which, according to the researchers, actively contribute to a better life.

Just as much as joy, virtue or pleasure, anger, shame or sadness are indispensable ingredients for happiness. In addition to their instrumental usefulness, so-called "negative" emotions contribute intrinsically to well-being and the feeling of living a "good life". Against the current of ambient hedonism, this is the idea that structures the Feel bad, live well! project. A study supported by the Swiss National Science Foundation for the period 2018-2021 and directed by Julien Deonna and Fabrice Teroni, both philosophers of the Swiss Center for Affective Sciences based at Campus Biotech.

Find out more on [our website](#).

R&D NEWS

SMALL PHILOSOPHICAL REFLECTIONS ON THE MEANING OF LIFE

UNIGE

Does life have to have meaning for us to be happy? The answer is not self-evident. First of all, because not everyone has the same opinion on the subject. Secondly, because we have to agree on what we mean by "being happy".

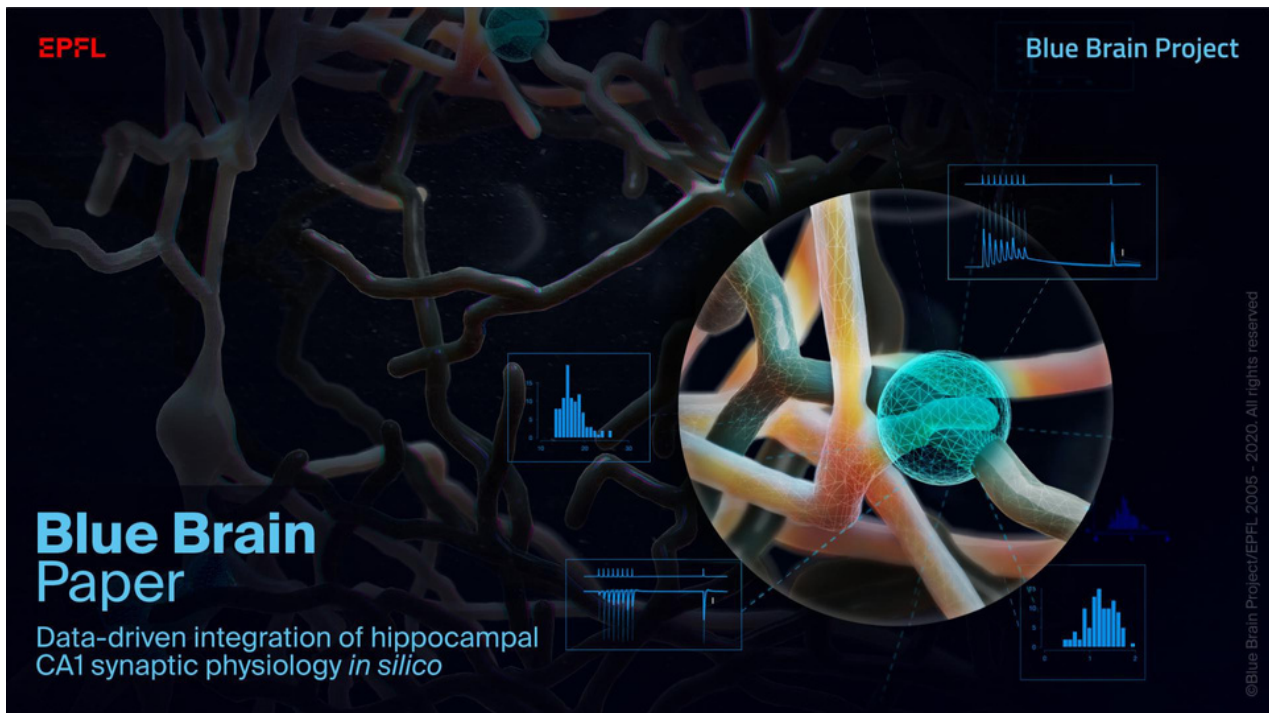
This is what emerges from the initial work carried out by Florian Cova, assistant professor in the Department of Philosophy (Faculty of Arts), and his colleagues in a research project that began in 2019 and is supported by an Eccellenza grant from the National Fund for Scientific Research until 2024.

The question of the meaning of life is quite recent in philosophy," the researcher says. Perhaps this is because, in the past, life was punctuated by all sorts of beliefs and myths which meant that this questioning had no real place. Things began to change with the development of industrial societies in the 19th century and the gradual erosion of the religious fact. The idea that life must have meaning in order to be happy is now widely accepted.

Find out more on [our website](#).

R&D NEWS

A STEP CLOSER TO MAPPING THE RODENT BRAIN



EPFL BLUE BRAIN PROJECT

The rodent Hippocampal formation is one of the most exhaustively studied regions in the mammalian brain but until now, there has not been a comprehensive knowledge base of its synaptic physiology.

In a front cover paper published in the journal Hippocampus, researchers at EPFL's Blue Brain Project present a data-driven approach to integrate the current knowledge on the hippocampal CA1 region using an open-access, comprehensive resource.

Find out more on [our web-site](#).

SCIENCE & ART NEWS

ARTISTS-IN-RESIDENCY PROGRAMME



CAMPUS BIOTECH, FLUXUM FOUNDATION & EOFA

Campus Biotech, Fluxum Foundation and the Embassy of Foreign Artists (EOFA) launched in April 2020 an Open Call for an artist-in-residency programme at Campus Biotech in 2021.

The goal of these residencies is to promote exchanges and intersections between scientific practices and artistic practices. They are intended to encourage the emergence of new ways of formulating, perceiving and using both scientific and artistic research. Through connections between two fields, they will foster a better understanding of their respective fields of research.

Find out more on [our website](#).

SCIENCE & ART NEWS

TWELVE THOUSAND AND TWENTY



Photo: © Julie Semoroz

UNIGE & FLUX LABORATORY

Twelve Thousand And Twenty Performance - sound installation - space activation in partnership with the festival **Les créatives 20.11 - 11.12.2020, Halle nord**

Born from the collaboration with the Flux Laboratory and Prof Didier Grandjean from the Swiss Center for Affective Sciences (UNIGE), DOUZE MILLE VINGT refers to the internal perception of sound and acts on the capacity to feel internal physiological activity as indicators of emotions and body condition. The project was supported by an Agora of the Swiss National Science Foundation (SNSF).

Press kit

COMPANIES NEWS

SOPHIA GENETICS RAISES \$110 MILLION IN OVERSUBSCRIBED NEW FUNDING ROUND



SOPHIA GENETICS

SOPHiA GENETICS announced a recent **\$110 million oversubscribed funding round led by majors health-tech funds aMoon and Hitachi Ventures and Swiss investment banks.**

The company plans to use the new funding to enter into the next stage of the company's expansion, with a focus on supporting the growing clinical and biopharma demand for Data-Driven Medicine worldwide. "Since inception, we knew that leveraging a wide range of data modalities powered by cutting-edge technologies was key to sustainably deliver better outcomes to the global healthcare community", said Jurgi Camblong, CEO and Founder at SOPHiA GENETICS. Find out more on [our website](#).

COMPANIES NEWS

2019-2020 WFPHA ANNUAL REPORT



WFPHA

2019 - 2020 WFPHA Annual report is now available!

[Here](#) you'll learn about the major initiatives of WFPHA from the past 12 months, explore their achievements in advancing public health globally and have an insight of their plan for the next year.

COMPANIES NEWS

SWISS MEDICAL GROUP ACQUIRES COREMEDICA EUROPE



CoreMedica

COREMEDICA

Swiss Medical Group (SMG) has acquired CoreMedica Europe for an undisclosed amount to expand its footprint in Europe and the rest of the world.

Campus Biotech-based CoreMedica Europe specialises in a mass spectrometry technology platform, which identifies a patient's nutritional profile, using dried blood. The company also focus on the analysis of a range of biomarkers and offers personalised recommendations, using patented technology in areas such as immunity, nutrition, sports and anti-aging. Recently, CoreMedica Europe combined Covid-19 screening test and immunity profile with its available home self-collection kit to enable customers to collect their blood at home for coronavirus diagnosis.

Find out more on the [following link](#).

COMPANIES NEWS

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN LEARNING MORE ABOUT GLOBAL HEALTH ISSUES?



IFPMA

Are you working in the healthcare industry? Are you interested in learning more about global health issues? Would you like to share #YouthPerspectives? Join HYPER Healthcare |Youth Perspectives. EmpoweRed Connect, share and inspire!

As healthcare companies and, the private sector at large, are working towards solutions to address the COVID-19 pandemic, a common theme is emerging – young professionals are rising up, joining forces, and facing these challenges head on with unwavering confidence, in order to contribute to a solution now and shaping a sustainable future.

Find out more on [our website](#).

STARTUPS NEWS

CHORD THERAPEUTICS

LAUNCHES WITH USD 16

MILLION SERIES A FINANCING

FROM OMEGA FUNDS



CHORD THERAPEUTICS

Backed by Omega Funds to develop new oral treatments for rare autoimmune diseases. Financing for clinical trial of lead molecule for the treatment of neuromyelitis optica spectrum disorders.

Chord Therapeutics, a clinical stage biopharmaceutical company developing drugs for rare diseases, today announces the closing of a USD16 million Series A financing exclusively from leading healthcare investor Omega Funds. In conjunction with the financing, Omega Funds' Managing Director Claudio Nessi and Principal Francesco Draetta will join the Board.

Find out more on the [following link](#).

STARTUPS NEWS

FDA HAS GRANTED RARE PEDIATRIC DISEASE DESIGNATION TO RIMEPORIDE



ESPERARE

EspeRare is delighted to announce that the United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has granted Rare Pediatric Disease Designation (RPDD) to Rimeporide, an investigational treatment for cardiomyopathy in children with Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy (DMD).

Most of the drugs in development for DMD, approved or used off label, essentially address the skeletal muscles in DMD patients and are aiming to prolong ambulation. Despite being the primary cause of premature death, there are unfortunately no approved dystrophin specific targeted cardiac therapies.

Find out more on the [following link](#).

STARTUPS NEWS

**THERAPEUTIC DEVELOPED
USING NOVEL APPROACH TO
DRUG DISCOVERY HAS
SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED
PHASE 1 CLINICAL TRIAL**



ORION BIOTECHNOLOGY

Orion Biotechnology Canada Ltd., a clinical stage pharmaceutical company focused on precision engineering GPCR-targeted therapeutics recently announced the results of their Phase 1 study of OB-002H which is an investigational candidate microbicide for HIV prevention.

Find out more on the [following link](#).

STARTUPS NEWS

**NEURORX AND RELIEF
ANNOUNCE TOPLINE
EFFICACY DATA FROM
PATIENTS TREATED WITH RLF-
100™ (AVIPTADIL) UNDER THE
U.S. FDA EXPANDED ACCESS
PROTOCOL AUTHORIZATION
FOR RESPIRATORY FAILURE
RELATED TO CRITICAL
COVID-19**

RELIEF THERAPEUTICS

- RLF-100™ therapy associated with a 9-fold increased probability of survival and recovery from respiratory failure in an open-label, prospective study
- Top-line data from randomized, placebo-controlled Phase 2b/3 trial expected this quarter

Find out more on the [following link](#).

VIRTUAL EVENT

UNLEASH YOUR

SUPERPOWERS - WORKSHOP

FOR FEMALE FOUNDERS

SCIENCE2MARKET, CAMPUS BIOTECH INNOVATION PARK

Join the community - **workshop** series for **female** founders



Saturday, 31 of October
8:30 - 13:00
EPFL Innovation Park, Building D, Uranus Room

Legal framework
Sales & **Negotiation** skills
Building the **Business** Case
Support Structures for **Female** Entrepreneurs

Free!
Seats (very) limited

REGISTER NOW
<http://bit.ly/WMNEVENT>

EPFL
Innovation Park



Co-sponsored by
Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun svizra
Sveits Forbundsstat
Innovations - Swiss Innovation Agency

31 & 07
oct. nov.

Join an interactive workshop, for female founders by female founders to take your business venture to the next level.

You will learn how to develop, your sales and negotiation skills, and understand deeper the legal frameworks for your business.

Register [here!](#)

For further information, please contact Cynthia Macias at macias@epfl-innovationpark.ch or visit [our website](#).

VIRTUAL EVENT

ZOOM CONFERENCE ON EQUAL OPPORTUNITY WITH PROF. DR. TOM WELTON

NCCR MOLECULAR SYSTEMS



04
nov.

JA open conference organized by NCCR Molecular Systems with Prof. Dr. Tom Welton on the topic “Scientific Excellence and Equality – a Contradiction?” will take place November 4th, 13:30 - 15:10 on Zoom.

The current academic, structural and institutional challenges universities face today to promote equality while assuring that a high level of scientific excellence is maintained will be addressed.

For further information, please visit [our website](#).

VIRTUAL EVENT

WORLD OF MICROBIOME: DIGESTIVE & METABOLIC HEALTH VIRTUAL CONFERENCE

BIOSTIME INSTITUTE FOR NUTRITION AND CARE



04-06
nov.

The human gut microbiome significantly contributes not only to the maintenance of the digestive and metabolic health but also to disease development.

The gut microbiome might serve as a future diagnostic and therapeutic target for inflammatory and neoplastic diseases. Join international colleagues at the first conference that brings together professionals across gastroenterology, microbiology, immunology, endocrinology, neonatology, hepatology and industry, to push forward this emerging area in microbiome.

For further information, please visit the [following link](#).

VIRTUAL EVENT

HBP TEA & SLIDES 6

HUMAN BRAIN PROJECT



Human Brain Project

04
nov.

The HBP Student Representatives & Ambassadors, supported by the HBP Education Programme, invite you to a virtual tea break featuring talks by young researchers for young researchers.

Two 10-minute talks are followed by an interactive Q&A session with the audience. The 6th HBP Tea & Slides session will be special as it features non-scientific talks on Career Development presented by Karin Grasenick & Julia Trattnig (convelop, Austria) and Ziv Ben-Zion (Tel-Aviv University). Interested? Make sure to register and watch the session on 5 November at 14:00 CET!

Registration is free of charge and will open one week prior to the event. Participation is open to everyone, no affiliation to the HBP needed. For further information, please [visit our web-site!](#)

VIRTUAL EVENT

RÉSONANCE - AFFIDEA

SWITZERLAND 2020

AFFIDEA



06-07
nov.

The annual teaching seminar "Resonance - Affidea" is a round table that facilitates exchanges between the various specialists in osteoarticular imaging: radiologists, orthopedic surgeons, rheumatologists, rehabilitation specialists, sports doctors and internists, whether they work in hospitals or private practice, in Switzerland or in France.

This second seminar will be devoted to the shoulder, which represents the second most frequent reason for consultation in osteoarticular pathology.

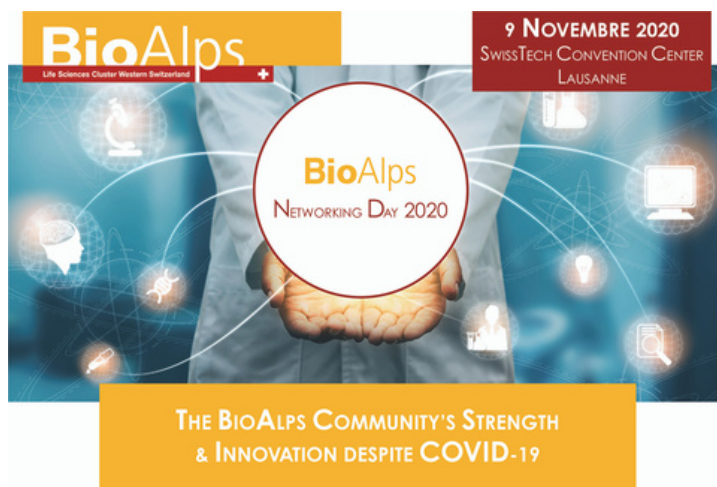
Register on [Affidea's website!](#)

VIRTUAL EVENT

BIOALPS NETWORKING DAY

2020

BIOALPS, CAMPUS BIOTECH INNOVATION PARK



09
nov.

The BioAlps Community's Strength & Innovation despite COVID-19.

Due to the current situation, the BioAlps team has had to review the format of the traditional BioAlps Networking Day. Unfortunately, we will not be able to welcome as many participants onsite as hoped. However, to enable a maximum number of people to take advantage of our annual gathering, we have opted for a hybrid format.

Discover the exciting program on [our web-site!](#)

VIRTUAL EVENT

SUSTAINABLE FINANCE

INNOVATION BOOTCAMP

GENEVA TSINGHUA INITIATIVE, CAMPUS BIOTECH INNOVATION PARK



09-11
nov.

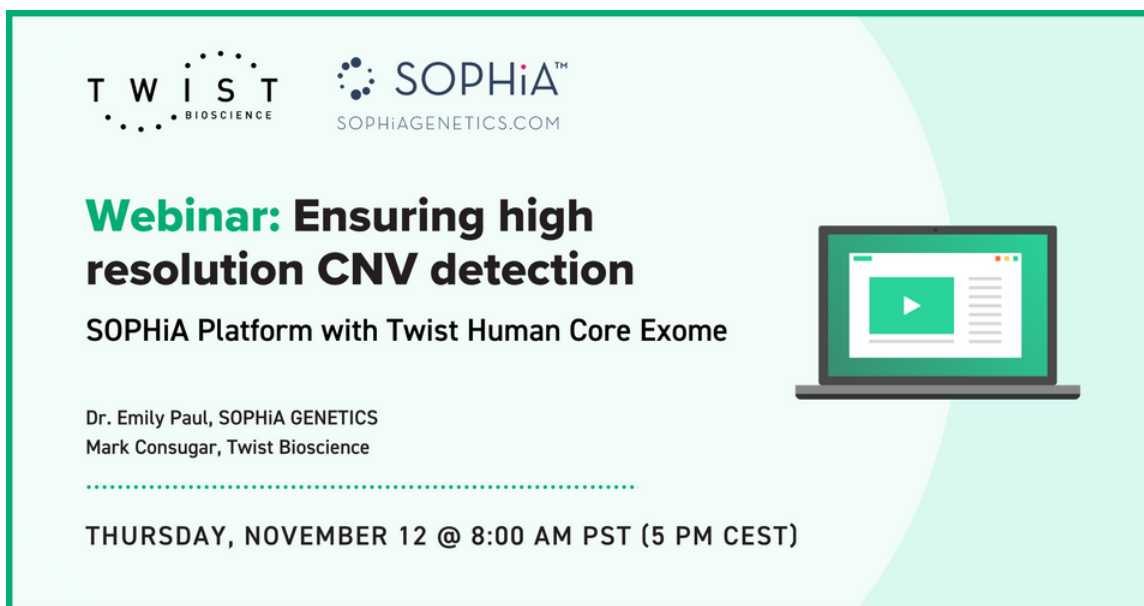
The Sustainable Finance Bootcamp is a unique moment to identify non-trivial sustainable finance challenges and opportunities and act with unprecedented innovation to improve the durability and sustainable impact of economic activities and projects.

Discover the exciting program on [our web-site!](#)

VIRTUAL EVENT

ENSURING HIGH RESOLUTION CNV DETECTION

SOPHIA GENETICS



T W I S T BIOSCIENCE SOPHiA™
SOPHiAGENETICS.COM

Webinar: Ensuring high resolution CNV detection

SOPHiA Platform with Twist Human Core Exome

Dr. Emily Paul, SOPHiA GENETICS
Mark Consugar, Twist Bioscience

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 12 @ 8:00 AM PST (5 PM CEST)

12
nov.

If you're looking to see how SOPHiA users maximize their sequencing efficiency and streamline their analyses, you can attend the upcoming webinar **Ensuring High Resolution CNV Detection**.

Learn how the SOPHiA Platform and Twist Human Core Exome Kit provide a robust and sensitive solution for CNV detection. Join the webinar with Emily Paul, PhD from SOPHiA GENETICS and Mark Consugar from Twist Bioscience by registering [here](#).

VIRTUAL EVENT

SUSTAINABLE FINANCE HACK

2020

UNIGE



13-14
nov.

The Sustainable Finance Hackathon is a unique creative problem-solving moment.

Over the course of 24 hours, it brings together some of the brightest minds from universities, international organizations and the private sector to solve non-trivial sustainable finance problems.

Discover the exciting program on [our web-site!](#)

VIRTUAL EVENT

OPEN DAY AT CAMPUS BIOTECH INNOVATION PARK - CAFÉ & CROISSANT, TOUR AND GENEUS DEMO DAY

GENEUS, CAMPUS BIOTECH INNOVATION PARK

GENEUS.CH
INNOVATION INITIATOR

17
nov.

Discover Geneva's Life Sciences Innovation Centre.

Meet the startups and entrepreneurial community during the Café & Croissant event. Join the Tour of Campus Biotech Innovation Park & visit the Geneus Demo Day.

Registration is compulsory for both sessions.

Tuesday, 17th November 2020

9.30 - 10.30 Café Croissant

10.30 - 12.30 Tour & Demo Day

For further information, please visit [our web-site](#).

VIRTUAL EVENT

WORKSHOP - THE ANALYSIS OF PRE-TEST POST-TEST STUDIES WITH R

UNIGE

19-20
nov.

A classic experimental design to test the efficacy of a treatment – a new training or educational method for example – is to measure individuals (often students in schools) at two occasions: before and after the treatment.

In this seminar, I will discuss this design, the regression toward the mean phenomenon, the role of the control group, the statistical methods to analyze it. The second objective of this seminar is to show the strengths of R. While there are methods to conduct all sorts of statistical tests in R, it would be reductive to think that R is only a tool to conduct statistical analyses. In this seminar, I will use R to simulate data sets and write reports that combine R code with texts and figures.

For further information, please visit [our web-site](#).

VIRTUAL EVENT

6TH MEETING FOR CAREGIVERS IN PSYCHIATRY

6^{ES} RENCONTRES
SOIGNANTES
EN PSYCHIATRIE

UNIGE

20
nov.

In the hospital, and particularly in psychiatry, carers must "manage their emotions" and commit themselves "neither too much nor too little" to the therapeutic relationship. This injunction suggests that it would be perilous and unprofessional to get involved. Yet the emotional capacities of the carer are essential in the therapeutic relationship.

Prof. David Sander, Director of the Swiss Centre for Affective Sciences (CISA) will present: "What is an emotion?" with the aim of discussing the nature of emotion, its functions and its cerebral bases.

For further information, please visit [our web-site](#).

VIRTUAL EVENT

FROM SCIENCE RESEARCH TO STARTUP

FROM SCIENCE RESEARCH TO STARTUP

An Innosuisse Business Ideas Event

Hear an honest and inspiring account on the journey from research idea to scalable business

DATE: Friday 20 november 2020, 12:00
PLACE: UNIGE (Hybrid event also online)

Yes you can!

 Lynn Durham
CEO
Stalicia

 Javier Bello
CEO
IMVERSE

Register for free at <http://bit.ly/GEW20>



SCIENCE2MARKET

20
nov.

How do you turn research into a scalable company?

Javier Bello of IMVERSE and Lynn Durham of Stalicia, two rising entrepreneurs in Geneva share their tips, challenges and best practices to develop a business model around cutting edge science at Global Entrepreneurship Week in Geneva.

Don't miss out, limited space available!

For further information, please visit [our web-site](#).

VIRTUAL EVENT

AGEING AND DISABILITIES

INNOVATION BOOTCAMP

GENEVA TSINGHUA INITIATIVE, CAMPUS BIOTECH INNOVATION PARK

23-25
nov.

The Ageing and Disabilities Innovation Bootcamp will follow the Disabilities one in October, shifting the focus to the Asia-Pacific region, where these two global issues affect the populations the most, in a direct way.

The Ageing and Disabilities Innovation Bootcamp will deliver education on challenges and methodologies for innovations associated with the elderly and disabled populations.

Hands-on practice will be delivered as part of the SDG Open Hack!, taking place on 28-29 November 2020.

For further information, please visit [our web-site](#).

VIRTUAL EVENT

ACHIEVING CYBERPEACE: A COLLECTIVE EFFORT IN CYBERSPACE AND BEYOND



THE CYBERPEACE INSTITUTE, CAMPUS BIOTECH INNOVATION PARK

30
nov.

1st Annual Meeting of the CyberPeace Institute

Much more than just a livestream, come and connect to this unique and immersive virtual experience. Renowned experts from Switzerland and around the world will discuss ideas and initiatives to achieve cyberpeace in the digital world in four panels. For further information, please visit [our web-site](#).

VIRTUAL EVENT

E-TRAININGS AND WEBINARS

CAMPUS BIOTECH & CAMPUS BIOTECH INNOVATION PARK

GENiLEM

- [GENiLEM] [Learn the basics of entrepreneurship](#)

EPFL EXTENSION SCHOOL

- [EPFL EXTENSION SCHOOL] [Digital skills. For everyone](#)

WFPHA World Federation of Public Health Associations

- [WFPHA] [Immunisation Policy Webinars 2020](#)

EMPOWERMENT LAB ---

- [EMPOWERMENT LAB] [Discover their creative courses for girls aged 12-18 years old.](#)



If you have any questions or want to promote your virtual event, please don't hesitate to reach out to us at media@campusbiotech.ch.

