



THE DANISH  
SOCIETY FOR  
MATRIX BIOLOGY

# Newsletter

No . 5 , M a y , 2 0 1 8

## From the Chairman

Welcome to our 5<sup>th</sup> Newsletter!

We had a very successful DSMB Annual meeting at the Mærsk Tower on April 16th! We hereby would like to thank the invited speakers (Ulrich auf dem Keller, Magnus Ågren, Federica Genovese and Daniel Madsen) for their excellent talks during the meeting and we would also like to congratulate Freja Venning for taking home the best oral presentation from selected abstract, worth 5000 dkr (sponsored by Tebu-bio) to attend the Matrix Biology Europe meeting. Congratulations also to Lena Wullkopf for winning the best poster award. A big thank you to the company sponsors Tebu-bio for the travel grant and Nordic Biosite for sponsoring the breaks and network sessions.

DSMB would also like to thank all our members for renewing their membership and welcome the new members. It is always especially nice to have so many early career postdocs and students joining. I would personally like to thank the DSMB board for their great contribution to the DSMB and this year's very successful annual meeting - in particular special thanks to our secretary Christine Chuang for her excellent organization of the 2018 annual meeting!

Please note, we will be having a special DSMB seminar at Panum Institute on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> July, titled "Biomimetic approaches toward vascularisation of bioengineered tissues" by Dr Jelena Rnjak-Kovacina, Senior Lecturer from the University of New South Wales, Sydney, Australia. We will confirm the exact time and location closer to the date.

Last but not least, we also like to welcome Daniel Madsen for joining and becoming a board member. I am certain that with this great team on board we will have more successful meetings in the future, particularly our "Joint Nordic Matrix and Connective Tissues Meeting" together with the Nordic Proteoglycan Society and Finnish Connective Tissues Society 14<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> March, 2019, Copenhagen. We wish you all a nice summer and look forward to seeing you at our next special DSMB seminar and Manchester for the Matrix Biology Europe meeting in July.

Sincerely,  
Christian Couppé

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## Meeting and conference reports

### **2018 DSMB Annual Meeting 16<sup>th</sup> April, The Mærsk Tower, University of Copenhagen**

I was given the nice opportunity to attend the annual meeting of the DSMB, which this year was entitled “Extracellular matrix remodelling and repair” and took place in the Mærsk Tower in Copenhagen on April 16<sup>th</sup> 2018. The meeting was a great success, not only attracting many scientist of the matrix biology field in Denmark, but also setting a record of active contributions in from of four invited speakers, short talks and poster presentations.



*Christian Couppé, Lena Wullkpf (best poster award), Daniel Madsen (judge from CCIT, Herlev Hospital) and Federica Genovese (judge from Nordic Bioscience A/S)*

The annual meeting opened with a stimulating lecture by Ulrich auf dem Keller (DTU Bioengineering, Technical University of Denmark) about “Matrix metalloproteinase degradomics at the epidermal-dermal interface”. Afterwards, Magnus Sven Ågren

(Bispebjerg Hospital, University of Copenhagen) gave a more clinical focused talk entitled “Is matrix metalloproteinase-9 the culprit in stalled wound healing”, reminding the audience why it is so important to keep on studying matrix biology in many diseases.

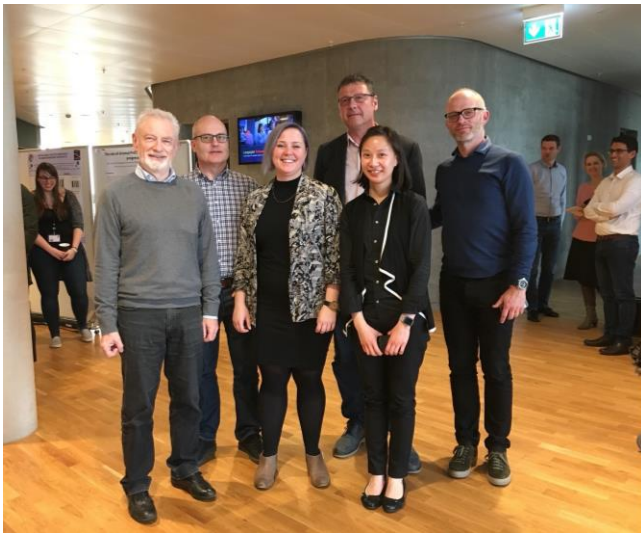
The first session was completed by two student talks. Silvia Redondo-García (Pfizer-University of Granada-Junta de Andalucía Centre for Genomics and Oncological Research, Granada, Spain) presented “Evaluating the impact of the ADAMTS1 protease on immune landscape and its contribution during antiangiogenic treatment”, followed by Huan Cai (BMI, University of Copenhagen) with his short talk focusing on the question “Does hypochlorous acid-modified extracellular matrix of the arterial wall contribute to atherosclerosis?”.

After a short break, Federica Genovese (Kidney Fibrosis Group, Nordic Bioscience A/S) opened the second session with her talk about “Collagen type VI: a bad collagen in kidney fibrosis” focusing on collagen VI as a biomarker in plasma and urine in kidney disease. This was followed by the talk of Daniel H. Madsen (Center for Cancer Immune Therapy, Herlev Hospital) presenting his exciting story “Tumor-associated macrophages are critical ECM-degrading cells in the tumor microenvironment”. Three further short talks covering basic matrix biology, cancer research as well as sport medicine closed the second session. So presented Denise Nikodemus (BRIC, University of Copenhagen) “The mechanism of Netrin-1 receptor shedding - a life death balance”. Her talk was followed by the presentation of the “Heterogeneity of Cancer Associated Fibroblasts: Metastatic potential and time determines CAF population composition” by Freja Venning (BRIC, University of Copenhagen). The last speaker, Monika Bayer (ISMC, Bispebjerg Hospital), changed the topic slightly to her exciting story of “The exudate after muscle strain injuries in humans has a pro-inflammatory profile and stimulates connective tissue synthesis”.

The event was rounded up with a poster session, guided by the judges Daniel H. Madsen and Federica Genovese over a selection of cheese and wine. In the end, John Couchman announced Freja Venning as the winner of the best student presentation with a travel grant award by Tebu-Bio to attend 2018 Matrix Biology Europe Meeting (21<sup>st</sup>-24<sup>th</sup> July) in Manchester and I was fortunate to be awarded the prize for the best poster.

In my opinion, the annual meeting of the DSMB was a full success with many attendees and active discussions about the wide range of impressive and innovative matrix biology research happening in Denmark. I would like to thank the board of the DSMB for organizing such a nice and inspiring meeting, allowing me to present my research to the community and I hope to be able to participate in further events in the future.

Lena Wullkopf (PhD student)  
BRIC, University of Copenhagen



*John Couchman (judge), Anders Aspberg (judge), Freja Venning (travel grant award), Ali el Bayâ (Tebu-bio), Christine Chuang, Christian Couppé*

Even though I have been working with fibroblasts for almost three years, often citing them as the main producers of extracellular matrix in meeting abstracts, this year's DSMB annual meeting in the Maersk Tower was my first matrix centered meeting. It was great to see such a big crowd for a national meeting on a niche subject like matrix biology, a fact the first invited speaker of the day, Ulrich auf dem Keller, also cheerfully commented on.

The day was an interesting mix of more senior invited speakers giving an overview of their research focus and methods, interspersed with data-detailed talks by young researcher (myself included) selected from submitted abstracts. It was a very

positive atmosphere to present in as a newcomer to the field, and the discussion was very lively after almost every single talk, even continuing in the coffee breaks. It was also really great to interact with the representatives of the companies sponsoring the meeting and having them participate in the discussion of the science presented in the talks.

After the last talk the meeting continued with a guided poster session where the task was to present the poster in 3 min, a challenge the poster judges Daniel H. Madsen and Federica Genovese presided over while the onlookers could nibble at cheese and wine while discussing the presented works. I like the guided way of poster sessions, as this gives all the people presenting posters the opportunity to see the other posters, not having to stay by their own poster to wait for people to drop by at random. The poster judges had a tough job selecting the best poster presentation among the numerous interesting projects presented, and in the end they chose Lena Wullkopf as the winner.

After the general assembly of the DSMB and the conclusion of the poster session, I had the great privilege to be chosen as the best speaker of the day. Along with the honour Tebu-bio sponsored a DKK5000 travel award for me to attend the Matrix Biology Europe (MBE) conference in Manchester later this summer; I greatly look forward to attending the conference and immersing myself further in the matrix biology community.

Freja A. Venning (PhD student)  
BRIC, University of Copenhagen





*Ulrich auf dem Keller opened the meeting with "MMPs in wound healing"*



*Silvia Redondo-García from Spain is currently a visiting PhD student at CCIT, Herlev Hospital.*



*Magnus Ågren (Bispebjerg Hospital) and Ulrich auf dem Keller during the Q&A session after Magnus' talk on MMP9*



*Huan Cai, PhD student from BMI, University of Copenhagen*



*Monika Bayer, Postdoct from ISMC, Bispebjerg Hospital*



*Antonis Giannopoulos, PhD student from ISMC, Bispebjerg Hospital, during the poster session*

**Thank you to our company sponsors:**





## **SEMINAR at the University of Copenhagen**

**WHEN: Monday, 16th July, 2018**

**TIME: TBA**

**WHERE: Panum Institute, University of Copenhagen,  
Blegdamsvej 3B, 2200 Copenhagen N**

### ***Biomimetic Approaches Toward Vascularisation of Bioengineered Tissues***

**by**

**Dr Jelena Rnjak-Kovacina**

**Heart Foundation Future Leader Fellow, Senior Lecturer,  
Graduate School of Biomedical Engineering, University of New South Wales, Sydney, Australia**



**Registration: please email Danish Society for Matrix Biology at [dsmb.dk@gmail.com](mailto:dsmb.dk@gmail.com)  
Free for DSMB members or 100 dkr (annual fee) to become a member**



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## SAVE THE DATE

### Joint Nordic Matrix Biology meeting

14<sup>th</sup> -15<sup>th</sup> March, 2019

Panum Institute, University of Copenhagen

Nordic Proteoglycan Society,  
Finish Connective Tissues Society and  
Danish Society for Matrix Biology

[www.dsmb.dk](http://www.dsmb.dk)

### Membership

Our membership (100 dkr) includes free registration to our annual meeting, 3-4 newsletters a year, updates on position openings and meeting updates as well as eligibility for travel grants to local and international matrix meetings. We also appreciate any extra donation and will acknowledge your contribution in our next newsletter. **Please remember to EMAIL your name and receipt of your payment to our treasurer Abbas Jafari ([ajafari@sund.ku.dk](mailto:ajafari@sund.ku.dk)).** You can pay by:

- 1) Transferring via MobilePay to **46151** (Danish Society for Matrix Biology) OR
- 2) Transferring to the DSMB bank account: Reg: 1551 Account: 1227130 (Danske bank). Please indicate "DSMB membership" on your bank transfer OR
- 3) Email our treasurer Abbas Jafari ([ajafari@sund.ku.dk](mailto:ajafari@sund.ku.dk)) if you need to transfer from an international account

### Upcoming meetings



**2018 eCM XVIII**

**Cartilage & Disc: Repair and Regeneration**

25<sup>th</sup>-26<sup>th</sup> June, Davos, Switzerland

<http://norheart.no/nordic-proteoglycan-meeting-2018/>



2018 GRS and GRC on Proteoglycans

**Proteoglycans in Homeostasis and Disease: Cracking the PG Code**

7<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup> July 2018, Proctor Academy, Andover, NH, USA

<https://www.grc.org/proteoglycans-grs-conference/2018/>

<https://www.grc.org/proteoglycans-conference/2018/>



3<sup>rd</sup> Matrix Biology Europe – Celebrating 50 years of FECTS  
21<sup>st</sup>-24<sup>th</sup> July, 2018, University of Manchester, Manchester, UK  
<http://www.confercare.manchester.ac.uk/events/mbe2018/>



The poster for Matrix Biology Europe 2018 features a light blue background with a grid pattern. At the top left is the logo for the Wellcome Trust Centre for Cell-Matrix Research, with the University of Manchester logo below it. The main title 'Matrix Biology Europe 2018' is in large blue font, followed by 'Celebrating 50 years of FECTS' in purple. Below this is the location and dates: 'Manchester, United Kingdom. 21-24 July 2018'. A row of three images shows Manchester cityscapes. On the right is the logo for the FECTS Society for Matrix Biology, a red grid with 'BS' and 'MB' in the top and bottom squares respectively. Below the images is the heading 'Confirmed speakers' in black, followed by a list of names in purple: Judith Allen, Andy Blanchard, Tom Barker, Ray Boot-Handford, Mike Briggs, Janine Erler, Reinhard Fässler, Laurent Duca, Farshid Guilak, Erhard Hohenester, Karl Kadler, Nikos Karamanos, Wei Kong, Christa Maes, Joanne Murphy-Ullrich, Alberto Passi, Gerjo van Osch, Taina Pihlajaniemi, Liliana Schaefer, Martin Schwartz, Becky Wells, Kazuhiro Yagita, and Dimitrios Zeugolis. At the bottom is the website URL in blue.

wellcome trust centre for  
**Cell-Matrix  
Research**

**MANCHESTER**  
1824  
The University of Manchester

**Matrix Biology Europe 2018**  
Celebrating 50 years of FECTS  
Manchester, United Kingdom. 21-24 July 2018

**Confirmed speakers**  
Judith Allen, Andy Blanchard, Tom Barker, Ray Boot-Handford, Mike Briggs, Janine Erler,  
Reinhard Fässler, Laurent Duca, Farshid Guilak, Erhard Hohenester, Karl Kadler,  
Nikos Karamanos, Wei Kong, Christa Maes, Joanne Murphy-Ullrich, Alberto Passi,  
Gerjo van Osch, Taina Pihlajaniemi, Liliana Schaefer, Martin Schwartz, Becky Wells,  
Kazuhiro Yagita, Dimitrios Zeugolis  
[www.confercare.manchester.ac.uk/events/mbe2018/](http://www.confercare.manchester.ac.uk/events/mbe2018/)



**2018 FEBS advanced lecture course**  
**ECM: Cell regulation, Epigenetics and Modeling**  
27<sup>th</sup> Sept-2<sup>nd</sup> Oct, Patras, Greece  
<https://extracellularmatrix.febsevents.org/>



2018 American Society of Matrix Biology Biennial Meeting  
**ECM Microenvironments in Disease, Aging and Regeneration**  
14<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> October 2018, Red Rock Casino, Las Vegas, NV, USA  
<http://www.asmb.net/current-meeting>