



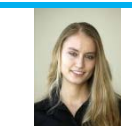



On January 9 and 10, 2012, the RNPnet PIs met for a meeting in Zurich, to kick-off the project, where issues like recruitment, homepage, finances and eligibility were discussed. The RNPnet homepage is online since the beginning of 2012: <http://www.rnpnet.ethz.ch>

## Recruitment

All 16 ESR positions are filled, the first one starting on Januar 1, 2012 and the last one on December 1, 2012. The RNPnet Fellows are introduced in the table below.

| RNPnet Fellows  |   |
|---|---|
|    | <p><b>ESR 1: Liang Li</b><br/>           From: People's Republic of China<br/>           Start: 15.08.2012<br/>           At: Max Planck Institut of Biochemistry, Germany<br/>           Project title: Structure/function of EJC-binding proteins</p>   |
|   | <p><b>ESR 2: Rahul Mishra</b><br/>           From: India<br/>           Start: 01.09.2012<br/>           At: Ecole Normale Supérieure, France<br/>           Project title: Mapping of EJC binding sites in different cellular environments in mammals</p>   |
|   | <p><b>ESR 3: Sarah Schneider</b><br/>           From: Deutschland<br/>           Start: 01.12.2012<br/>           At: EMBL, Germany<br/>           Project title: Towards the three dimensional EM structure of TDP-43 aggregates.</p>  |
|   | <p><b>ESR 4: Ina Huppertz</b><br/>           From: Germany<br/>           Start: 01.10.2012<br/>           At: Medical Research Council, LMB, UK<br/>           Project title: The role of the low complexity region of TIA1 and TDP-43 in pre-mRNA processing</p>   |
|  | <p><b>ERS 5: Rafal Gumienny</b><br/>           From: Poland<br/>           Start: 05.11.2012<br/>           At: University of Basel, Switzerland<br/>           Project title: Small regulatory RNAs; New tool for miRNA target prediction</p>  |
|   | <p><b>ESR 6: Christiane Kowatsch</b><br/>           From: Germany<br/>           Start: 01.01.2012<br/>           At: ETH Zurich, Switzerland<br/>           Project title: Structure determination of SR Protein/RNA complexes by NMR</p>   |
|  | <p><b>ESR 7: Mattia Brugiolo</b><br/>           From: Italy<br/>           Start: 01.04.2012<br/>           At: Max Planck Institute of Molecular Cell Biology and Genetics, Germany<br/>           Project title: Mechanism of terminal exon pausing</p>   |
|   | <p><b>ESR 8: Isaac Kremsky</b><br/>           From: USA<br/>           Start: 01.04.2012<br/>           At: Universitat Pompeu Fabra, Spain<br/>           Project title: Assessment of alternative splicing models with ENCODE data</p>   |
|  | <p><b>ESR 9: Serena Capozzi</b><br/>           From: Italy<br/>           Start: 10.09.2012<br/>           At: CNRS, France<br/>           Project title: In Vivo dynamics of SR Proteins RNA interactions</p>  |
|   | <p><b>ESR 10: Sree Rama Chaitanya</b><br/>           From: India<br/>           Start: 18.05.2012<br/>           At: Instituto de Medicina Molecular, Portugal<br/>           Project title: The role of SR protein kinases as mediators of cancer-related signaling pathways that control alternative splicing</p>  |

|  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
|   | <p><b>ESR 11: Celia Lopez</b><br/>From: Spain<br/>Start: 01.10.2012<br/>At: Splicos, France<br/>Project title: SR proteins as targets to cure diseases</p>  |   |
|  | <p><b>ESR 12: Marija Kosutic</b><br/>From: Croatia<br/>Start: 02.05.2012<br/>At: University of Innsbruck, Austria<br/>Project title: RNA chemical modification as a tool to understand RNA function</p>   |    |
|   | <p><b>ESR 13: Andrea Graziadei</b><br/>From: Italy<br/>Start: 10.09.2012<br/>At: EMBL, Germany<br/>Project title: Structural studies with EM and NMR of archeal Box C/D snoRNP complex</p>  |   |
|  | <p><b>ESR 14: Satyavati Kharde</b><br/>From: India<br/>Start: 01.05.2012<br/>At: EMBL, Germany<br/>Project title: Exploiting selective RNA labelling and complementary structural biology approaches to access the structure of large RNP complexes</p> |    |
|  | <p><b>ESR 15: Nina Ripin</b><br/>From: Germany<br/>Start: 01.11.2012<br/>At: Novartis, Switzerland<br/>Project title: Structure guided functional characterization of HuR</p>   |   |
|  | <p><b>ESR 16: Sameer Dixit</b><br/>From: India<br/>Start: 01.10.2012<br/>At: University of South Bohemia, Czech Republic<br/>Project title: Characterization of novel protein complexes involved in RNA editing in <i>Trypanosoma brucei</i></p>        |  |

## Management

Partner 11 (Charité) was not able to recruit their fellow and expressed its wish to leave the RNPnet consortium. The RNPnet supervisory board agreed to give the 36 ESR months to the Electron Microscopy group of Carsten Sachse at EMBL (partner 2). The respective amendment to retroactively implement this change is expected to be approved in April 2013.

The RNPnet consortium met for the first reporting meeting in Lisbon, Portugal on November 26 and 27<sup>th</sup>, 2013. All Fellows presented their projects and organizational and management issues were discussed. The students enjoyed their first course on scientific career planning, which was held by Joanna Rosario (J. Rosario *et al*/ Research Consultants). The students found the course very useful. As positive aspects, some students said the course “was great,” “fun,” and gave them “a chance to communicate with other members of the group.” Others said that the course “was different from usual and actually helpful for our future life and career development,” having “extended our way of thinking,” and having “brought new perspectives ... towards our careers.”

## Science

### From the coordinator Frederic Allain (ETH Zurich)

The first year of RNPnet is now completed and the last meeting in Lisbon was an opportunity to meet and see the progress made by all the ESR of RNPnet. Although most projects were just starting, we could appreciate the large spectrum of topics, methodologies and model organisms covered by the consortium but with the common aim to study the structure and function of Ribonucleoprotein complexes. The intense scientific discussions led to the planning of many new scientific exchanges between labs (secondments) which will allow fruitful collaboration between the labs but more importantly the expected multidisciplinary training of each ESR. I am looking forward to see the new progress at the next RNPnet meeting taking place in Zurich in June 2013.



# 1<sup>st</sup> RNPnet Newsletter

Marie Curie ITN Project (289007)



## Outlook

---

- **RNPnet mid-term Review** on Monday June 17<sup>th</sup>, 2013 in Zurich, Switzerland (preceded by a Review preparation meeting on June 16<sup>th</sup>, 2013)
- **1<sup>st</sup> RNPnet Summerschool** in Structural and Chemical Biology, Monday 29 July - Friday 2 August 2013, EMBL Heidelberg, Germany
- **2<sup>nd</sup> Complementary skills course** "Gender and Family issues", Friday 2 August 2013, EMBL Heidelberg, Germany
- **1<sup>st</sup> Workshop** "Research Career in the Private Sector", August 26 to 29, 2013 at Novartis in Basel, Switzerland
- **3<sup>rd</sup> Complementary skills course** "Scientific Writing and Presentation", August 29, 2013 in Basel, Switzerland